

ieGOVERN: IMPACT EVALUATION FOR PUBLIC SECTOR GOVERNANCE AND JUSTICE



In developing countries, a third of GDP flows through government organizations and provides essential public services ranging from health and education to investment in infrastructure. Understanding the determinants of the productivity of these organizations is crucial to improving the capacity of the public sector and the effective delivery of public goods.

Governance reforms are often long term, complex, and difficult to measure. Rigorous evidence on what works in the sector is in short supply with the governance field representing less than three percent of registered impact evaluations.¹ The *ieGovern* Initiative aims to help bridge this gap by extending rigorous evaluation methods to governance projects and programs.

PROGRESS

ieGovern wants to make a difference in how Governance reforms are designed and implemented. Launched in June 2013, the program leverages its unique access to government partners through World Bank projects to produce evidence that both (i) improves project outcomes and (ii) pushes the frontier of available evidence of what works in governance reform.

See tables for information on the portfolio of IEs from the first phase of the initiative.

EXPANSION

From the initial focus on Africa, the program is extending both regionally and thematically. Research clusters now include: Civil Service Reform, Public Financial Management (Tax, Financial Management Information Systems, and Procurement), Justice, and Decentralization/Subnational Public Sector Management.

The team is also developing a research framework around key mechanisms (such as incentives and delivery

¹ 3ie Impact Evaluation Repository (<http://www.3ieimpact.org/evidence/impact-evaluations/>), accessed 11/11/2014.

Civil Service Reform

Project	Key Policy Question
DRC 	What is the optimal recruitment and training strategy for a new Young Professionals (YP) program?
Guinea 	How can newly recruited HR Directors in line-MDAs be more effective at doing their jobs?
Liberia 	What is the effect of different sources of motivation—pecuniary, task, and mission-based—on the performance of public sector workers?
South Sudan 	How do you strengthen merit and establishment control in a post-conflict setting?

Justice

Project	Key Policy Question
Kenya 	Do trainings or inspections help to improve the accuracy of court registries and the speed of case disposal?
Sierra Leone 	How can information provision and strengthening local capacities for collective action improve the extent to which concessions contribute to local development?
Jordan 	How can demand be improved for and effectiveness of legal aid provision?

Subnational PSM

Burkina Faso 	What is the impact of local accountability for service delivery?
Tanzania 	How do incentives for local government authorities, in the context of decentralization, affect urban infrastructure service delivery?

systems, demand-side and top-down accountability, and constraints-relaxing interventions) in governance interventions.

WORKSHOP 2015

Governance projects in the core thematic areas from all the regions of the world **will convene at a workshop to be held from January 27–30, 2015, in Istanbul, Turkey.**

During the January workshop, academics and World Bank researchers will be matched with approximately 20 governance projects (in the early preparation stage) and their respective government counterparts. The aims of this matching exercise are to:

- i. Enhance the capacity of government counterparts to design and implement rigorous IEs through hands-on training in IE methods and management.
- ii. Develop a high-quality IE design and implementation plan for each project that becomes the basis for a program of technical assistance, to help projects conduct IEs and incorporate evidence into IE policies.
- iii. Coordinate a coherent set of projects that generates broader evidence on the mechanisms through which governance development projects can deliver more effectively.

FUNDING WINDOW

The Impact Evaluation to Development Impact (i2i) initiative supports this process through funding of IE workshops and research grants for preparing and implementing IEs.

Following the workshop, a competitive call for proposals for Preparation Grants will be opened. Teams will have four weeks to prepare and submit a short concept note outlining the research questions, policy relevance, IE design, timeline, team and budget. The proposals will be assessed through an external, double blind peer review process, with final decisions to be made by the i2i technical committee.

Upon satisfactory completion of an IE concept note review, teams will be considered for continued funding under the Implementation Grants window. In addition, Data Collection grants will also be allocated.

PARTNERS

The ieGovern program is a collaborative effort between the World Bank's Governance Global Practice, Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) unit and UKAID. We are looking to expand this partnership and invite others to join the effort to transform development. Please contact us for further information.

CORE TEAM

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