



Evidence-Based Education: Policy-Making and Reform in Africa
IPA-GES-J-PAL Conference
Accra, Ghana, 14-15 May 2012

The Contribution of Systematic Reviews to Understanding School Effectiveness.

Philip Davies

International Initiative for Impact Evaluation [3ie]

Philip Davies

www.3ieimpact.org





EVIDENCE-BASED EDUCATION: POLICY-MAKING & REFORM IN AFRICA
LES ÉVALUATIONS AU SERVICE DE L'ÉDUCATION: PROGRAMMES, POLITIQUES ET RÉFORMES EN AFRIQUE
Accra, Ghana
May 14-15, 2012/ 14-15 Mai, 2012
Program/ Programme

Co-hosted by Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), Ghana Education Service (GES), The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). This project was made possible by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the generous support of the American people.

Each session will begin with a presenter exposing an issue in the education sector. A researcher will then summarize the evidence from rigorous research on the panel topic. Following will be a practitioner's response, commenting on exposed solutions, and illustrating a solution. The panel will end with a moderated discussion focused on identifying the next wave of relevant research questions.

Chaque session commencera avec un présentateur exposant un problème touchant à l'éducation. Ensuite, un chercheur passera en revue les résultats issus de recherches rigoureuses sur le sujet, suivi des commentaires d'un professionnel sur les solutions proposées, illustrant une solution en particulier par un exemple. La session se terminera par une discussion destinée à identifier les questions clés restant à élucider.

MAY 14 14 MAI	MONDAY LUNDI
9:30-10:30	REGISTRATION/INSCRIPTION
10:30-11:00	WELCOME. Keynote speech by Mahama Ayariga , Ghana Deputy Minister of Education, Cheryl Anderson , USAID/Ghana Mission Director, and introduction by Jessica Kiessel , Ghana Country Director, Innovations for Poverty Action ACCUEIL: Discours par Mahama Ayariga , Ministre Délégué à l'Éducation au Ghana et introduction par Jessica Kiessel , Innovations for Poverty Action
11:00-12:45	PANEL 1: What Have We Learned About Improving School Participation? SESSION 1: Qu'avons-Nous Appris Sur les Moyens pour Augmenter la Présence à l'École ? Since 1980, real government expenditures on education doubled in Sub-Saharan Africa. The most consistent focus of investment has been in primary and secondary school enrollment rates, with the ultimate goal of higher levels of educational attainment. While enrollment rates in primary schools are strong at almost 100% in most African countries, better access to primary education has not translated into similar gains in classroom attendance. There is now considerable evidence from randomized evaluations on the effectiveness of different strategies that have been used to promote student participation in school, such as deworming, school feeding, and reduced cost of education. We discuss these different strategies, the major lessons learnt from them and the implications for future education investment in this area. Depuis 1980, les dépenses gouvernementales réelles dans l'éducation ont doublé en Afrique subsaharienne. L'attention s'est plus particulièrement portée sur le taux de scolarisation dans les écoles primaires et secondaires, avec l'objectif final d'augmenter le taux de réussite. Bien que la scolarisation dans les écoles primaires atteigne presque 100% dans la plupart des pays africains, l'accroissement de l'accès à l'éducation primaire ne s'est pas traduit par des gains similaires en ce qui concerne la présence

3

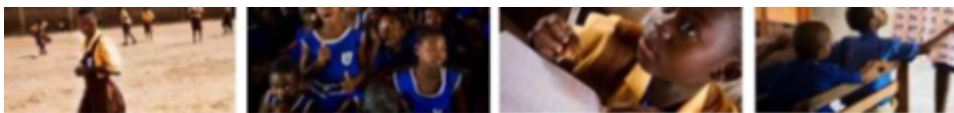
**LES ÉVALUATIONS AU
SERVICE DE L'ÉDUCATION:
PROGRAMMES, POLITIQUES
ET RÉFORMES EN AFRIQUE**
14-15 MAI, 2012, ACCRA, GHANA

Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), le Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab - Africa (J-PAL Afrique), et le Ministère de l'Éducation du Ghana organisent une conférence de deux jours pour partager leurs résultats en matière d'éducation, et pour impliquer les chercheurs et les professionnels dans l'utilisation des évaluations scientifiques pour l'élaboration des programmes et des réformes en éducation.

Parmi les conférenciers : Abhijit Banerjee (MIT), Kehinde Ajayi (Université de Boston), Annie Duflo (Innovations for Poverty Action), Paul Glewwe (Université de Minnesota), Isaac Mbiti (Université Méthodiste du Sud), Yaw Nyarko (Université de New York), et Rebecca Thornton (Université de Michigan).



La conférence sera suivie de quatre jours de formation J-PAL sur les méthodes d'évaluation des programmes d'éducation. Pour plus d'informations sur la conférence et la formation, notamment sur les inscriptions, rendez-vous sur: <https://povertyactionlab.org/forms/ipa-pal-education-conference-ghana-french/> Pour plus d'informations sur l'agenda de la conférence, rendez-vous sur: https://povertyactionlab.org/sites/default/files/ges_ipa_pal_tentative_agenda.pdf



How to Increase School Enrollment, Participation and Completion

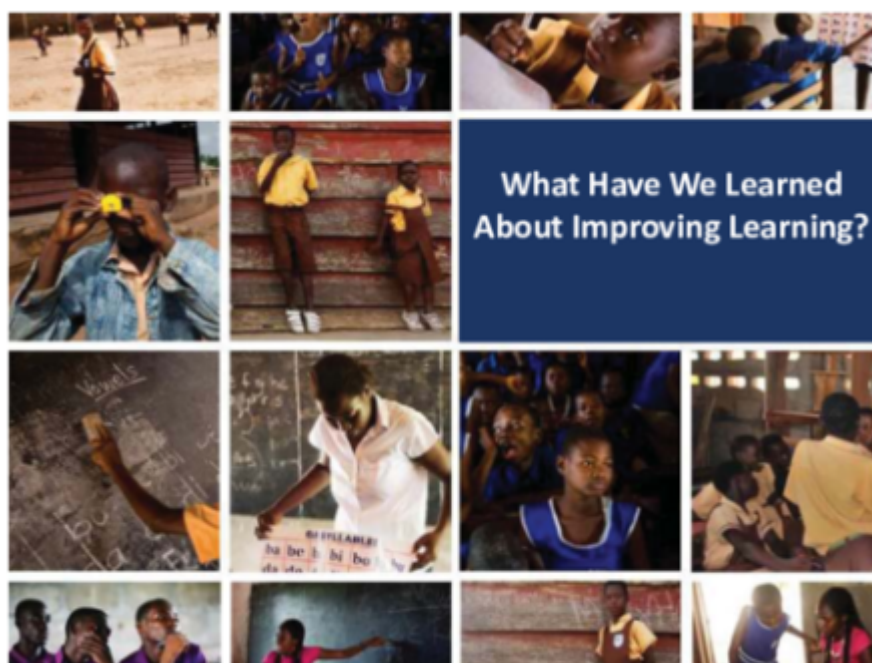
Review of the Evidence
Isaac Mbiti (SMU and J-PAL)



Teacher Characteristics, School Governance & Incentives

Review of the Evidence
Moussa P. Blimpo





Supportive Learning Through Technology

Exposing the Issue

Julian Cristia
Inter-American Development Bank



 **CENTRE FOR THE EVALUATION
OF DEVELOPMENT POLICIES**
AT THE INSTITUTE FOR FISCAL STUDIES

EVIDENCE GAPS: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

REVIEW OF THE EVIDENCE BY

**ORAZIO ATTANASIO (UCL, EDEPO @ IFS & J-
PAL)**

© INSTITUTE FOR FISCAL STUDIES



TCAI: Lessons from first Endline

TCAI Development Partners

April 24, 2012

Evidence-Based Education: Policy-Making and Reform in Africa

May 14-15, 2012

[Find the agenda here](#) and presentations below

[Alisa Hotel, Accra, Ghana](#) ([map](#))

Find an electronic version of the conference book summarizing panel topics [here](#)

Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), and the **Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)** in collaboration with the **Ghana Educational Service (GES)** and support from the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** present the *Evidence-Based Education: Policy-Making and Reform in Africa Conference* bringing African education practitioners, government policymakers, and researchers together to listen to and discuss current evidence on what works in education.

This 2-day conference featured a large-scale evaluation of the **Ghana Government's Teacher Community Assistant Initiative (TCAI)**, aimed at improving literacy and numeracy levels in basic schools and implemented by Ghana Education Services, the Ghana National Association of Teachers and the National Youth Employment, and evaluated by IPA. The conference also covered topics including student attendance, supportive learning through technology, and teacher accountability and incentives, with presentations from leading international researchers and educational practitioners.

* * *

J-PAL Executive Education Training: May 16-19, 2012: The conference was followed by a four day J-PAL Executive Training Course on how to evaluate the impact of programs, focused on education.

* * *

[Conference Agenda with Presentations:](#)

MAY 14 14 MAI	MONDAY LUNDI
	<p>WELCOME: Keynote speech by Mahama Ayariga, Ghana Deputy Minister of Education, Cheryl Anderson, USAID/Ghana Mission Director, and introduction by Jessica Kiessel, Ghana Country Director, Innovations for Poverty Action</p> <p>ACCUEIL: Discours par Mahama Ayariga, Ministre Député d'Education au Ghana et introduction par Jessica Kiessel, Innovations for Poverty Action</p>
Find Panel Presentations Here	<p>PANEL 1: What Have We Learned About Improving School Participation?</p> <p>SESSION 1: Qu'Avons-Nous Appris Sur les Moyens pour Augmenter la Présence à l'Ecole ?</p>

	<p><u>Chair/Modérateur :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karimu Mohammed, Curriculum Development and Replication Coordinator, School for Life, Ghana <p><u>Review of Evidence/Résumé des résultats d'évaluation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaac Mbiti, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Southern Methodist University/ J-PAL, US <p><u>Panelists/Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leah Rotich, Director of Basic Education, Ministry of Education, Kenya • Stewart Kabaka, Program Manager for Monitoring and Evaluation, Department of Family Health, Ministry of Health, Kenya • Reda Hamedoun, Infrastructure Specialist, East Asia and Pacific Region World Bank, US <i>Former member of the Royal Cabinet of the King of Morocco</i>
<u>Find Panel Presentations Here</u>	<p>PANEL 2: Teacher Characteristics, School Governance, Accountability And Incentives</p> <p>SESSION 2: Caractéristiques des Enseignants, Gestion des Ecoles, Responsabilité et Incitations</p>
	<p><u>Chair/Modérateur :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles Aheto-Tsegah, Deputy Director-General, Ghana Education Service, Ghana <p><u>Exposing the Issue/Exposé du problème:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mukhtar Abdi Ogle, Principal Examinations Secretary/National Coordinator, National Assessment Center, Kenya National Examinations Council, Kenya <p><u>Review of Evidence/Résumé des résultats d'évaluation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moussa P. Blimpo, Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, Stanford University, US <p><u>Panelists/Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yaw Nyarko, Professor, Department of Economics, New York University, US • Mukhtar Abdi Ogle, Principal Examinations Secretary/National Coordinator, National Assessment Center, Kenya National Examinations Council, Kenya
<u>Find Panel Presentations Here and Here</u>	<p>PANEL 3: What Have We Learned About Enabling Learning?</p> <p>SESSION 3: Qu'Avons-Nous Appris Sur les Moyens d'Amélioration de l'Apprentissage?</p>
	<p><u>Chair/Modérateur :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. George Oduro, Director, Institute of Education Planning and Administration, University of Cape Coast, Ghana <p><u>Exposing the Issue/Exposé du problème:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rakesh Rajani, Head of Twaweza, Tanzania <p><u>Review of Evidence/Résumé des résultats d'évaluation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee, Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)/ J-PAL, US <p><u>Panelists/Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdou Diao, Director of Basic Education, Ministry of Education, Senegal • Usha Rane, Regional Head, Pratham, India • Rakesh Rajani, Head of Twaweza, Tanzania
<u>Find Panel Presentations Here</u>	<p>PRESENTATION: The Ghana Teacher Community Assistant Initiative (TCAI)</p> <p>PRESENTATION : l'Initiative Enseignant-Assistant Communautaire au Ghana (TCAI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Adu, Acting Deputy Director-General and Director for Basic Education, Ghana Education Service, Ghana • Maame Nketsiah, TCAI National Coordinator, Ghana • Honorable Abuga Pele, Executive Director, National Youth Employment Program, Ghana • Rosemond Keteku, Municipal Education Director, Adentan Municipal Assembly, Ghana

MAY 15 15 MAI	TUESDAY MARDI
<u>Find Panel Presentations Here</u>	PANEL 4: Supportive Learning Through Technology SESSION 4: La Technologie Au Service de L'Enseignement
	<p><u>Chair/Modérateur :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fawzia Salifu Sidii, Information and Communications Technology Coordinator, Ministry of Education, Ghana <p><u>Exposing the Issue/Exposé du problème:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julian Cristia, Senior Research Economist, Inter-American Development Bank, US <p><u>Review of Evidence/Résumé des résultats d'évaluation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Glewwe, Professor, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota/J-PAL, US <p><u>Panelists/Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shwetlena Sabarwal, Economist, World Bank, US • Namwaka Mwaikinda, Policy Analyst, Commission for Science and Technology, Tanzania • Julian Cristia, Economist, Inter-American Development Bank, US
<u>Find Panel Presentations Here</u>	PANEL 5: Secondary Education and Girls: Directions for Future Research SESSION 5: L'Education Secondaire et les Filles : Pistes pour la Recherche Future
	<p><u>Chair/Modérateur :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iqbal Dhaliwal, Director of Policy, J-PAL, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, US <p><u>Review of Evidence and Research Gaps/Résumé des Résultats d'Evaluation et les Lacunes des Recherches</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kehinde Ajayi, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Boston University, US • Rebecca Thornton, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Michigan/ J-PAL, US <p><u>Panelists/Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esi Sutherland-Addy, Associate Professor, Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Ghana • Pamoussa F. Compaoré, Director of Studies and Planning, Ministry of Secondary Education, Higher Education and Research, Burkina Faso
<u>Find Panel Presentations Here</u>	PANEL 6: Early Childhood Education: Directions for Future Research SESSION 6 : L'Education de la Petite Enfance : Orientations pour la Recherche Future
	<p><u>Chair/Modérateur :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel Hinton, Human Development Advisor, United Kingdom Department for International Development, Ghana <p><u>Review of Evidence and Research Gaps/Résumé des Résultats d'Evaluation et les Lacunes des Recherches :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orazio Attanasio, Professor, Department of Economics, University College London, UK <p><u>Panelists/Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret Okai, National Coordinator-Early Childhood Development Unit, Ghana Education Service, Ghana • Aziz Kaichouh, General Manager, Moroccan Foundation for the Promotion of Preschool Education, Morocco
<u>Find Panel Presentations Here</u>	<p>Contribution of Systematic Reviews to Understanding School Effectiveness La Contribution des Révisions Systématiques Pour Mieux Comprendre Les Systèmes Educatifs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philip Davies, Head of London Office, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), UK

	<p>PANEL 7: From Evidence To Action: Next Step For Scaling Up Evidence SESSION 7: De la Preuve à l'Action : Prochaine Etape Pour Augmenter l'Etendue des Résultats</p>
	<p><u>Chair/Modérateur :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annie Dufflo, Executive Director, Innovations for Poverty Action, US <p><u>Panelists/Participants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iqbal Dhaliwal, Director of Policy, J-PAL, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, US • Wendy Abt, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Economic Growth, Education, and Environment (E3) Bureau, The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), US • Stephen Adu, Acting Deputy Director-General and Director for Basic Education, Ghana Education Service, Ghana • Usha Rane, Regional Head, Pratham, India • Efua Chrissie Amissah-Arthur, Social Development Specialist, African Development Bank, Ghana



This event is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of IPA and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

Address

Alisa Hotel

City

Accra

Country

Ghana