

#297 - Testing and learning on the path to scale: finding the right fit at each stage

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Objectives/aims

As an intervention grows and develops along the pathway to scale, getting the right fit for learning and testing is a constant challenge.

This lightning talk will describe a simple model of the phases of intervention scaleup, the most important testing and learning activities at each phase, and implications for donors and implementers, including some rules of thumb for how much to invest in evidence creation at each stage.

This presentation will share a case from the portfolio of the Right-Fit Evidence Unit, an advisory group based at Innovations for Poverty Action, a research and policy NGO working on global poverty.

Relevant theme: 4. Zero to 100: Sustainment and scaling

Methods

The case that I will draw on to illustrate the path to scale during this presentation includes research and implementation support to education programs implemented in Sub-Saharan Africa, as they have moved along the pathway to scale and changed their testing and learning focus as a result.

Main findings

This talk will not communicate the main findings from the cases referenced, but rather use them to highlight the different methods (user testing, process evaluation, impact evaluation) that we employed along the pathway to scale for these interventions. This is summarized in the slide below.

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