GiveDirectly Uganda Datasets ReadMe

Citations

1. IDinsight, Baseline Survey Data: GiveDirectly Uganda Kiryandongo RCT. 2019.
2. IDinsight, Endline Survey Data: GiveDirectly Uganda Kiryandongo RCT. 2022.

Project name

Unconditional cash transfers in Kiryandongo refugee settlement, Uganda

Region, Country

East Africa, Uganda

Client

GiveDirectly

Funder

Baseline and Endline: GiveDirectly who received funding from Swedish Postcode Lottery, IKEA Foundation, and the Global Innovation Fund (GIF)

IDinsight Contact

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Project Dates

- Start: February 2019
- End: August 2022

Service(s)

Impact Evaluation. Quantitative Randomized Controlled Trial and Longitudinal Qualitative study

Sector(s)

Poverty Alleviation, Health, Social Protection, Cash Transfers, Humanitarian Aid

Project Description

IDinsight conducted an impact evaluation of GiveDirectly's unconditional cash transfer program to understand the effects of cash transfers on refugees and people living in communities surrounding the Kiryandongo refugee settlement in Uganda. IDinsight's impact evaluation consisted of a randomized controlled trial (RCT) and a longitudinal, qualitative study. GiveDirectly wanted to understand the potential role that large, unconditional cash transfers can play in improving refugees' wellbeing, namely those in protracted displacement in East Africa. In these locations, refugees may have some, but not all, of the same investment opportunities as citizens. While an initial 2018 pilot, conducted internally by GiveDirectly, indicated operational feasibility and positive results of cash transfers to refugees in Uganda, they needed more evidence. GiveDirectly and other stakeholders working to support refugees wanted to understand more about whether and how cash can be transformed into welfare gains within constraints faced by refugees. They also wanted to understand whether cash transfers influence social relations amongst refugees and between refugees and Ugandan "host" communities.

GiveDirectly built on the results from its pilot cash transfers by commissioning a larger, more rigorous study in the Kiryandongo district. For this project, GiveDirectly provided ~USD 1,000 in unconditional cash transfers to ~10,000 refugee households and ~4,300 host community households. (See more).

Sampling Methodology

The RCT used a phased-in design. Under GiveDirectly's program, eligible households in the refugee settlement have been randomized into 24 cohorts through a public lottery. Cash transfers were distributed by cohort, with cohort 1 receiving its cash transfers first, followed by cohort 2, etc. Households with people with specific needs (PSN) as designated by the UNHCR did not participate in the public lottery and received their transfers before everyone else. For the RCT's phased-in design, the treatment group consisted of households in cohorts 1 and 2, and the control group of a random sample of households in cohorts 17-20. The final endline sample included 1,090 households - 556 in the treatment group and 534 in the control group.

Dates of Data Collection

- Baseline: September to November 2019
- Midline: July to October 2020
- Endline study: February to April 2022

Dataset Descriptions

The baseline dataset measures demographic information on our sample and pre-intervention levels of food security, consumption, household assets, education attainment and enrollment, employment and entrepreneurship, agricultural production and revenue, time use, psychological well-being, social cohesion, and safety and security. The endline dataset measures the post-intervention levels of the same outcomes, less social cohesion and safety/ security and

includes self-reliance, migration, and a more comprehensive asset section including loans and savings.

The baseline dataset matches the questionnaire titled, “20191106_gd_uct_baseline_survey.xlsx”

The endline dataset matches the questionnaire titled, “20220219_gd_uct_endline_survey.xlsx”

The final analysis variables are:

- total_cons_wins "Total Monthly Consumption Expenditure"
- total_net_assets_wins "Total Assets, Net of Loans"
- total_rev_monthly_wins "Total Monthly Business Revenue"
- food_security “Food Security Index”
- fem_empowerment_index “Female Empowerment Index”
- ent_own “Enterprise Ownership”
- employed_resp “Employment Status of Survey Respondent”
- hh_size “Household Size”
- dep_ratio “Dependency Ratio”
- hh_sri_total_score “Self Reliance Index”
- psych_wellbeing_index “Psychosocial Well-Being”
- migrate_out_indv “Migration”

The baseline, winsorized, and PPP versions have the suffix _BL, _wins, _PPP, respectively, if available.

Permissions for Publishing the Data

IDinsight received IRB approval to conduct this study from Mildmay Uganda Research and Ethics Committee (#REC REF 0101-2019) and registered the study with the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST) (SS281ES).

Respondents were informed about the publication of anonymized data during the informed consent process: “At the end of the study, anonymized research data will be published in order to make it available to other researchers in line with current data-sharing practices.” This script was included in the consent forms for IRB approval.

Additional Notes

These data were prepared on August 3, 2022 by the IDinsight team. They are stored in the IDinsight repository of the Harvard Dataverse.