RISE
Research on Improving Systems of Education
UK Supplier Engagement Meeting
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1. Motivation
2. Programme Overview
3. Procurement
1. Motivation
Why we need a focus on learning
Number of children not in school globally

Primary-school age: 58m

- South Asia: 19.2m
- Africa: 31.6m
- Other: 10.7m

Secondary-school age: 128m

- South Asia: 35.9m
- Africa: 49.1m
- Other: 43.1m
Most illiterate 12-year-olds are in school

12-year-olds who can't read a sentence (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uganda*</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan**</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of illiterate 12-year-olds, % in school

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Measured literacy in Uganda is lower in part because tests were primarily administered in English, while other countries used a variety of local and national languages.
**Gender ratios in the data imply girls were undercounted in Pakistan, which may bias girls' literacy and enrollment rates upward.
Source: @JustinSandefur, based on Pratham (Aser) and Twaweza (Uwezo) surveys.
1. Motivation
Why we Need a Systems Approach
The scale of the challenge:
PISA: Developing countries about 100 points behind OECD. Average rates of progress are 1 point per year.
India: Spending went up and learning went down

- Public spending on primary education per pupil, real USD
- Literacy in Std III (%) per ASER survey

Source: @JustinSandefur, based on Pratham (Aser) literacy survey and World Bank, WDI.
Proven solutions are not enough

“Interventions providing additional teaching resources had a high impact on the full range of education outcomes. Additional teachers and **computer-assisted learning** proved the most effective.”
Mean = .15
p-value < .001
2. Programme overview
RISE

- Our goal is to provide an analytical framework for
  - systems functioning
  - how system change happens
  - why it doesn’t happen
  - reform success or failure

- Success measured by learning gains
- Community of practice on growing systems research
- Publications in top journals
RISE research focuses on schools

- Focus on basic education (school-based primary and secondary)
- Could include pre-primary or kindergarten (school-based, focused on learning)
How is RISE different than other research calls?

- Large, multi-year funding to just a few teams
- Common focus: how to achieve dramatic increase in learning (in very different places, different pathways)
- Expect
  - Strong institutional presence & research participation in country of study
  - **Multidisciplinary teams**
  - Collaboration and coordination (e.g., diagnostic exercise, learning metrics)
Systems study topics can take many forms

- One or many reforms / systems elements / innovations
- Whole or part of system
- National or sub-national
- Not just government – NGOs, private sector, civil society, too
- Time horizon: past, present or future
What is systems research? More examples

- Reforms in teacher policy – recruitment, retention, training, supervision, management, pay
- Student assessment that forms a learning agenda
- Increasing teacher and school autonomy
- Teaching to the level of the student
- Low-cost private schools

http://www.riseprogramme.org/content/call-papers-open-rise-conference-2016

Only funding for incremental cost of doing research, not implementation
What isn’t systems research

• Small, geographically limited
• Input-oriented interventions without complementary system reform elements
• Focus solely on enrolment
• Evaluation of an aid project
• No potential for scale
• Designed solely by researchers
Priority countries

- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- India
- Indonesia
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Vietnam

Other countries ARE eligible, with justification.

See, e.g., Tanzania in the first call.

Sub-national focus permissible for larger countries.
CRTs will work closely with the RISE Directorate and Intellectual Leadership Team

- Quality assurance
- Admin support
- Payment and contracting

- Set intellectual program direction
- Provide advice/guidance
- Foster community of practice

Develop systems research community of practice
Shift education research agenda to systems focus
3. Procurement
Funding and timing

- £24 million envelope
- Funding for up to 6 country research teams

First call – four countries
- Research implementation: March 2016 for 6 years

Second call – two countries
- EoI issued March 2016
- Research implementation: from September 2016
- Bidders can re-submit proposals and EoIs from the first call.

Proposals are expected to be between £3 million and £3.7 million
- Awards in British Pounds
Bidding for RISE is a 2 stage process

1. Expression of Interest
2. Proposal writing
RISE 2016 round schedule

- Publication of the Expression of Interest notice: 10 March
- Expression of Interest submission deadline: 10 May
- Request for Proposal notice: 1 July
- Full proposal submission deadline: 22 August

Everything you need to know is online here:
www.riseprogramme.org/content/information-potential-bidders
RISE
RESEARCH ON IMPROVING SYSTEMS OF EDUCATION