

Francophone West Africa



In recent decades, billions of dollars have been spent on programs designed to reduce global poverty, but clear evidence on which programs succeed is rare, and when evidence is available, decision-makers often do not know it exists or how to best use it to inform policies. IPAs exists to solve the problem, bringing together leading researchers and decision-makers to generate rigorous evidence and ensure it leads to a tangible impact on the world. Since our founding in 2002, IPA has worked with over 600 leading academics to conduct more than 100 studies in 52 countries. This research has informed hundreds of successful programs that now impact millions of people worldwide.

More Evidence

In IPA Francophone West Africa, we have been thankful to our global tradition of rigorous, applicable research by building foundational research capacity and generating evidence to reduce poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Examples of our work below offer promising insights into critical issues that affect the lives of the most vulnerable.

CAN TEXT AND AUDIO MESSAGES FOSTER PARENTS' AND TEACHERS' ENGAGEMENT IN CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AND IMPROVE LEARNING IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE?

RESEARCHERS | GAÛLERNE UCHANG, SHARON WELF

Engaging parents and teachers in their children's education is fundamental to achieve learning. In Côte d'Ivoire, researchers measured the impact of involving parents and teachers through text and audio messages on student learning outcomes, parental engagement, and teacher professional outcomes. Results showed that parents and teachers believe that they each have a specific role to play, and their efforts cannot be combined. In fact, each parent reduces the effort put into the child's education if they think the other party is more involved in that goal. Therefore, text and audio messages can foster engagement in children's education and improve learning only if they focus on one party only.

IN MALI, INCREASING THE AVAILABILITY OF FERTILIZERS THROUGH A MARKET FAIR AND DIFFERENT PAYMENT SCHEDULES LED TO HIGHER USE OF FERTILIZERS AND BETTER CROP YIELDS.

RESEARCHERS | ANDREW DILLON AND THE ILS FOUNDATION

Agricultural input—and fertilizers in particular—are essential to improve productivity in a sector that remains a means of livelihood for many vulnerable farmers. To facilitate the purchase and use of fertilizers, researchers in Mali organized an agricultural market fair with various payment schemes. The results show that farmers buy more fertilizer when a smaller advance payment is required. The increased availability of fertilizers as a result of the fair led to higher use of fertilizers and better crop yields. These findings suggest that input fairs can be a good alternative to improving agricultural productivity.

FRANCOPHONE W. AFRICA

Since 2008

IPA FRANCOPHONE W. AFRICA

Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and beyond

FOCUS SECTORS

Agriculture, Education, Entrepreneurship and Private Sector Development, Financial Inclusion, Governance, Health, Peace & Recovery

RESEARCH PROJECTS

28 ongoing, 44 completed

KEY PARTNERS

World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, Jacqui Foundation, Development Media International, European Union, Organisation de Promotion de Services Agricoles, Centre International pour l'Étude des Politiques de Recherche (CIRP), Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, Programme d'Appui aux Collectivités Rurales

KEY RESEARCHERS

Andrew Dillon (Northwestern University), Rosaline Dugan (Stanford University), Eva de Heughebaert (World Bank Gender Innovation Lab), Eugénie Marga (Université de N'Djaména), Hervé van Karanga (Université de la Côte d'Ivoire), Robert Robinson (Penn State University)

