

Small Changes, Big Impact: Creating Conditions for Women and Girls to Thrive

CGD, November 18th, 2015

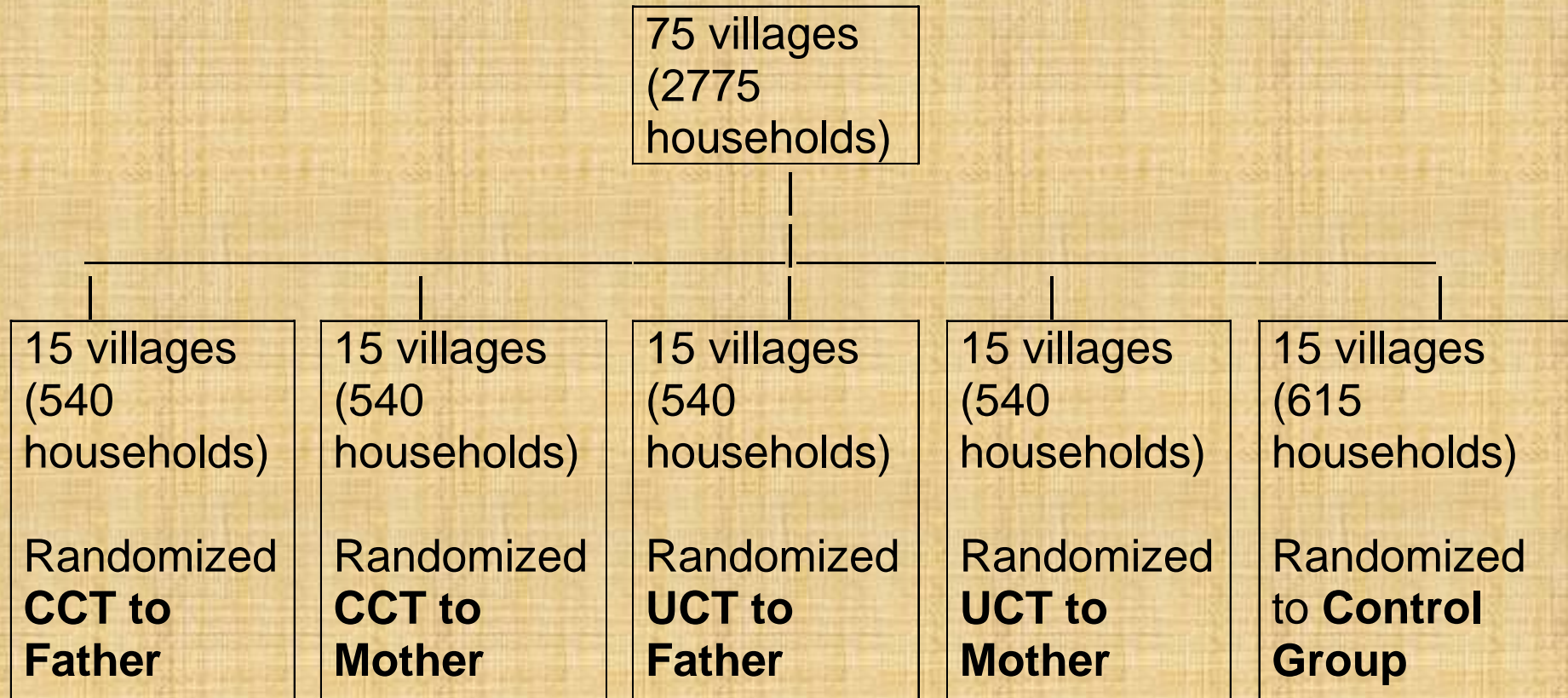
The Role of Cash Transfers in Empowering Women and Girls : Cash transfers for education in Burkina Faso and Cash transfers for HIV prevention in Tanzania

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The World Bank

Gender and Conditionality: A Randomized Evaluation of Alternative Cash Transfer Delivery Mechanisms in Rural Burkina Faso



Study Set-Up: Baseline 2008, 2 follow-ups 2009 and 2010 in Nahouri Province

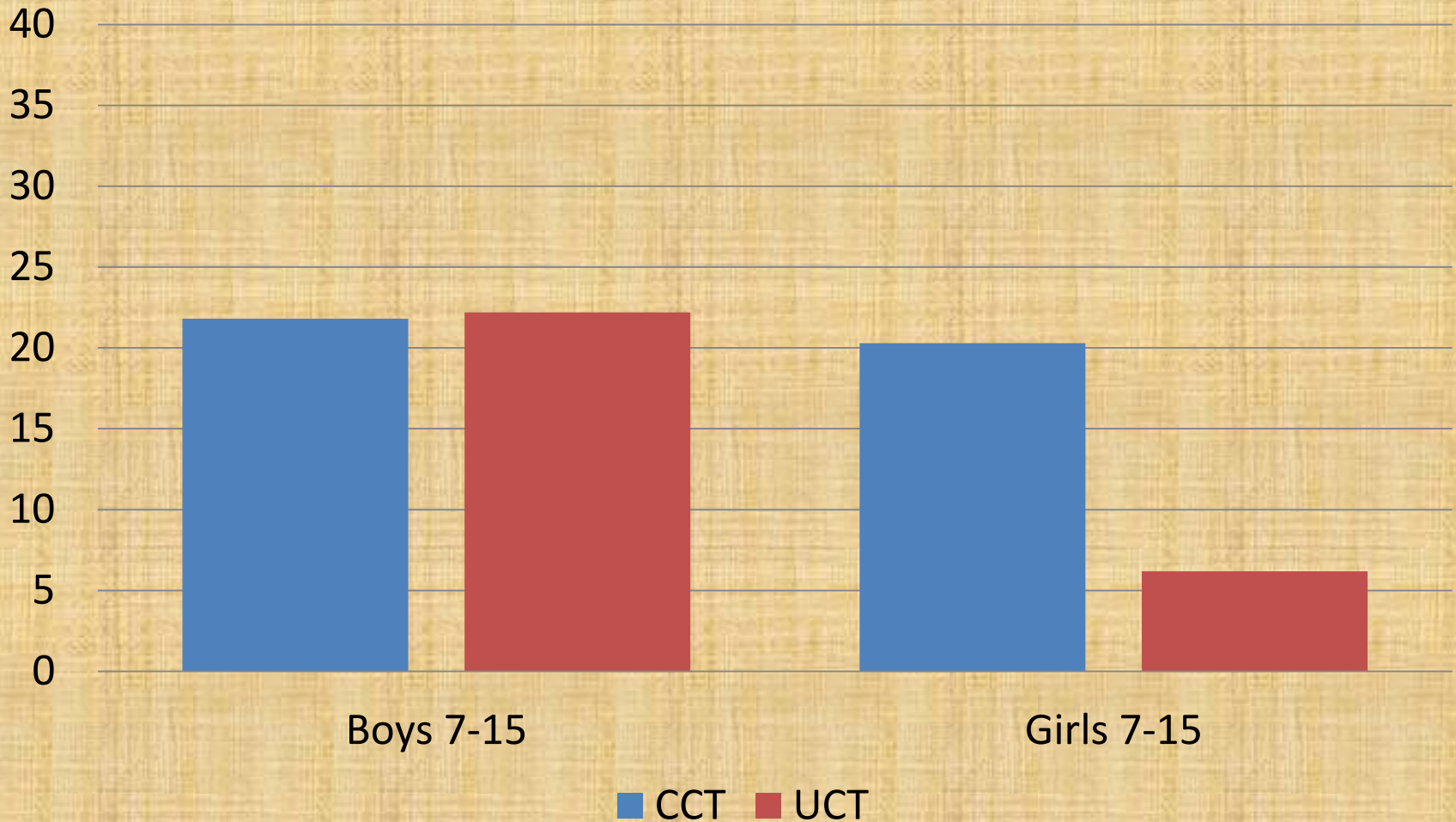


Results Summary:

- CCT & UCT same impact for children enrolled at baseline, boys, older children, higher ability children
- CCT most effective at getting parents to invest in children they normally would not
- Conditionality pushes parents to enroll the “marginal child”—those not enrolled at baseline, girls, young children, low ability children
- Verification of conditionality can be done simply and cheaply.
- Giving to mothers better for ‘marginal’ child education
- But, fathers good for health & ‘core’ child education (Fathers not so bad...)

CCT =UCT for boys, but CCT > UCT for girls

Figure 1: Percentage Increase in Enrollment by Gender



Recommendations for projects

- CCTs look more complicated than UCTs, BUT might be crucial in getting the results you want to achieve (e.g. girls in school) and easier to implement than you thought – don't brush them aside too quickly on the grounds of "low capacity".
- Be bold and look across sectors! CCTs could be used to promote several desirable outcomes at the same time (poverty reduction, education, child health, but also HIV & STD prevention as tested in Lesotho, Malawi and Tanzania).

World Bank rewards safe sex to boost fight against Aids in Africa

Funds of \$1.8m to back trial in Tanzania
By Andrew Jack in London

steps in the fight to tackle Aids, which claims 2m lives a year. In spite of billions of dollars spent annually on treatment and prevention worldwide, there were about 2.5m new HIV infections in 2007, predominantly in Africa. Carol Medlin from the University of California, San Francisco, one of the researchers, said "We hope this 'reverse prostitution' will make people think hard about the long-term consequences of their short-term

Cash for safe sex

Bribing Africans to be careful is bizarre - and worth a try

The phrase "new and daring" is not often paired with the words "healthcare intervention" but this idea goes beyond eye-patching young Tanzanians are to be offered a stay HIV negative.

A consortium that includes the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the World Bank is funding the experiment. Several thousand 15 to 20-year-olds in rural Tanzania will be given regularly advice on sexual health, and paid almost \$10 a year if the tests are negative.

The scheme will - evidently - cause controversy. Are the funders saying young Tanzanians cannot be trusted to do what is good for them without a bribe? Yet the cash may increase the bargaining power of young women and give them an alternative to accepting money from older boyfriends. Cash today may be a more powerful incentive than the risk of an appalling disease many years hence.

In the face of an appalling Aids epidemic, we should overcome our unease.

The question should be can this plan really work? It might. Such "conditional cash transfer" programmes have become popular since the success of Mexico's Progresa programme, which paid parents if their children attended school and went to the health clinic. The approach has even been imitated in New York.

Importantly, the scheme is to be evaluated in a new controlled trial. That is welcome. Too few development policy ideas are given much as a new drug would be tested. That is something valuable to have learnt - something that will not be the said of millions of dollars.

The pilot would need to be rigorously evaluated. The world of development needs more data. It is a long shot. It should be rigorously evaluated anyway.

Kenyan experiment is a fine idea more rigorously. Some participants placed in control arm not offered payment in order to track the effects of the programme precisely.

"Conditional cash transfers" have already been used in Latin America to motivate poor parents to attend health clinics, and have their children vaccinated and schooled. Michael Bloomberg, the mayor of New York, last

year unveiled a project to boost school attendance.

The designers of the Tanzanian programme believe that payments of \$40 when combined with careful counselling could play an important role in reducing HIV infection, especially for vulnerable young women.

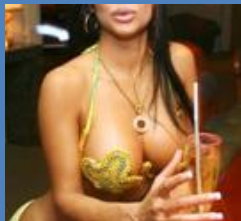
The study will be conducted by the Ifakara Health Research and Development Centre in Tanzania, in conjunction with researchers from the University of California, Berkeley, the University of California, San Francisco and the World Bank.

The Tanzanian trial programme, which is still subject to fine-tuning and ethical approval, will not specifically test for HIV, which is costly and already widely conducted in the country. It will use proxies including gonorrhoea, and guarantees any participant found to be infected receives state treatment.

Bribing Africans to be careful is bizarre – and worth a try
The Financial Times

\$ → ↓ HIV?

STIs?
HIV?



~~STIs~~
~~HIV~~

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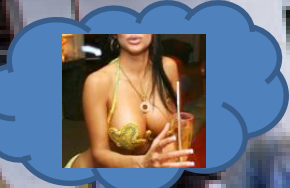
Study Population
(N=2,409)

Control
(N=1,124)

Treatment
(N=1,285)

\$10 if STI-free
(N=660)

\$20 if STI-free
(N=615)





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Relative risk (compared to control, adjusted)
4 STIs : 1.06

Relative risk (compared to control, adjusted)
4 STIs : 0.73 (p<0.05)

