Building trust in participative groups accompanying river restoration projects:

a pre-/post observation analysis

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Participation in river restoration projects

▷ River restoration projects: flood prevention, recreation, nature conservation

▷ Large scale infrastructure projects that affect many different stakeholder, particularly also private property

▷ Participation (advisory groups) should, among other things, foster "trust in institutions", i.e. the cantonal and municipal authorities

Pre- and post-observation in five advisory groups

▷ Standardized questionnaire to five distinct advisory groups of five different river restoration projects (2011)

▷ approx. 130 questionnaires returned

▷ repeated observation (two questionnaires from the "pre" and the "post" round for just only 28 individuals

▷ Processes have been ongoing, time-span between observations between 6 and 12 months (meetings took place in between).
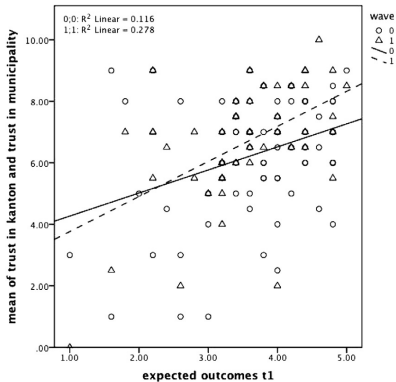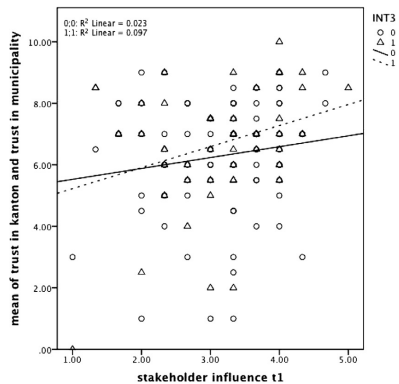
Menzel et al. (2013)

Building trust in advisory groups

▷ Stakeholder Influence: do participants perceive themselves as influential?

▷ Process Quality
   ▷ Appreciation/Efficiency: do participants perceive that their effort is appreciated or do they think the process is a waste of time?
   ▷ Transparency/Fairness: do participants perceive decision-making/the process as transparent or do they suspect that some participants are more influential than others?

▷ Expected Outcome: do participants anticipate an implementable plan or a bogus compromise?

▷ Generalized Trust: do participants generally trust other people?

Menzel et al. (2013)

Observations over time: levels or changes?

- ▷ The main research question is whether trust had been built in these processes
- ▷ Hence, changes should be looked at
- ▷ However:
    - ▷ At the beginning of the process, the conditions might represent prejudgements rather than experiences
    - ▷ Observations at T2 are much more reliable?
- ▷ Note that generalized trust does not change

Correlation

Menzel et al. (2013)

Expectations (Complex Causality?)

▷ Is stakeholder influence really that important?
  ▷ Most people do not really want to decide
  ▷ Trust might still be high/raise if stakeholder influence is lacking as long as other characteristics of the process are given?

▷ Anticipation of result and/or generalized trust are expected to be more important than transparency/fairness & appreciation/efficiency, probably also as substitutes for stakeholder influence.

Menzel et al. (2013)

Fuzzy Set QCA: T2-T2

Appreciation/Efficiency	●			
Anticipation of result		●		
Generalized trust			●	
Transparency/Fairness				●
Influence				●
Consistency	0.93	0.89	0.88	0.91
Raw coverage	0.54	0.67	0.79	0.48
Unique coverage	0.02	0.11	0.07	0.01
cases	13_3; 4_1; 22_5; 5_1; 3_1, 24_5; 16_4, 19_5, 21_5	23_5; 1_1; 4_1; 20_5; 7_1; 5_1; 2_2, 6_1, 12_3; 16_4, 19_5, 21_5	11_3; 20_5; 7_1; 10_3; 22_5; 5_1; 18_4; 2_1, 6_1, 12_3; 3_1, 24_5; 16_4, 19_5, 21_5	8_2; 18_4; 2_1, 6_1, 12_3; 3_1, 24_5; 16_4, 19_5, 21_5

Fuzzy Set QCA: Change-T2

Appreciation/Efficiency	●			
Anticipation of result		●		
Generalized trust			●	
Influence				●
Consistency	0.75	0.73	0.63	0.62
Raw coverage	0.54	0.69	0.70	0.72
Unique coverage	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.07
cases	13_3; 4_1; 22_5; 5_1; 3_1, 24_5; 16_4, 19_5, 21_5	23_5; 1_1; 4_1; 20_5; 7_1; 5_1; 2_1, 6_1, 12_3; 16_4, 19_5, 21_5	11_3; 20_5; 7_1; 10_3; 22_5; 5_1; 18_4, 2_1, 6_1, 12_3; 24_5; 16_4, 19_5, 21_5	15_3, 26_5; 4_1; 8_2; 10_3; 22_5; 5_1; 18_4; 2_1, 6_1, 12_3; 3_1, 24_5; 16_4, 19_5, 21_5

Fuzzy Set QCA: Change-Change

Δ Appreciation/Efficiency	●		●	●		
Δ Transparency/Fairness		●		●		
Δ Anticipation of result					●	●
Generalized trust	●	●				⊖
Δ Influence			●		⊖	
Consistency	0.83	0.91	0.98	0.92	0.79	0.80
Raw coverage	0.50	0.34	0.29	0.30	0.48	0.26
Unique coverage	0.05	0.02	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.05
cases	19_5; 20_5; 21_5; 7_1; 5_1	12_3; 6_1; 16_4; 7_1	25_5, 26_5; 5_1	1_1; 17_4; 7_1	14_3; 23_5; 17_4; 20_5; 21_5; 6_1, 16_4; 7_1	14_3, 23_5; 17_4

tQCA: Sequences of conditions

▷ tQCA is meant to take into account sequences of conditions.
▷ With many conditions, all possible sequence combinations render the model too complex.
▷ Possibly some conditions can be argued to be "temporally fixed" (they always occur at the beginning or in the end).
▷ Ideally just only two conditions remain of which the one could occure before the other or vice versa.

Caren and Panofsky (2005), Ragin and Strand (2008)

Does it matter whether efficiency is perceived before transparency?

> ▷ Efficiency is expected from the beginning. If it can only be perceived later in the process, this might already have harmed trust in institution.

> ▷ Transparency is more difficult to find out about and maybe first was suspected to be absent. But this may be less harmful if it can eventually be reassured.

Has APPEFF occured before TRAFAIR?

APPEFF		TRAFAIR		
0	0	0	0	no
0	1	0	0	yes
0	0	1	0	no
0	0	0	1	no
0	1	1	0	no
0	1	1	1	no
0	1	0	1	no
0	0	1	1	no
1	0	0	0	yes
1	0	1	0	no
1	0	0	1	yes
1	0	1	1	no
1	1	0	0	yes
1	1	0	1	yes
1	1	1	0	no
1	1	1	1	no

Crisp Set tQCA: Change-T2

Appreciation/Efficiency	●	⊖	●	●	⊖
Transparency/Fairness	●	●		●	●
Anticipation of result	●	●	●	●	⊖
Generalized trust	●	●	●	⊖	●
Influence	⊖	⊖	●	●	●
Apprec./Effic. before Transp./Fairness		⊖	●		
Consistency	1	1	0.60	1.00	1.00
Raw coverage	0.17	0.17	0.25	0.08	0.17
Unique coverage	0.17	0.17	0.25	0.08	0.17
cases	20_5 23_5	1_1 7_1	4_1 5_1 16_4	26_5	8_2 18_4

Conclusion

- ▷ Opportunities for "co-decision" are not the single most important aspect for generation of trust.
- ▷ Our results suggest that they are substitutable ... by tangible (and balanced) results/progress.
- ▷ "Process quality" seems to matter for some people but the two dimensions of process quality seem to matter independently also.
- ▷ "Configurational thinking" and corresponding analysis of longitudinal data (whether quantitative or qualitative) seems promising.

References

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