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Dynamics of experimental governance A meta-study of functions and uses of climate governance experiments

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### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

#### Dynamics of experimental governance

#### A meta-study of functions and uses of climate governance experiments

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#### Abstract

Societies around the world are faced with wicked problems such as climate change. In this context, experimental governance approaches have emerged as tools with potential utility in both top-down and bottom-up governance efforts. At the same time, experimental governance has gained momentum as a desirable policy goal in its own right. As the various experimental approaches differ in their origins and serve different purposes, there is a need to organize the field. If more experimental development processes are desired, what can be expected from certain kinds of experiments? How can the field be organised in a way that benefits those designing, conducting, and evaluating experimental governance processes? In attempting to answer these questions, we carried out a meta-study of 25 articles on experimental climate governance. On the basis of the results and the previous work on experiments, we have built a 'triangle model of experimental governance' that proposes both vertical and horizontal dynamics within and between different functions and uses of experiments.

#### Key words

Experiments; experimental governance; climate governance; meta-study; triangle model

#### Highlights

- · The study focuses on potential functions and uses of experiments
- We conducted a meta-study of 25 papers about experimental climate governance
- · Based on the results, we have built a 'triangle model of experimental governance'
- The model highlights vertical and horizontal dynamics of experimental governance

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