



Learning from the Evidence on Forced Displacement: Impact Evaluation – October 11, 2023

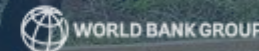


WORLD BANK GROUP

Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement



Joint Data Center
on Forced Displacement



2023

Learning from the Evidence on Force Displacement

Doing Better in Forcibly Displaced Contexts: Improving Outcomes through Trial-and-Adopt Impact Evaluation



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Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement



Obsolete approach to economic development

- Piecemeal
- Pre-set designs
- No real time information & updating
- Evaluation at the end-if at all


➤ **Inefficient investments**

➤ **Low impact**

DIME's Trial-and-Adopt technology for economic development

- Programmatic
- Flexible designs
- Intensive use of data and digital
- Iterative trials to test ideas and adapt implementation to get the job done
 - **Efficient investments**
 - **High and increasing impact**





Small investments in impact evaluation trial-and-adopt technology can increase the impact of our investments by more than 50 percent



The technology for doing better

1. Invest in data to know in what and where to invest
2. Trial ideas and adopt the best (“trial-and-adopt” impact evaluation)
3. Work strategically and programmatically to mainstream learning and achieve better outcomes
4. Strengthen local capacity to manage programs and policies for *impact*

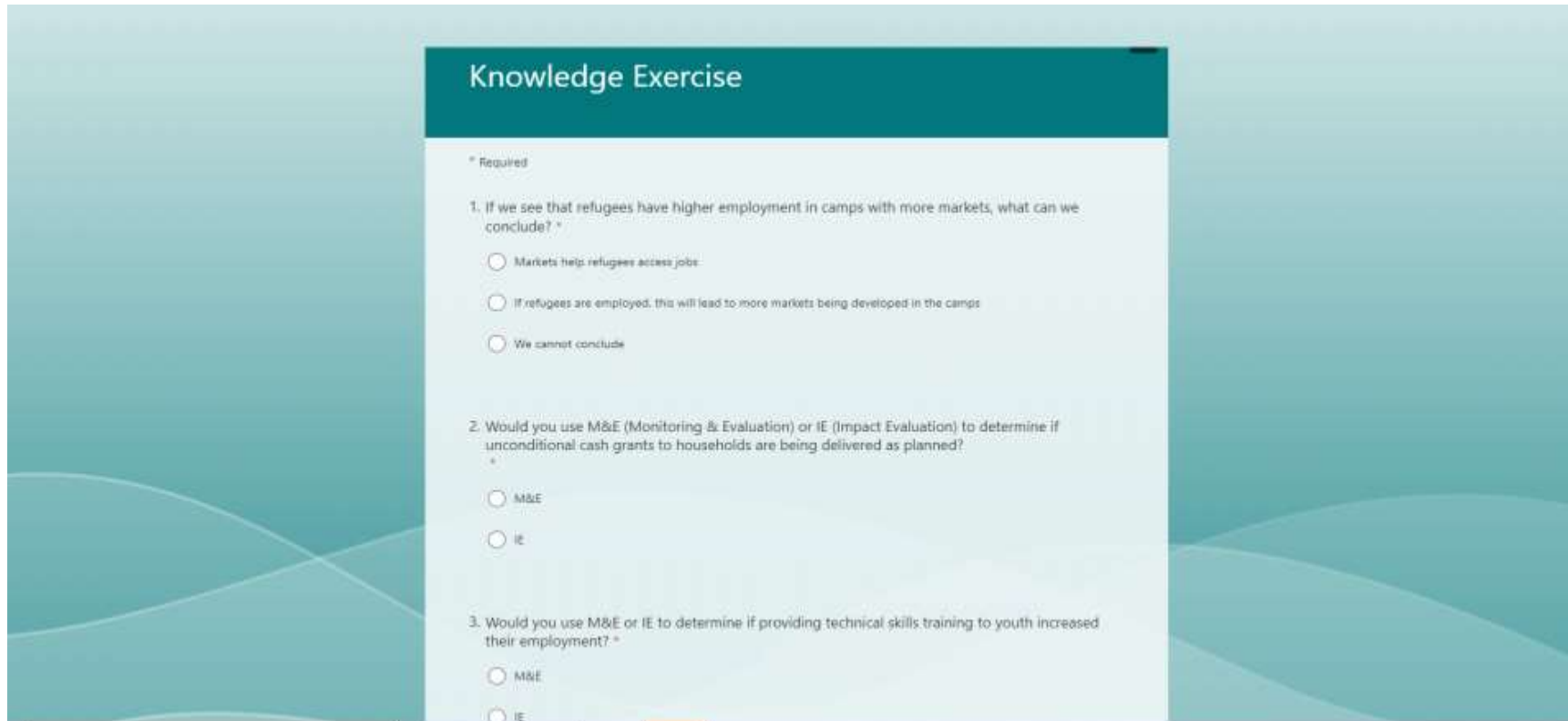


From projects to programs and partnerships

- Today's session: intuition followed by case studies from Colombia, Afghanistan, Niger, and Bangladesh
- Contributions to building the evidence on forced displacement...
- ...and beyond: DIME's FCV program
 - Building resilience to shocks
 - Building human capital and sustainable livelihoods
 - Improving physical and social connectivity
- Working with governments and leveraging internal and external partnerships
- Launching the Global Alliance for Development Impact (GADI – watch this space!)

Knowledge Exercise

<https://forms.office.com/r/DfYZuhT1CC>



Knowledge Exercise

* Required

1. If we see that refugees have higher employment in camps with more markets, what can we conclude? *

- Markets help refugees access jobs.
- If refugees are employed, this will lead to more markets being developed in the camps.
- We cannot conclude.

2. Would you use M&E (Monitoring & Evaluation) or IE (Impact Evaluation) to determine if unconditional cash grants to households are being delivered as planned? *

- M&E
- IE

3. Would you use M&E or IE to determine if providing technical skills training to youth increased their employment? *

- M&E
- IE

Types of Evaluation

What question(s) do you want to answer?

Project M&E/Process Evaluation

- Measures project outputs and implementation. (For ex, right frequency, timing, quality, amount, intended target)

Impact Evaluation

- Measures causal impact of a program or intervention

Qualitative Evaluation

- Provides an in-depth understanding of the intervention or process. Delves into the why and how of the program.

Cost benefit Analysis

- Measures the benefits of a decision/action minus the costs associated with taking that action

Cost-Effectiveness Analysis

- Measures the relative costs of the outcomes of two or more actions/interventions (used when difficult to monetize benefits)

Impact Evaluation

Impact Evaluation

- How can we increase women's employment
- Does a cash grant transfer increase women's employment (vs. cash grant combined with training)?



- Scientifically measure the impact of alternative ideas and choose those that work best in practice

Important Concepts

- ✧ **Outcomes:** What we observe, measure and want to affect
- ✧ **Impact:** Change in outcomes caused by the program
- ✧ **Cause-effect:** cause is used because it can be attributed **only** to the program

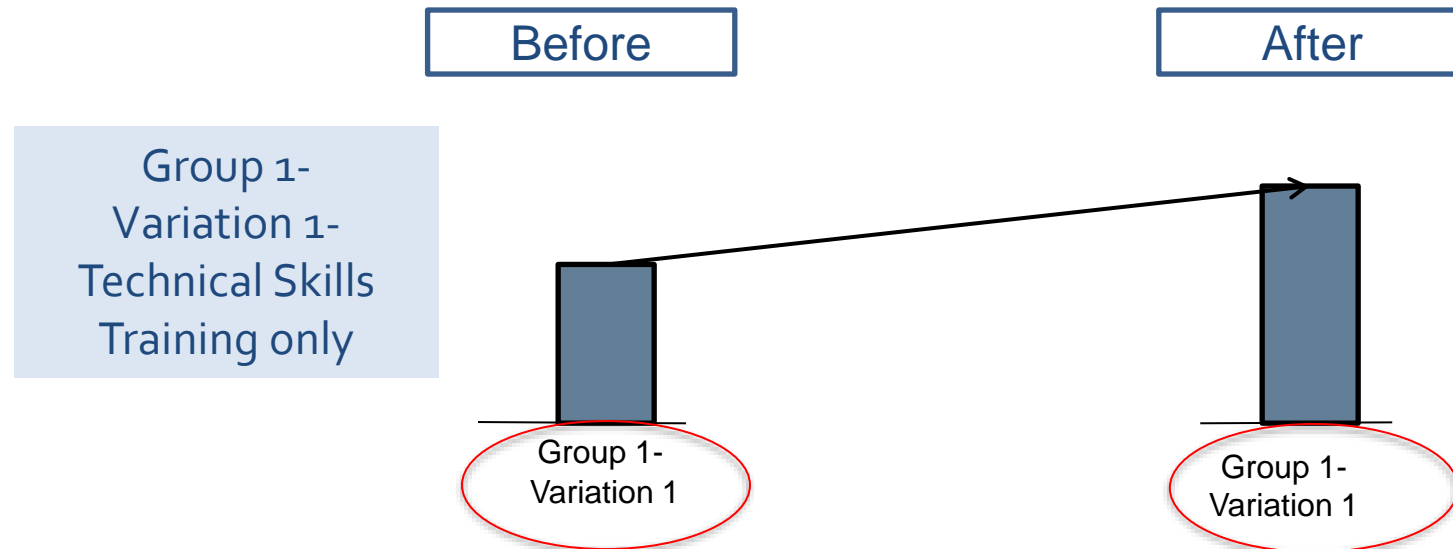
Impact Evaluation's goal is to respond to the following question ...

What is the impact of <<intervention>> or <<variations of an intervention>> on <<set of outcomes>>?

What is the impact of a youth skills training, as well as skills training combined with soft skills training on labor market job entry?

Consider the following example...

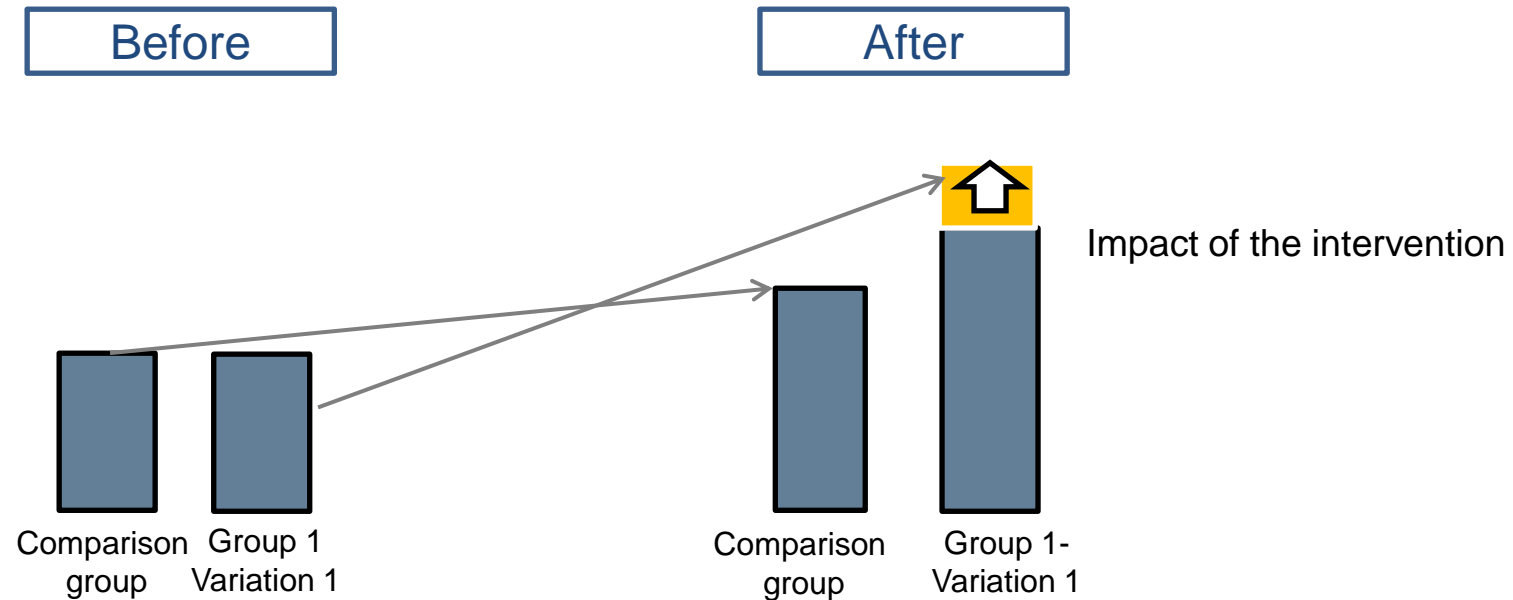
Let's look at employment outcome before and after a skills training intervention (only the groups receiving the intervention)



Did the intervention have a positive effect on employment?

[PollEv.com/nausheenkhan588](https://www.pollEv.com/nausheenkhan588)

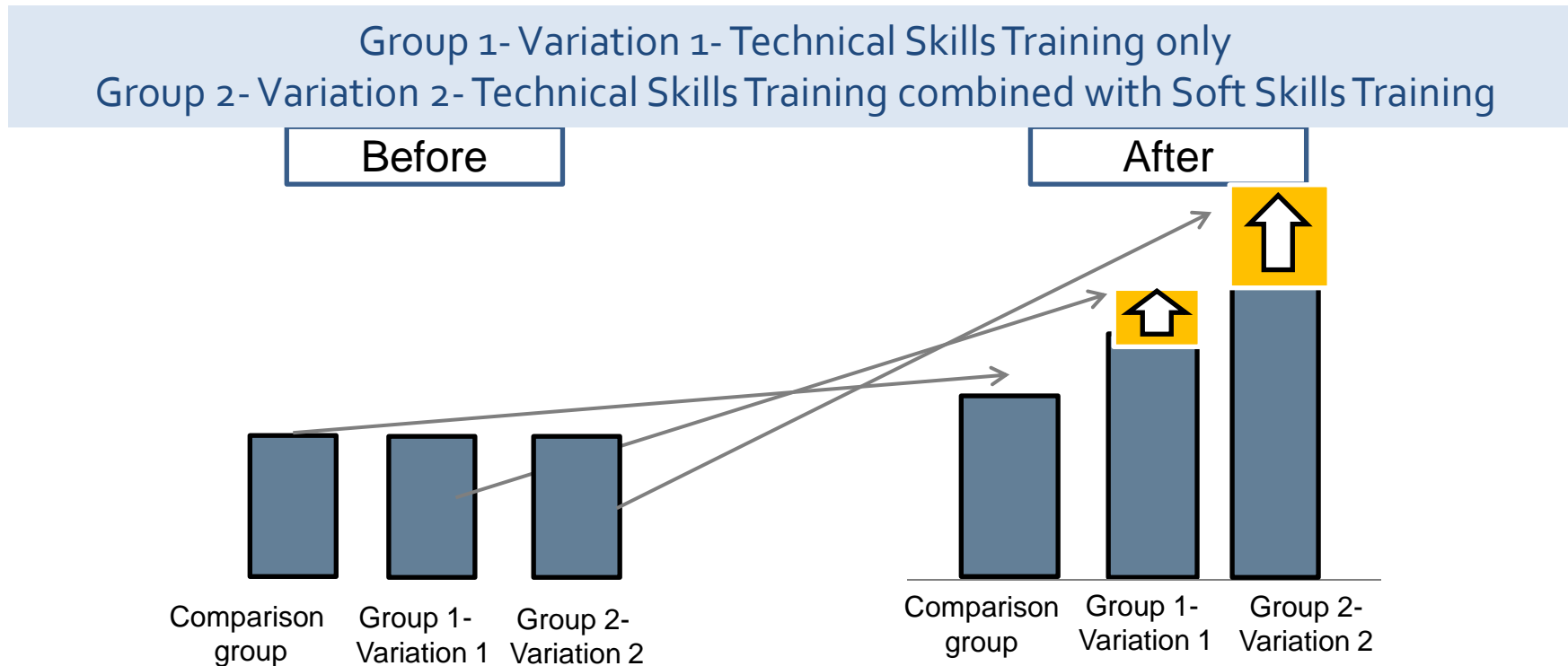
Let's look at employment again before and after the skills training intervention (now with a comparison group)



According to impact evaluation, the intervention had a positive effect: employment is higher for Group 1.

Use IE to learn & get better

Compare the impact of variations of an intervention on employment outcomes before and after the intervention.



Which Group has a larger effect? [PollEv.com/nausheenkhan588](https://pollEv.com/nausheenkhan588)

...therefore which Group should you adopt in your program

Practical challenge for IE: Selecting a proper counterfactual group is not trivial

For our skills training intervention, a valid counterfactual group consists of:

- A group of youth with similar characteristics to those who are participating in the skills training program...
- But who do not actually participate in the program

Non-participants are usually not a “good” counterfactual because they often are different from the group receiving the intervention and those differences may bias the impact estimates

In the search for a counterfactual...

Experimental Methods

Use random assignment to
create same groups with the
same characteristics on average

Non- experimental Methods

Use statistics and assumptions
to create groups with the same
average pre-program
characteristics

Steps to Randomize

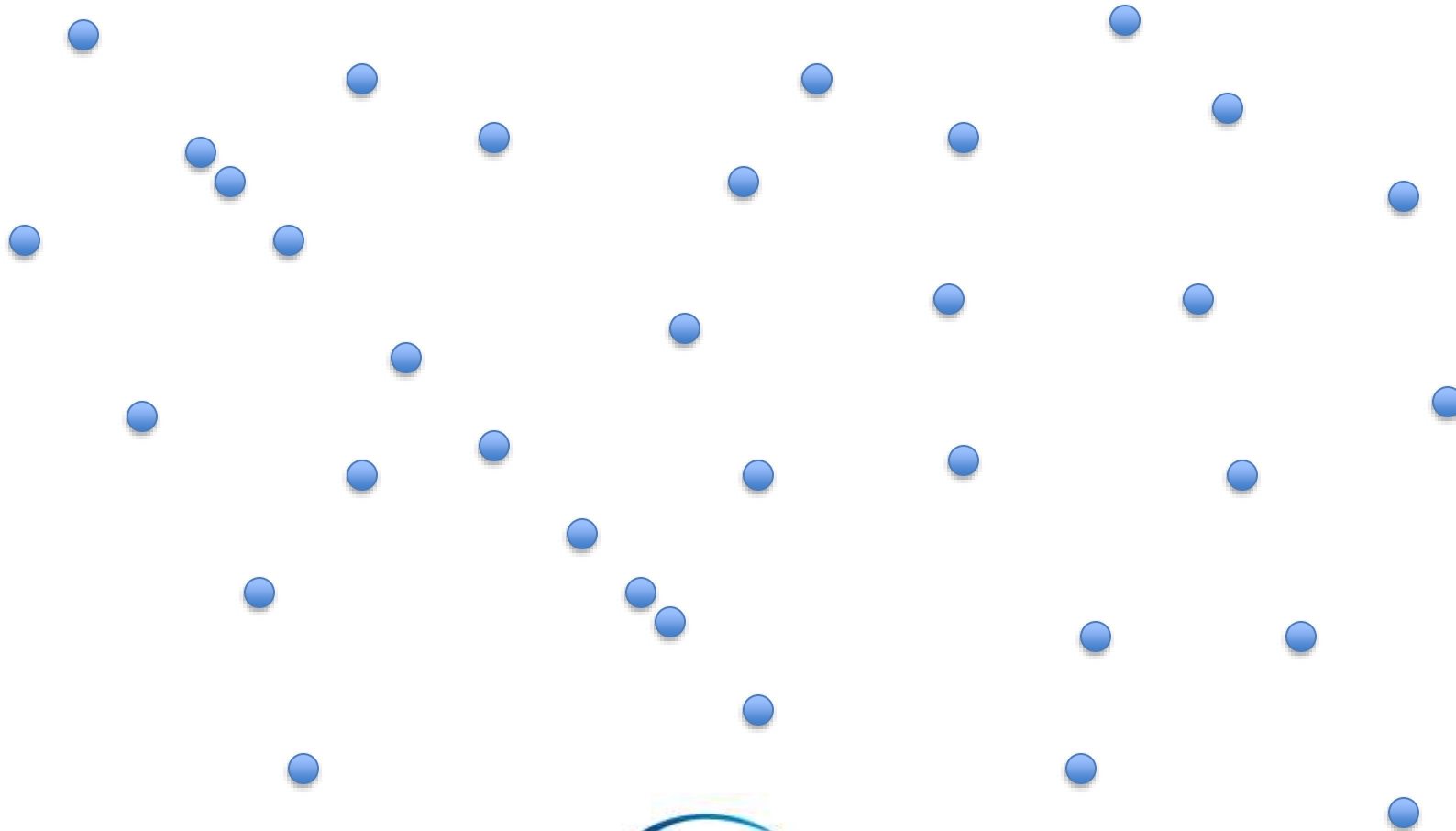
1. Choose sample for impact evaluation

- These are people who are eligible for project
- Selection of sample affects **external validity** only, i.e. the ability to generalize the results of this study to other situations or populations

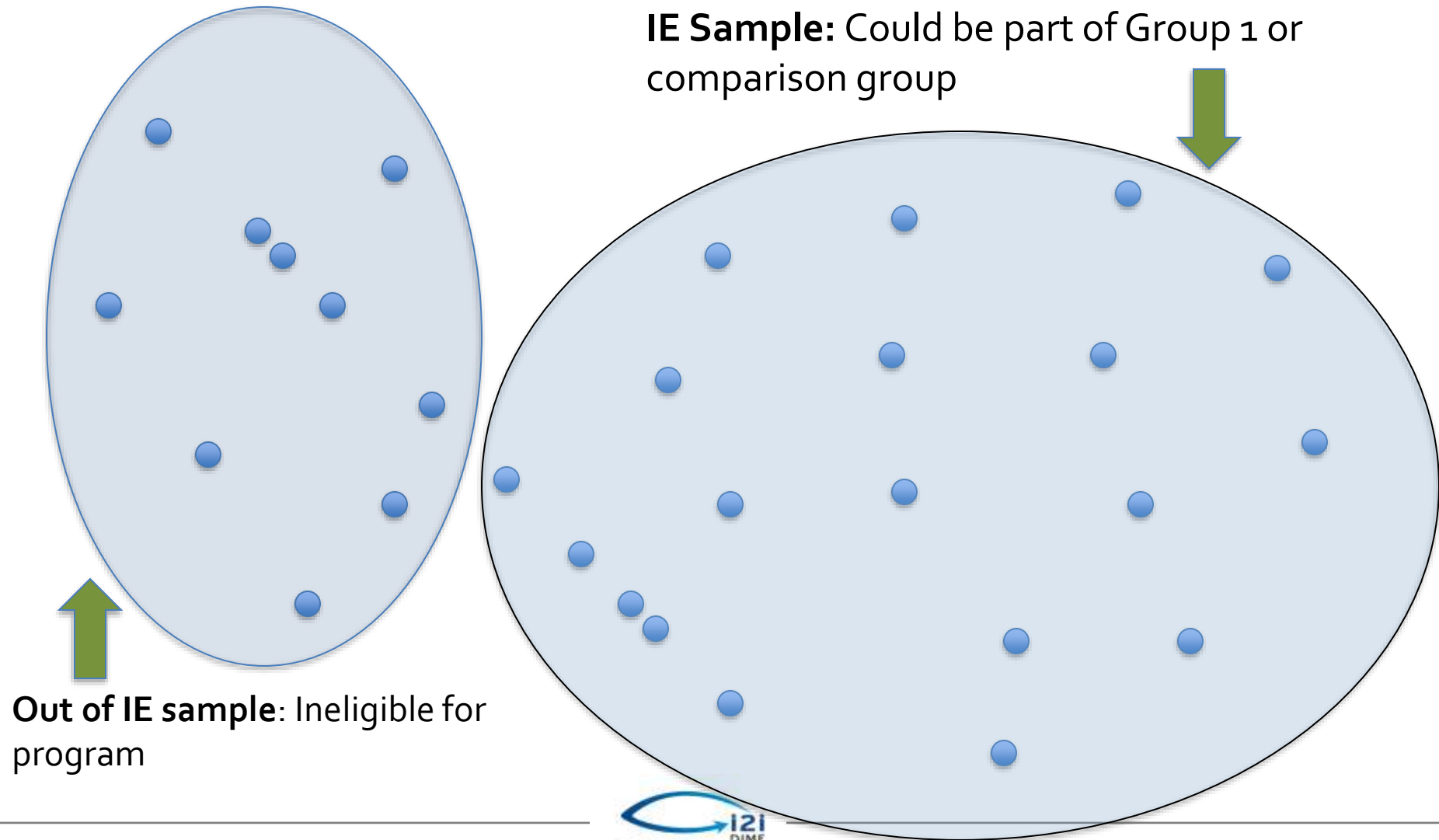
2. Randomize into Group 1, (the group receiving the intervention) and the comparison group, through public lottery or electronically

- On average both Group 1 and comparison group will have the same observed and unobserved characteristics (test for observed, for example through balanced tests)

Start with sample of all possible program participants



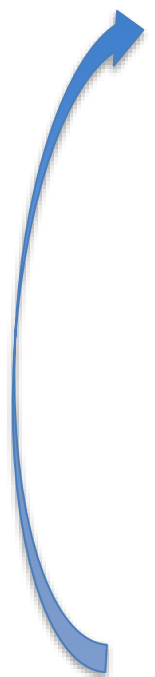
Choose who will be part of impact evaluation



Randomize: Actual randomization example: Public Lottery (similar to a coin flip)



Iterative process of Trial and Adopt for evidence-based policy

- 
1. **Identify critical causal links**
 2. Facilitate discussion on the **challenges you face** and work with you to identify possible solutions (**evaluation questions relevant to your needs**)
 3. Propose possible solutions
 4. **Test high-potential/feasible solutions (preferably multiple variations of an intervention)**
 5. **YOU** adapt and adopt (scale up) the best solution and move policy in the right direction

There are many real-world situations where random assignment make sense.

For example:

- Budget constraints prevent full coverage – Random assignment (lottery) is fair and transparent
- Limited implementation capacity – Randomized phase-in gives all the same chance to go first, Niger example
- Situations where there is limited pre-existing data
- No evidence on which alternative is best – Random assignment enables you to pilot variations of an intervention and scale the one variation that is successful.
- Example- Sahel ASP work

Impact Evaluation Methods Toolbox

If it is not possible to randomize, there are other methods that can be employed to measure impacts in a rigorous manner.

Regression Discontinuity Design

Difference-in-Differences

Propensity Score Matching

We can't randomize – 1 : Discontinuity Design

Many social programs select beneficiaries using a **threshold index or score**:

Anti-poverty Programs



Targeted to households below a given poverty index/income

Pensions



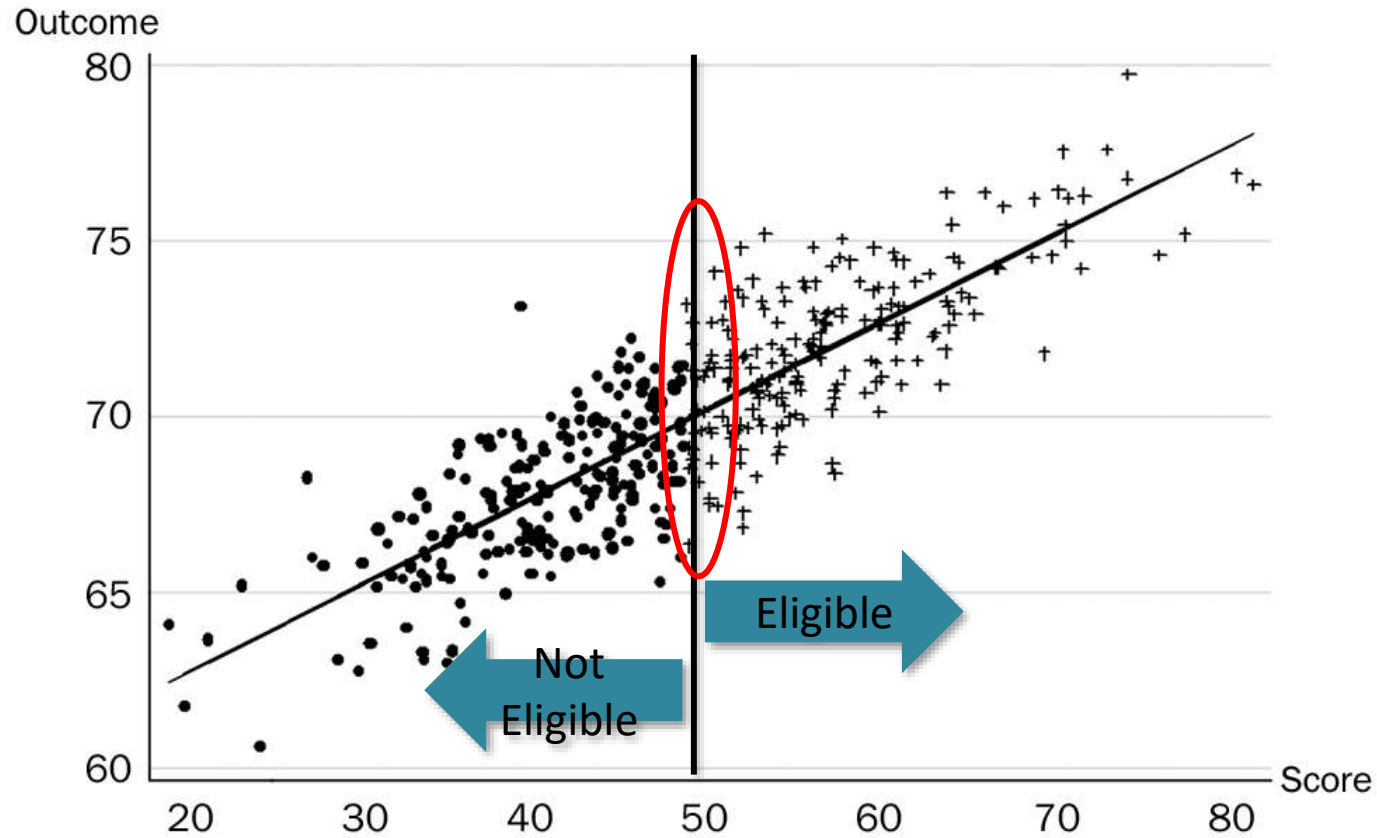
Targeted to population above a certain age

Education



Scholarships targeted to students with high scores on standardized text

We can't randomize - 1 : Discontinuity Design



We can't randomize - 2 : Difference-in-differences

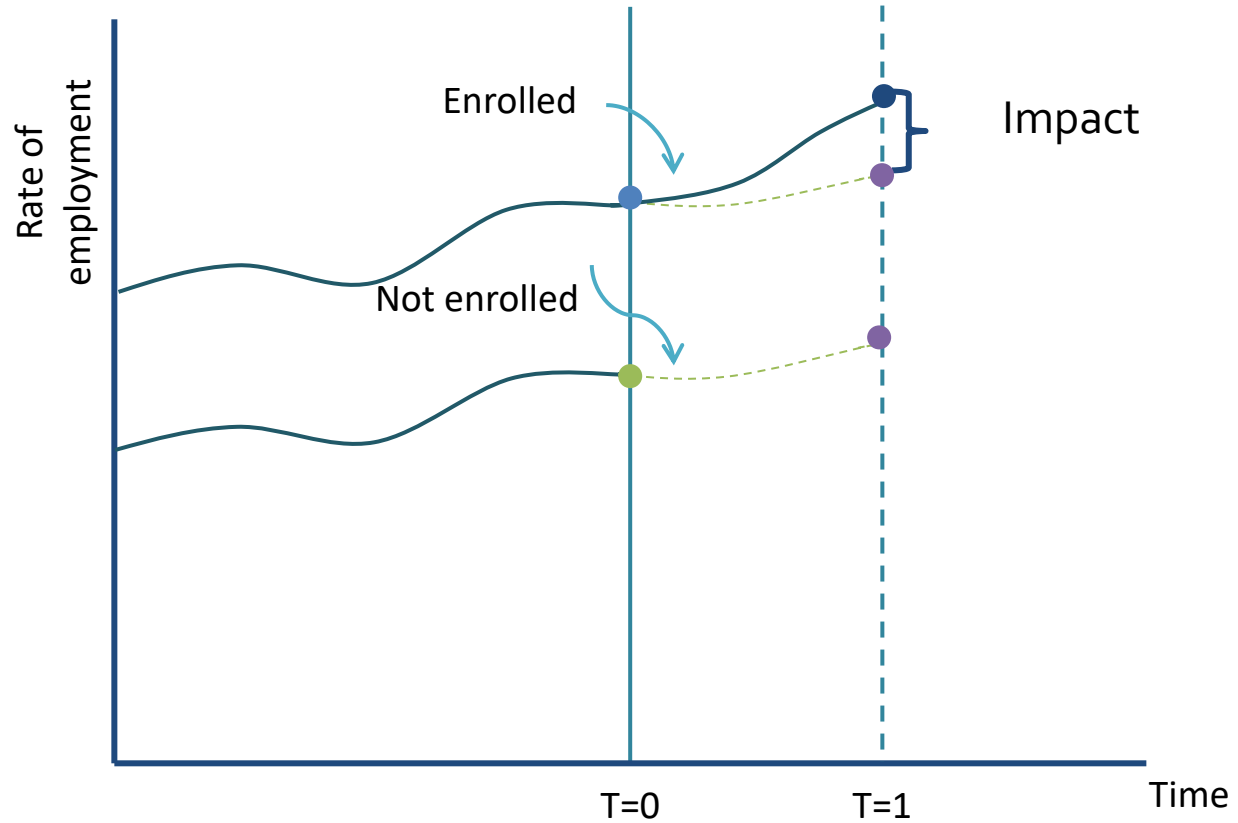
Sometimes, we can assume (needs to be proven) that two groups are **different** but that they **evolve similarly** (parallel trends), and thus be a suitable comparison group.

Example: Card and Krueger (1994)

Card and Krueger looked at the impact of an increase in minimum wage by comparing employment in the fast food sector in New Jersey and in Pennsylvania, in February 1992 and in November 1992, after New Jersey's minimum wage rose from \$4.25 to \$5.05 in April 1992.

Assumption: employment rate in New Jersey and in Pennsylvania would have evolved similarly between February 1992 and November 1992 without the change in minimum wage.

We can't randomize - 2 : Difference-in-differences



We can't randomize – 3 : Propensity Score Matching (PSM)

- Match individuals based on observable characteristics before the intervention takes place
- Measure differences between these matched groups after the intervention is finished

We can't randomize - 3 : Propensity Score Matching (PSM)

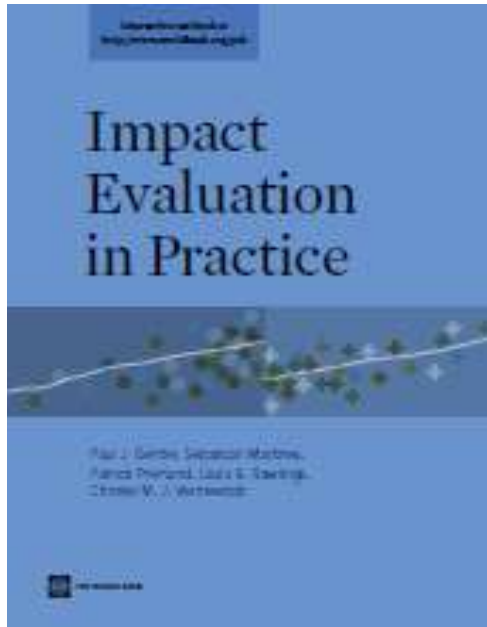
- **Challenge**
 - Can only match on observables
 - More observables = better match
 - But data are expensive
 - And unobservable characteristics might matter a lot

Case Studies

Importance of context within the FD agenda

- **Largest reparation program provided nationwide in Colombia** - the effects of reparations for victims of gross human rights violations, including victims of forced displacement, homicide, and other atrocities during the conflict
- **Cash assistance to Afghan refugees returning from Pakistan** on household outcomes post-return
- **Conflict-prone and rural areas in Niger** - Economic opportunities to displaced and host populations
- **Idleness in camps in Bangladesh** - Working to investigate and document impact of social protection programs on mental health

References



www.worldbank.org/ieinpractice

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[Development Research in Practice : The DIME Analytics Data Handbook](#)

The Handbook leads the reader through a complete empirical research project, providing links to continuously updated resources on the DIME Wiki as well as illustrative examples from a real-life DIME project in Rio de Janeiro. The handbook is intended to train users of development data how to handle data effectively, efficiently, and ethically.

[Manage Successful Field Research](#)

A fully virtual course, in which participants learn the workflow for primary data collection. The course covers best practices at all stages of the survey workflow, from planning to piloting instruments and monitoring data quality once fieldwork begins. There is a strong focus throughout on research ethics and reproducible workflows. The course uses a combination of virtual lectures, readings, and hands-on exercises.

Improving Program Impacts in the Context of the Forcibly Displaced

Reparations as Development? Evidence from Victims of the Colombian Armed Conflict



Arlen Guarin; Juliana Londoño-Vélez; Christian Posso

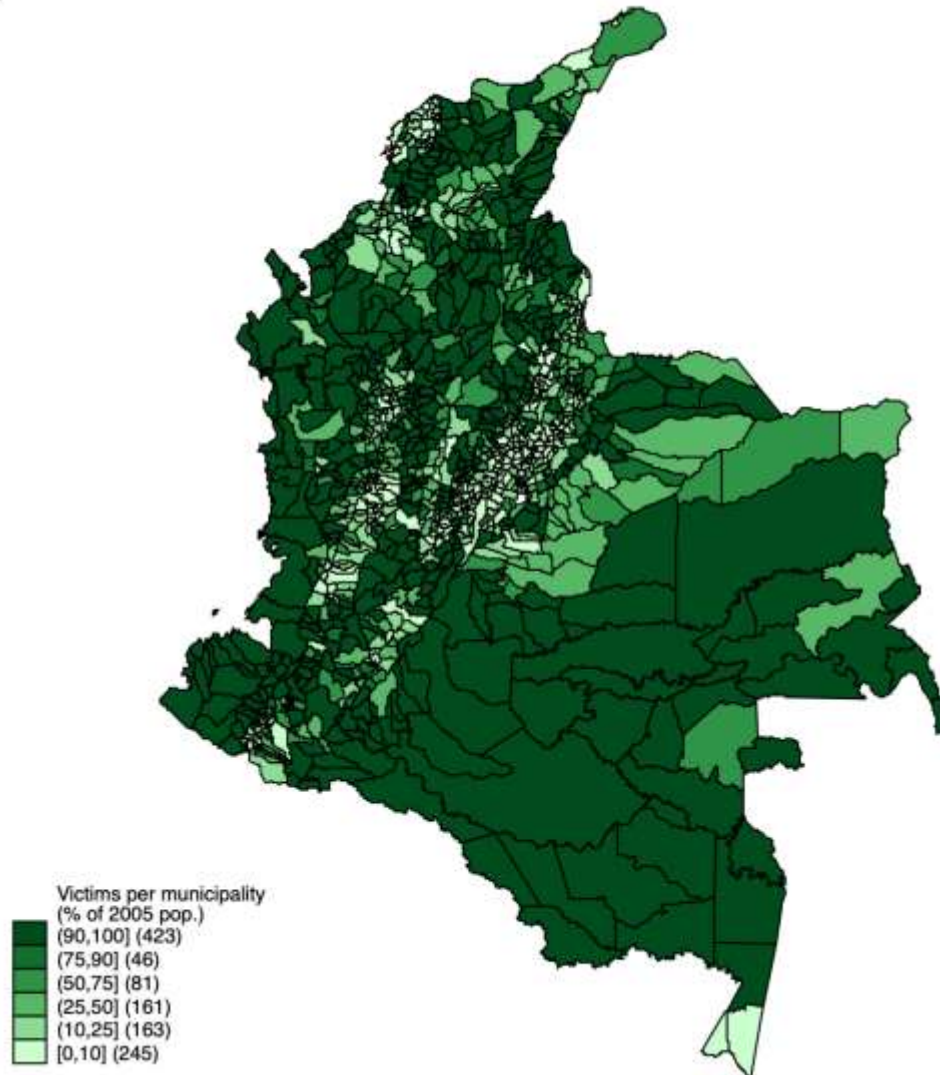
Policy question

- Can reparations help victims of human rights violations (mostly FD) rebuild their lives?
- Over 30 countries have implemented reparations programs to recognize and address harms victims suffered during war, conflict, and authoritarianism
- Reparations' material and symbolic benefits are critical for pursuing truth, justice, non-repetition, and repair—and financial compensation may improve victims' well-being
- Despite these hypothesized effects, reparations remain controversial
- Surprisingly, there is no causal evidence on reparations' effects on victims

What can we do?

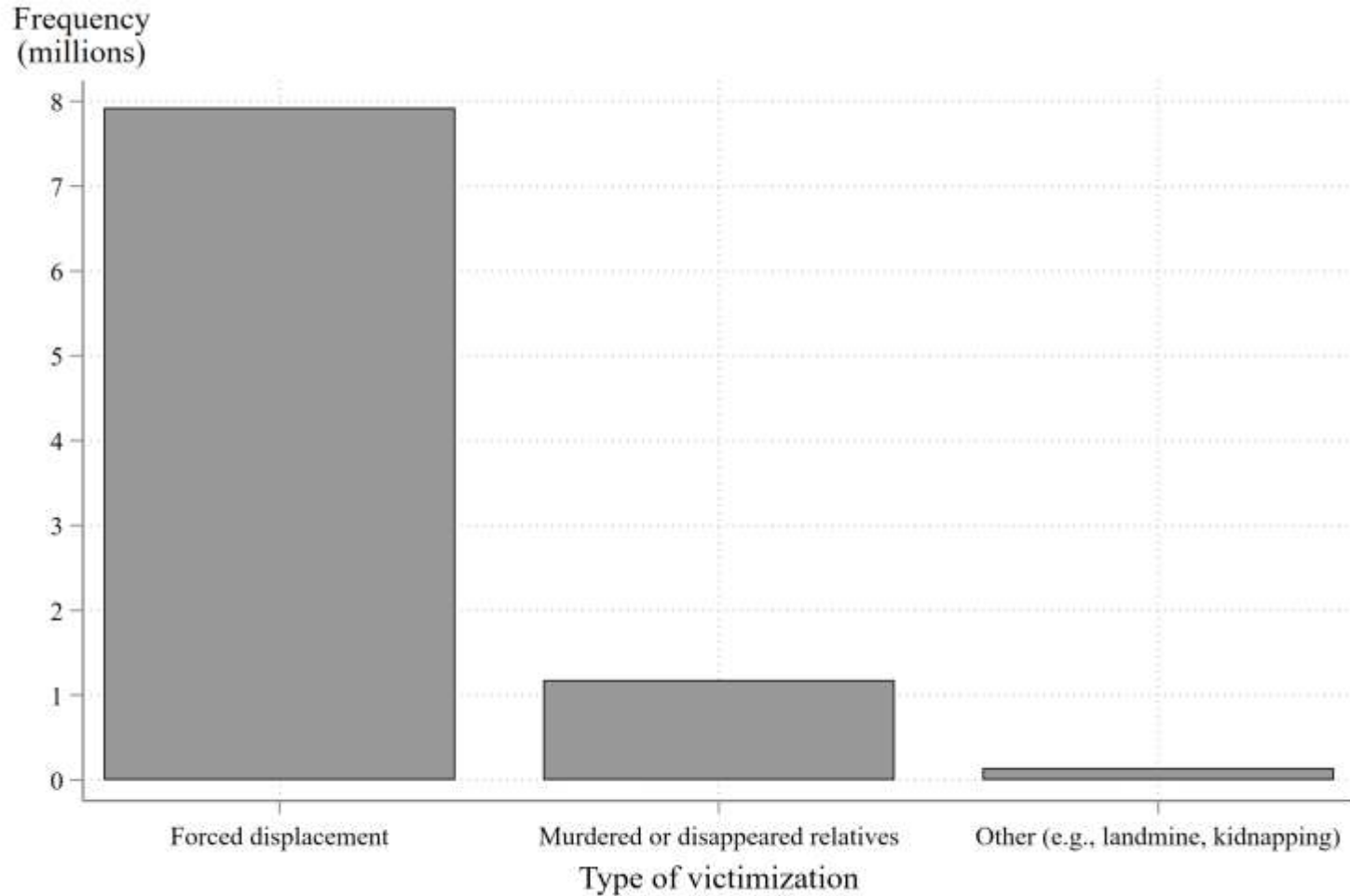
- Retrospective: **RCT** not feasible
- We use information from Colombia, which is committed to compensating over **7 million** victims of guerrillas, paramilitary groups, and state forces by 2031

Colombian internal armed conflict



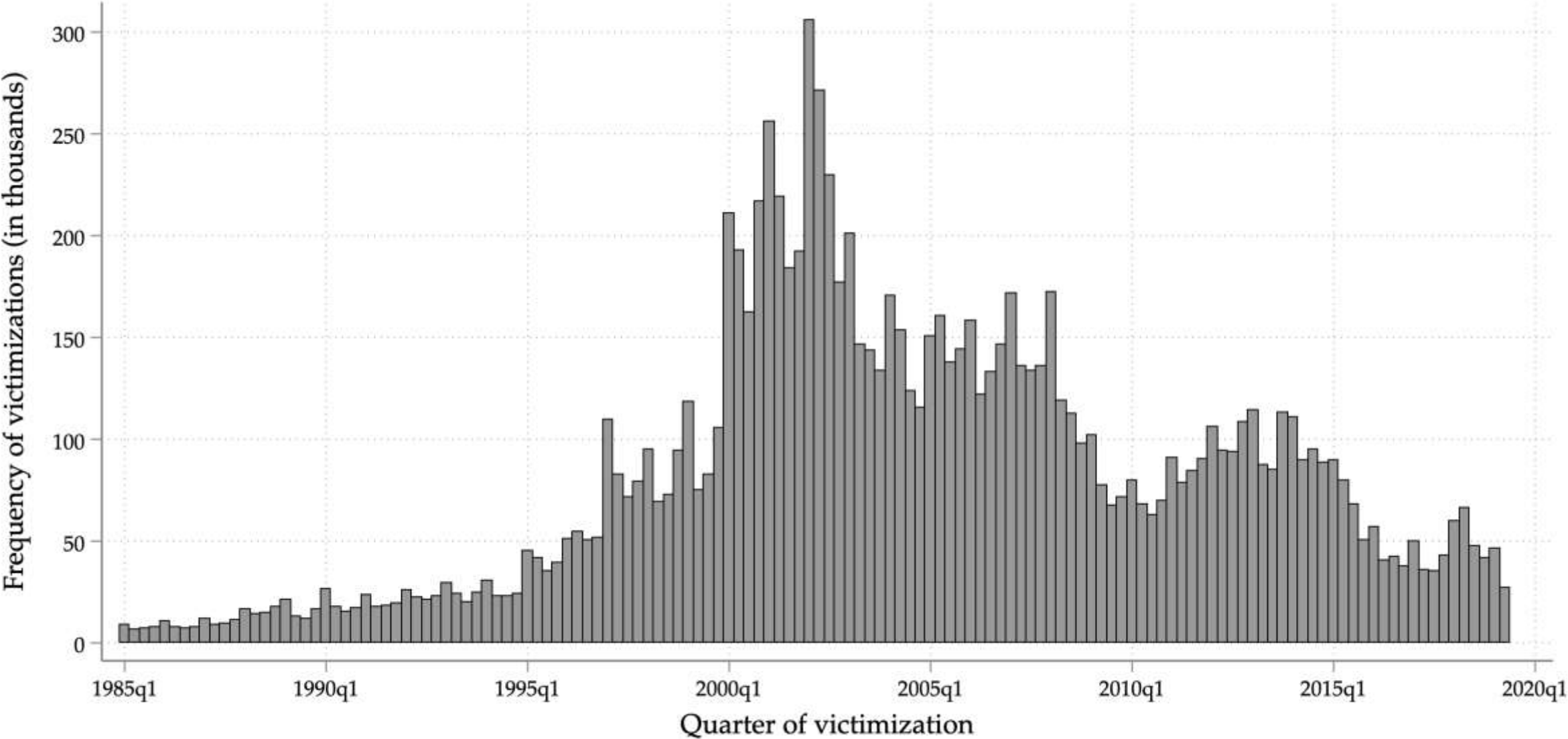
- The most prolonged internal armed conflict in the Western Hemisphere
- A total of **8.9 million** victims between 1985 and 2019 (18% pop.)
- Over **90%** of municipalities suffered victimization
- Rural (and **poorer**) areas most brutally affected

Forced displacement makes for the most common type of victimization

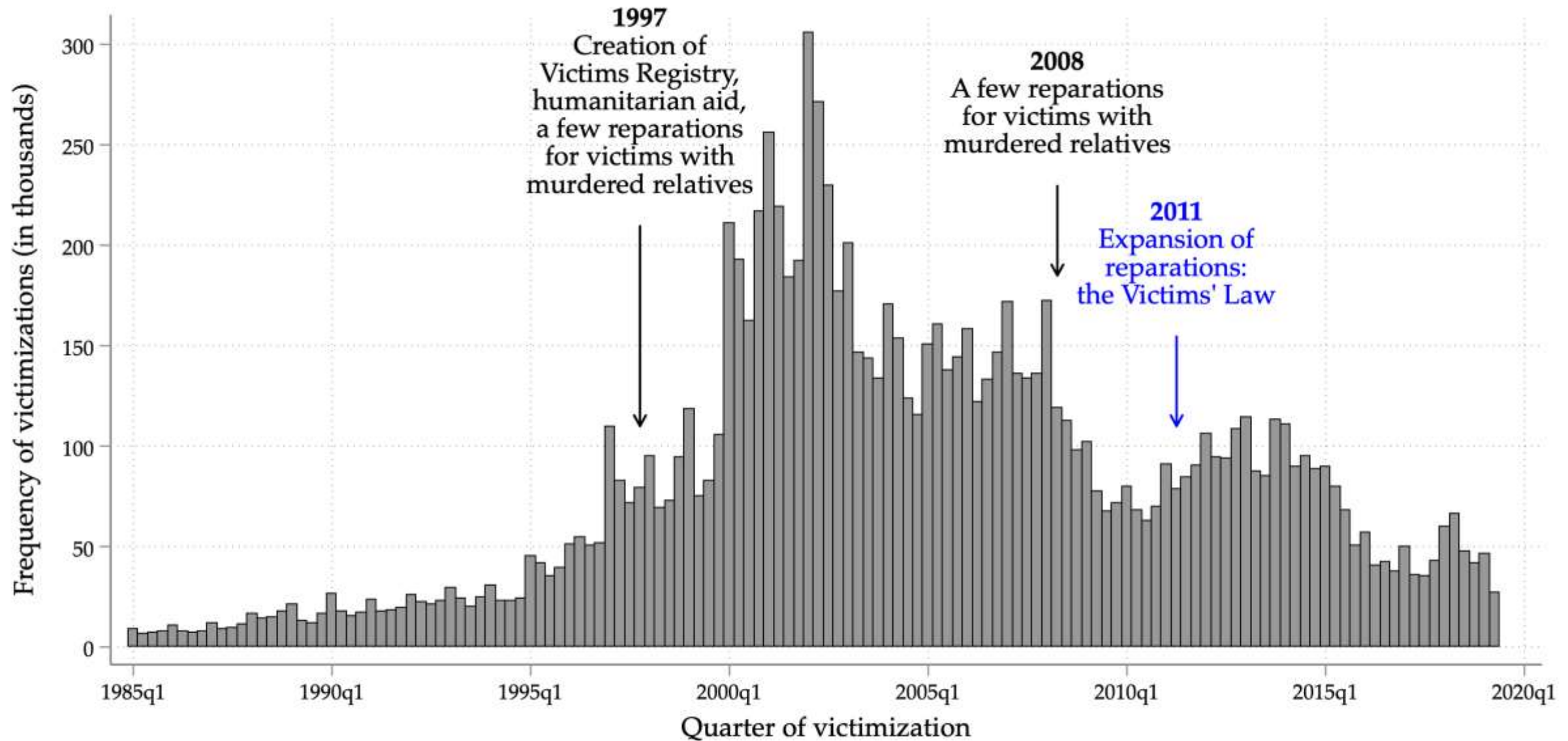


World's largest number of forcibly displaced people (UNHCR, 2023)

Colombia's internal armed conflict and victims



Colombia's internal armed conflict and victim assistance



What can we do?

- Retrospective: **RCT** not feasible
- We use information from Colombia, which is committed to compensating over **7 million** victims of guerrillas, paramilitary groups, and state forces by 2031
 - Has compensated **over 1 million** victims since the landmark 2011 Victims' Law
- Compensations are one-time, lump-sum, non-means-tested, and unconditional cash transfers of up to **\$10,000 (\$26.200 at PPP)**
 - While non-means-tested, compensations are progressive because victims are amongst Colombia's poorest 25% of hhs—the transfer is **3X victims' annual hh** income

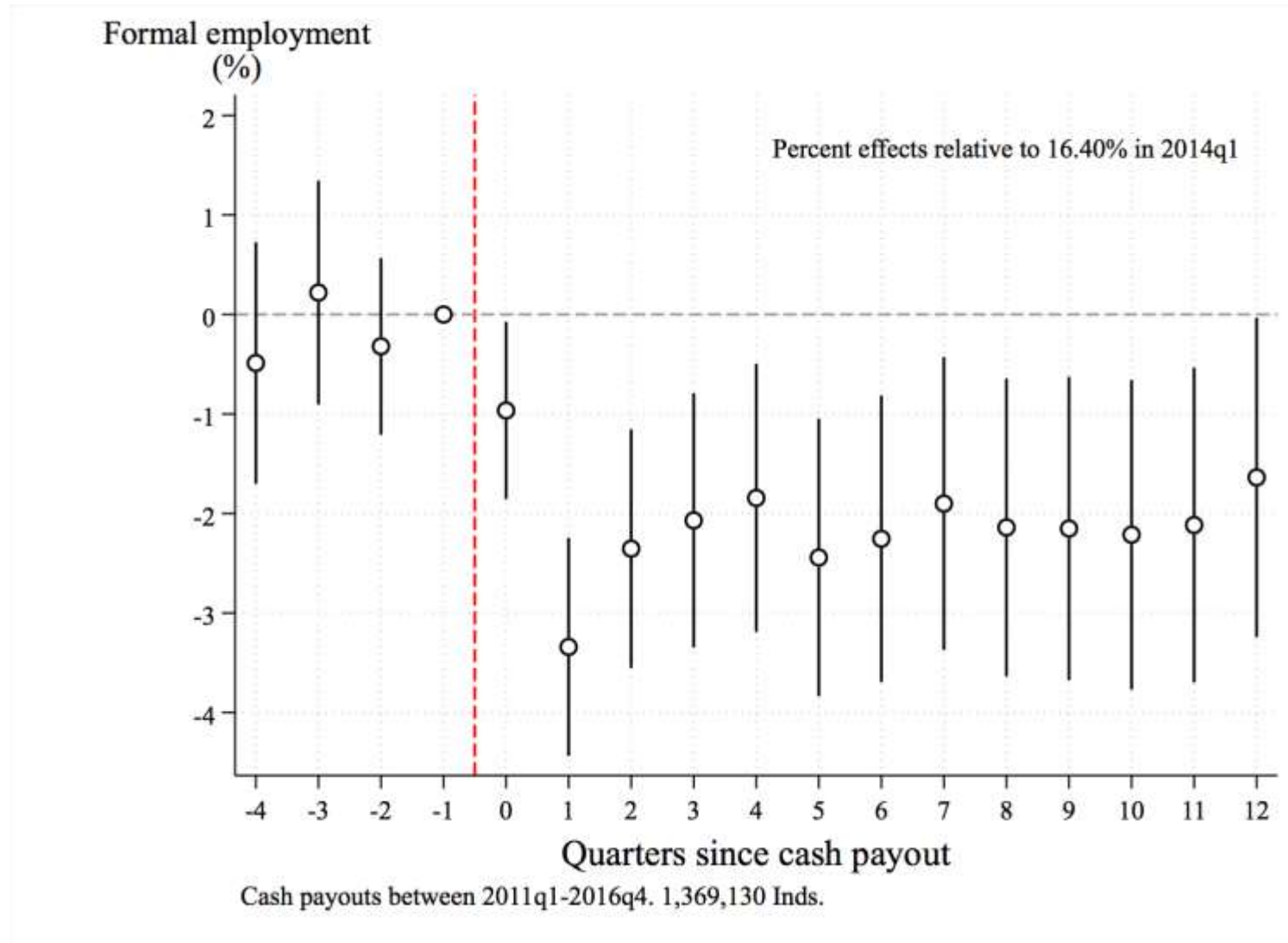
The key? Rich admin data!

We construct an administrative-level **panel** dataset linking the national victim registry to 10 datasets to quantify impacts on victims' well-being across the life cycle:

1. **Work and living standards:** formal employment and earnings, entrepreneurship and business survival, consumption through credit market, land and homeownership
2. **Health:** health care utilization (e.g., ED visits, hospitalizations, medical procedures)
3. **Next generation's human capital:** high school graduation, standardized test scores, and college attendance

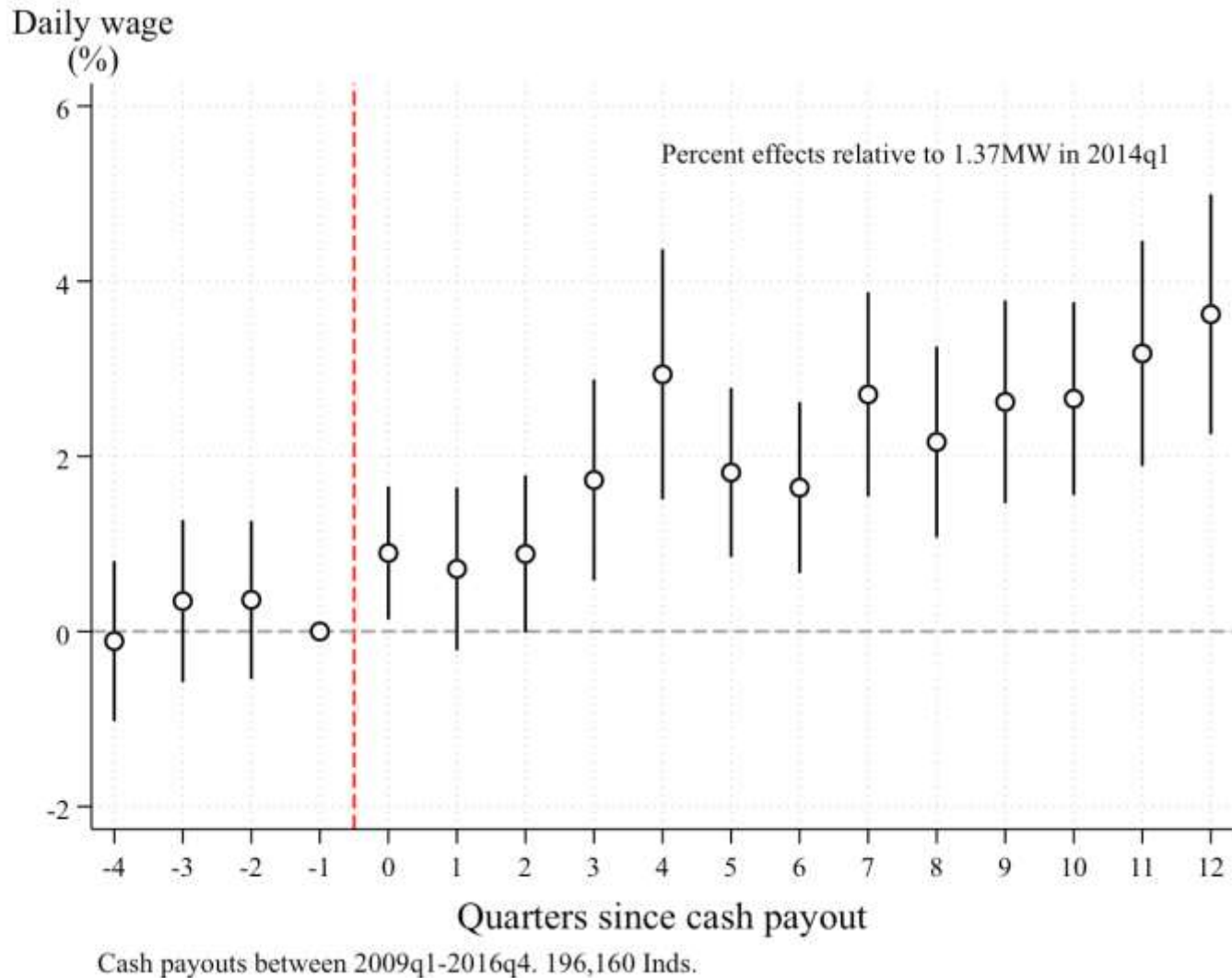


Reparations induce a tiny shift out of formal employment



- From **-3%** to **-1.6%**
- Driven by:
 - Young Workers
 - Employers shifting out of **low-paid or risky jobs**

Reparations improve outside options and job quality

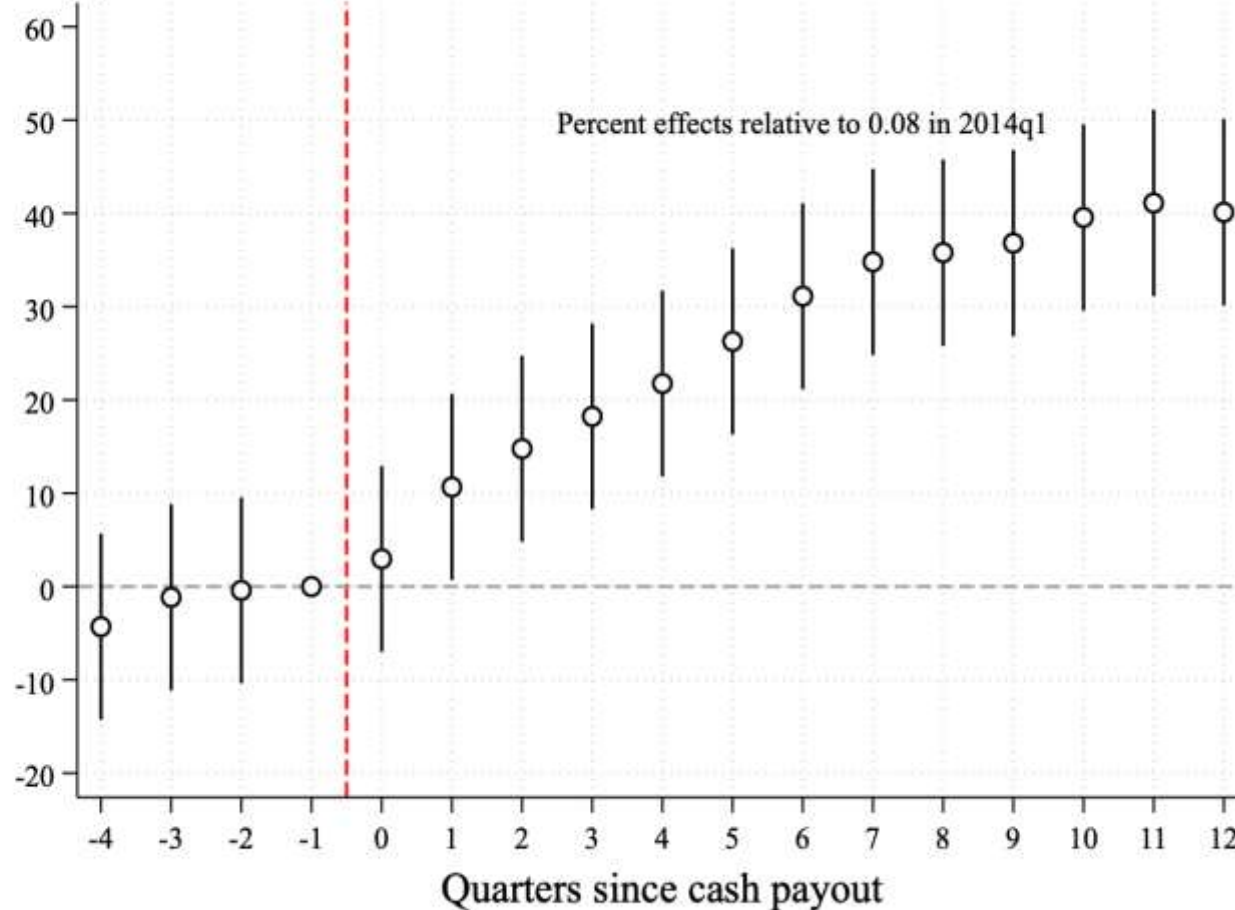


3 years later, recipients...

- have higher **earnings**
- work for **less risky jobs**
- create more businesses
- more long-lasting **firms**

Reparations increase durables consumption

Cumulative Real Estate Purchases (%)

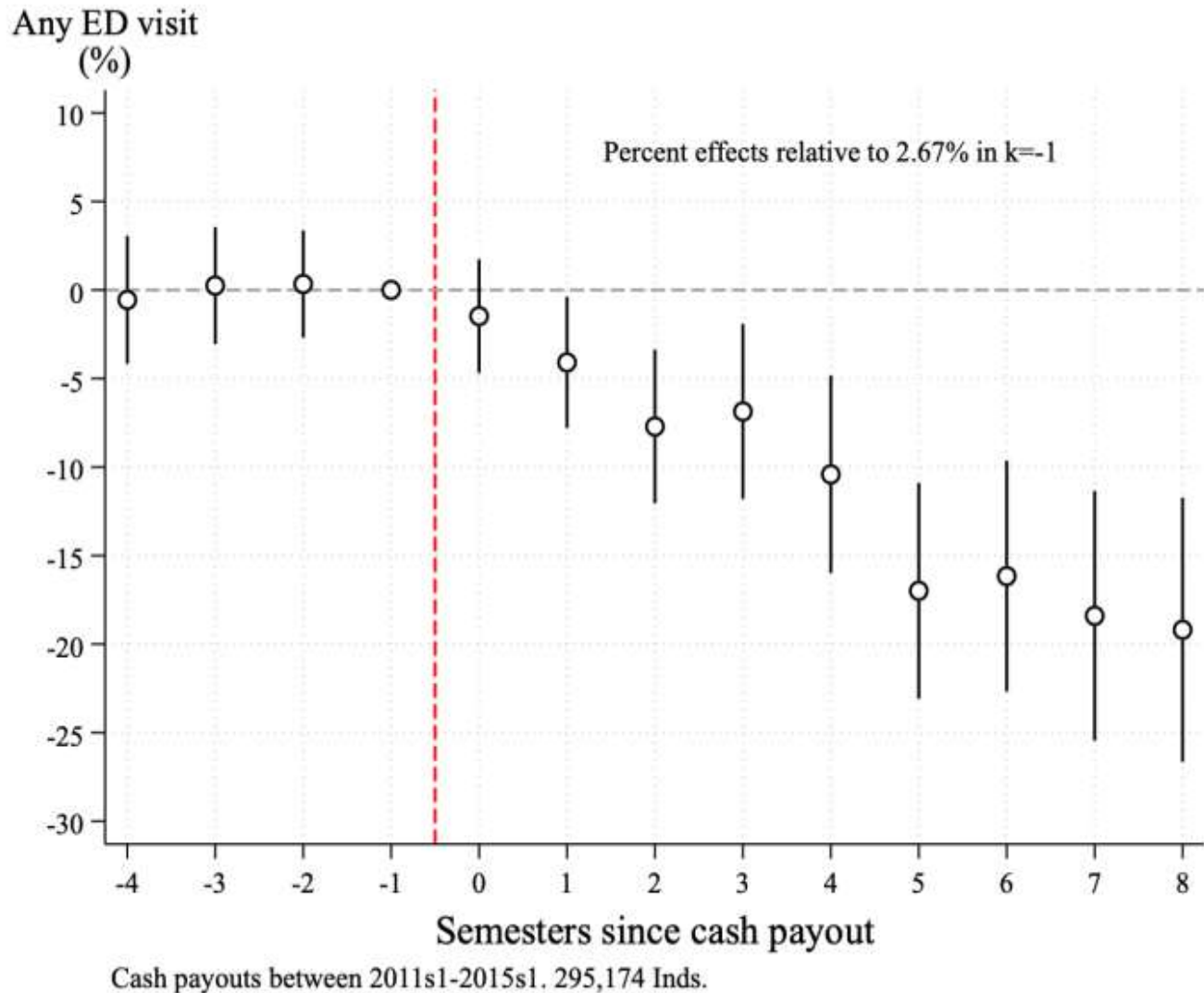


Cash payouts between 2012q1-2016q4. 145,172 Hhs.

3 years later, recipients...

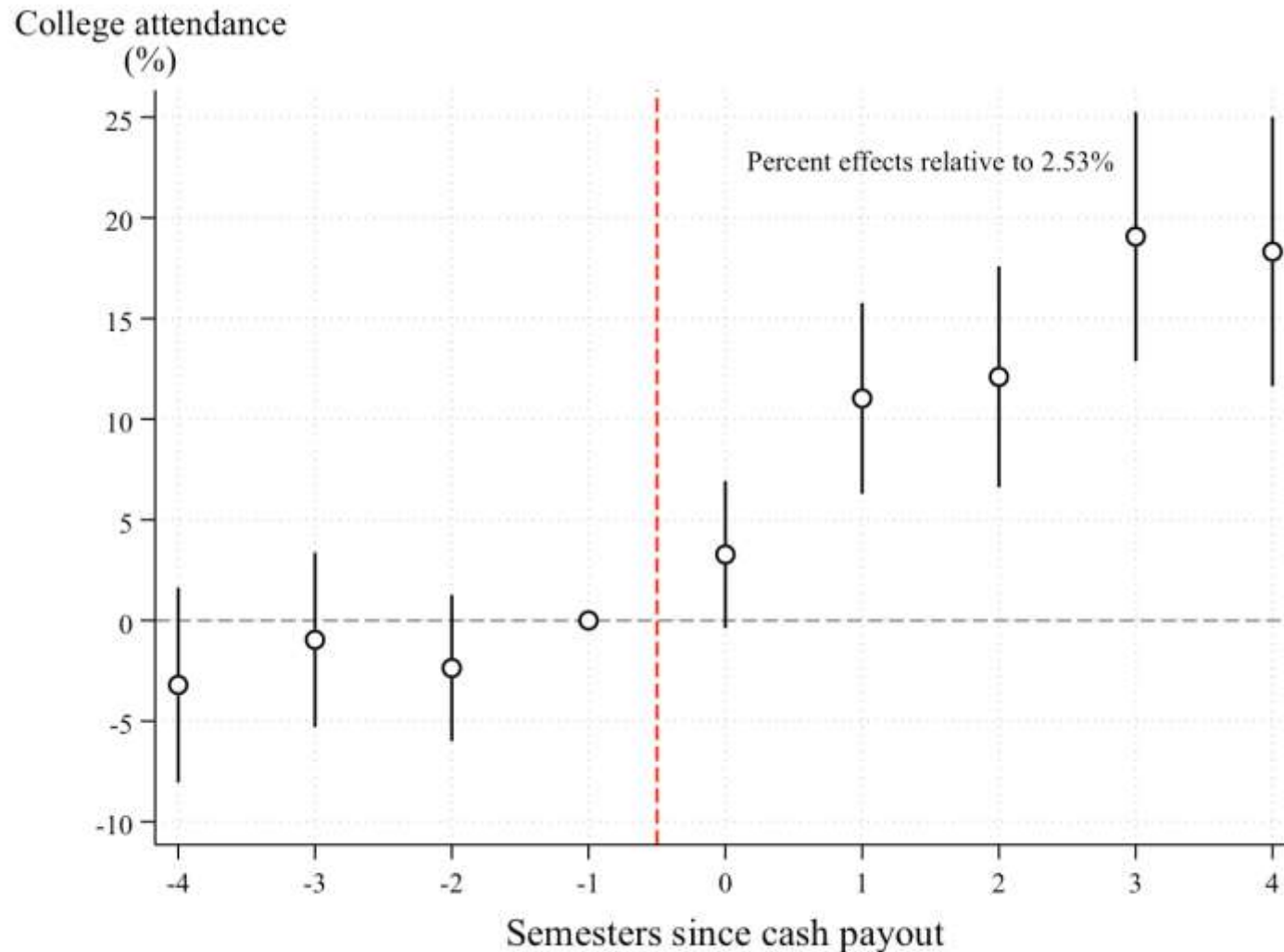
- Buy more property (land and home)
- Pay off old **debt**
- Buy **more durables**

Reparations seem to improve recipients' health



- ED visits are likely **unvoluntary** and unpostponable \Rightarrow reparations improves victims' health
- Largest drops in ED visits are from **external causes**. Over time, drops in ED visits also from non-external causes
- Consistent with better health, victims' probability of being **hospitalized** also drops

Victims invest reparation in their children's human capital



Cash payouts between 2011s1-2015s1. 1,207,875 Inds.

- 4-year undergraduate attendance improves thanks to gains in **access** and **persistence**
- Consistent w/ financial constraints, larger gains at private institutions
- Reparations also improve children's performance in **high school exit exam**
- No evidence of reparation affecting type of high school attended

Key Messages

- When RCT is not feasible, **rich admin data** may also allow for informative and causal inference
- Findings
 - **Reparations improve victims' lives** throughout the life cycle (e.g., health) and also enable households to make productive investments (e.g., income-generating activities, human capital)
 - A progressive policy tool with potential to **improve long-term well-being**
- Forthcoming
 - **Other outcomes** psychological well-being, social cohesion
 - RCTs for **variations** in the program
 - Psychological workshops
 - Investment advice

Contacts & Funding

World Bank: Arlen Guarín - aguarin@worldbank.org

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Banco de la República: Christian Manuel Posso - cpossosu@banrep.gov.co

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- Center for Effective Global Action
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- Center for Equitable Growth at UC Berkeley.

Building Evidence on the Return Experience of Afghan Refugees: A WB-UNHCR Collaboration

Paola Elice, Impact Evaluation Specialist, FCV Group, World Bank

Work led by: Hisham Esper, Nandini Krishnan, and
Christina Wieser



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Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement

Context for the Evidence Collaboration

- Between 2016-2018, Afghan refugees returned from Pakistan to Afghanistan in large numbers:
 - **458,000 registered** and **380,000 unregistered** (in addition to 1.6 million returnees from Iran)
- **Data sharing partnership** between UNHCR and World Bank was set up, with overall objective of utilizing data to understand location, socio-economic characteristics, livelihoods, and needs of recent returnees to Afghanistan
- Sudden programming change became the opportunity to conduct a **rigorous impact evaluation** of UNHCR's cash reintegration assistance program using existing administrative data

Data sources

Administrative data:

- **Population Profiling Verification and Response (PPVR)** --- 2011 in Pakistan
- UNHCR's **Voluntary Repatriation Form (VRF)** --- (102,253 household observation; 442,993 individuals between 2016 and 2017).
- UNHCR's **Post-Return Monitoring Surveys** (4,400 households).

New data:

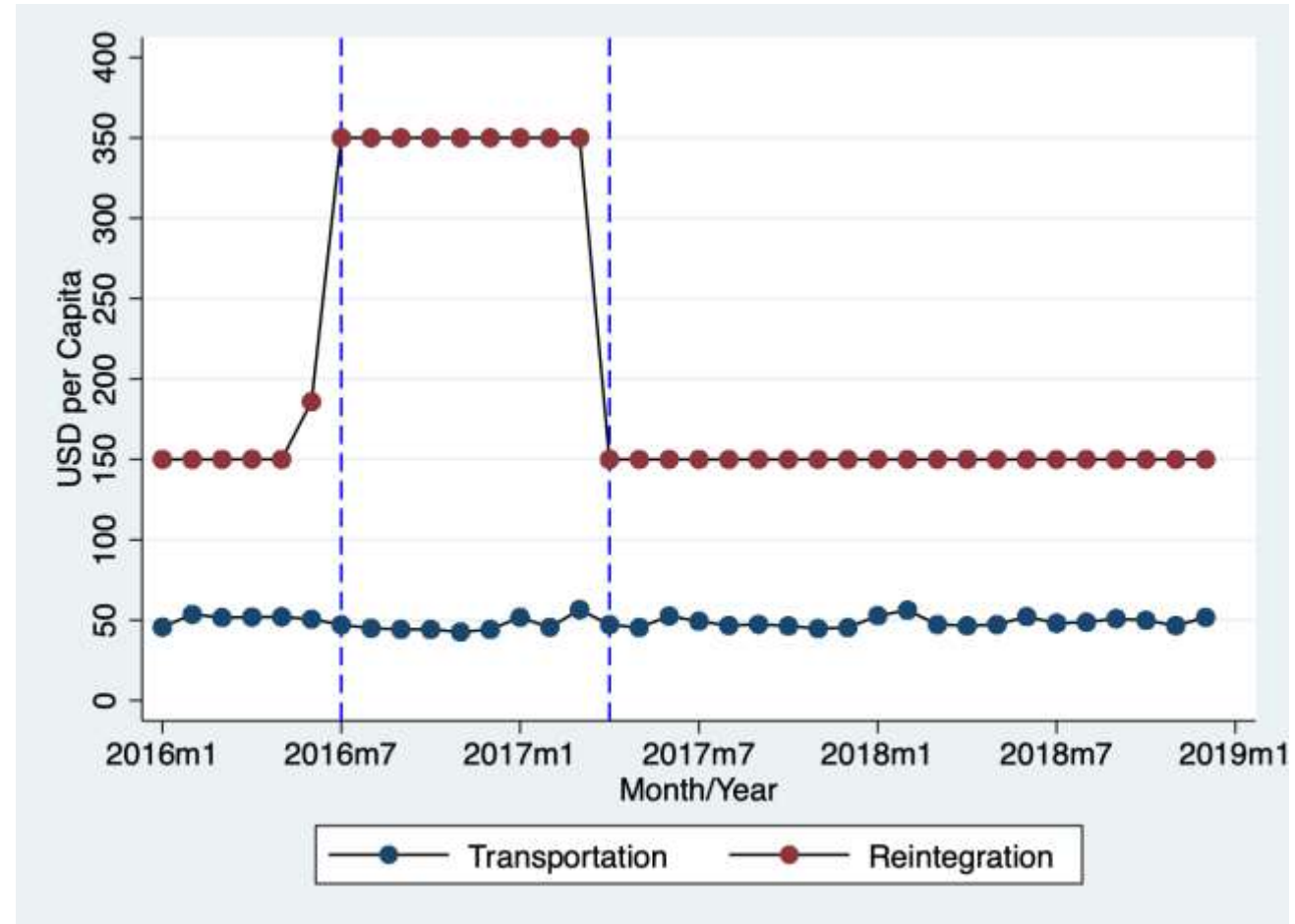
- Phone surveys
- Qualitative interviews during COVID-19 pandemic --- 10 individuals, phone surveys, April – October 2020

Resulting analytics

1. [Living Conditions and Settlement Decisions of Recent Afghan Returnees : Findings from a 2018 Phone Survey of Afghan Returnees and UNHCR data](#)
2. [More Is Better Evaluating the Impact of a Variation in Cash Assistance on the Reintegration Outcomes of Returning Afghan Refugees](#)
3. Determinants of Return (internal paper)
4. Understanding differential return experiences through narratives --- qualitative study

Sudden programming change

- UNHCR provides an Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) to all registered Afghan refugees returning from Pakistan.
- Cash transfer amount of about \$200.
- UNHCR commissioner announced an **increase from \$200 to \$400 on June 29, implemented starting July 1st**. Similar process for later reduction ([UNHCR, 2016](#)).
- Increase effective for 9 months, from July 2016 to March 2017.
- Reduced back to \$200 in April 2017 due to UNHCR budget constraints.



Findings

16 months after return ...

- **Investment in durable assets:** Those that received \$400 were **17% more likely** to invest in durable assets (for example a house);
 - **Legal documentation:** those that received \$400 were **30% more likely** to have obtained legal documentation for all household members;
 - **Spending choices:** those receiving the smaller amount (\$200) were **40% more likely** to spend most of it on immediate consumption needs [size of transfer affect spending patterns/choices];
 - **Employment:** no difference (in line with previous literature).
 - **All children in school:** no difference.
-
- Overall, new evidence that larger cash transfers can have long-lasting favorable impact on returnees.

Regression results

<i>item</i>	(1) <i>Own house</i>	(2) <i>Employed household Member</i>	(3) <i>All household members have tazkira</i>	(4) <i>Spent most of the assistance on food</i>	(5) <i>All children in school</i>
Cash amount (1=\$150, 2=\$300)	-0.170*** (0.054)	0.076 (0.095)	-0.298*** (0.109)	0.404*** (0.107)	-0.010 (0.109)
Observations	4,302	4,302	4,299	2,979	2,184
Kernel type	Triangular	Triangular	Triangular	Triangular	Triangular
BW type	MSERD	MSERD	MSERD	MSERD	MSERD
Observations left	956	610	371	358	456
Observations right	2110	1897	1818	571	958
Days on each side	74.81	54.90	42.86	42.26	61.80
Conventional <i>p</i> -value	0.00169	0.423	0.00620	0.000152	0.929
Order Loc. Poly. (<i>p</i>)	1	1	1	1	1
Order bias (<i>q</i>)	2	2	2	2	2
Covariates	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Note: Robust standard errors are in parentheses.

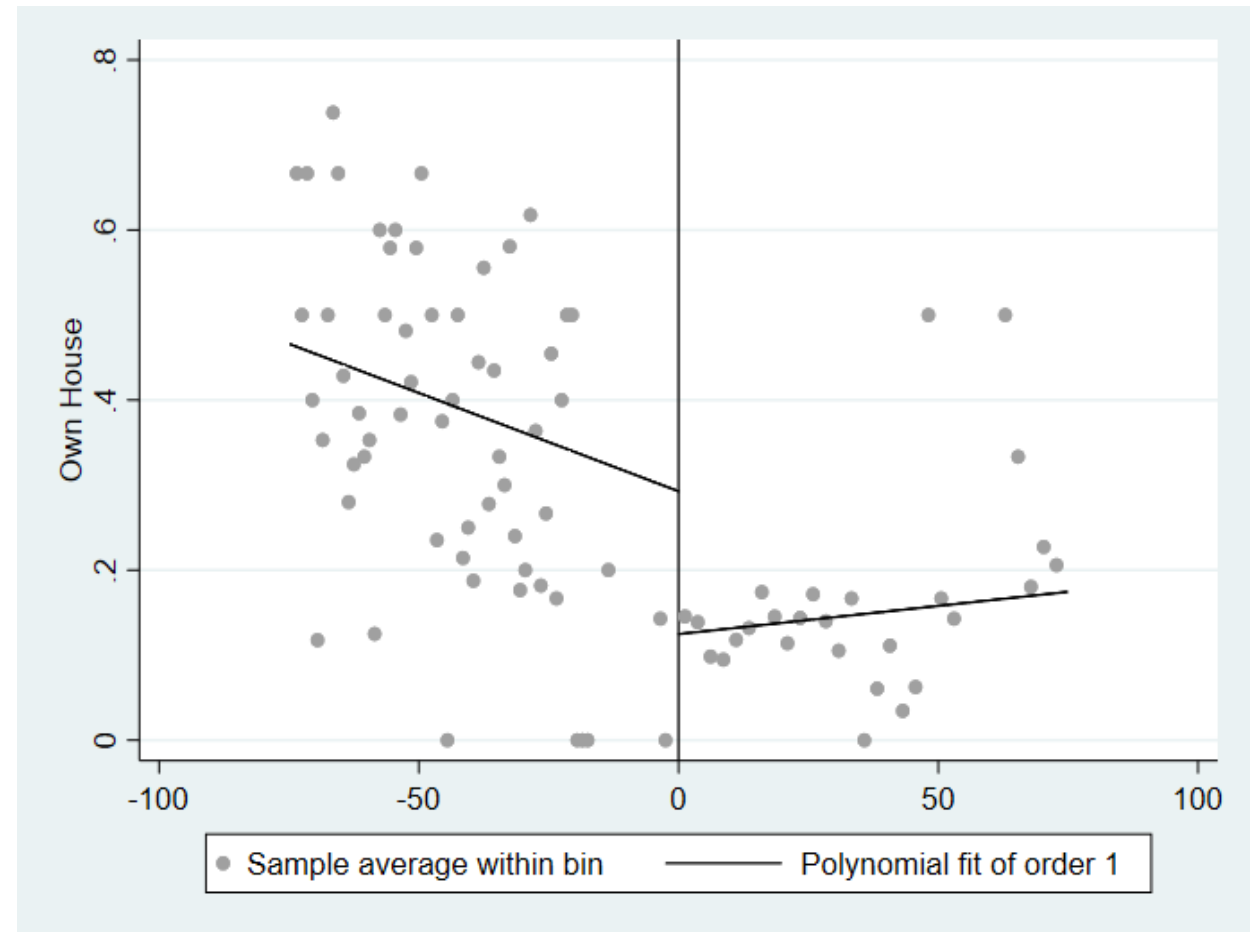
*** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

Table 5 Nonparametric regression discontinuity design estimate of impact of reducing UNHCR cash assistance from \$350 to \$150 per household member

House ownership post-return

On average, **43%** of returning households who received \$400 owned housing post-return, compared to **17%** of returnees who received \$200 per person.

Discontinuity plot of house ownership by date of return, within 75-day bandwidth



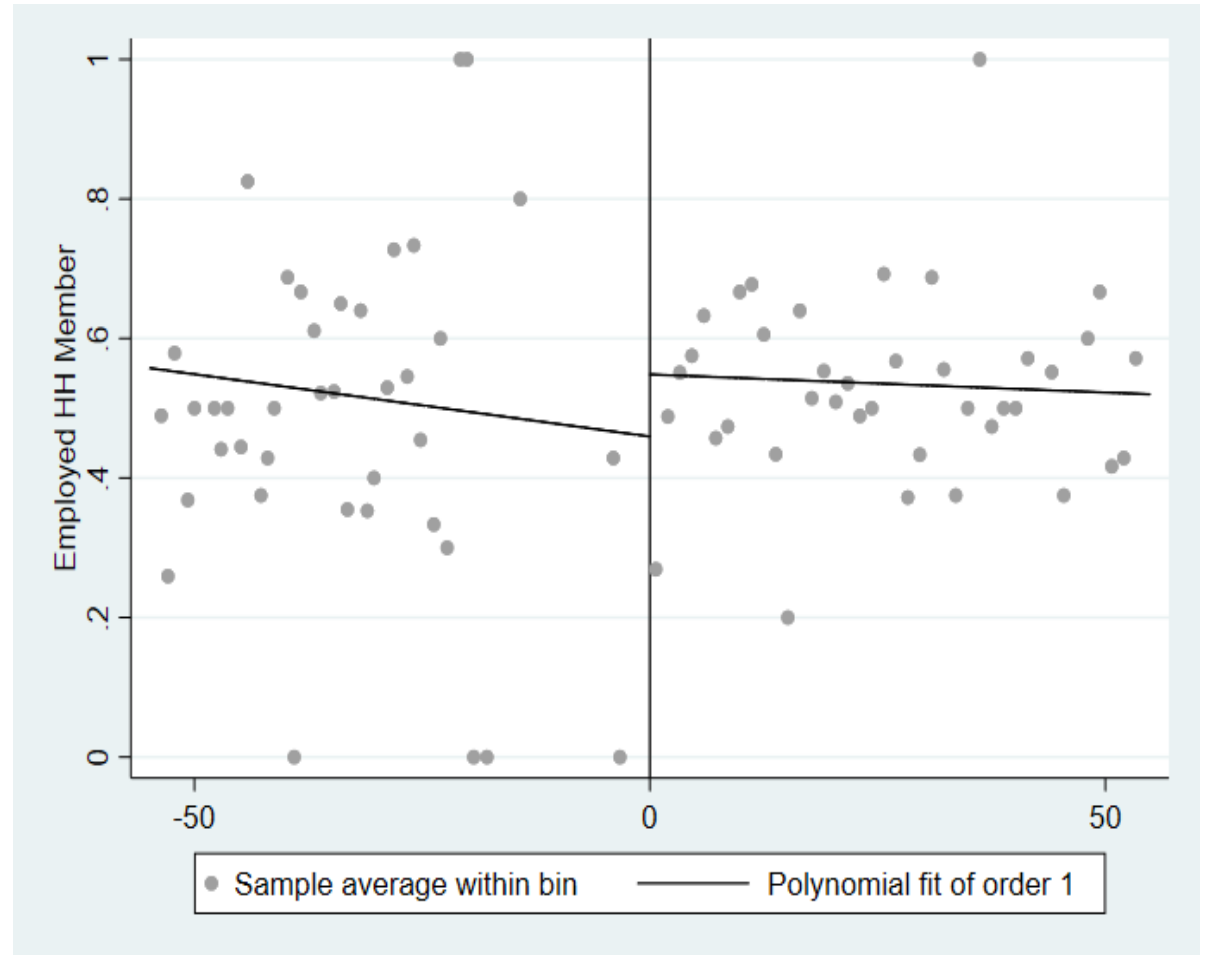
Employment outcomes post-return

No significant effect of reintegration assistance on employment outcomes.

Probability of households having an employed member is around 50% for both groups.

In line with literature on effect of UCTs on labor supply ([Banerjee et al. 2017](#) and [Covarrubias et al. 2012](#))

Discontinuity plot of employed HH member by date of return



Wrap-up

- Impact Evaluation with a Regression Discontinuity Design with cut-off being the date the programming change was implemented
- Impact Evaluation utilizing Existing Administrative Data
- Important findings on the impact, 16-months post-return, of receiving a larger cash assistance amount on durable assets, documentation, and spending patterns

Thank you

This work is part of the program "Building the Evidence on Protracted Forced Displacement: A Multi-Stakeholder Partnership". The program is funded by UK aid from the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), it is managed by the World Bank Group (WBG) and was established in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The scope of the program is to expand the global knowledge on forced displacement by funding quality research and disseminating results for the use of practitioners and policy makers. This work does not necessarily reflect the views of FCDO, the WBG or UNHCR.

Improving Program Impacts in the Context of the Forcibly Displaced

Entrepreneurship Support for Forcibly Displaced and Host Populations in Niger



Chloë Fernandez; Samih Ferrah; Andrea Guariso; Marcus Holmlund; Michael McRae; Tara Mitchel; Carol Newman



Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement



Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement



Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
Trinity College Dublin

Ollscoil Átha Cliath | The University of Dublin

Context

- 41% of Niger's population lives under the national poverty line & last of 189 countries on UNDP's Human Development Index
- Highly exposed to conflict and climate shocks, yet host to over 245 thousand refugees and 320 thousand IDPs (still increasing)
- Until recently, research mostly focused on ex-post impacts of displacement, but not on the impacts of programs for the displaced and their hosts
- Question: What can be done to improve economic and social outcomes of the forcibly displaced and their host communities in highly fragile settings?

PARCA

- **World Bank-funded Refugees and Host Communities Support Project (Projet d'appui aux réfugiés et aux communautés d'accueil, PARCA)**
 - **Implemented by the Nigerien government**
 - **Improve access to basic services and economic opportunities for refugees, IDPs, and hosts**
 - **In Niger's most fragile regions (Diffa, Tillabéri, Tahoua, Maradi)**

**Labor-intensive public works
(ultra-poor, regardless of status)**

**Entrepreneurship Support Package
(poor, regardless of status)**
-Business training
-200USD cash-grant

Policy contributions

Multi-faceted livelihood programs

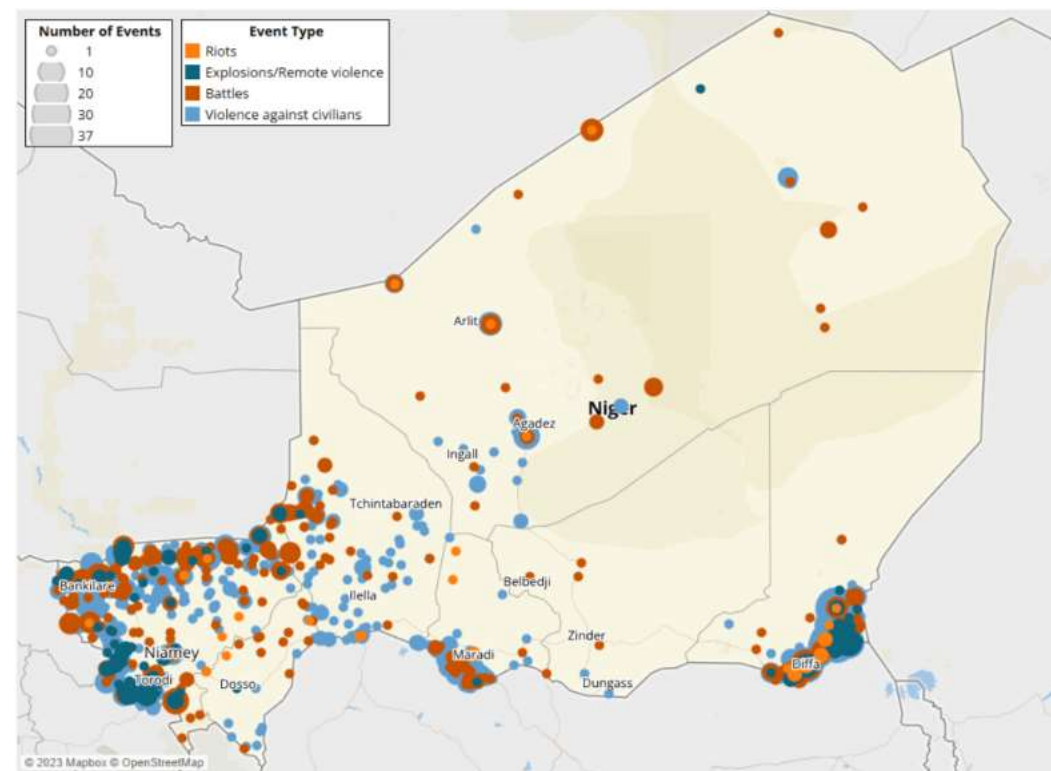
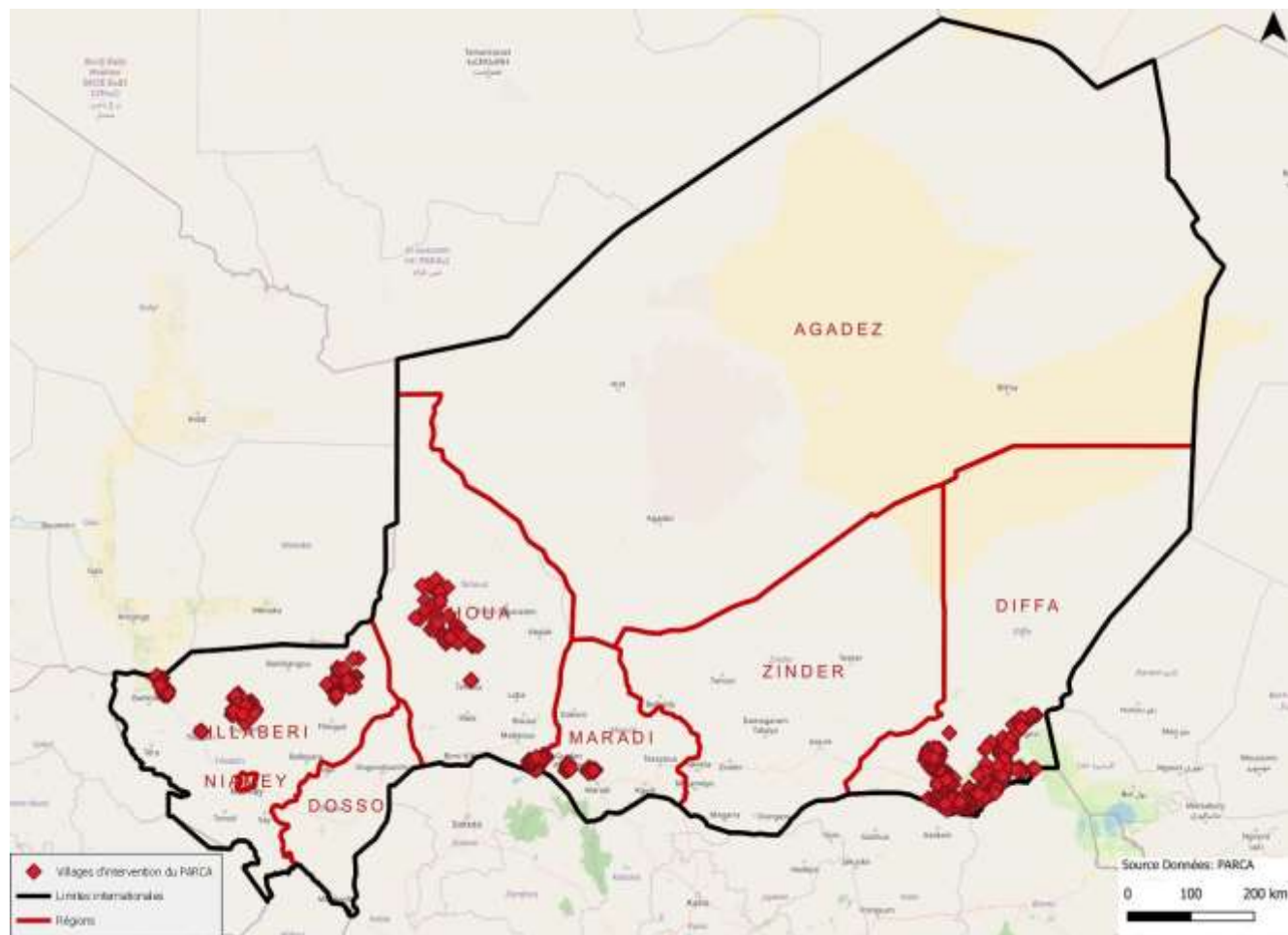


- Strong evidence of sustained impacts in the short- and long-term in more stable settings
- Including in Niger - [World Bank's Sahel Adaptive Social Protection \(ASP\) program](#)

PARCA evidence:

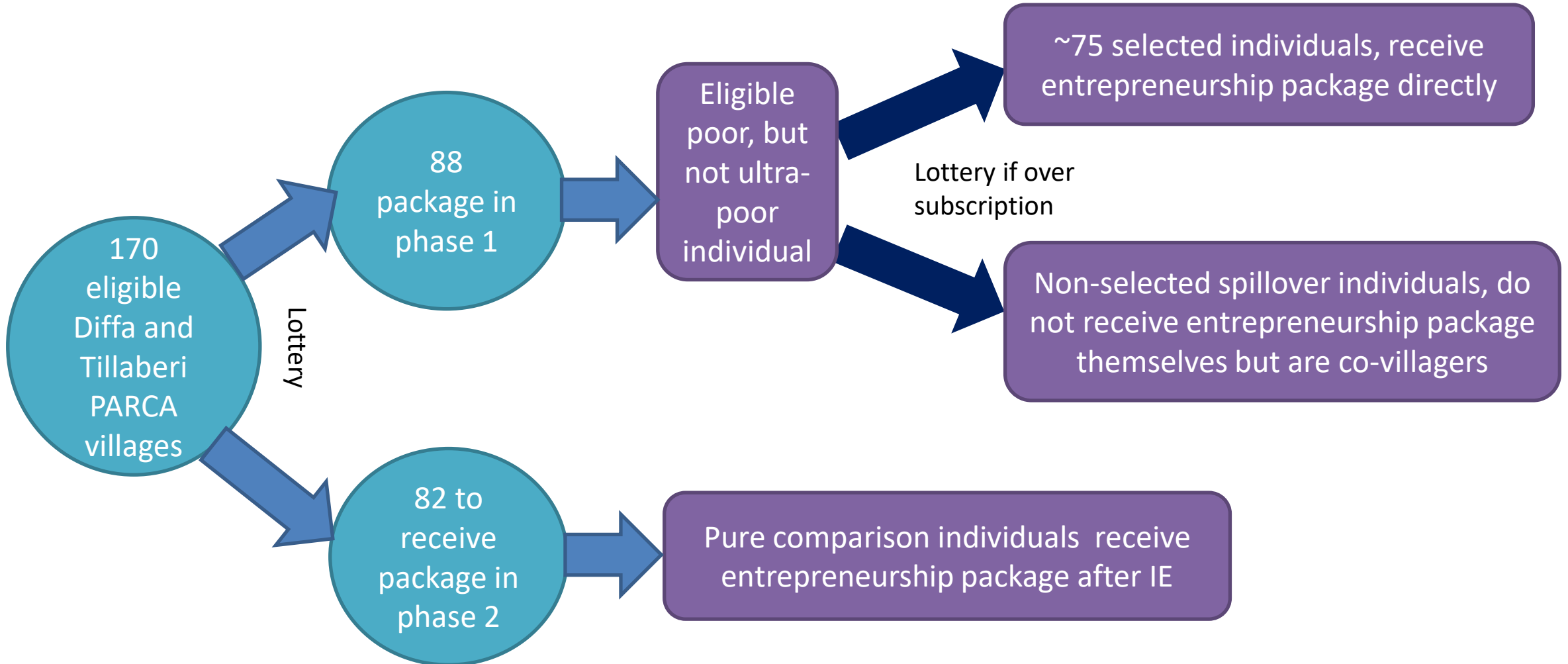
1. Can similar livelihood programs help the forcibly displaced and their hosts in the most fragile contexts?
 2. Do these findings differ across population groups (hosts, internally displaced, refugees)?
 3. How do such programs impact fragile communities as a whole (are there spillovers/externalities on neighbors)?
- => How can this inform policy design in the face of the recent coup?

PARCA regions



2018-2023 reported conflicts, ACLED

Supporting PARCA from design

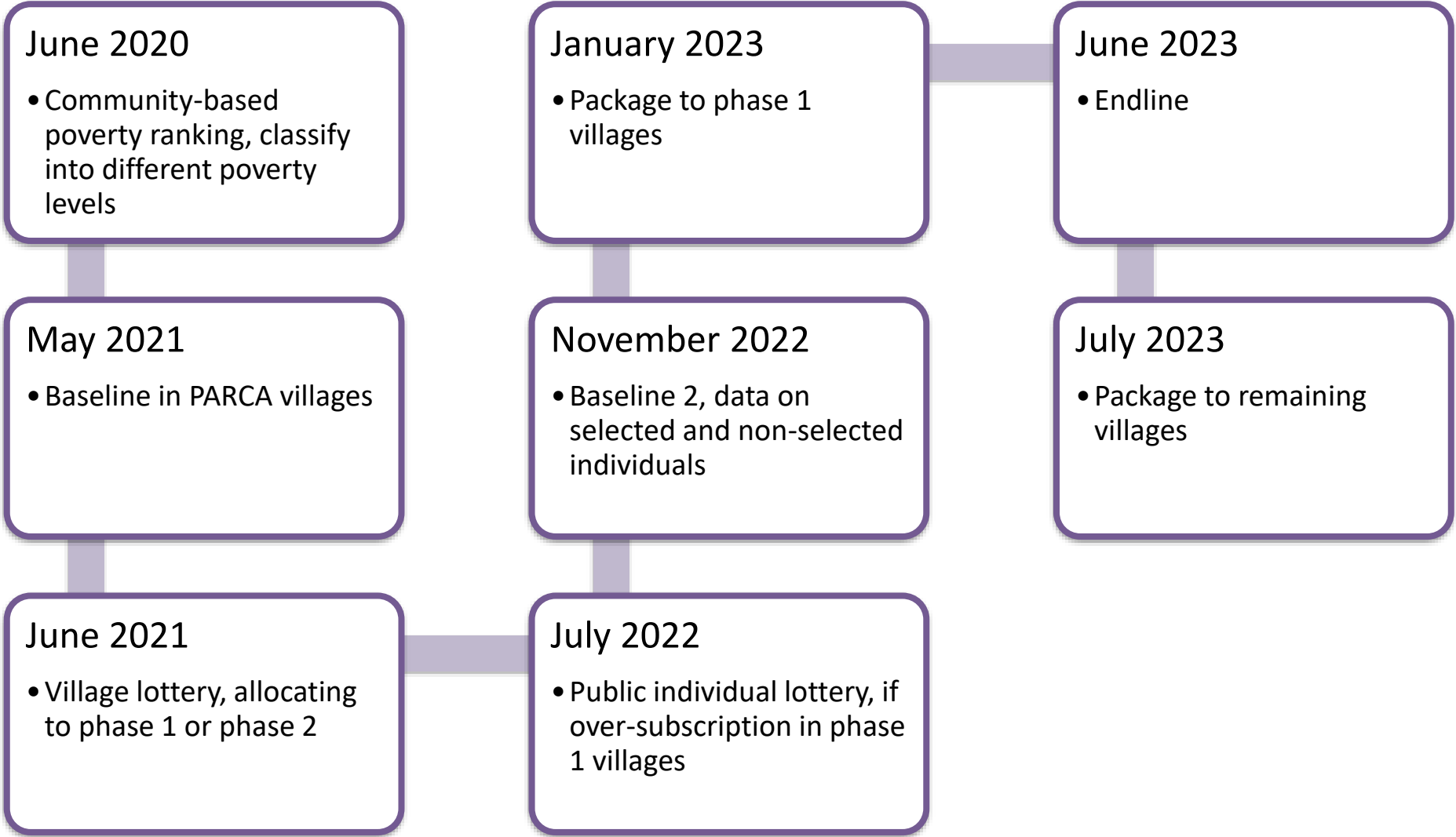


...to implementation

Ultra-poor:
35.56%

Poor:
61.48%

Non-poor:
2.90%

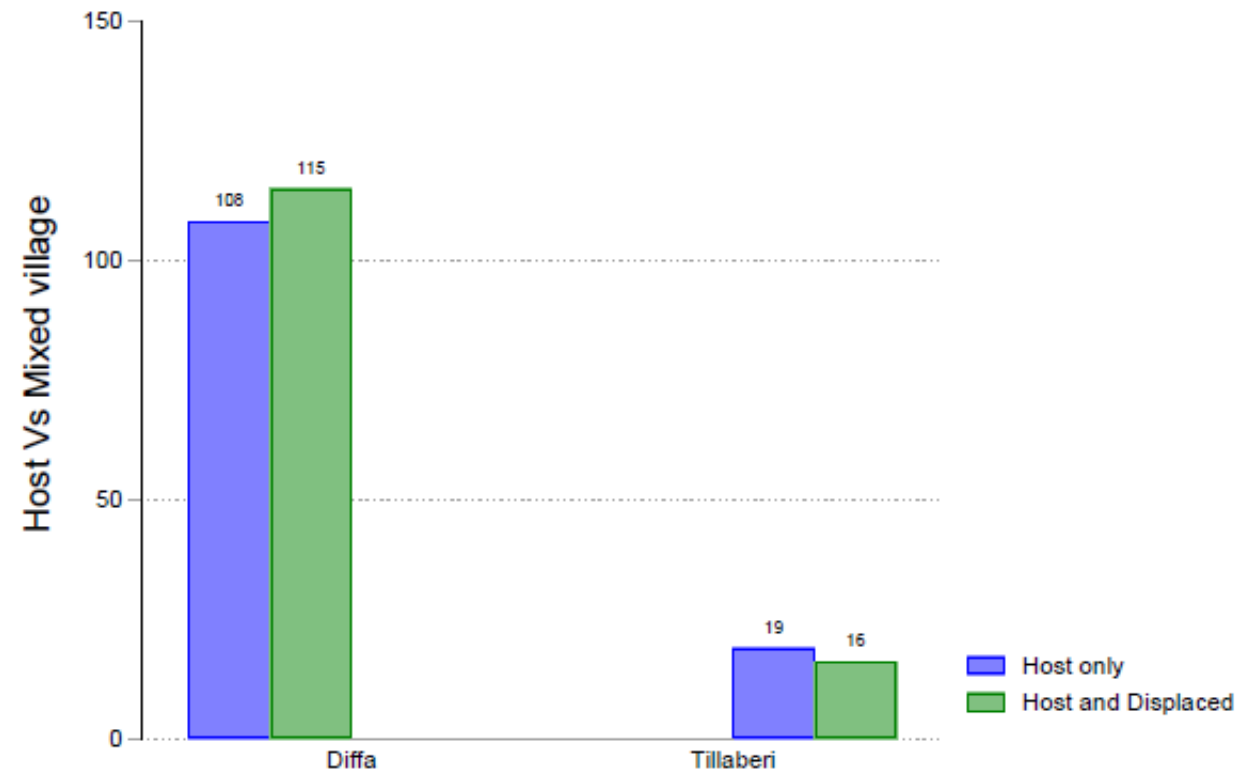
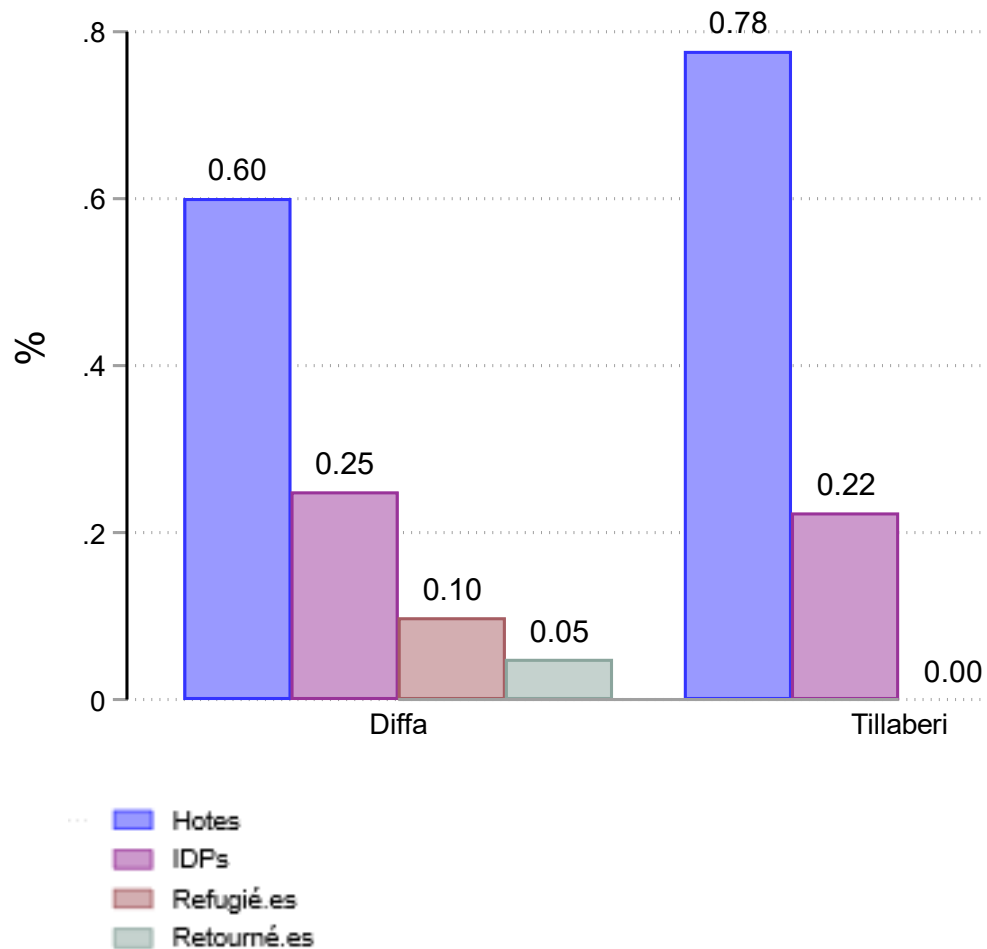


Debunking misconceptions through data

- **Examples of tentative biases at project conception:**
 - **High number of displaced in all areas of the program?**
 - **Displaced worse off than hosts?**
 - **May be tensions between different population groups?**
- **... baseline data shows something different!**

Where are the displaced?

- 40% displaced in Diffa, versus 22% in Tillabéri (only IDPs)
- Villages are also less mixed in Tillabéri

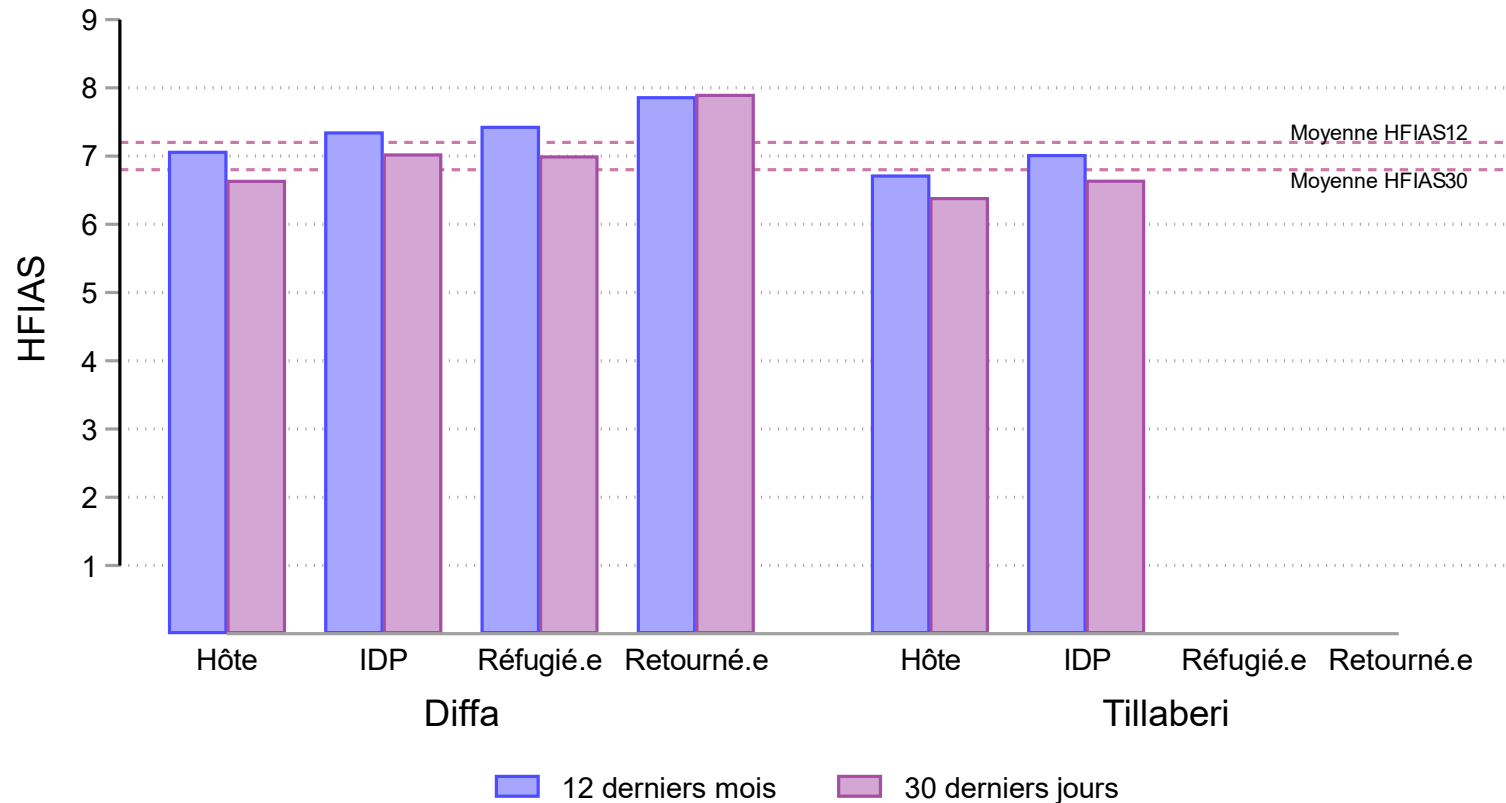


Note 1: IDP, refugee and returnee grouped as displaced

Vulnerability differences?

Populations are all extremely vulnerable, regardless of whether they are hosts or displaced...

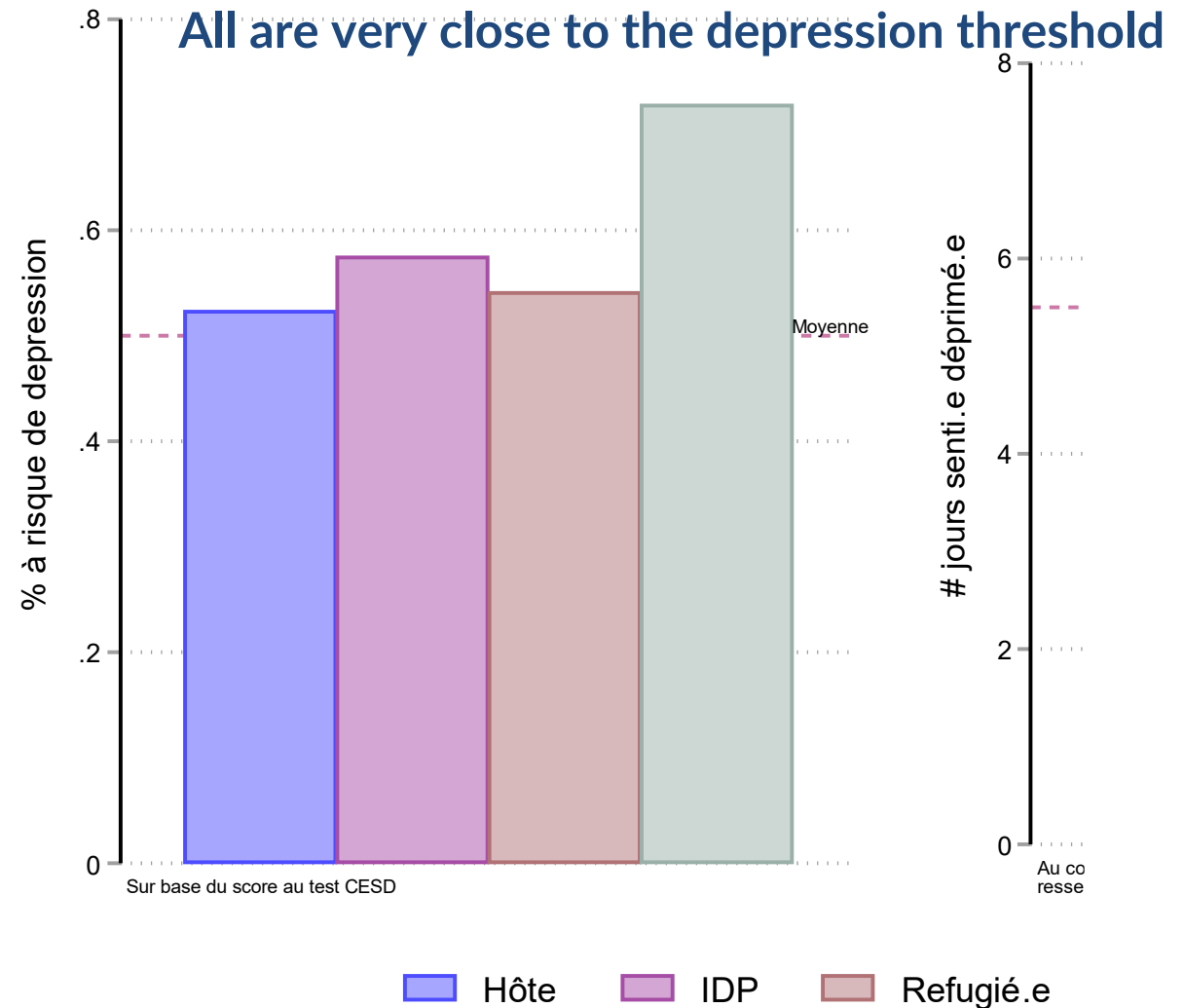
Food Security: barely meets the international threshold



Un score élevé indique une plus grande détresse alimentaire

Vulnerability differences?

Populations are all extremely vulnerable, regardless of whether they are hosts or displaced...

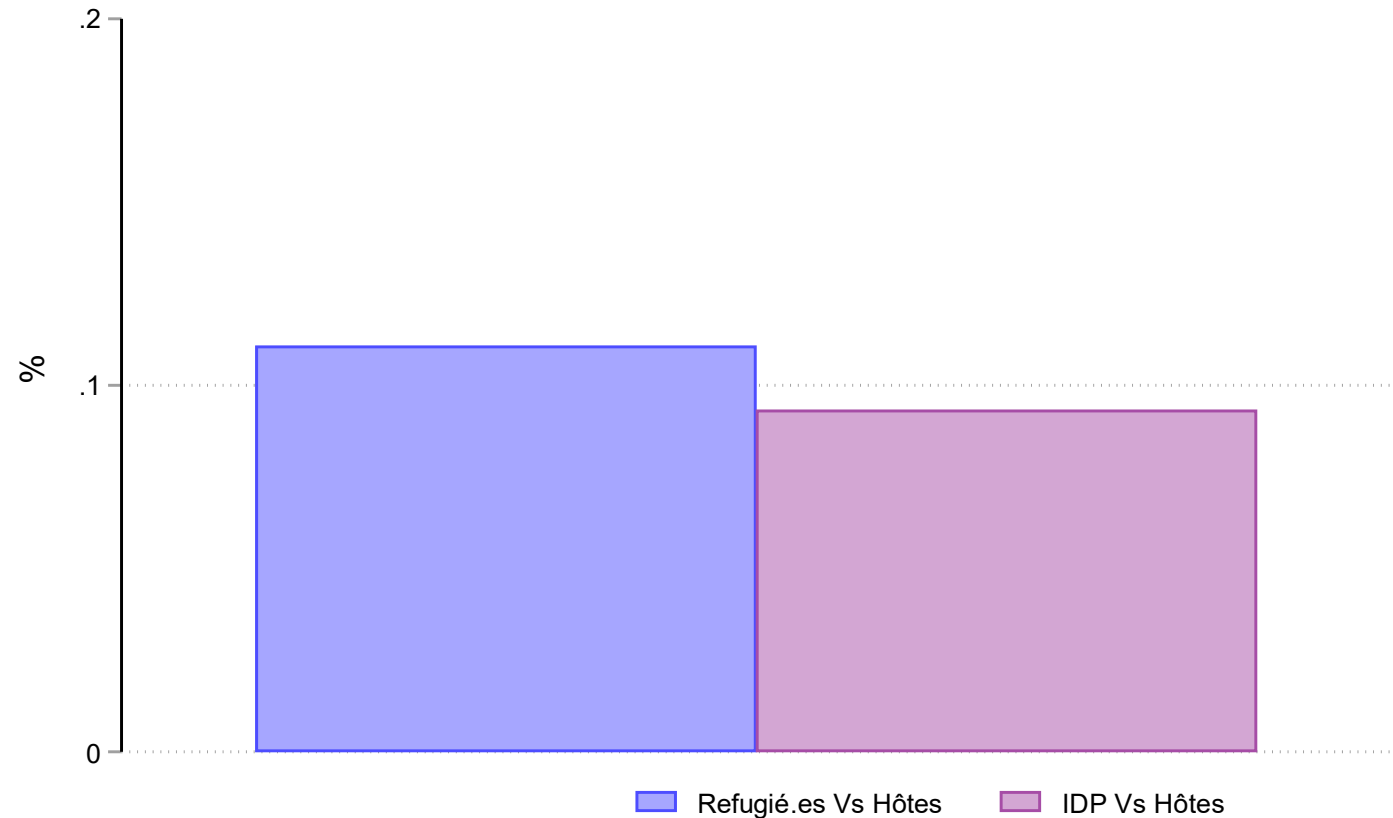


Tensions?

Distrust and tensions are low
(discrimination, aggression, theft)

Rethink social cohesion
constraints within these areas and
what are the drivers of conflict

Less than 10% report conflict



Key messages

- Trial-and-Adopt/IEs exercises can be helpful throughout the project lifecycle (facilitate design, data to rethink interventions)
- (Very) Preliminary Findings
 - Suggest that the entrepreneurship package had positive effects on household income, employment, and economic activities
- Forthcoming
 - Other outcomes psychological well-being, vertical and horizontal trust, and social interactions
 - Breakdown per population group, incl. internally displaced individuals, refugees, and hosts
 - Community-level impacts (*spillovers*)

Contacts & Funding

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- PARCA project
- FCDO-UNHCR-WB Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement Research Program
- World Bank's Knowledge for Change Program
- World Bank's Sahel Country Management Unit

Improving Program Impacts in the Context of the Forcibly Displaced

Psychosocial Value of Work

Rohingya Refugee Camps



Erin Kelley, with Reshmaan Hussam, Gregory Lane, and Fatima Zahra



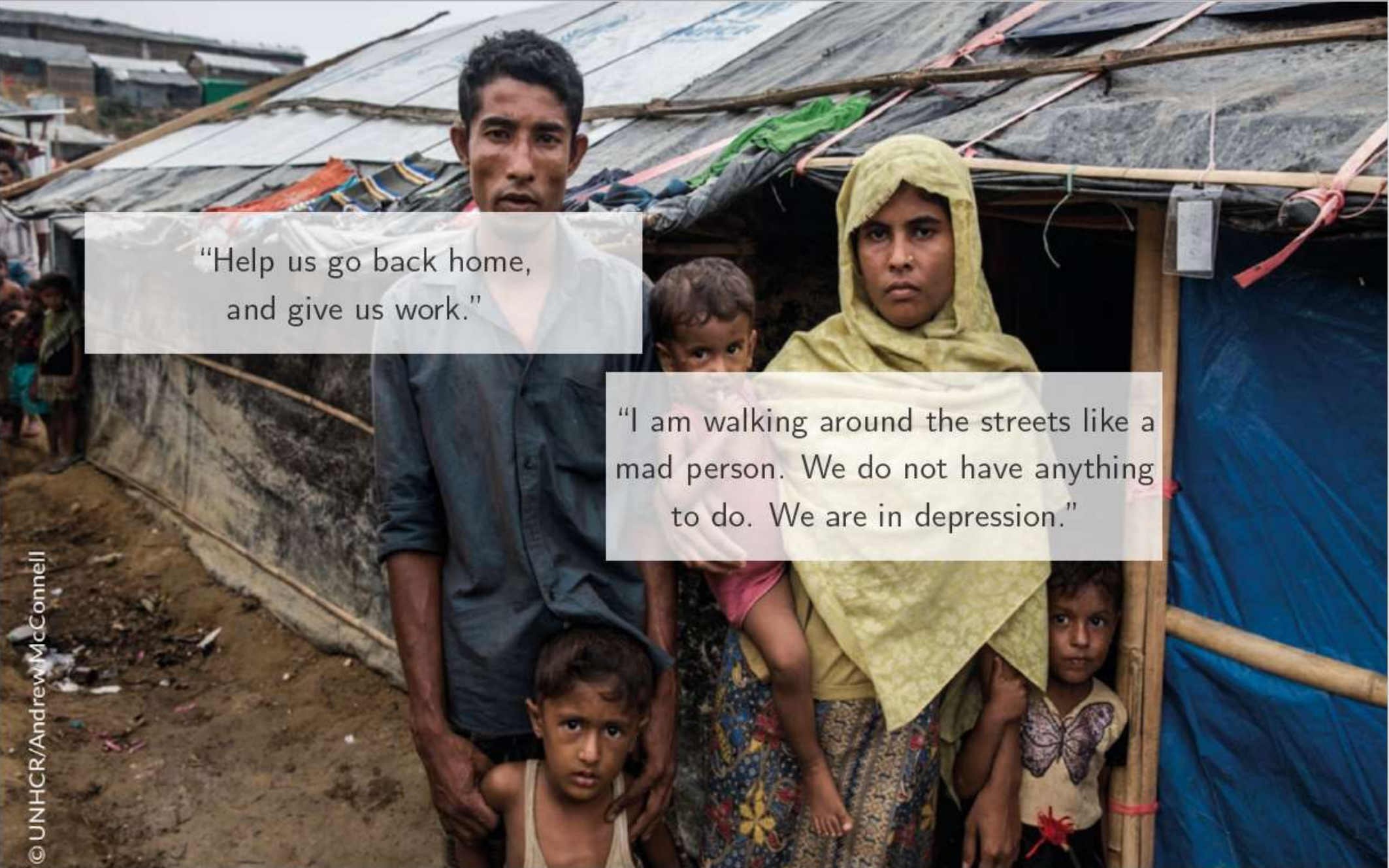
Joint Data Center
on Forced Displacement



Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement



Confidential



“Help us go back home,
and give us work.”

“I am walking around the streets like a
mad person. We do not have anything
to do. We are in depression.”

Refugees worldwide

And yet

- 70% of refugees face restrictions on the right to work (UNHCR Global Livelihoods Survey, 2019)
- Rights to work and start a business are protected by the 1951 Refugee Convention
- Nearly half the states that have ratified the Convention have declared reservations to these rights
- Many of the 48 non-signatory states also limit work rights

This contributes to the high incidence of poverty among many refugee populations.

Unemployment and Mental Health

Identifying the benefits of employment has implications for a vast range of policies:

Responses to forcibly displaced communities

Assistance schemes for the unemployed (Universal Basic Income, cash-for-work)

Policy question

**What is the value of employment,
beyond its direct monetary benefit,
on wellbeing?**

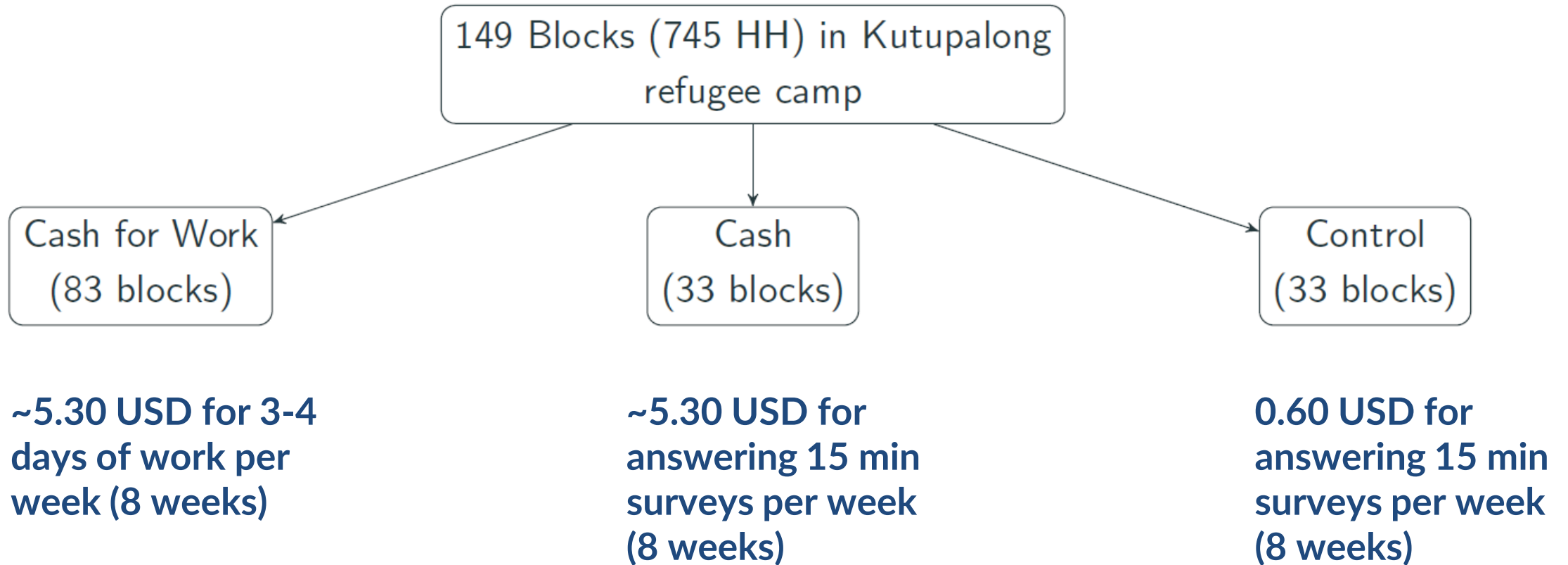
Employment in the Rohingya refugee camps

- Bangladesh is not a party to the 1951 Convention and refugees not allowed to work
- There are limited opportunities to engage in informal day labor (agriculture, construction) which is difficult because of strict military checkpoints -> mobility restrictions
- Most jobs that are available in the camps are provided by NGOs
 - Refugees can be engaged in cash-for-work or volunteer activities for operational needs in camps (World Bank, 2020)

The need for an impact evaluation

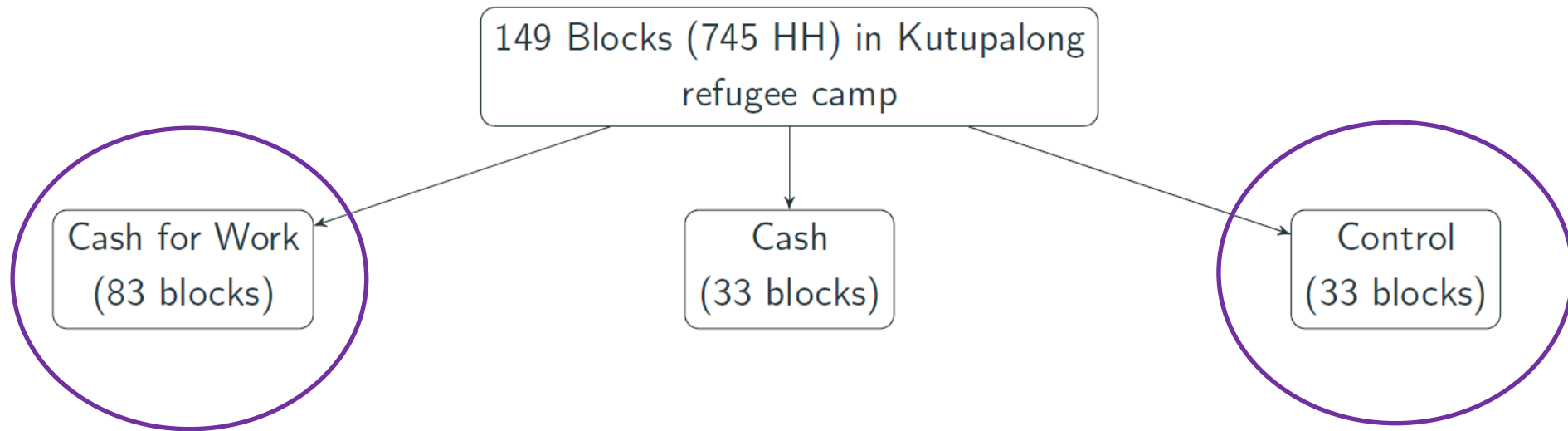
1. **Selection:** the unemployed may be different from the employed (attributes, or personal histories) in ways that affect their mental health regardless of their employment status.
-- Can't compare employed to unemployed!
2. **Mechanism:** conflation of pecuniary and non-pecuniary benefits to wage labor

Program Design



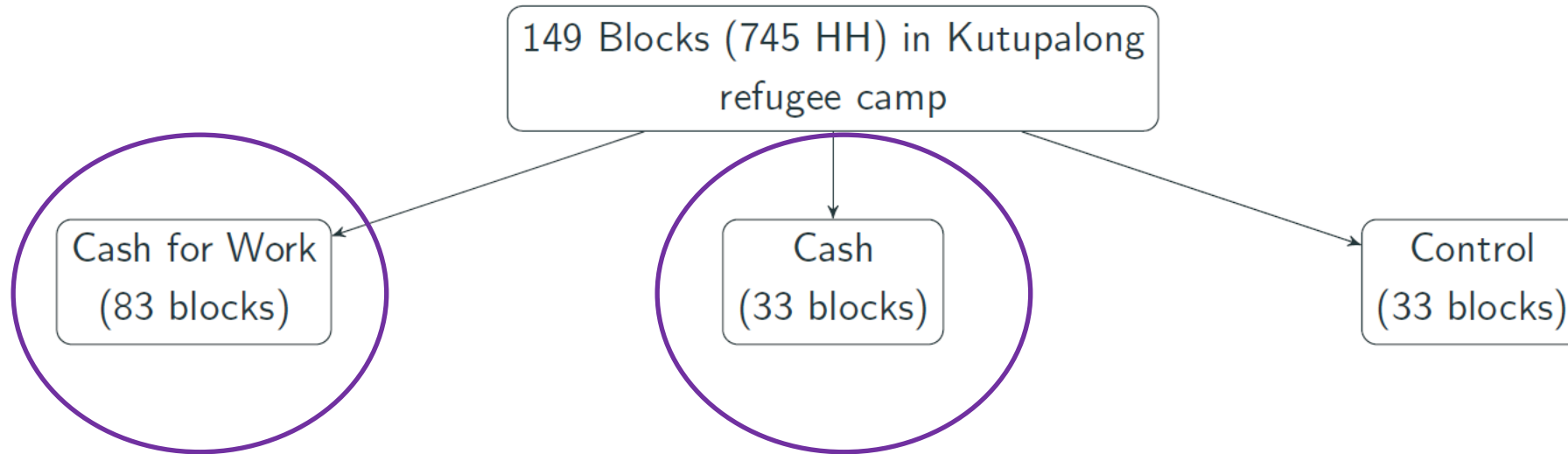
Program Design

Measuring the psycho-social value of work



Program Design

Measuring the psycho-social value of work beyond monetary benefits



Work interventions in the context of the camps

- **Contextualized:**
 - Accessible to men and women
 - Amenable to low literacy workforce
- **Not too good, not too bad:**
 - Physical movement, outdoors, repetitive
 - Required meaningful time and attention, but not physical
 - Had clear purpose, but secondary to typical employment
 - Offered by NGO, but no name recognition

NAME:



HHID:



TIME: 2:00 - 4:00



Psychosocial well-being: work relative to no-work or cash

- Significant improvement in mental health
 - A substantial reduction in feelings of anxiety or frustration
 - Higher life satisfaction, greater beliefs in their own self-worth, greater control over events in their lives, and feel more secure

50% increase in the likelihood of
not being depressed!

Similar to a 44-week long psycho-
therapy program

Psychosocial well-being: work relative to cash

- Work yields significantly larger improvements (4 times) in psychosocial well-being than only cash
- Physical health: 20% decrease in feeling unwell
- Improvement in cognitive function!

Do people value this activity?

- 97% say they are willing to work
- 70% of our sample is willing to work *for free*

Key messages

Psycho-social benefits of work exceed those of cash in this setting (particularly for men)

- Important for policy discussions on promoting the right to work
- Suggest cash-for-work programs may be preferable for those who can work than unconditional cash payments, particularly in depressed environments where scope for leisure activities is limited.

Area for further study:

- Testing this hypothesis in other contexts
- Testing what elements of work yield the greatest psychological benefits.
- Documenting the impact of cash and cash for work on intra-household dynamics, bargaining power, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

Thank you!

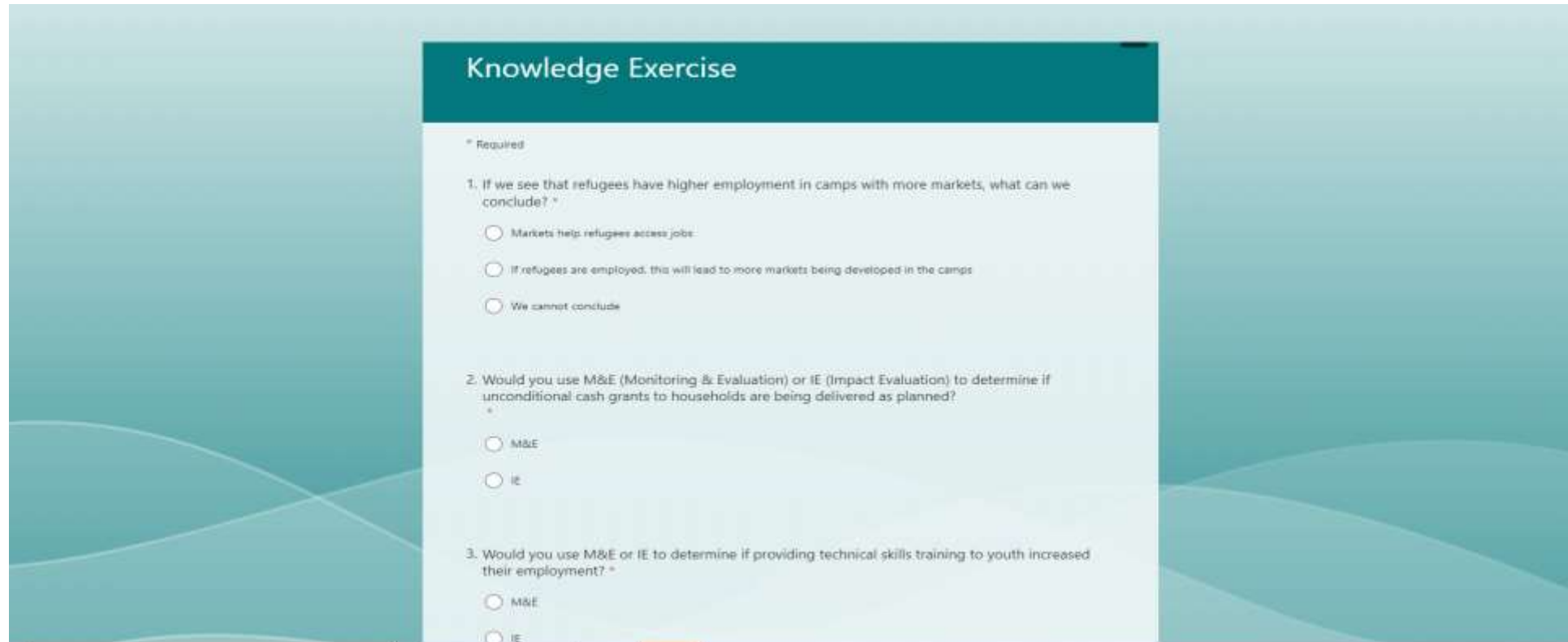
- PAP accepted via *pre-results* review at the Journal of Development Economics available [here](#)
- Econimate video available [here](#))

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- The Gates Foundation
- The UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, awarded through Innovation for Poverty Action's Peace & Recovery Program
- The FCDO-UNHCR-WB Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement Research Program.

Knowledge Exercise

<https://forms.office.com/r/DfYZuhT1CC>



Knowledge Exercise

* Required

1. If we see that refugees have higher employment in camps with more markets, what can we conclude? *

- Markets help refugees access jobs.
- If refugees are employed, this will lead to more markets being developed in the camps
- We cannot conclude

2. Would you use M&E (Monitoring & Evaluation) or IE (Impact Evaluation) to determine if unconditional cash grants to households are being delivered as planned?

- M&E
- IE

3. Would you use M&E or IE to determine if providing technical skills training to youth increased their employment? *

- M&E
- IE

Tell us your feedback!

<https://forms.office.com/r/d2GjNXaaaW>

Resources from today's session:

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2023/09/27/learning-from-the-evidence-on-forced-displacement-training-program-day-1>

See you at the next module!

Session	Topic	Date
1	Socio-economic data and its application to forced displacement	Sept 27, 2023
2	The Gender Dimensions of Forced Displacement	Oct 4, 2023
3	Improving Program Impacts in the Context of the Forcibly Displaced (Impact Evaluation)	Oct 11, 2023
4	Forced Displacement Evidence in the Health Sector	Oct 18, 2023
5	Social Protection Responses to Forced Displacement	Oct 25, 2023
6	Forced Displacement Evidence in the Education Sector	Nov 1, 2023
7	Forced Displacement and Social Cohesion	Nov 8, 2023
8	Forced Displacement and Jobs	Nov 15, 2023