

To condition or not - is that the question? : an analysis of the effectiveness of ex-ante and ex-post conditionality in social cash transfer programs

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Propositions accompanying the dissertation

To condition or not – is that the question?

An analysis of the effectiveness of ex-ante and ex-post conditionality in social cash transfer programs

by
Esther Schüring

- 1) A clear conceptualization of conditionality is key when discussing the value-added of conditionality in social cash transfer programming (Chapter 2).
- 2) Conditionality can be empowering, giving recipients the necessary guidance and even a nascent sense of a contract or entitlement (Chapter 3).
- 3) The political economy behind conditionality is not straightforward; while greater control might a priori be politically popular, the implementation of conditionality might have politically negative ramifications (Chapter 2, 3 & 4).
- 4) Motives driven by poverty are more prominent in community based targeting than favoritism to family members or than community members' concern for egalitarianism (Chapter 5).
- 5) When it comes to targeting social transfers, universalism might not necessarily be a universally agreed choice; the assumptions of political economy models should be re-assessed for the low-income country context (Chapter 6).
- 6) In Europe, social protection did not develop over night; developing countries need some space to define and establish their own social protection systems and measures for success should be adapted accordingly (Chapter 7).
- 7) Social protection can and should benefit from fascinating insights into human behavior from psychology and behavioral economics.
- 8) In public policy, answers are rarely about black-and-white approaches; it is essential to find the right shade.
- 9) Social justice is the foundation for a happy and peaceful life.
- 10) The sky is the limit.