TIMELINE

A SELECTION OF MILESTONES FROM J-PAL'S FIRST DECADE

The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab's (J-PAL) mission is to reduce poverty by ensuring that policy is based on scientific evidence.

164.6 MILLION PEOPLE
REACHED BY SCALE-UPS OF PROVEN APPROACHES

91 AFFILIATED PROFESSORS
500 J-PAL AND IPA STAFF WORLDWIDE
439 ONGOING AND COMPLETED RANDOMIZED EVALUATIONS ACROSS **54** COUNTRIES
4,094 PEOPLE TRAINED

THE BEGINNING
The Poverty Action Lab is founded at MIT by professors Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, and Sendhil Mullainathan, with the support of MIT's Department of Economics.

AN ENDURING PARTNERSHIP STARTS
NGO Development Innovations, founded by J-PAL affiliate Dean Karlan, changes its name to Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), and begins an ongoing partnership with the Poverty Action Lab.

WE GET OUR NAME
The Lab is named after the late Abdul Latif Jameel in partial recognition of the incredible support received from his son and MIT alumnus, Mohammed Abdul Latif Jameel.
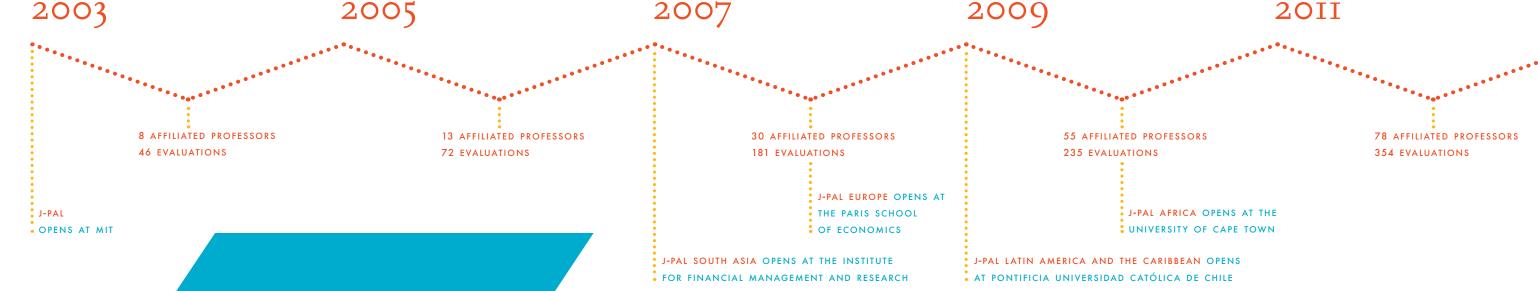
TRAINING LAUNCHES
J-PAL training programs begin, starting with executive education courses in Cambridge (USA) and Chennai (India). To date, J-PAL has trained 4,094 policymakers and practitioners around the world.

MICROFINANCE STUDIES REPLICATE
The Ultra Poor Graduation program, designed to help the poorest of the poor by providing durable goods, vocational training, and microfinance, is evaluated in India. Replication studies have since begun in Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Pakistan, and Yemen to test the program in different contexts.

AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM SCALES
Research in Ghana, India, and Kenya shows that providing instruction tailored to the learning levels of children who have fallen behind can improve learning. Evidence from these studies contributes to the scale-up of the NGO Pratham's Read India program in 19 states in India, reaching 34 million children.

TRANSLATING RESEARCH INTO ACTION
J-PAL creates a dedicated policy group to disseminate evidence from our affiliates' evaluations and to work with governments, NGOs, international organizations, and foundations to help them scale up effective programs.

RESEARCH INITIATIVES SPUR INNOVATION
J-PAL launches the Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI) as its first research initiative to test innovative ways to help farmers use beneficial technologies. J-PAL now has research initiatives in Governance, Post-Primary Education, Urban Services, US Health Care Delivery, and Youth Programs.

MILLIONS OF CHILDREN DEWORMED
School-based deworming, found to be one of the most cost-effective methods of improving school participation, is scaled up to 59 million children across India and Kenya.

EXPERTS CONVENE FOR POLICY INNOVATION
By request of the Chilean Ministry of Planning, J-PAL assembles the Compass Commission, a group of international and local academics, to identify the major social policy challenges in Chile and to propose innovative programs that could be evaluated using randomized impact evaluations. J-PAL has also engaged with the governments of France, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Peru, and Rwanda.

NATIONWIDE SCALE-UP
Providing identification cards to beneficiary households is shown to improve access to Raskin, a national rice subsidy program in Indonesia. Following these results, the Government of Indonesia decides to scale up the card distribution to 15.5 million poor households, reaching about 65.6 million people.

2003

8 AFFILIATED PROFESSORS
46 EVALUATIONS

J-PAL OPENS AT MIT

2005

13 AFFILIATED PROFESSORS
72 EVALUATIONS

2007

30 AFFILIATED PROFESSORS
181 EVALUATIONS

J-PAL EUROPE OPENS AT THE PARIS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

J-PAL SOUTH ASIA OPENS AT THE INSTITUTE FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

2009

55 AFFILIATED PROFESSORS
235 EVALUATIONS

J-PAL AFRICA OPENS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

J-PAL LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN OPENS AT PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE

2011

78 AFFILIATED PROFESSORS
354 EVALUATIONS

2013

J-PAL SOUTHEAST ASIA OPENS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF INDONESIA

J-PAL NORTH AMERICA OPENS AT MIT