



NEW FRONTIERS: POLICY LESSONS FROM RANDOMIZED EVALUATIONS IN GOVERNANCE, CONFLICT, AND CORRUPTION

6 June 2018, 9:30 am
Royal United Services Institute, London

Agenda

9:30 AM: INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

DIANA DALTON
Deputy Director, Research and Evidence Division, DFID

Diana Dalton is the deputy director in the Research and Evidence Division of DFID. Diana leads the strategy and performance of the division as a whole, in addition to having management oversight of DFID's research investments in education, growth, governance, humanitarian, conflict, and social development. Since joining DFID in 2005, Diana has held a number of other leadership roles, including head of the UN and Commonwealth Department, head of Agriculture and Economic Inclusion, and deputy head of the Bangladesh office. Prior to joining DFID, Diana served as country director for a UK non-profit organization focused on Thailand and Myanmar, and as head of communications and advocacy for the International Save the Children Alliance.

9:45 AM: THE GOVERNANCE, CRIME, AND CONFLICT INITIATIVE (GCCCI)

ALISON FAHEY
Senior Policy Manager, GCCCI

Alison Fahey is Senior Policy Manager of GCCCI and manages J-PAL's work in the Political Economy & Governance sector. In this role, she forges new research partnerships; conducts outreach with foundations, governments, NGOs, and other organizations to disseminate evidence from GCCCI-funded evaluations; and helps organizations integrate evidence into the policy design process. Alison has worked in a variety of positions related to service delivery, economic growth, and decentralization, including work with USAID in Afghanistan, the Ministry of Finance in Jordan, and the World Bank in Indonesia.

9:55 AM: KEYNOTE REMARKS

ROHINI PANDE
Rafik Hariri Professor of International Political Economy, Harvard Kennedy School
Co-Director, Evidence for Policy Design
Co-Chair, J-PAL Political Economy and Governance Sector

Rohini Pande is an economist whose research examines the economic costs and benefits of informal and formal institutions in the developing world and the role of public policy in affecting change. Her work focuses on how institutions can be designed to empower historically disadvantaged groups; how low-cost improvements in information collection and dissemination can enable flexible regulation and more efficient outcomes in areas as diverse as environmental protection and elections; and how biased social norms, unless challenged by public policy, can worsen individual well-being and reduce economic efficiency.

10:15 AM: PANEL 1 - GOVERNANCE AND CONFLICT IN FRAGILE STATES

MICHAEL CALLEN

Assistant Professor of Economics and Strategic Management, University of California at San Diego

Michael Callen's research uses randomized evaluations to identify ways to address accountability and service delivery failures in the public sector, working primarily in Afghanistan and Pakistan. His primary interests are political economy, development economics, and experimental economics.

ALEXANDRA HARTMAN

Assistant Professor of Political Science and Public Policy, University College London

Alexandra Hartman studies the social origins of violence and how individuals, communities, and states construct order. She uses randomized evaluations, survey experiments, micro-level data, and in-field research to understand the effects of property rights on conflict and natural resource management, and how violence affects individuals' willingness to help others.

RAÚL SÁNCHEZ DE LA SIERRA

Assistant Professor, University of California at Berkeley

Raúl Sánchez de la Sierra's research focuses on bureaucracy, armed conflict, and corruption in fragile states. His randomized evaluations include projects assessing the impacts of community-driven development and recruitment to armed groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo, looking specifically at the role of emotional factors in armed group participation.

DIANA DALTON, discussant

Deputy Director, Research and Evidence Division, DFID

11:30 AM: COFFEE BREAK

11:40 AM: PANEL 2 - THE POLITICS OF REDUCING CORRUPTION

ORIANA BANDIERA

Sir Anthony Atkinson Professor of Economics, London School of Economics

Oriana Bandiera specializes in the design of randomized evaluations to assess how individual behavior is shaped by monetary incentives, social relationships, and social contexts. Recent work includes evaluations of incentives for tax collectors in Pakistan, incentives for community workers in Zambia, and large-scale female empowerment programs in Bangladesh, Uganda, and Tanzania.

CLÉMENT IMBERT

Assistant Professor, University of Warwick

Clément Imbert's research focuses on governance and labor markets, specifically on the implementation and labor market effects of social programs. His work includes randomized evaluations in India, including a study examining a large-scale e-governance reform and its effects on corruption and employment.

SARA LOWES

Assistant Professor of Economics, Bocconi University

Sara Lowes' research is at the intersection of development economics, political economy, and economic history. Her studies focus primarily on policies and programs in the Democratic Republic of Congo, including a randomized evaluation that examines how traditional authorities and power arrangements respond to the introduction of local elections.

PETER EVANS, discussant

Team Leader, Governance, Conflict, and Social Development Research Team, DFID

1:00 PM: LUNCH RECEPTION