

Making measurement easier

Looking for classroom measurement tools? SIEF worked with experts to create an [electronic version](#) of the [Stallings “classroom snapshot” method](#), which is now available for Android devices. In a [World Bank blog](#), SIEF researcher and former World Bank economist Barbara Bruns discusses the tool, its use in a [SIEF-supported impact evaluation](#) in Brazil’s Ceara state, and the time she almost sparked a state-wide teacher strike in Brazil.



[Innovations in WASH Impact Measures](#) is a new publication reviewing measurement technologies and approaches that can support and improve on the Sustainable Development Goal indicators related to drinking water and sanitation and hygiene. Among the editors are World Bank economists Christian Borja-Vega and Luis Alberto Andres, both SIEF researchers.



SIEF researchers make the news

In a video for [VoxDev](#), [Orazio Attanasio](#) of the University College London, a principal investigator of SIEF-supported evaluations - [two in India](#) and one in [Colombia](#) -- discusses how existing policies, infrastructure, and parental behavior affect the delivery of early childhood development interventions.

Attanasio was also among a set of economists defending the field of economics in a letter to [The Guardian](#), arguing “most economists are not astrologers trying to forecast the future, nor priests to the market gods. We analyze vast amounts of data to help design better policy.” The letter was in response to an [article](#) by the paper’s economics editor criticizing the field.

An [article in the Economist](#) on education reform in Pakistan cites research by two SIEF-supported researchers, World Bank economists Jishnu Das and Felipe Barrera-Osorio, on

what is working to improve learning. Das is involved in [an evaluation in Pakistan](#) assessing the impact of different approaches for financing private schools serving poor families, and Felipe Barrera-Osorio, a professor at Harvard, was involved in a [SIEF evaluation in Uganda](#) measuring the impact of text message reminders and low-stakes performance incentives for teachers.

[Speaking to the Financial Times](#), Nobel prize winning economist James Heckman used [the SIEF-supported Jamaica study](#) as the basis for his “[four lessons](#)” on how to raise successful children. The evaluation, which looked at a home visit parenting program for poor mothers in Kingston, found that nearly 30 years later, children whose mothers received visits earned 25 percent more than similarly stunted children whose mothers weren’t visited.



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