Evaluating Impact:
Turning Promises into Evidence

Project name: MALAWI HEST

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1. Background

- High rate of **youth unemployment**
- Lack of **relevant** skills in both public and private sector.
- Limited **access and quality** to higher education, Technical and Vocational Education Training (TEVET)
- Limited **ICT**-based training in HE and TEVET institutions
- Lack of labour market information

**INTERVENTION**

- HEST is a 5 year Project with four components
- Project cost US$ 40m (AfDB, NTF & GoM)
- There are 7 Beneficiary institutions  HE & TEVET
- Implemented by Ministry of Education Science and Technology
- Evaluation will focus on the merit scholarship subcomponent
2. Results Chain

**INPUTS**
- Financial Resources (US$15m)
- 2,000 students
- Specific

**ACTIVITIES**
- Provision of merit based scholarship
- Selection criteria developed and applied
- Merit based scholarship is delivered
- People selected

**OUTPUTS**
- Targeted students have accessed to the scholarships
- Targeted students graduate from University
- Students more motivated don’t drop out.
- Focused in their students (because they don’t have to work), better performance.
- Females will do more technical and science oriented programs
- Employment

**OUTCOMES**
- Increased income
- Improved quality of life
- Education of offspring $\rightarrow$ higher impact on women
- Women $\rightarrow$ reduction in the number of children
- Employment impacts: duration, quality.
3. Primary Research Questions

SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM
- What is the impact of merit-based scholarship on increased enrolment in Science & Technical Programmes?
- What is the impact of merit-based scholarship on students performance?
- What is the impact of merit-based scholarship on student attrition rate by gender?

LONG TERM
- What is the impact of merit-based scholarship on fertility by gender?
- What is the impact of merit-based scholarship on socio-economic well being of graduates?
5. Identification Strategy/Method

- Strategy: Randomized assignment

Method
- Advertisement of the merit-based scholarship program
- Eligibility criteria will be:
  - Test score on MSCE and University entrance exam,
  - Household income < XUS$,
  - Students must be interested in Science & Technology Programmes in HE and Technical courses in TEVET

Note: Female candidates will be strongly encouraged to apply
Identification Strategy/Method

- Advertise in public media and spell out eligibility criteria
- Get 4000 students registered using eligibility criteria
- Randomly select 2000 students from the 4000 eligible
- Those not selected will serve as control group
6. Sample and Data

- All students that have passed the Malawi School Certificate of Education (MSCE) and who applied

- Collect information from 4000 students

- Get a sample of 4000 students
7. Time Frame / Work Plan

- five years duration (from end of 2012 to 2017)

Work-plan

- In October 2012 advertise and select using the eligibility criteria
- Randomly select treatment group
- February 2013 announce the scholarship awards
- Award scholarships 2013/2014 academic year
- Year two, three, four and five, data collection on indicators from both the treatment and the control groups
- Analysis of the data for impact assessment
8. Sources of Financing

- AfDB
- Malawi Government
- Soliciting for other funding
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION