

# Malawi Girls Education Program Impact Evaluation(DFID)

# Why focus on girls' education?

- The effects of low levels of girls' education in Malawi:
  - 46% of new HIV infections occur among young people: young women x3 more likely to be positive .
- Nearly 45% of females marry before 19 years and at a higher risk of dying in childbirth,
- Have limited opportunity to enter the paid labour force and earn independent incomes .

# Global evidence on rate of return to girls' education

- Increases female earnings
- Lowers infant, child & maternal mortality rates
- Reduces fertility
- Creates intergenerational education benefits
- Protects against HIV infection

# INTERVENTION SUMMARY

- Conditional Cash Transfer and Community Engagement for girls
- Through the CCT component poor households of girls in the upper primary (STD 5-8) will be given a cash stipend on condition that their girl(s) remain in school and complete STD 8.
- Community engagement for psychosocial support and VAG interventions for girls retention and completion.

# Results Chain

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
Provision of cash to poor households with girls in upper primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varied Cash stipends to poor households with girls in upper primary on condition that the girl(s) stay in school &amp; complete primary</li> <li>• Community selection of beneficiaries based on a transparent criteria to determine the poor</li> </ul>	Poor households with girls in upper primary receive cash stipend every month	Reduced dropout rate for girls	Increased primary completion rate for girls
Community engagement and teacher mobilisation for girl education promotion and support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of Mother Support Groups in girls' rights, prevention and response to violence against girls</li> <li>• Training of male and female teachers in girls rights, identification and response to violence against girls</li> <li>• Female teacher peer support forums and training in counselling and support for girls as role models</li> <li>• Community structures (including male champions) training in child protection, Violence Against Girls and referral mechanisms with strategies for community mobilisation for the protection of girls and promotion of education</li> </ul>	Community and school structures trained for girl education promotion and protection against violence		Improved pass rate for girls

# KEY QUESTIONS

- Does Cash Transfer by itself improve girls retention, completion and performance in primary school
- Does community engagement by itself improve girls retention, completion and performance in primary school
- Does the combination of the above improve intended outcomes
- Assess efficacy of community based selection

# IMPACT EVALUATION DESIGN

- Randomisation of treatment and control at zonal level(In total there are 400 zones in country – 50% will be covered by the project)
- Program to be implemented only in randomly treated zones
- Baseline survey of treatment and control to be conducted before project start

# Longitudinal study to assess long-term effects

- Baseline by Jan 2014
- Follow up survey Jan 2015
- End line survey 2016



# DATA SOURCE

- Primary data collection
- Administrative data (EMIS, IHS)
- Existing household survey used by the government for other social cash transfer programmes