

# Nigeria



A customer at Bodija market, Ibadan, Nigeria. © 2019 Femi Komolafe on Shutterstock

Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) is a global research and policy nonprofit that discovers and advances what works to improve the lives of people living in poverty. IPA tests promising ideas across contexts and along the path to scale, proactively engages key decision-makers throughout the research process, shares findings with the right people at the right time, and equips partners with the skills and tools they need to use data and evidence. Since our founding in 2002, we have worked with over 600 leading academics to conduct more than 900 evaluations in 52 countries. This research has informed hundreds of successful programs that now impact hundreds of millions of lives worldwide.

## More Evidence

Founded in 2019, IPA Nigeria develops applicable research by building foundational research capacity and conducting evaluations in areas of pressing national concern. Examples of our work below offer promising insights into critical issues that affect the livelihoods of people experiencing poverty.

### PEACE & RECOVERY

**Contact between farmers and herders (mainly through inter-dialogues) has the potential to reduce the incidence of violent conflicts.**

**RESEARCHERS: OEINDRILA DUBE, SOEREN J. HENN, JAMES ROBINSON**

Researchers partnered with the NGO, Search for Common Ground (SFCG) and IPA Nigeria to implement a randomized evaluation of an intervention that encourages contact between farmers and herders in the Middle Belt of Nigeria. The goal will be to discern both whether, and how, this contact can reduce the incidence of violent conflicts. Further, given the prevalence of bargaining challenges inherent to a wide range of

conflicts, the findings could be broadly generalizable to instability and conflict outside of the Nigerian context.

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP & PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

**Evidence suggests socio-emotional skills can improve business outcomes and help close the gender gap in earnings between male and female small agribusiness owners.**

**RESEARCHERS: AYODELE FASHOGBON, CLARA DELAVALLADE, SREELAKSHMI PAPIENI**

The World Bank Africa Gender Innovation Lab (GIL) and IPA Nigeria partnered with the Nigeria Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to evaluate the impact of the Women and Youth Empowerment program (WYEP) within the Agro-Processing, Productivity Enhancement, and Livelihood Improvement Support (APPEALS) project. The evaluation will shed light on the impact of socio-emotional skills training

#### IPA NIGERIA

Since 2019

#### FOCUS SECTORS

Agriculture, Consumer Protection, Education, Entrepreneurship & Private Sector Development, Financial Inclusion, Health, Human Trafficking, Peace & Recovery, Social Protection

#### RESEARCH STUDIES

14 ongoing, 3 completed

#### KEY PARTNERS

Bank of Industry, BRAC International, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Ehealth, Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC), Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Federal Ministry of Health, Federal Ministry of Education, Global Development Incubator (GDI), National Agency for the Prohibiting of Trafficking In Persons (NAPTIP), Save the Children, ThinkMD, World Bank

#### KEY RESEARCHER

#### AFFILIATIONS

Arizona State University, Newcastle University Business School, RWI - Leibniz Institute for Economic Research, University of Chicago, University of Hong Kong, University of Michigan, World Bank, WZB Berlin Social Science Center

## PEACE & RECOVERY

Providing information about the risks and outcomes of irregular migration could affect actual migration decisions.

RESEARCHERS: BERND BEBER, MACARTAN HUMPHREYS, ALEXANDRA SCACCO, DEAN YANG

In Nigeria, the combination of ongoing low-intensity conflict, a large youth population, and limited economic opportunities has led to high levels of attempted irregular migration. However, there is limited evidence on how individuals weigh the risks and benefits of

such migration, and whether information campaigns influence decisions to attempt irregular migration. Researchers partnered with IPA to [evaluate](#) the impact of door-to-door campaigns and social networks on actual migration decisions.

## Better Programs & Policies

IPA Nigeria is partnering with decision-makers to seek, generate, and apply evidence at scale. We are also working with organizations to identify policy gaps and set research agendas together.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING

#### Establishing an Embedded Evidence Lab

According to the Nigerian government's National Agency for the Prohibition of

Trafficking In Persons (NAPTIP) 2020 [report](#), sex trafficking is particularly rampant in Nigeria, with nearly half of all rescued victims reporting various forms of exploitation. IPA and NAPTIP have [signed](#) a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a Human Trafficking Embedded Evidence Lab. The lab aims to support the institutionalization of a culture of evidence-based decision-making by mapping administrative data, working side-by-side with NAPTIP teams and partners on capacity building, and evaluating innovations in human trafficking policies.

### FINANCIAL INCLUSION

#### Participating in IPA's Consumer Protection Research Initiative

The Initiative is a \$5.4 million research facility funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support policymakers, financial service providers, and civil society to develop and test consumer protection solutions in four emerging markets: Bangladesh, Kenya, Nigeria, and Uganda. In Nigeria, activities will include research to identify consumer protection risks in Digital Financial Services (DFS), testing of solutions to address risks in DFS, and working with regulators to build capabilities for market monitoring.

## Our Future

IPA Nigeria is at an inflection point in its growth. We are transitioning from our early status as a young nonprofit working in the development space into a go-to resource for evidence-informed insights for government, nonprofits, and the private sector. As we navigate this transition, we are focusing on two goals: **reinforce IPA's status as a known source of high-quality research and strengthen our partnerships with local development organizations, academic institutions, and government agencies.**

The Director General of National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking In Persons (NAPTIP), Dr. Fatima Waziri-Azi (center), at the launch of the Embedded Evidence Lab in Abuja, Nigeria. © 2023 Kolapo Rilwan / Rillex\_Imagery



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