

**Start Date**

May 28, 2013

**End Date**

June 01, 2013

# Evidence on Innovations in Financial Capability - Conference and Matchmaking Program

As access to increasingly sophisticated financial services expands, the gap between access and the financial capability of individuals - the ability to take healthy financial decisions - widens. Bridging this gap requires improving knowledge and information around financial services and improving the tools used for decision making.

The conference included presentations by leading development economists, as well as panel discussions with key practitioners and policymakers. The conference was held on May 31 - June 1, 2013 and organized by Innovations for Poverty Action under the Citi IPA Financial Capability Research Fund, with support from the Citi Foundation and in collaboration with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL) and Universidad del Pacífico.

**CONFERENCE BOOKLET** ([download](#))

**FULL CONFERENCE AGENDA** ([download](#))

**ATTENDEE LIST** ([download](#))

## **OPENING KEYNOTE**

Is Entrepreneurship Among the Poor a Way to Growth?

*Abhijit Banerjee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology & J-PAL presentation - [video](#)*

## **SESSION I: FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING**

The Impact of a Financial Education Program in Schools - Brazil

*Bilal Zia, World Bank presentation - [video](#)*

Financial Literacy Training to Promote Savings and the Responsible Credit Card Use - Mexico  
*Gabriel Lara-Ibarra, World Bank*  
presentation - academic paper

Comments: *Andrea Stiles, Aval Consulting*

**SESSION II:**  
**FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

Keeping it Simple: Financial Education using Rules of Thumbs - Dominican Republic  
*Aishwarya Lakshmi Ratan, Yale University and Innovations for Poverty Action*  
presentation - academic paper - video - policy brief (Spanish) - project summary  
Effectiveness of Credit Disclosure - Mexico  
*Xavier Giné, World Bank*  
presentation - video - academic paper

Comments: *Jorge Rubio, Citi Microfinance*

**PANEL:**  
**FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION**

*Ana Pantelic, Fundación Capital*  
*Graham Macmillan, Citi Foundation*  
*Mercedes de Canalda, Banco ADOPEM*

Moderator: *Beniamino Savonitto, Innovations for Poverty Action*

**SESSION III:**  
**PRODUCT DESIGN - ADDRESSING COMMITMENT FAILURES**

Control and Pricing of Remittances - El Salvador  
*Claudia Martínez Alvear, Universidad de Chile*  
presentation - video - academic paper - project summary  
Commitment Savings  
*Dean Karlan, Yale University and Innovations for Poverty Action*  
presentation - video

Comments: *Pablo de la Flor, Banco BCP*

**PANEL:**  
**FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR COMMITMENT PRODUCTS**

*Alfonso Nuñez Ortiz, Caja Nuestra Gente*  
*Margaret McConnell, Harvard University*  
*Nobuyuki Otsuka, Inter-American Development Bank*

Moderator: *Martín Valdivia, Grupo de Análisis para el Desarrollo*

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Financial Capability in Peru

*Carolina Trivelli, Minister of Development and Social Inclusion*  
presentation - video

Introduction: *Monica Perales, Citi Peru*

## PANEL:

### EVIDENCE FROM COMPARTAMOS BANCO'S CRÉDITO MUJER - MEXICO

*Dean Karlan, Yale University and Innovations for Poverty Action*

*Mónica French, Compartamos Banco*

*Abhijit Banerjee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and J-PAL*

Moderator: *Adam Kemmis-Betty, Innovations for Poverty Action*

presentation (Dean Karlan) - video - academic paper (interest rates) - academic paper (impact) - in the news

project summary (interest rates) - project summary (impact)

comments (Monica French) - video

comments (Abhijit Banerjee) - video

## SESSION IV:

### PRODUCT DESIGN - ADDRESSING ATTENTION FAILURES

Improving a Conditional Cash Transfer Program - Colombia

*Beniamino Savonitto, Innovations for Poverty Action*

presentation - video - academic paper - policy brief

Reminders to Save

*Margaret McConnell, Harvard University*

presentation - video - academic paper

Comments: *Hector Mancera Reynoso, Bansefi*

## PANEL:

### FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR REMINDERS AND DEFAULT DEPOSITS

*Amanda Rico, Ecofuturo*

*Johanna Yancari, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos*

*Xavier Giné, World Bank*

Moderator: *Matthew Bird, Universidad del Pacífico*

## CLOSING REMARKS

Product Innovations

*Dean Karlan, Yale University and Innovations for Poverty Action presentation - [video](#)*

### Citi IPA Financial Capability Matchmaking Program

The matchmaking event paired pre-selected researchers and practitioners with compatible interests in testing and evaluating products, services, and other interventions designed to improve beneficiaries' abilities to make informed decisions about the use and management of their money. Researchers and practitioners met with potential matches to exchange ideas, develop a common pitch for a joint research project, and apply for research preparation grants.

Prior to the event, on May 28-29, selected Spanish-speaking participants in the matchmaking program were given the opportunity to attend the workshop "Taller sobre Impacto y Evaluación de Productos en Capacidad Financiera", on randomized evaluations to improve financial capability. The agenda can be found [here](#) and materials from the training can be found [here](#).

*Key statistics from the program:*

- 107 applications to participate in the matchmaking program. We received applications from 57 practitioners and 50 researchers.
- 28 selected participants were invited to participate in the matchamaking program: 15 practitioners and 13 researchers.
- 13 applications received.

*This event is organized in collaboration with:*



# City

Lima

# Country

Peru