

Who Are IPA and J-PAL?

Colin Christensen
Country Director, IPA Kenya
and

Dr. Rachel Glennerster
Executive Director, JPAL, MIT

Kenya Education Roundtable
Nairobi, Kenya • July 19, 2013

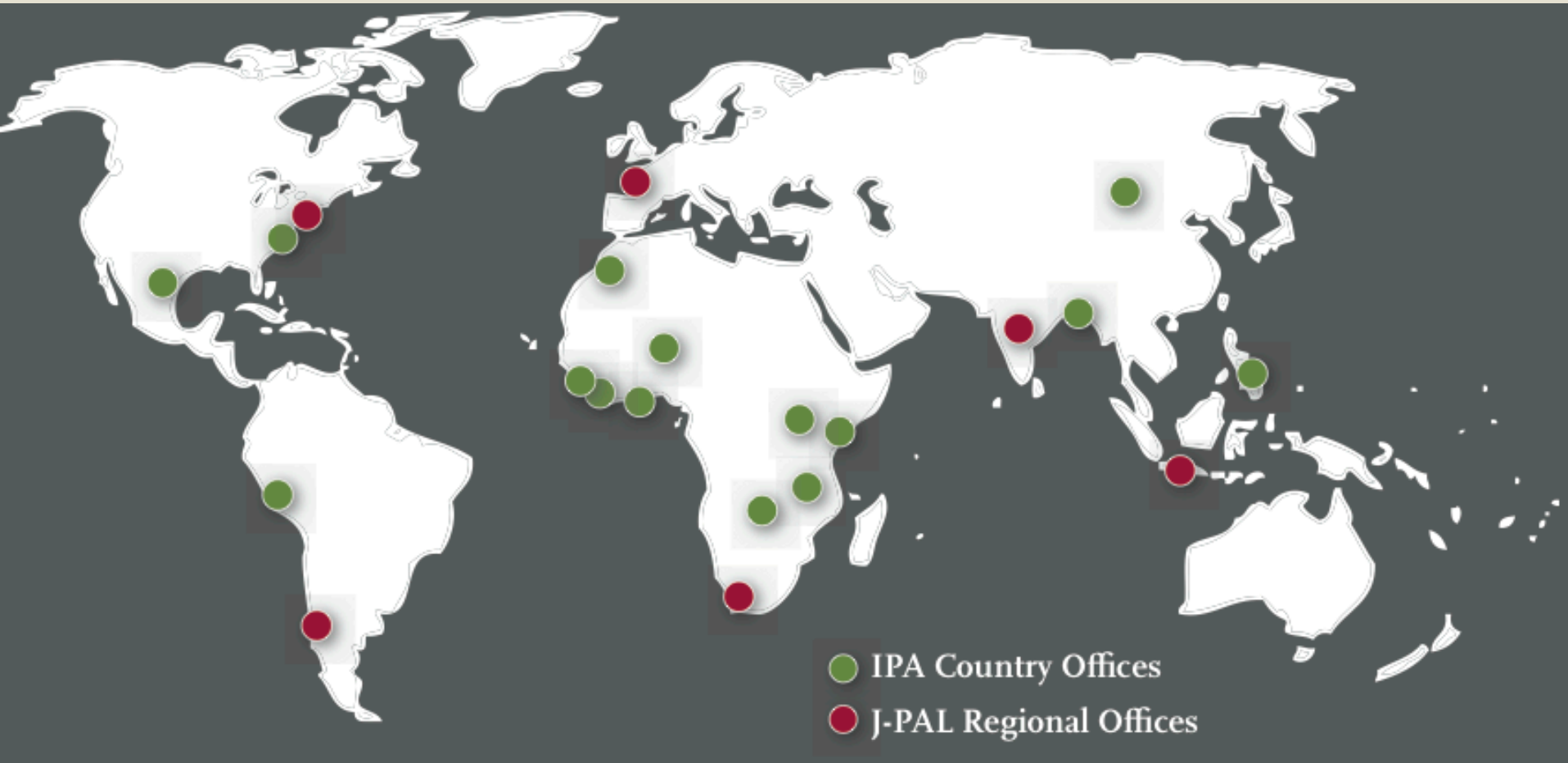


About IPA and J-PAL

- IPA and J-PAL are complementary organizations that work together towards the common goal of reducing poverty by ensuring that policy is based on scientific evidence
 - **IPA** is an international non-profit research organization that has a strong presence in 14 countries through its country programs.
 - **J-PAL** is a network of 88 affiliated professors working through seven research centers based at leading universities around the world.



J-PAL and IPA Offices Around the World



What Do We Do?

- The two organizations work on three core activities, dividing up the work based on their respective strengths and local presence:
 - **Research:** IPA and J-PAL conduct randomized evaluations of social programs in countries where their offices are located
 - **Capacity Building:** J-PAL builds policymakers' capacity to understand and conduct randomized evaluations through its Executive Education course. IPA specializes in training our research staff to implement randomized evaluations.
 - **Policy Outreach:** J-PAL analyzes the results of evaluations to draw out practical implications for social policy and engages policymakers at the global and regional level. Capitalizing on J-PAL's policy analyses, IPA uses its country programs to build relationships with local policymakers and practitioners and to inform their decisions with evidence.



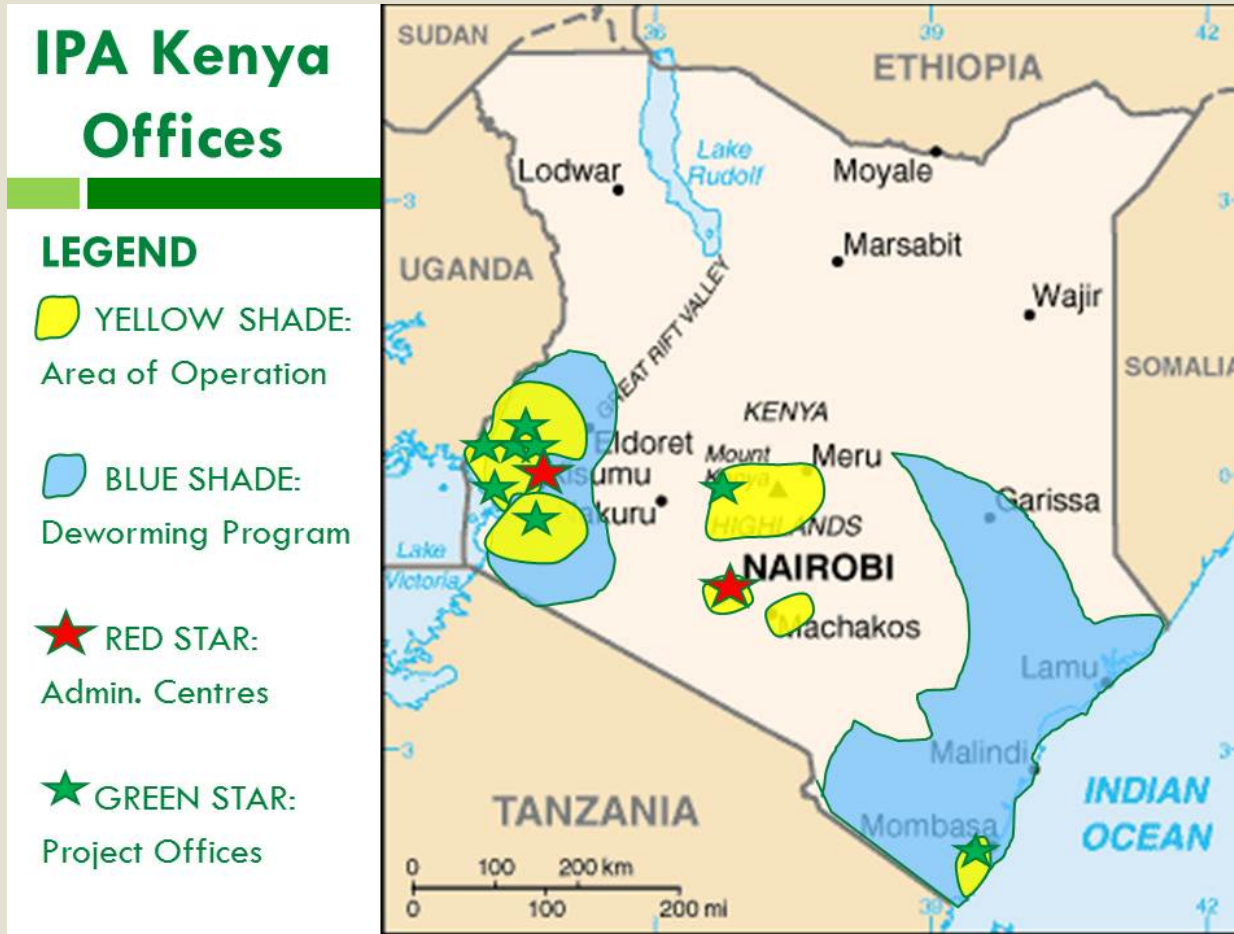
ipa
INNOVATIONS FOR
POVERTY ACTION

ABDUL LATIF JAMEEL
Poverty Action Lab

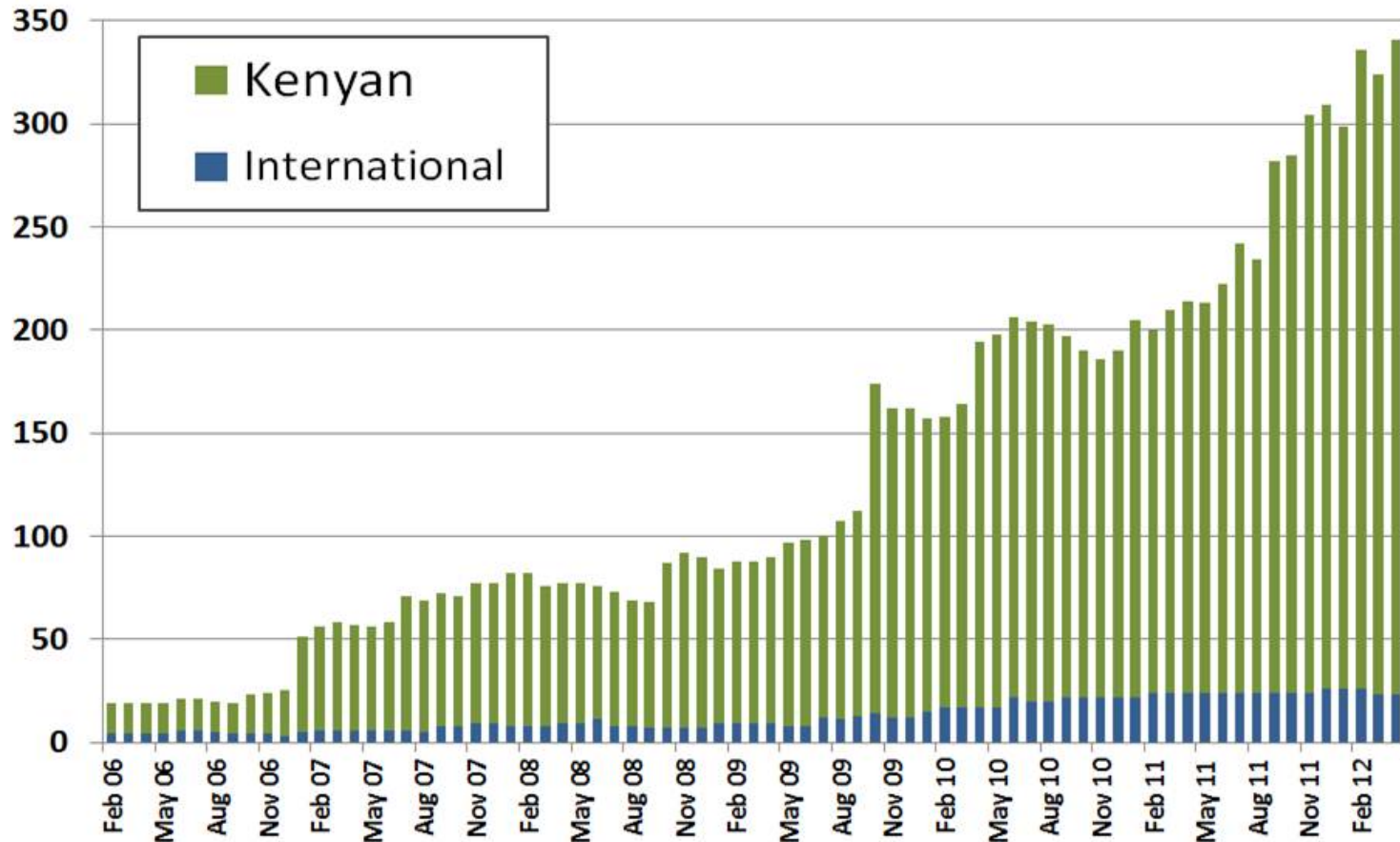


TRANSLATING RESEARCH INTO ACTION

Our Work in Kenya



Number of full-time IPA personnel in Kenya, 2006-2012



Evidence from Kenya



- More than 60 completed and ongoing evaluations in Kenya, 12 in education

Importance of Using Evidence

- Limited resources means making hard choices
- Estimating impact of a program is hard
- Relying on rigorous methodologies to determine impact provides reliability, credibility
- JPAL and IPA use randomized evaluations, like medical trials but adapted to examine social issues
 - Approach pioneered in Kenya
- Knowing what is the most cost-effective way to improve outcomes even harder



ipa
INNOVATIONS FOR
POVERTY ACTION

ABDUL LATIF JAMEEL
Poverty Action Lab

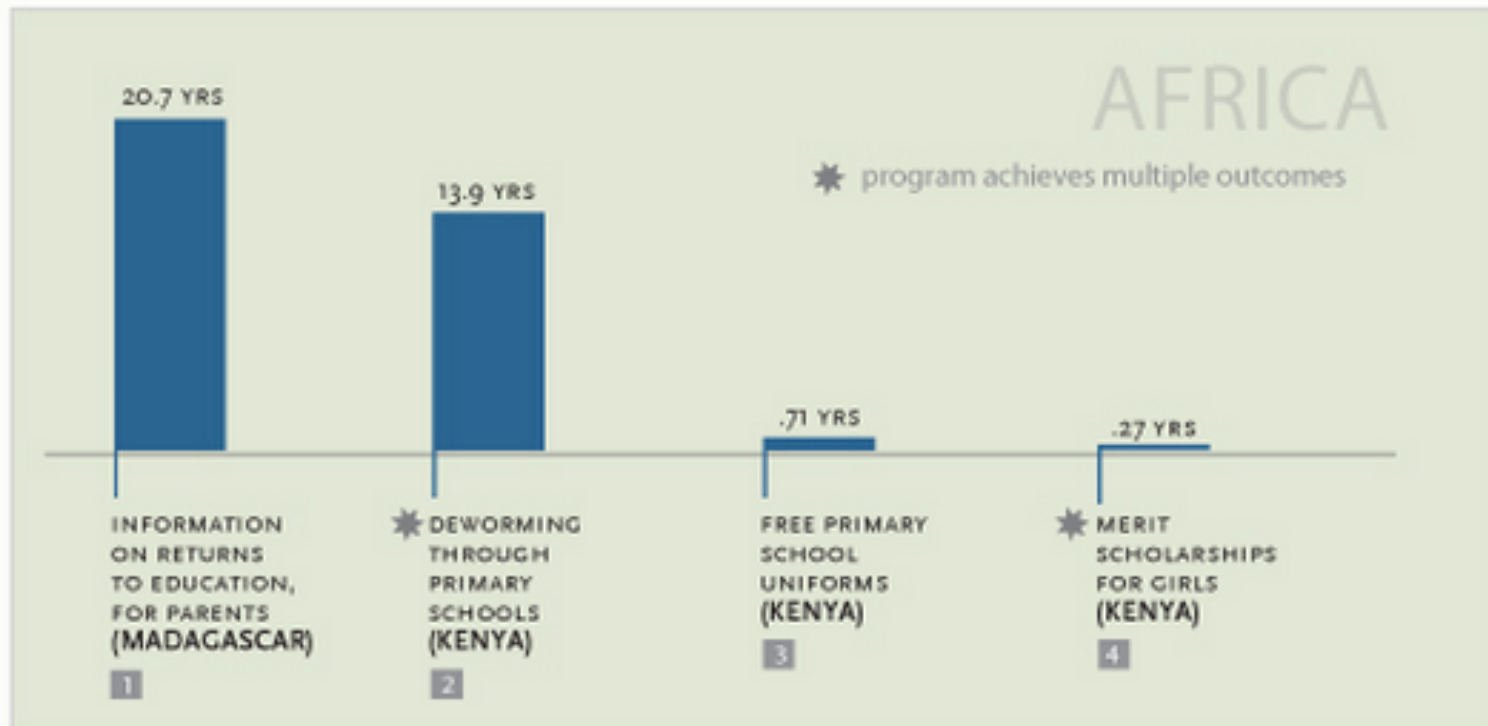


TRANSLATING RESEARCH INTO ACTION

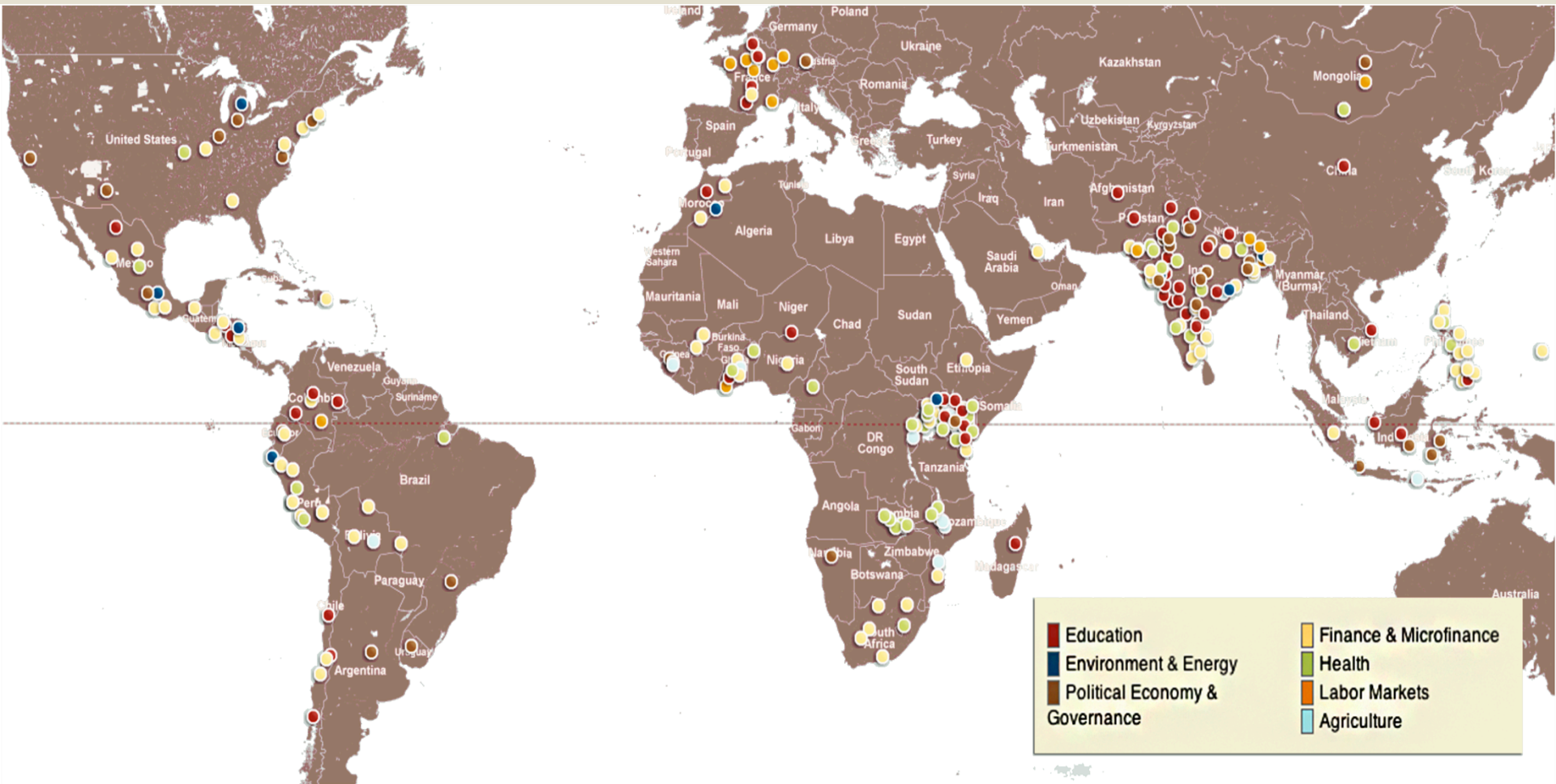
Existing Evidence Can Help Answer Such Questions:

Deworming is one of the most cost-effective ways to increase attendance

COST-EFFECTIVENESS: ADDITIONAL YEARS OF STUDENT PARTICIPATION PER \$100



IPA and J-PAL have over 400 ongoing and completed projects in 53 countries



How Can We Work with MOEST Going Forward?

- Both IPA and J-PAL provide technical assistance to governments and NGOs who want to scale up programs based on rigorous evidence
- Can work with MOEST to scale up or pilot policies or programs of interest
 - Neither IPA nor J-PAL provides funding directly, however can support MOEST to find possible external funding sources