

### Increasing toilet ownership

SIEF has supported several evaluations that test approaches to increase access to improved sanitation and decrease open defecation. Most recently, [a new working paper](#) reports results from a randomized control trial in Punjab, India that tested the impact of a flagship sanitation program – *Swachh Bharat Mission - Gramin* (the Clean India Mission for Villages) – that included behavior change campaigns, centered on the community led total sanitation approach, and financial incentives for toilet construction. The study finds that the tested treatments increased coverage of safely managed toilets among households without toilets increased by 6.8–10.4 percentage points compared to control group and reduced rates of open defecation by 7.3–7.8 percentage points.

Check out other related evaluations in the [WASH portfolio](#) on incentivizing toilet construction through micro-loans [in Maharashtra, India](#) and [in the Philippines](#).

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### Our latest Evidence to Policy Note

SIEF's [latest evidence to policy note](#) summarizes results from a [recent working paper](#) on teacher incentives in Rwanda. Performance pay for teachers generates debate, but whether students' learning benefits from adding performance-based components to teachers' compensation is an empirical question. To inform the Rwandan government about its own incentive structure for teachers, SIEF supported researchers designed a [two-year experiment](#) in partnership with Rwandan Education Board and the Ministry of Education. After two years, researchers found that offering performance-based bonuses for the top 20 percent of teachers did not attract teachers with lower pedagogical skills, compared to offers of fixed wage contracts. Once in school, offers of performance-based bonuses increased teachers' presence in the classroom and improved their pedagogical practices. The performance pay also helped teachers elicit higher test-score performance from their students.



