#### Enhancing Development Research with Evaluation Data

Digital Development Dialogue (3D) Seminar

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  1. Project evaluations by MDB evaluation offices
  - 2. Organizational evaluations by major donor governments

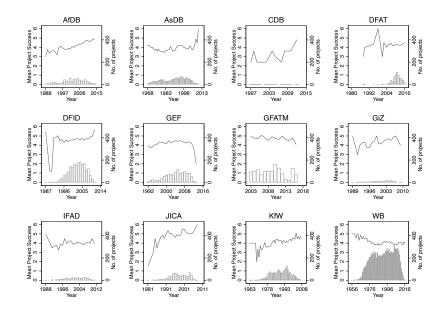
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- Download it! https://www.aiddata.org/data/ project-performance-database-ppd-version-2-0

#### Average Project Ratings: 12 Donors since Creation



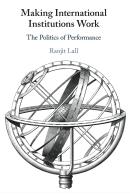
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- But performance *does* improve when ATI policies have independent appeals mechanisms for denied information requests
- Positive effect larger when bottom-up collective action is easier and mechanisms of project oversight are weak



(Cambridge University Press, 2023)

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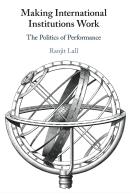
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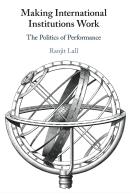
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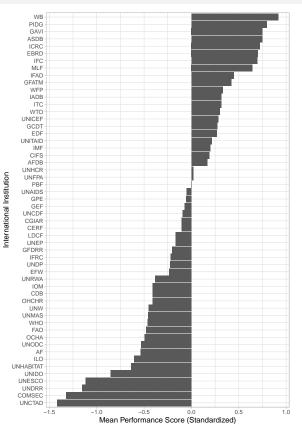
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- Download it! https://ranjitlall.github.io/data/

# Org. Performance Ratings, 2008-2018



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- Key finding: strong positive association between autonomy (e.g., staff agenda-setting powers, lack of state veto) and performance
- Interestingly, rule-based autonomy not enough: organizations need *de facto*, not merely *de jure* autonomy
- Where does autonomy come from?
  - 1. Strong **operational alliances** with nonstate actors (e.g., civil society, businesses, public-private partnerships)
  - 2. Governance tasks with high monitoring costs for states, e.g., implementing field operations, designing complex interventions

### References

• Honig, Dan, Ranjit Lall, and Bradley C. Parks. 2022. "When Does Transparency Improve Institutional Performance? Evidence from 20,000 Projects in 183 Countries." *American Journal of Political Science*. https://doi.org/10.1111/ajps.12698.

• Lall, Ranjit. 2023. *Making International Institutions Work*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.