

Authors

Rachel Glennerster
UK Department for International Development (DFID)

Edward Miguel
University of California, Berkeley
Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA)

Katherine Casey
Stanford University

**The GoBifo Project Evaluation Report: Assessing the Impacts of
Community Driven Development in Sierra Leone**

FINAL REPORT: JUNE 2011

Katherine Casey
Brown University

Rachel Glennerster
Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty
Action Lab

Edward Miguel
University of California,
Berkeley

This evaluation was carried out by the Evaluation Unit of the Institutional Reform and Capacity Building Project (IRCBP) with technical advice from the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL), Innovations in Poverty Action (IPA) and the U.C. Berkeley Center for Evaluation of Global Action (CEGA). Katherine Casey served as the Evaluation Specialist at IRCBP for the first two years of this research project. The research would not have been possible without the cooperation of and thoughtful insights from the GoBifo Project staff—Miskahil Bangura, Kary Cobham, John Lebbie, Dun Owen and Sullay Sesay—and the Institutional Reform and Capacity Building Project (IRCBP) staff—Liz Foster, Emmanuel Gaima, Alhassan Kattu, S.A.T. Rogers and Yongmei Zhou. We are grateful for excellent research assistance from John Bellows, Marie Fatou Diagne, Mark Fiorillo, Philip Kargbo, Angela Kilby, Gianmarco Leon, Tom Polley, Tristan Reed, Arman Rezaee, Alex Rotherberg, and David Zimmer. Generous financial support was provided by the GoBifo Project, the IRCBP, the World Bank Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) initiative, the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, the International Growth Centre, the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, and the National Bureau of Economic Research African Successes Project (funded by the Gates Foundation).

The GoBifo Project Evaluation Report: Assessing the Impacts of Community Driven Development in Sierra Leone

The World Bank and other donors dedicate sizeable portions of their portfolios to community driven development (CDD) projects, yet until recently there has been little rigorous evidence regarding the efficacy of this approach. By emphasizing local participation in and control over project implementation, CDD has come to be seen as an efficient and accountable mechanism to deliver local public goods. But CDD aims to do much more than this. Through

intensive, long term facilitation, CDD aims to strengthen local institutions, make them more democratic and inclusive of marginalized groups, and enhance the capacity of communities to engage in collective action. This evaluation tests the extent to which CDD achieved these goals in Sierra Leone.

July 01, 2011