

RISE

RESEARCH ON IMPROVING
SYSTEMS OF EDUCATION

RISE country research vision and planning

Presentation and Q&A session for
potential bidders

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Center for Global Development, London, UK



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Research scope

Act I



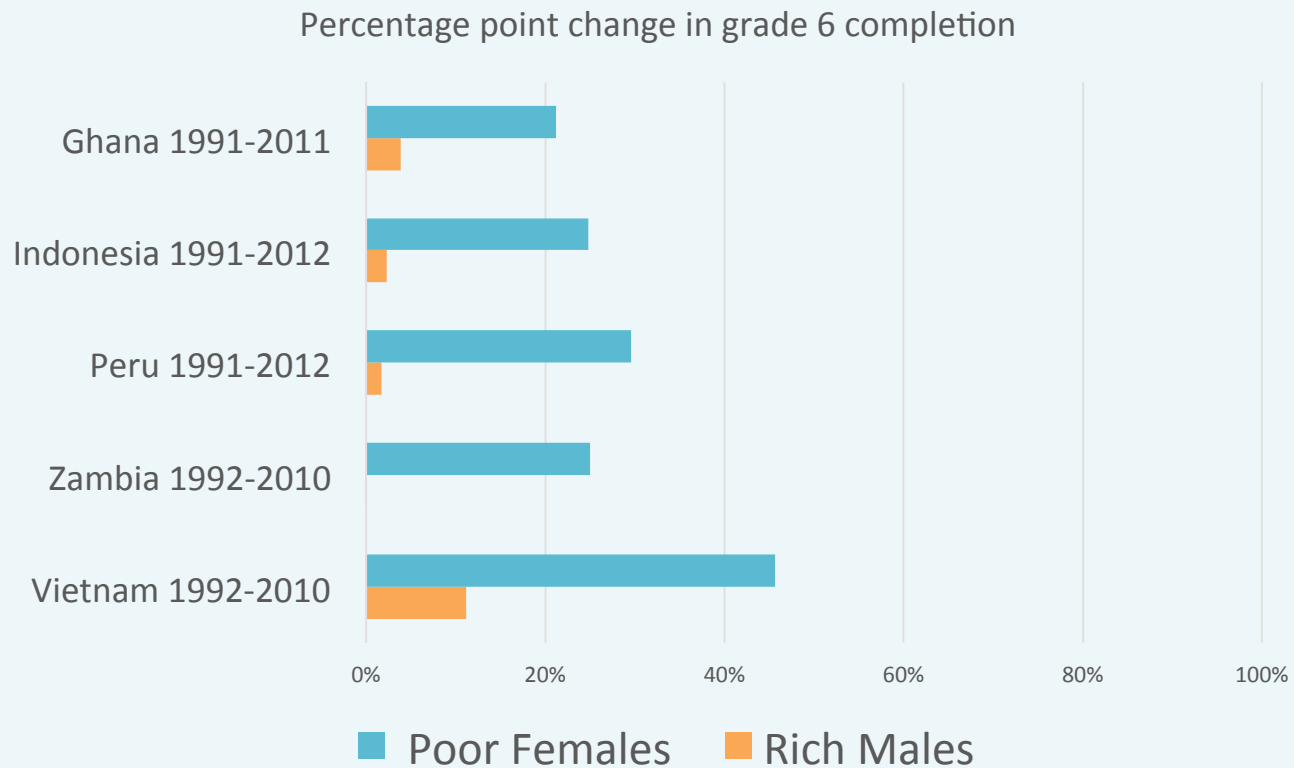
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There has been great progress in enrollment but pockets of exclusion remain

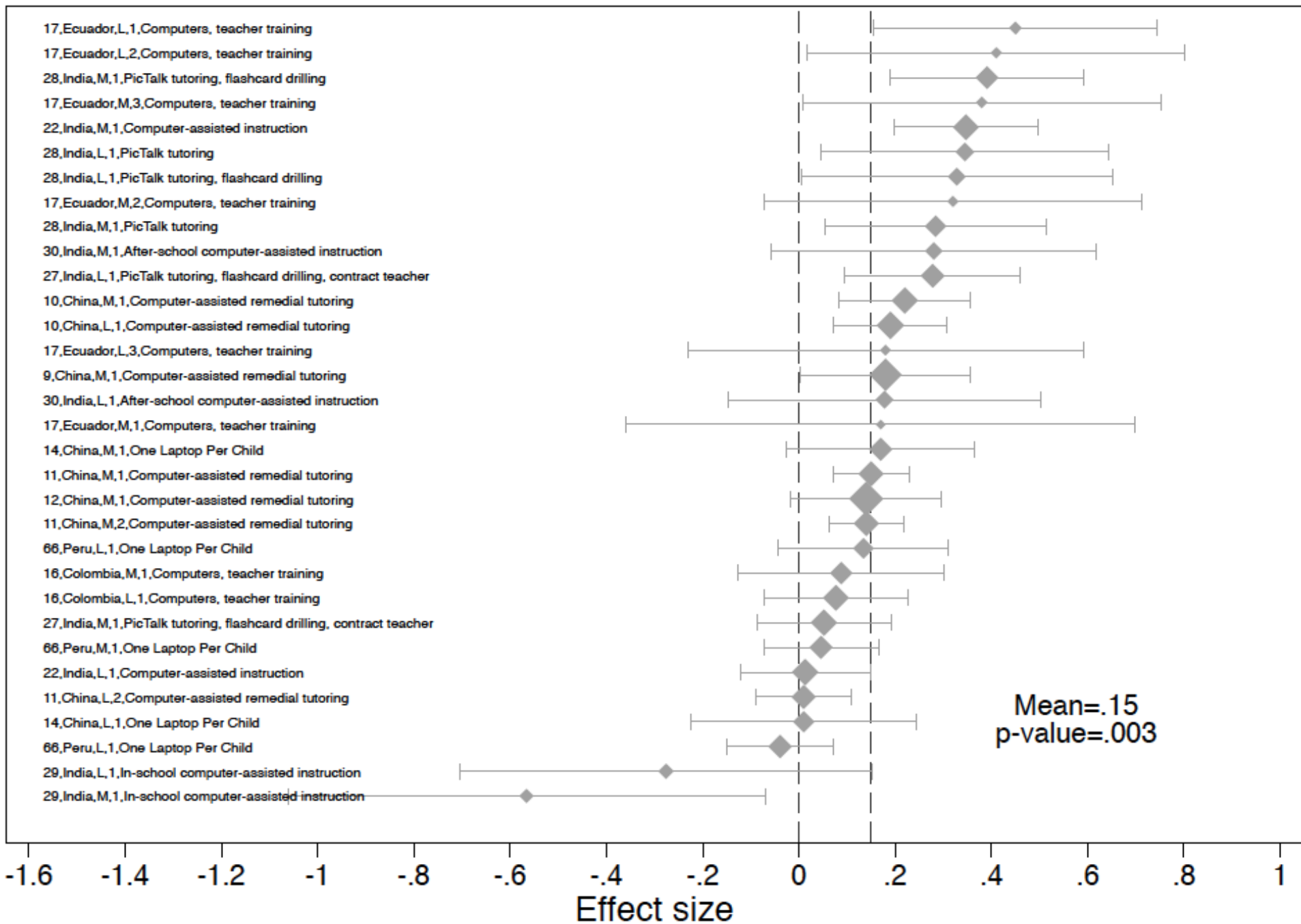


Children are in school and still not learning

Country	Fraction of the Uneducated (Innumerate or Illiterate) Children Enrolled in Grade 6 (Percent)	
	Innumerate	Illiterate
South Africa	95	93
Zambia	82	75
Zimbabwe	81	75
Malawi	75	64
Uganda	65	49
Kenya	59	30

Source: Spull and Taylor 2014.

In RISE Vision Document 1, https://www.rise.ox.ac.uk/sites/www.rise.ox.ac.uk/files/RISE_Vision_document-1.pdf



Source: McEwan 2014, "Improving Learning in Primary Schools of Developing Countries: A Meta-Analysis..."

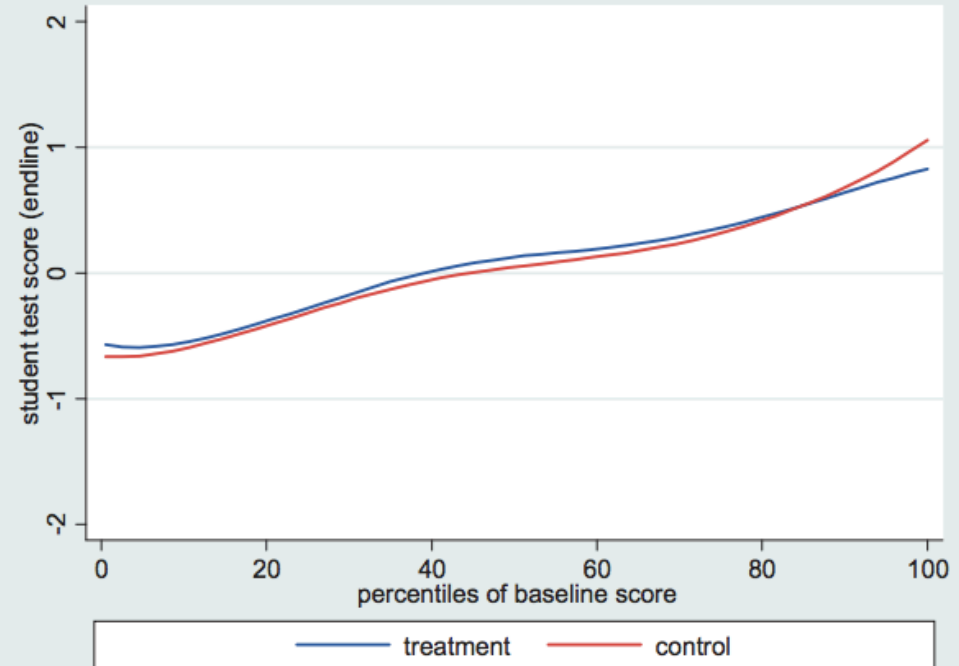
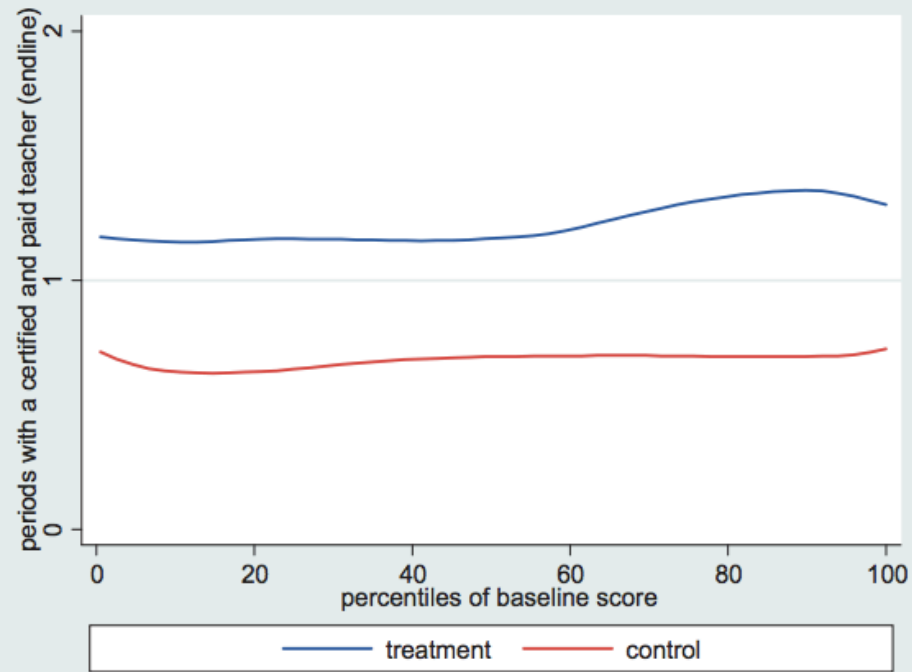
Elements of system research from RISE conference

- Complementarities
 - money matters in Indonesia vs Tanzania
- Scale and implementation
 - teaching assistants in Kenya, Ghana
- Political economy
 - vouchers in Colombia, PPPs in Pakistan and Uganda

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“Double for nothing” in Indonesia

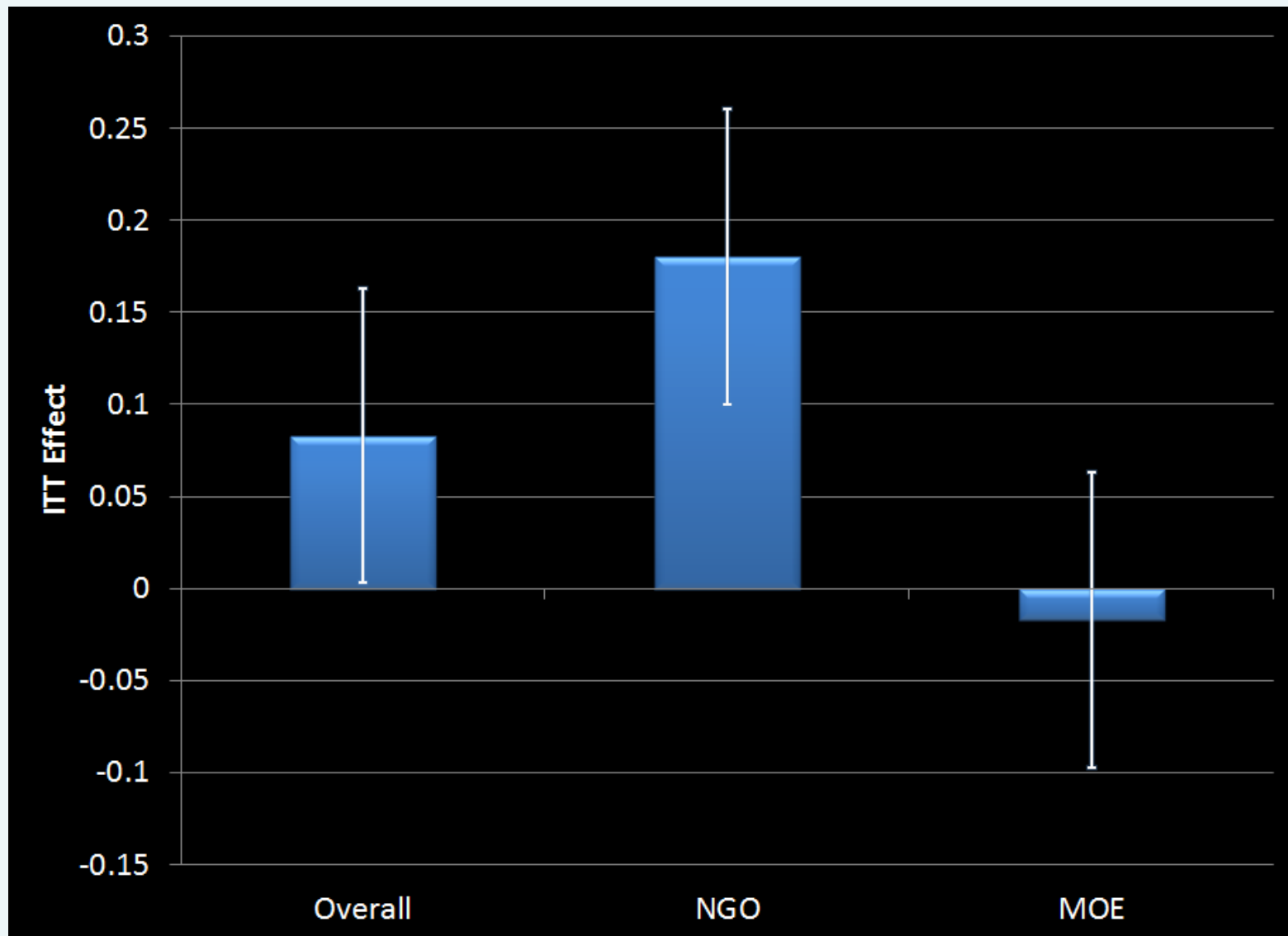


Source: De Ree, Muralidharan, Pradhan & Rogers 2014. “Double for nothing? The Effects of Unconditional Teacher Salary Increases on Student Performance”

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NGO vs. gov't implementation in Kenya



Source: Bold, Kimenyi, Mwabu, Ng'ang'a & Sandefur, 2013. "Scaling up what works"

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All papers and presentations from launch conference available here:
<http://www.rise.ox.ac.uk/content/rise-launch-event>

Successful but politically unsustainable scholarships

- Colombia: 125,000 scholarships in 1990s for poor students to attend private (vocational) schools
- Lottery
- Increased tertiary enrollment, reduced fertility among women, and increased earnings at age 30 about 10%
- Increased tax revenue more than pays for scholarships

- But... program cancelled.

RISE

- Our goal is to provide an analytical framework for
 - systems functioning
 - how system change happens
 - why it doesn't happen
 - reform success or failure
- Success measured by learning gains
- Community of practice on growing systems research
- Publications in top journals

How is RISE different than other research calls?

- Large, multi-year funding to just a few teams
- Common focus: how to achieve dramatic increase in learning (in very different places, different pathways)
- Expect
 - Strong institutional presence & research participation in country of study
 - Multidisciplinary teams
 - Collaboration and coordination (e.g., diagnostic exercise, learning metrics)

Systems study topics can take many forms

- One or many reforms / systems elements / innovations
- Whole or part of system
- National or sub-national
- Not just government – NGOs, private sector, civil society, too
- Time horizon: past, present or future

RISE research focuses on schools

- Focus on basic education (school-based primary and secondary)
- Could include pre-primary or kindergarten (school-based, focused on learning)

What is systems research? More examples

- Reforms in teacher policy – recruitment, retention, training, supervision, management, pay
- Student assessment that forms a learning agenda
- Increasing teacher and school autonomy
- Teaching to the level of the student
- Low-cost private schools

*Only funding for incremental cost of doing research,
not implementation*

What isn't systems research

- Small, geographically limited
- Input-oriented interventions without complementary system reform elements
- Focus on enrolment
- No potential for scale
- Designed solely by researchers

System research moves beyond proximate determinants of learning

	Retrospective	Ongoing	Prospective
Proximate determinants of learning ('inputs')	No	No	No
Components of systemic reforms	Yes	Yes	Yes (but must be highly likely)
Major systemic reforms	Yes	Yes	Yes (but must be highly likely)

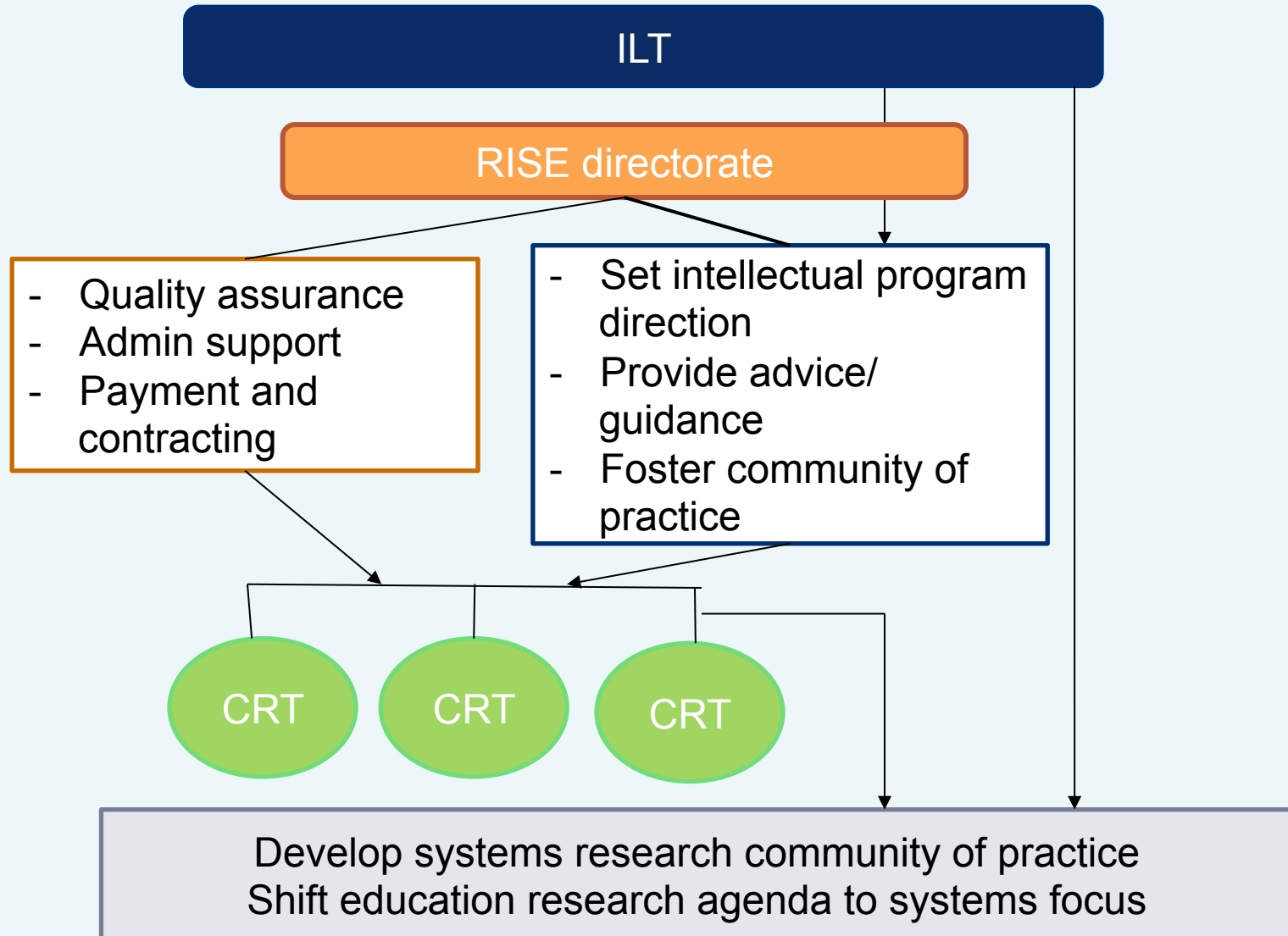
Countries demonstrate greatest opportunities for learning about system reform/change

- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- India
- Indonesia
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Vietnam

Other countries on DFID list eligible, with justification: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-international-development/about#where-we-work

Sub-national focus and multiple programs per country permissible for larger countries

CRTs will work closely with the RISE Directorate and Intellectual Leadership Team



CRTs will ideally be comprised of in-country and international education and methodological experts

Locally-based researchers and education experts

- Integrated into domestic education policy dialogue
- Ties to relevant institutions
- Deep understanding of system context
- Involved in design, analysis, writing, as co-PIs, co-authors

Any research method used in RISE should be justified by 'best fit' with a research question

- Central question: how do reforms, innovations, system characteristics accelerate student learning
- Range of qualitative and quantitative approaches
- Process, case and impact studies
- Output is highest research standard in relevant discipline

RISE strongly encourages use of standardized metrics

- Student learning assessments one key metric
 - e.g. ASER, Uwezo, SACMEQ, Young Lives, PISA, etc.
- Also intermediate measures
 - e.g. teacher practice (Stallings), SDIs, school management practice (World Management Survey)
- Emphasis on
 - Comparability across countries or w/in country
 - Representativeness

RISE encourages CRTs to be actively involved in domestic and international dialogue about education

- Blogging/social media about process of doing research
- Outreach to local policymakers and other stakeholders
- Local and international research dissemination
- Engagement in community of practice

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Procurement

Act II



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Overview

- Bidding for RISE is a three stage process:
 1. Supplier engagement (today)
 2. Expression of Interest
 3. Proposal writing
- This section is about:
 1. Funding
 2. Schedule of each stage
 3. Requirements from bidders at each stage
 4. Receipt of bids & feedback (EoI stage)
 5. Open Q&A

Funding and timing

- £21 million envelope
- Funding for up to five country research teams

- First call – up to three countries
 - Research implementation: March 2016 for 6 years

- Second call - up to three countries (depending on first call)
 - EoI issued March 2016
 - Research implementation: from September 2016
 - Bidders can re-submit proposals and EoIs from the first stage

- RISE wont review proposals under £3 million
- Awards in British Pounds

Schedule

<i>Weeks</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Launch	Jun-18																			
Call for Eols			Jul-01																	
Supplier events	US	UK		TZ	NG		IN	PK	ID											
Submission Eol											23-Aug									
Invitation to bid													Sep-07							
Submission of Proposals																				Nov-01

Notice of awards no later than **4 January 2016**

Country research teams expected to start work by **March 2016**

Requirements from bidders - EoI

- Launch
 - No submissions expected
 - We expect bidders to:
 - ✦ Learn about RISE
 - ✦ Find partners, key staff and think about consortia
- Expression of Interest - Details published on July 1st :
 - Submission of 7 page EoI via the web portal by August 23rd 2015
 - ✦ Target country & reform
 - ✦ Research questions
 - ✦ Bidder info
 - Bidders can if they wish:
 - ✦ Ask questions via the online form
 - ✦ Attend supplier engagement events
 - ✦ Volunteer for matchmaking

Questions and feedback

Questions

- Questions can be submitted via an online portal from July 1st 2015 onwards
- The portal will close for questions on August 20th
- Exact details on the Q&A process will be specified July 1st 2015 on the website

Feedback

- All bidders will receive feedback
- We may suggest that complementary bidders discuss potential cooperation with each other.

Requirements for proposals

- Successful Eols will be invited to bid on September 7th 2015
 - Details published at that date:
 - ✦ Format of proposal
 - ✦ Contact points
 - ✦ Submission details
 - ✦ Conflict of interest and disclosures
 - ✦ Duty of Care
 - Submission of proposals via the web portal by November 1st 2015

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Thank you