



2018 CIES Annual Conference

South-South and North-South Collaboration in Evidence-Based Education Policymaking: Sharing Lessons on Connecting Rigorous Evidence to Education Policy

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Date: 27 March 2018



Outline

Sharing Lessons on Connecting Rigorous Evidence to Education Policy

1. About IPA
2. Policy Influence Beyond Research
3. Lessons on Scaling Up Efforts
 - A case study on TCAI Follow on Study (STARS)
4. Conclusion





About IPA

About IPA

IPA: An international non-profit research & policy organization founded in 2002 by Dean Karlan, a Professor of Economics at Yale



Our Mission:

To discover and promote effective solutions to global poverty problems

Our Vision:

More Evidence, Less Poverty



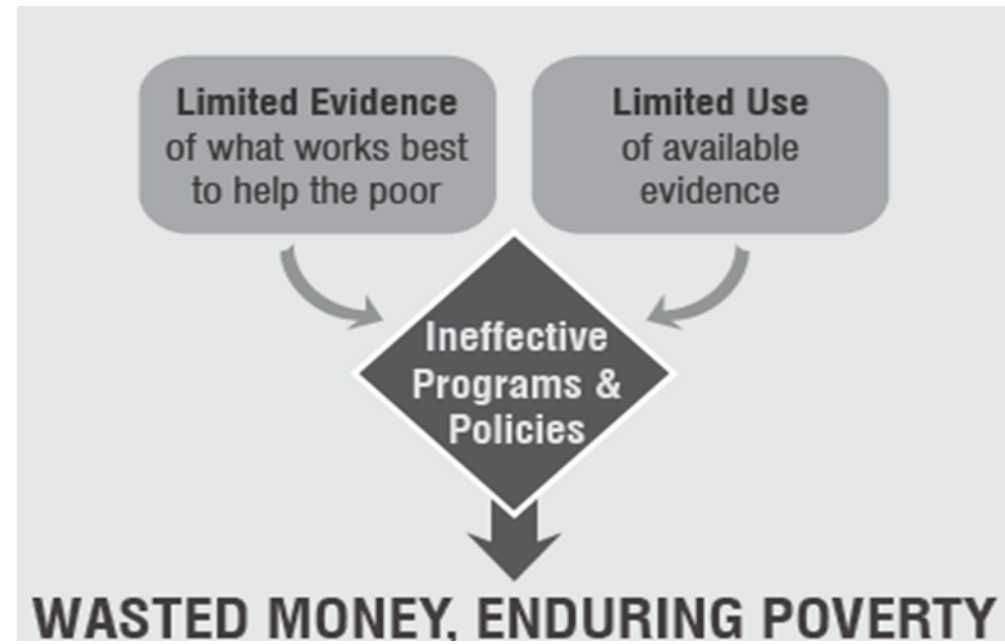


Poverty by the Numbers

12.7% of the world, **896 million** people, live in extreme poverty (less than \$1.90 a day)

\$134 billion spent on poverty alleviation in 2014 by OECD countries

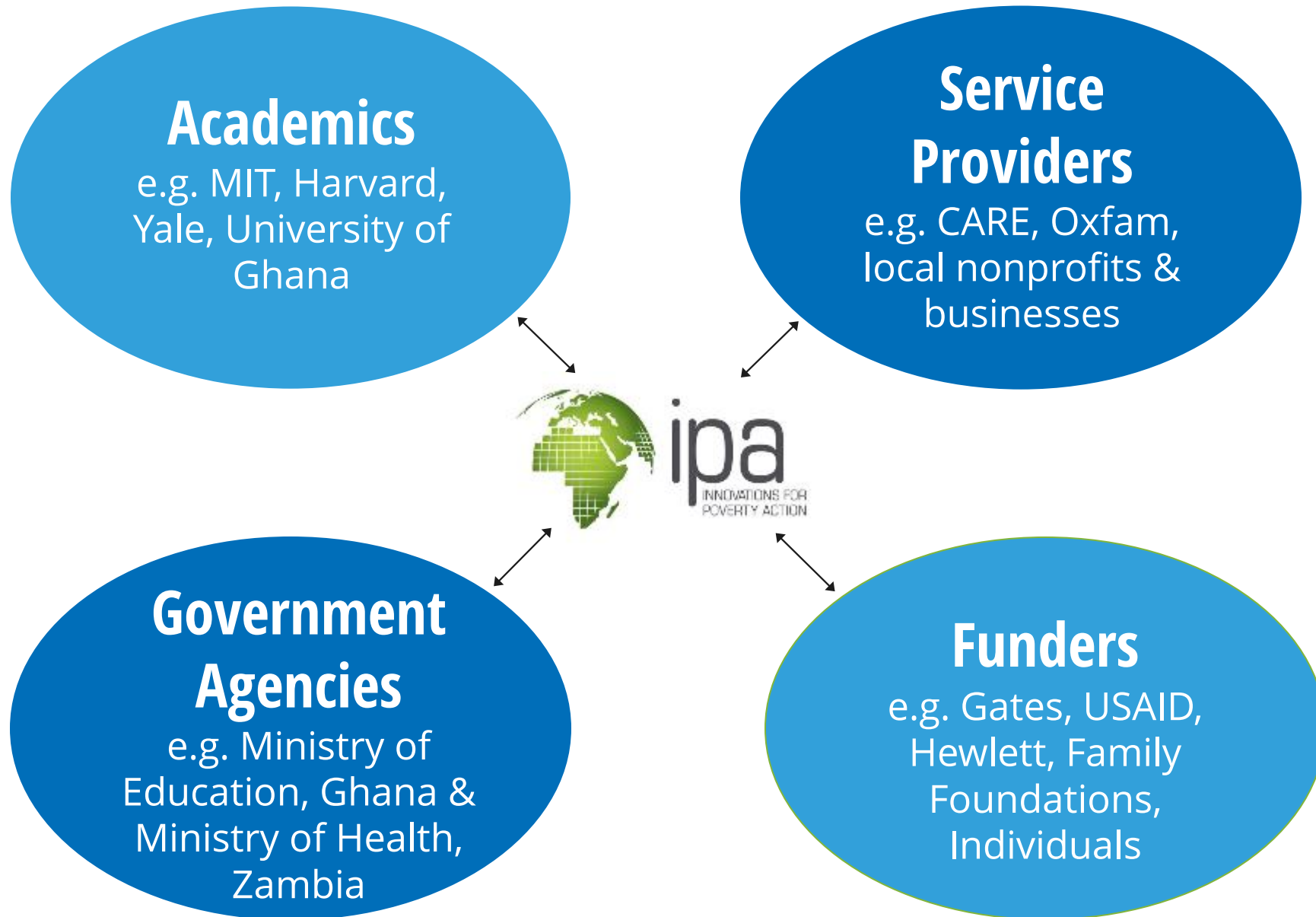
The Problem



Our Solution



Collaborations





Policy Influence Beyond Research

Moving Evidence Into Action

Policy Influence

Moving Evidence Into Action

- Policy influence is a complex process
- Desire to scale up projects with high impact
- Danger that partners might not have been fully engaged
- Hinders efforts to explore paths to scale



Policy Influence

Getting Evidence Used

Make it useful, accessible, and build buy-in

1. Proactive sharing of effective solutions
2. Advocacy and technical assistance
3. Strategic partner engagement and training



Policy Influence

Working With Governments To Move Evidence Into Action

- Understand the business of government (interests and priorities)
- Learn to see through their lens
- Identify key influencers
- Have a champion!
- Produce tailor-made solutions
- Timing matters!



Policy Influence

Relationships to Move Evidence Into Action

- Build brand recognition, visibility and credibility in the space
- Develop solid relationship
 - Be a thought partner
 - Be seen as a solution
 - Offer technical assistance
- Be patient! Meaningful engagement takes time



A group of young children, likely in a classroom or school setting, are shown. Some are wearing orange uniforms. They are looking towards the left side of the frame. The background is slightly blurred, showing more children and a wall with some papers.

Scaling Up Proven Solutions

A Case Study on TCAI Scaling Efforts

Scaling Up Proven Solutions

The Case Study of the TCAI follow up (STARS Project)

- Start with the evidence and its implications?
- Identify who can take the evidence to scale – partner(s)
- Think of scaling approaches
 - Analyze the contextual differences
 - What options are available



Scaling Up Proven Solutions

The Case Study of the TCAI follow up (STARS Project)

- Agree objectives with partner(s)
- Plan for implementation at Scale
 - Are there outstanding questions that need to be answered before scale up?
 - What timelines or roadmap can you work with
 - Make room for broad consultations



About STARS

Strengthening Teacher Accountabilities to Reach All Students

A partnership
between MoE,
UNICEF and IPA

Builds on the
teacher-led
model under the
TCAI study

Intended to test
different ways to
encourage
fidelity of
implementing TI
approach

It focuses on
equipping
teachers to teach
at the level of the
child

A catch up
programme
targeting P4 – P6
pupils in 20
UNICEF focused
districts.



About STARS

Research Questions

- How can teachers be motivated and empowered to implement new approaches that have the potential to improve learning levels?
- How can supervision be strengthened to provide coaching and monitoring support for teachers in order to implement new pedagogical approaches?



About STARS

Activities in the works!

The Partnership

- UNICEF as Development Partner
- MoE (4 divisions) as Implementing Partner
- IPA and Evaluation Partner
- Core Team to steer the project

Preparatory Phase

- Broad Stakeholder Consultations
- Fine-tuning research design
- Developing materials for all treatment arms

Intervention Pilot

- Full Pilot in 2 districts

Implementation Phase

- Implementation starts in September 2018





Conclusion

Conclusion

Working With Government To Influence Policy Requires ...

- Be there all the time!
- Engage the Donors – they have the power and connections
- Cast the Broadnet (frequent staff turnover)
- Remain neutral
- Be mindful of your brand and visibility in the space
- Media may be a waste of time!
- Scale ups are only a small portion of the policy influence we could have.



Thank you

