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Manila, 20/03/2018



Intersecting social capital and perceived efficacy perspectives to explain underperformance in community-based monitoring

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**“Development Studies in Action” Seminar
De La Salle University, 20/03/2018**



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OUTLINE

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6. COMMUNITY BASED MONITORING PROFILE
7. INTERSECTING TWO THEORETICAL LENSES
8. CONCLUSION

1. INTRODUCTION (1)

- Community based monitoring (CBM) increasingly popular
 - ↑ local ownership
 - ↑ transparency & accountability
 - ↑ local learning (citizen science)
- ↔ no unequivocal evidence on impact
 - positive effects on quality and utilisation of service delivery & outcomes (education & health)
 - absence of effects, limited enforceability
- diverging findings: not entirely surprising
 - ≠ methodologies (RCT, qualitative studies)
 - ≠ dependent variables (sectors with different degrees of publicness)
 - ≠ socio-political and cultural settings

1. INTRODUCTION (2)

- most impact evaluations do not include process evaluation
 - little insight into type and effective degree of citizen participation
 - occurrence and functioning of citizen-based monitoring is not self-evident

→ not surprising: CBM: collective action
- focus of this study :
 - explaining low engagement of citizens in CBM related to water service delivery in rural Uganda
 - ✓ insights from two strands of **collective action** literature (social capital literature, perceived efficacy)
 - ❖ which features lead to collective action ?
 - ❖ how does our village score on these features?
 - ❖ confrontation with CBM profile
 - ❖ reality ≠ theoretical predictions → explanation?

2. COLLECTIVE ACTION, SOCIAL CAPITAL/NETWORK AND PERCEIVED EFFICACY (1)

- Olson : **freerider problem** to be solved by selective incentives (material, social) ↓

social capital literature

social network analysis (SNA) (empirical research)

- importance of **structural network** features
 - ✓ more dense networks, strong cohesion (bonding) → ↑ collective action
- **individual positions** in networks
 - ✓ centrally positioned actors → ↑ collective action (coordination)
 - ↔ potential misuse
 - behavior of centrally located individuals is crucial !

2. COLLECTIVE ACTION, SOCIAL CAPITAL/NETWORK AND PERCEIVED EFFICACY (2)

- ‘critical mass’ literature: low **perceived effectiveness** is key problem



perceived political efficacy

EXTERNAL (supply responsiveness)	Individual	‘Public officials don’t care much about what people like me think’
	Collective	‘If all community members worked together, we would be able to influence policy decisions’
INTERNAL (capacity)	Individual	‘Sometimes politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can’t understand what is going on’
	Collective	‘Together community members are a competent group of people who are able to accomplish positive change’

Source: Manning et al. (2008)

3. SETTING AND METHODOLOGY (1)

- rural village in southwestern Uganda, homogenous population
- considerable level of decentralisation: conducive to community participation (also in law) ↔ effective participation
- focus on water sector: problem of accessibility & low quality
- survey data (126 out of 131 citizens)
 - participation in water-related CBM
 - perceived efficacy (index calculation for 4 dimensions)
- network survey data (full networks)
 - social support and water information sharing networks

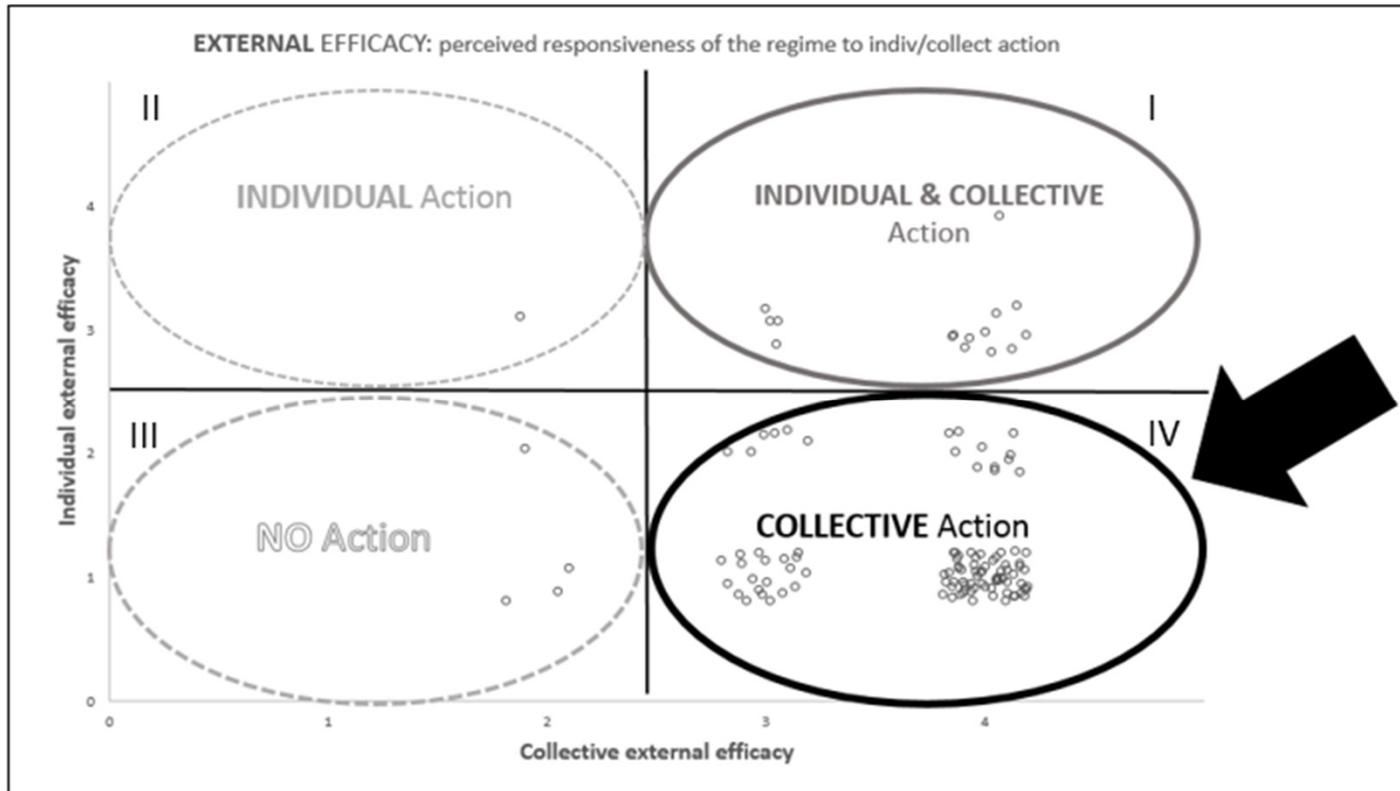
3. SETTING AND METHODOLOGY (2)

Network survey data (full networks)

Social support	From time to time, people discuss important matters with other people. Looking back over the last year, I'd like to know the people you talked to about matters that are important to you.
Information sharing	During the last year, with whom did you share information on water in your community (e.g. availability, quality of water, functionality, time needed to collect water, cleanness of the well).

4. PERCEIVED EFFICACY PERSPECTIVE (1)

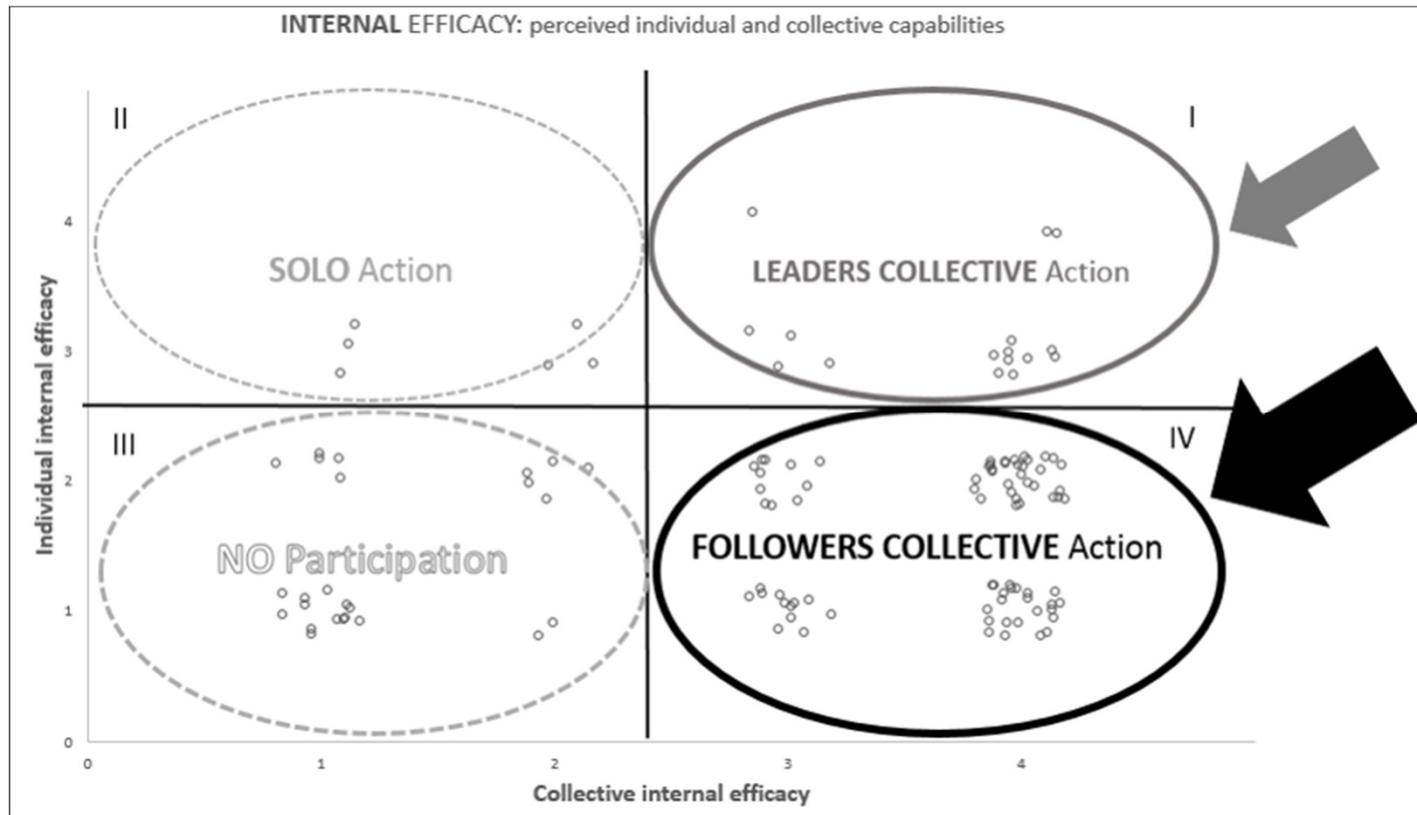
External Efficacy Perspective



- predominant external efficacy profile (I+IV=96%) → collective action ↑

4. PERCEIVED EFFICACY PERSPECTIVE (2)

Internal Efficacy Perspective

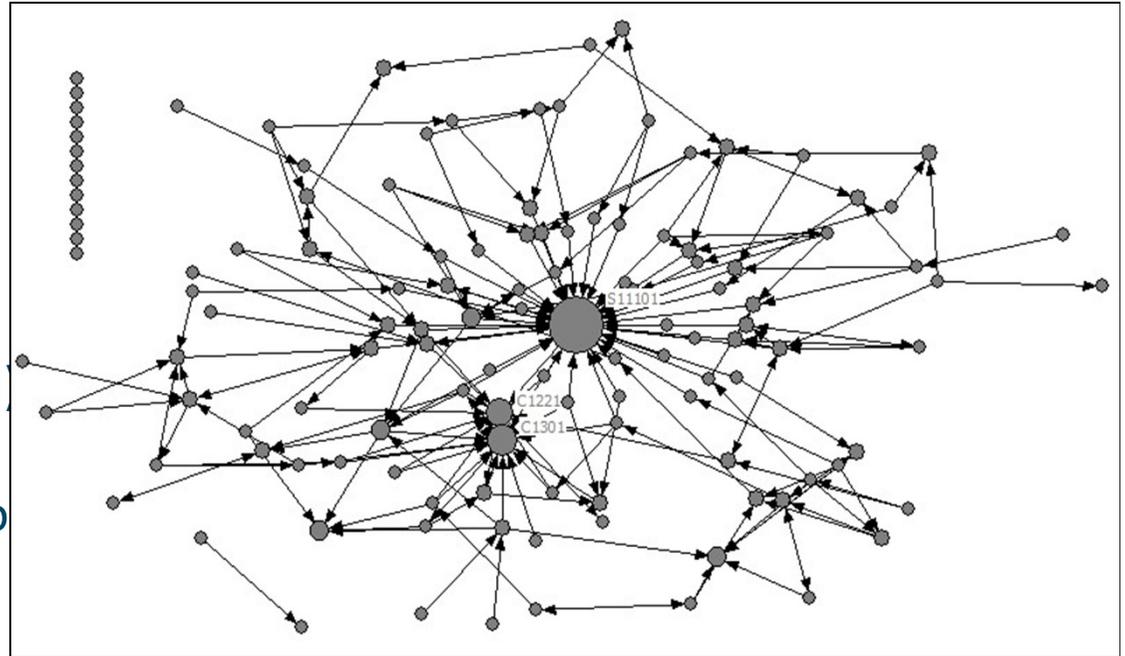


- large group of **followers** + small group of **leaders** → collective action ↑

5. SOCIAL NETWORK PERSPECTIVE (1)

Information sharing network

- relatively dense, little clustering
- relatively centralised (incoming ties, less for outgoing ties)
- highest in-degree centrality ('information authority'): LC I chairman
- few key individuals (well placed who receive most of the information which is coming from many different individuals)

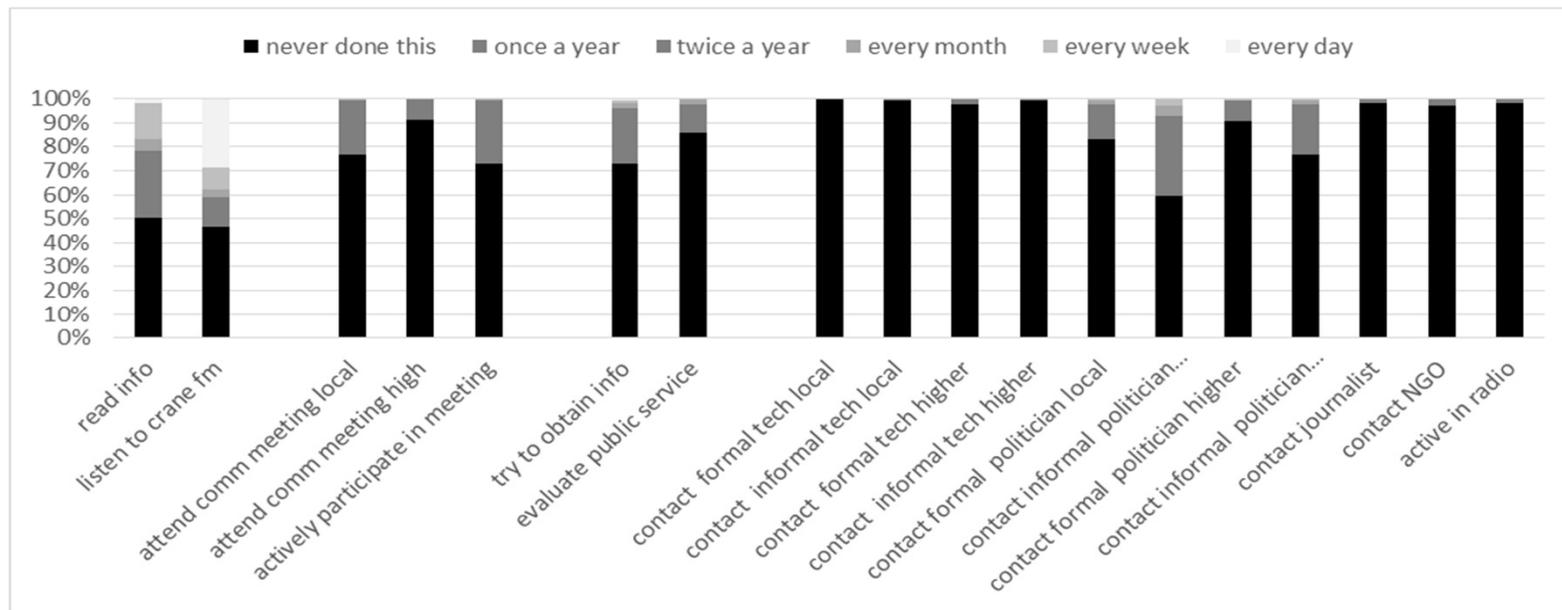


- basic features are conducive to effective & efficient monitoring
- does this materialize?

6. COMMUNITY BASED MONITORING PROFILE (1)

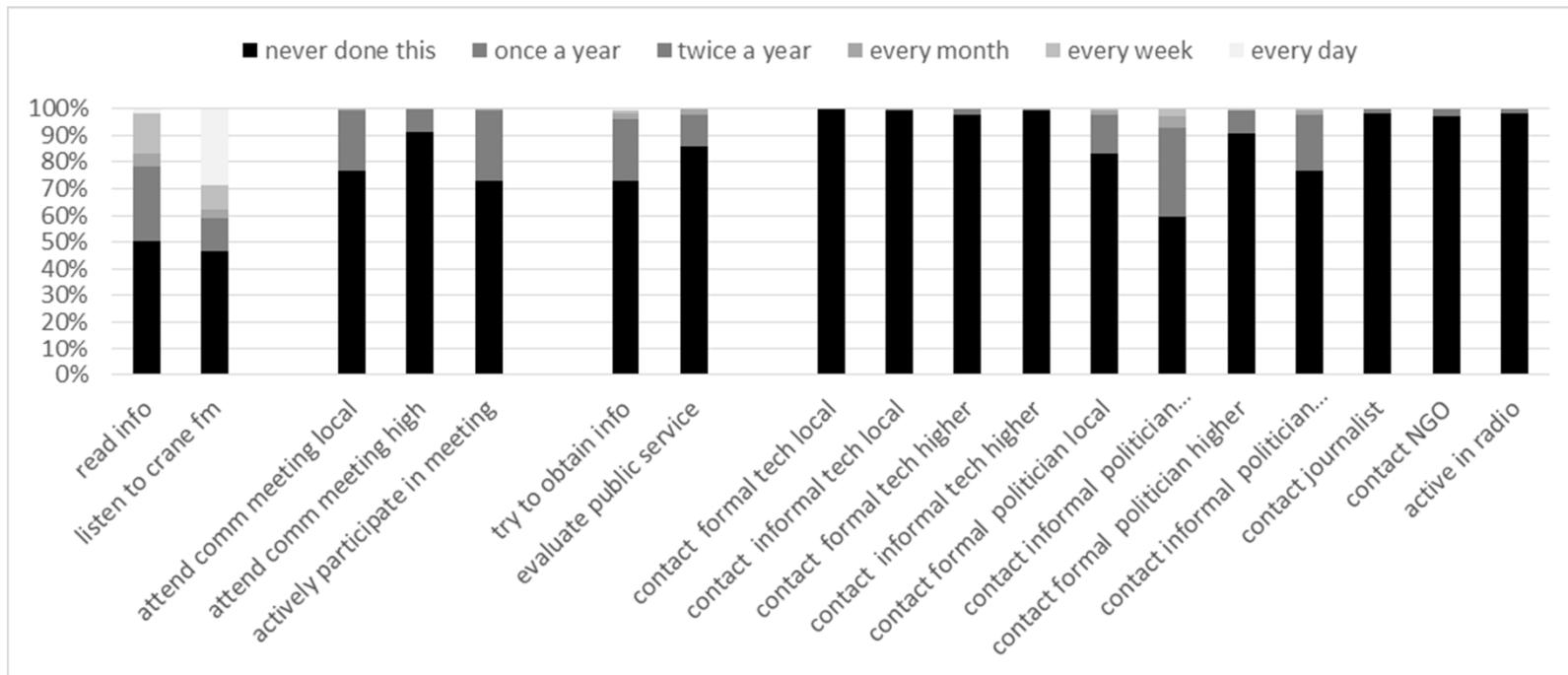
▪ village perspective

- 70% participate in information uptake
- 30% in community meeting
- 30% active collection of information to monitor
- 15% in evaluative exercises
- almost no active reporting to different types of supply & accountability actors except for formal (10%) or informal (24%) contacting of higher level politicians



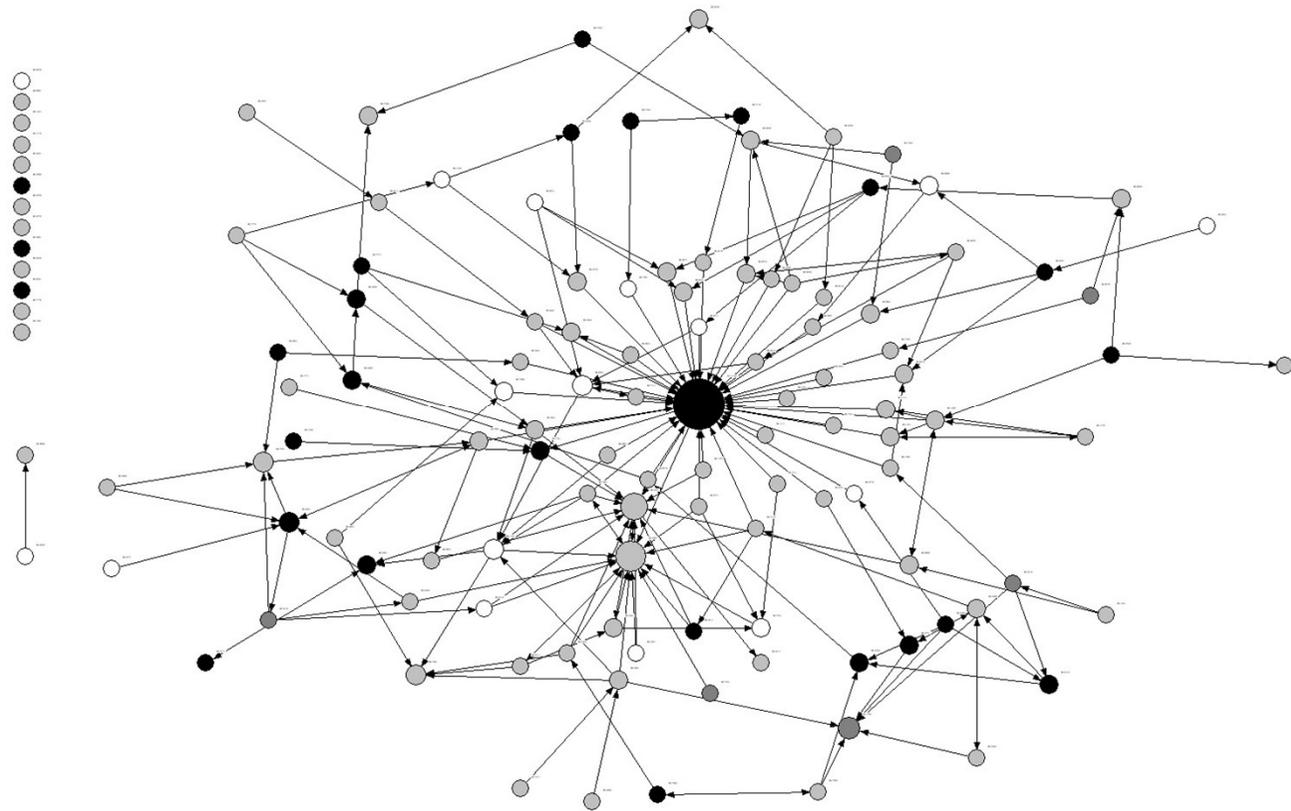
6. COMMUNITY BASED MONITORING PROFILE (2)

- Key nodes



7. INTERSECTING TWO THEORETICAL LENSES

- perceived internal efficacy and network positions



Colour: internal efficacy (black= low – white = high), Size: in-degree centrality

- key nodes: low internal efficacy
- leaders: not central

8. CONCLUSION

- **community based monitoring**
 - great potential
 - (non)occurrence and (non)functioning underexplored
 - **our study: water-related CBM in Ugandan village**
 - explaining low water-related CBM
 - cross-reading between social capital, perceived efficacy and social network analysis literature
 - combination conventional & network survey data
- **one theoretical lense** at a time: no explanatory power, **combination** is needed
- **high social capital stock** + high perceived **collective efficacy**: not enough for collective action
- **individual internal efficacy** matters! particularly of **centrally located actors**
- understanding (triggering) collective action also implies focusing (strengthening) on perceived individual internal efficacy

REFERENCE

Dewachter, S. and N. Holvoet (2018) “Intersecting social capital and perceived efficacy perspectives to explain underperformance in community-based monitoring”, *Evaluation* 23(3), 339-357

Thank you !

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