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Strategic Impact  
Evaluation Fund

NEWSLETTER  
October 2018

## Announcing our new nimble evaluations

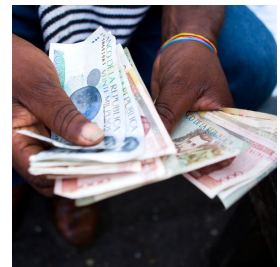
SIEF has chosen [18 evaluations](#) for funding through its now closed [fourth call for proposals](#), focused on nimble evaluations – rapid, low-cost evaluations designed to provide insight on implementation or improve the use of administrative data for impact evaluations in low- and middle-income countries. The evaluations selected for funding cover SIEF's core areas, basic education, early childhood development and nutrition, health, and water and sanitation.

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## Blogs

All impact evaluations depend on quantitative data that typically come from surveys, direct observations of children or service providers, and administrative data like scores from exams. To detect impacts of the interventions under evaluation, we need data that will appropriately measure changes in the outcomes we want the intervention to affect. How do we know we are using the right data and analyzing it appropriately? Enter psychometrics, which is the branch of psychology focused on the design, administration, and interpretation of quantitative assessments. SIEF program manager, Alaka Holla, and colleagues Adelle Pushparatnam and Ezequiel Molina [blog](#) about what television series *The Wire* can teach us about psychometrics. SIEF's website also hosts related [lectures and learning resources](#) that provide a basic introduction to psychometrics.

Cash transfers are an increasingly popular tool in the development world for improving opportunities for poor people. But some policymakers and economists are concerned about the impact of cash on people's desire to work. SIEF researchers [Sarah Baird](#), [David McKenzie](#) and [Berk Ozler](#) explored these issues in a [VoxDev blog](#).



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## Workshops

The World Bank's Education for Competitiveness initiative and SIEF co-organized a workshop in Abu Dhabi that provided training on impact evaluation, including the rationale and intuition behind experimental and quasi-experimental methods, the mechanics of randomization, sample size and statistical power, theory of change, and the interpretation of results.



Read more about the workshop and presentations [here](#).

