

Accepted Manuscript

Local governance and the quality of local infrastructure: Evidence from village road projects in rural China

Ho Lun Wong, Yu Wang, Renfu Luo, Linxiu Zhang, Scott Rozelle



PII: S0047-2727(17)30098-1
DOI: doi: [10.1016/j.jpubeco.2017.06.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpubeco.2017.06.006)
Reference: PUBEC 3782
To appear in: *Journal of Public Economics*
Received date: 31 December 2015
Revised date: 13 June 2017
Accepted date: 21 June 2017

Please cite this article as: Ho Lun Wong, Yu Wang, Renfu Luo, Linxiu Zhang, Scott Rozelle, Local governance and the quality of local infrastructure: Evidence from village road projects in rural China, *Journal of Public Economics* (2017), doi: [10.1016/j.jpubeco.2017.06.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpubeco.2017.06.006)

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

**Local governance and the quality of local infrastructure:
Evidence from village road projects in rural China**

Ho Lun Wong^a

8 Castle Peak Road, Tuen Mun, Hong Kong SAR

Yu Wang^b

1994 Buford Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108, United States

Renfu Luo^{c*}

No. 5 Yiheyuan Road, Haidian District, Beijing 100871, China

Linxiu Zhang^d

No. Jia 11, Datun Road, Anwai, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100101, China

Scott Rozelle^e

616 Serra Street C100, Stanford, California 94305, United States

Abstract

Research has shown that allowing local communities to elect their own leaders increases local infrastructure investment. However, much less is known about the effects of local governance reform on the quality of local infrastructure. This paper examines the effects of governance reform implemented in rural Chinese villages on the quality of village road projects. We conduct surveys in 101 rural villages and collect data related to the implementation of the reform over the last two decades. We also measure the quality of over 550 village road projects completed in these villages. Using fixed effects and instrumental variable estimation methods, we find that the implementation of village governance reform increases the quality of village road projects. We also find evidence supporting the following effect mechanisms: (1) village leaders become younger and more educated, (2) high quality road projects increase incumbent leaders' re-election chances, and (3) village residents participate more actively in the management and monitoring of village road projects.

Keywords: Local governance; Infrastructure quality; Village roads; Village participation; Rural China

^a Department of Economics, Lingnan University, Hong Kong SAR.

^b Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, United States.

^c School of Advanced Agricultural Sciences (SAAS), Peking University, China.

^d Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China.

^e Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University, United States.

* Corresponding author. Phone: + 86 10 6276 0156. Email: luorf.ccap@pku.edu.cn.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5101774>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5101774>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)