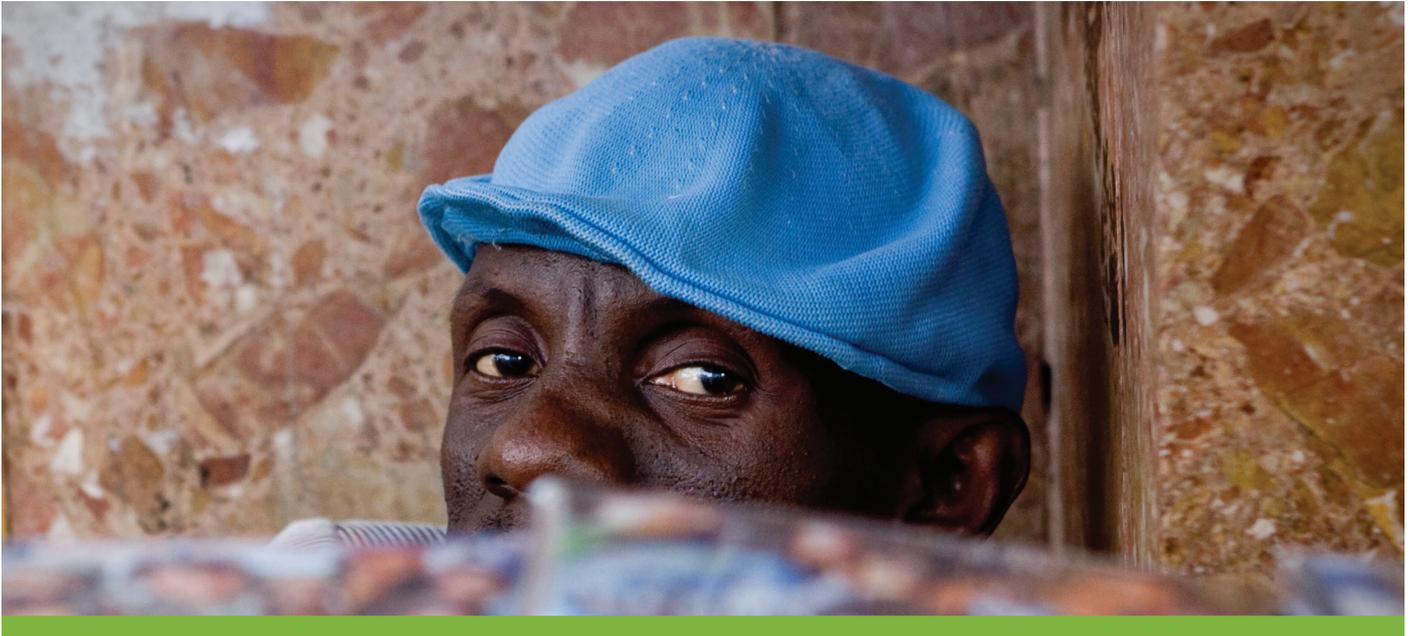


Liberia



Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) is a research and policy nonprofit that discovers and promotes effective solutions to global poverty problems. IPA brings together researchers and decision-makers to design, rigorously evaluate, and refine these solutions and their applications, ensuring that the evidence created is used to improve the lives of the world's poor. Since our founding in 2002, IPA has worked with over 575 leading academics to conduct over 650 evaluations in 51 countries. This research has informed hundreds of successful programs that now impact millions of individuals worldwide. Future growth will be concentrated in focus countries, such as Liberia, where we have local and international staff, established relationships with government, NGOs, and the private sector, and deep knowledge of local issues.

More Evidence

Behavioral therapy and cash transfers reduced criminal behavior among high-risk young men in Liberia. Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) led to a significant fall in crime, drug use, and violence among high-risk urban men in Liberia. These results were greater for participants who received both CBT and one-time unconditional cash grants, but cash grants alone had no impact.

An employment program increased incomes and reduced illicit activities for high-risk men. An intensive agricultural training program for high-risk men increased average

wealth and participants' employment in agriculture, and decreased the amount of time they spent on illicit activities.

Evaluating the Sisters of Success mentoring and girls' groups in Liberia. As girls pass through adolescence, a number of factors influence whether they complete secondary school, avoid teenage pregnancy, and develop the life skills, attitudes, behaviors, and relationships that will set them on a path to a healthy and productive adulthood. This ongoing evaluation investigates whether being part of a mentorship and life skills program, "Sisters of Success,"

IPA LIBERIA
Since 2008

FOCUS SECTORS
Education, Health,
Peace & Recovery, Social Protection

RESEARCH STUDIES
6 Completed, 6 in Progress

KEY PARTNERS
International Growth Centre (IGC),
International Rescue Committee (IRC),
Ministry of Education, Ministry of Gender,
Children, and Social Protection, World Bank

KEY RESEARCHERS
Jeannie Annan (International Rescue
Committee), Christopher Blattman
(University of Chicago), Tricia
Koroknay-Palicz (World Bank)

during early adolescence improves outcomes for girls in Liberia's capital city, Monrovia.



Better Programs & Policies

IPA evidence has already contributed to improving millions of lives. Now, with nine years of evidence to build on, our programs are increasingly focusing on government and partner collaboration to translate evidence into better programs and policies.

EDUCATION

Partnership Schools for Liberia

In 2016, IPA partnered with Liberia's Ministry of Education to independently evaluate the impacts of the Partnership Schools for Liberia, a public-private partnership that aims to improve educational outcomes in Liberian schools. IPA staff in Liberia have presented this research to a range of public and government audiences, including Ministry and Cabinet members. IPA is working closely with the Ministry, researchers, and partners on the evaluation design and advising on future steps for this pilot program.

HEALTH

Intimate Partner Violence Research Initiative

As part of a new research initiative, IPA is collaborating with the International Rescue Committee to design, pilot, and evaluate a series of programs and approaches that aim to reduce intimate partner violence in Liberia. In its initial scoping work, IPA Liberia is working to identify the underlying mechanisms of intimate partner violence, and to address methodological and measurement challenges in violence research.



Our Future

IPA Liberia 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-based insights for government, nonprofits, and the private sector. As we navigate this transition, we are focusing on two goals. They are to:

- » **Reinforce IPA's status as a known source of high-quality research.** As one of the only organizations in Liberia with the skills and capacity to conduct high-quality impact evaluations, we are in a strong position to merge our deep knowledge of local issues with our unparalleled research capability.
- » **Partner with decision-makers to seek, generate, and apply evidence at scale to help the poor.** Our IPA research affiliates and our local staff are a rich source of deep expertise and established relationships with local development organizations, academic institutions, and government agencies. We are working to expand those relationships by building policy considerations into all study designs, communicating what we know, and collaborating with partners in government and the private sector to apply it.

Building a world with **More Evidence** and **Less Poverty.**

Contact info-liberia@poverty-action.org Visit www.poverty-action.org/liberia