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To CERF Board Members:

This is the report on progress for the "Monetary networks" project which I am pursuing during my CERF Fellowship.

We have completed the theoretical part of the project. The core element of the investigation consists of a lab experiment. The original plan was to conduct it at Chapman University (US) because it has one of the few laboratories worldwide that have the capacity to conduct experimental sessions involving 50 participants. Unfortunately, the lab is currently closed due to Covid-19 restrictions and it is unclear when it will open again. At the moment, we have decided to wait before exploring alternative routes (e.g. taking the experiment online).

In the meanwhile, I have begun a project to understand the trade-offs between economic/financial activity and the implementation of a tracing and quarantine scheme. The focus is on comparing mandatory tracing and/or quarantine with optional tracing and/or quarantine both in terms of health and economic outcomes. We have completed the theoretical part of the project and design a web-based experiment to test the predictions. The plan is to start the experiments in May 2021.

I have presented the results of the work undertaken during my latest CERF tenure at invited seminars (University of Technology Sydney, Queensland University of Technology, University of Bologna, Paris School of Economics, University of Amsterdam, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, University of Oxford, Cambridge-INET, Università Cattolica - Milan, University of East Anglia) and specialized workshops (BiNoMa Workshop on the Economics of Networks, SAET Conference).

Yours ever,

Edoardo Gallo