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from household survey data in Vietnam

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Informal recycling and social preferences: Evidence from household survey data in Vietnam

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Highlights

- We assess private provision of environmental public goods in a developing country.
- Household recycling in Vietnam is empirically analyzed using household survey data.
- Majority of sample households recycle even though such recycling is not obligatory.
- Altruistic households recycle more at any income level.
- Inequality averse households recycle more among the rich.

Abstract:

This study examines the association between social preferences and recycling behavior in a developing country. A conceptual framework that modifies the impure altruism model with heterogeneous preferences and further incorporates the impure public good model is presented to study informal recycling behaviors. Based on survey data collected from 755 households in Hanoi, Vietnam, we find that the majority of sample households recycle all the recyclable materials they consume even though such recycling is not obligatory. Half the recycling households sell their

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