

J-PAL NEWS UPDATE NO. 1 - APRIL 2007

ABDUL LATIF JAMEEL
Poverty Action Lab
 TRANSLATING RESEARCH INTO ACTION



MIT
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology

J-PAL Update

Combating Corruption with Research

Researchers and policy makers met in Jakarta for two days of brainstorming on how research can help in the fight against corruption. The event was jointly organized by J-PAL, the World Bank in Indonesia, the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK), and the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Jakarta (CSIS). [MORE](#)



NEW STUDIES

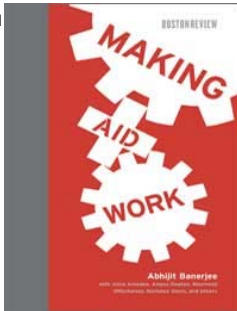
"Empathy or Antipathy? The Impact of Diversity" published in the *American Economic Review*. [STUDY](#)

Forbes features new J-PAL working paper, "Can Higher Prices Simulate Product Use?: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Zambia." [NEWS ARTICLE](#) - [STUDY](#)

Updated J-PAL working paper, "Incentives to Learn." [MORE](#)

Making Aid Work

In *Making Aid Work*, Abhijit Banerjee—an "aid optimist"—argues that aid has much to contribute to addressing the pressing problems of the world's poor. However, the lack of analysis about which programs really work causes considerable waste and inefficiency. This in turn fuels unwarranted pessimism about the role of aid in fostering economic development. [MORE](#)



Karlan and Olken named "Young Economists to Watch." [MORE](#)

Ashraf, Karlan, and co-author Yin win TIAA-CREF Paul A. Samuelson Certificate of Excellence. [MORE](#)

MORE UPDATES

J-PAL Team Presents at Madrid Evaluation Conference

A team from J-PAL was invited to provide an introduction to randomized evaluations and some recent results at "Scientific Analysis of Development Programs and Foreign Aid," a workshop in Madrid. [MORE](#)

NEW POLICY BRIEF CASE

[Briefcase No. 3](#) - "Cheap and Effective Ways to Change Adolescents' Sexual Behavior."

Improving the Effectiveness of U.S. Aid

Rachel Glennerster, Executive Director of J-PAL, addressed the HELP Commission in Washington, DC on March 12th about how U.S. aid agencies can improve their effectiveness by generating and responding to rigorous evidence about what works. [MORE](#)



The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) in the MIT Department of Economics is dedicated to fighting poverty by ensuring that policy decisions are based on scientific evidence. We achieve this objective by undertaking, promoting the use of, and disseminating the results of randomized evaluations of poverty programs. If you are not currently receiving J-PAL publications and updates and wish to be added (or removed) from our electronic and postal mailing lists, please contact us at povertyactionlab@mit.edu or 617 324 0108.