

Subject/Title	Social Capital and Community Empowering: A Comparison of Linbian and Beitou
Author(s)	Shiaw-Chian Fong
Journal Title	Review of Social Sciences
Vol./Publishing Date	Vol.2 No. 1(2008 /04)
Page(s)	127 - 164
Language	Chinese
Abstract	<p>A series of Community Empowering Projects (CEP) were implemented by the Executive Yuan between 1994 and 2007 with the purpose to increase community members' involvement in public affairs. The projects concur with the propositions deduced from the theory of social capital: (1) that the norm of reciprocity creates mutual trust among community members, and (2) that social capital made of such trust improves democracy in the community. By contrasting the experience of joining CEPs, between a rural and an urban community, we have found that our case supports the second element, however throws doubt on the first because of the failure to support the distinction that only the norm of general reciprocity, not direct or balanced reciprocity, can generate communal trust.</p>
Keyword(s)	network ; reciprocity ; social capital ; town and country ; trust