

Updates from our preprimary school evaluations

BANGLADESH: A SIEF-supported randomized control trial to measure the impact of starting preschool at age four instead of age five – giving children an extra year of preschool before primary school -- has released its [baseline report](#). [The evaluation](#) is led by researchers from the [American Institutes for Research](#), and Save the Children is implementing the pilot preschool program.



GHANA: Though preprimary education is free in Ghana and enrollment has passed 80 percent, quality is inconsistent and most kindergarten teachers are not trained to teach preschool-age children. A [SIEF-supported study](#) to test the impact of training teachers in early childhood development, child-centered and play-based learning methods, and behavior management techniques, along with a component for parents, was featured by [National Public Radio's Morning Edition](#). A corresponding piece focused on parents of preschool children ran in their [Rough translation](#) series.



BULGARIA: There is growing concern that children from disadvantaged families lag behind children from advantaged families because they do not participate as much in preprimary education. A recent seminar presented findings from a [SIEF-supported](#) randomized control trial implemented in 2014-2015 across 236 poor settlements in Bulgaria, evaluating a program that aimed to improve full-day kindergarten participation of poor children, especially from the Roma community, Europe's largest ethnic minority ([Seminar Recording](#), [Presentation](#)).



