THE GROWTH OF IMPACT EVALUATION FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: HOW MUCH HAVE WE LEARNED IN EAST AFRICA?

DREW CAMERON | UC BERKELEY / 3IE
PRESENTATION OUTLINE

• Background
  • Process
• Original findings
  • Time, region, sector, authorship, publication timing
• East Africa findings
  • Time, country, sector, methods, sources, authorship
• Conclusion
BACKGROUND
IMPACT EVALUATION REPOSITORY

Find Evidence
- Policy Briefs
- Systematic Reviews
- Impact Evaluations
- Impact Evaluation Repository
- Evidence Gap Maps

Impact Evaluation Repository

Title
- all sectors...
- all selected sub-groups...
- all evaluation methods...

Author
- all countries...
- all regions...
- All completed Impact Evaluations

Hold down "Control" to select more than one.

From — To

Search results for: All completed Impact Evaluations

Cash for Coolers
2012
Lucas W. Davis, Alan Fuchs, Paul J. Gertler

2013-2014
• Systematic search and screening protocol
• +45 databases, websites, publishers
• 60,053 studies screened
• 2,259 approved

2015-2016 update
• +50 resources being (re-)searched
• Search terms and criteria widened
• Currently +2,900 impact evaluations and growing
INCLUSION CRITERIA

Screening Checklist

- English, Spanish, Portuguese
- Published
  - Journal, WP, Report, Book/chapter
- Low or middle-income country
- Policy, program or intervention
- Impact evaluation method
  - RCT, Diff-in-Diff, PSM, IV, RDD
- Evaluates program effectiveness (vs. efficacy)
MAIN FINDINGS
SECTORS & REGIONS

• ~60% from South Asia, East Africa and Latin America

• Most popular sectors
  • Health, nutrition and population
  • Education
  • Agriculture and rural development
  • Social protection

• 50% of all authors, and nearly 60% of first authors are from HIC institutions
AVG. TIME FROM STUDY END-LINE TO PUBLICATION

• Publication source*
  • Health journals 3.8 years
  • Social science journals 6.2 years
  • Banks / Int’l lending agencies 3.6 years
  • Governments 1.0 years
  • Univ. & research institutes 3.5 years

• Does not account for use of primary vs. secondary data

*ANOVA: Statistically significant differences
HEAT MAP OF GLOBAL IMPACT EVALUATIONS
East Africa

- Burundi
- Djibouti
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Rwanda
- Somalia
- South Sudan
- Tanzania
- Uganda
Education as a share of all studies

- Uganda
- Tanzania
- South Sudan
- Somalia
- Rwanda
- Malawi
- Kenya
- Ethiopia
- Eritrea
- Djibouti
- Burundi

Other Sectors | Education
Publication sources

- Health journals
- Social science journals
- Banks and ILAs
- Governments
- Research institutions, universities, NGOs, etc.
Average (per-paper) author institutional affiliation

- **1993-2008**
  - % from East Africa: 0.3
  - % non-East African: 0.7

- **2009-2015**
  - % from East Africa: 0.1
  - % non-East African: 0.9

Legend:
- % from East Africa
- % non-East African
CONCLUSIONS

• Most evidence
  • Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Malawi
  • Health, education, agriculture, social protection

• Least evidence
  • Somalia, S. Sudan, Burundi, Eritrea, Djibouti
  • Urban development, transportation, economic policy, energy

• RCTs = most popular

• Decreasing share of E. African authors
  • Most EA authors from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania
ORIGINAL PAPER


• drew.cameron@berkeley.edu