Elections, Leakages and Conflict

Using Impact Evidence to Inform Policy

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Same Dilemma in Governance Issues as the rest of Development Policy: Many Good Choices

How Do You Reduce Leakages / Corruption in Government Programs?

1. Improved program design
2. Recruit more honest and efficient staff
3. Better training / sensitization
4. Improve salaries and work conditions
5. Strict penalties for corruption
6. Better monitoring through technology
7. Intrinsic motivation
8. Community participation
9. Information disclosure

But Which One Do You Prioritize and How Best to Design the Intervention?
Can Research Help Answer Critical Policy Questions in Leakages?

Endemic Corruption in Road Construction Projects:
What works best and when - More Audits or Better Community Monitoring?

Measuring Leakages in Road Works in Indonesia; PI: Ben Olken (MIT)
Can Research Help Answer Critical Policy Questions in Elections?

Voting Based on Caste or Ethnic Lines:

Can Better Information About Performance of Elected Representatives Lead to Performance Based Voting?

Voter Information Project in India; co-PI: Rohini Pande (Harvard)
Can Research Help Answer Critical Policy Questions in Conflict Recovery?

Reintegrating Conflict-Torn Societies:

*Can integrated civic institutions like schools foster greater collaboration across ethno-religious lines?*

*Experiments in Inter-Ethnic Cooperation; co-PI Fotini Christia (MIT)*
Growing Body of Rigorous Evidence – IPA and JPAL have 350+ Evaluations in 51 Countries – Over 50 in Political Economy and Governance
Today’s Agenda: From Evidence to Policy and From Policy Priorities to Research Partnerships

Researcher Presentations:
• Examples of how rigorous research can answer critical policy questions
• Evidence on how to strengthen elections and increase participation, reduce leakages and promote post-conflict recovery

Practitioner Presentations and Panel Discussions:
• Examples of innovative programs to solve intransigent problems
• Identify key policy priorities

Matchmaking:
• Foster practitioner-researcher partnerships to design innovative programs and measure their impact
Our Goals

Make the Day Very Interactive:
• Numerous opportunities for interaction, Q&A – Moderated Panel
• Will use Mikes, but please write down questions before breaks

Stay on Time:
• Timer: 5 minutes to end, 2 minutes to end and stop
• Short and to the point questions, please no lengthy remarks
• No Bios – please refer to the handouts

Matchmaking:
• Two sessions (Elections/Leakages and Post-Conflict Recovery
• Practitioner presentations > Small group discussions > Proposals