

Comments on
World Development Report 2018
LEARNING to Realize Education's Promise

Eiji Kozuka

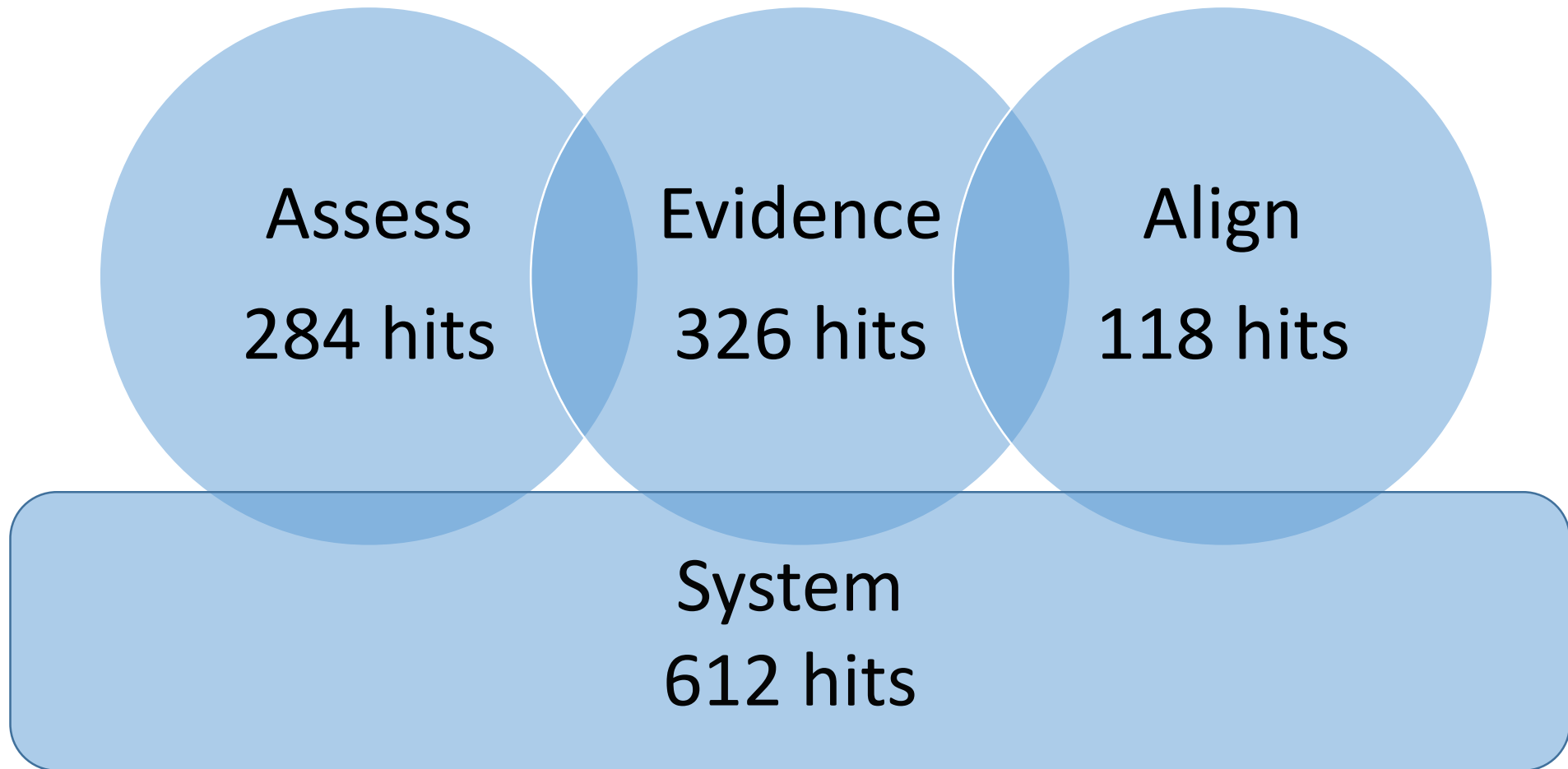
June 21, 2018

Japan International Cooperation Agency

Added Value of WDR 2018

- ◆ The first focus on education in the WDR history
- ◆ Alarm the “Learning Crisis”
- ◆ Fill the gap between evidence and practice in education

Key Words



Why System?

Figure O.15 Coherence and alignment toward learning



Source: WDR 2018 team.

An education system is a collection of “institutions, actions and processes that affect the ‘educational status’ of citizens in the short and long run.”

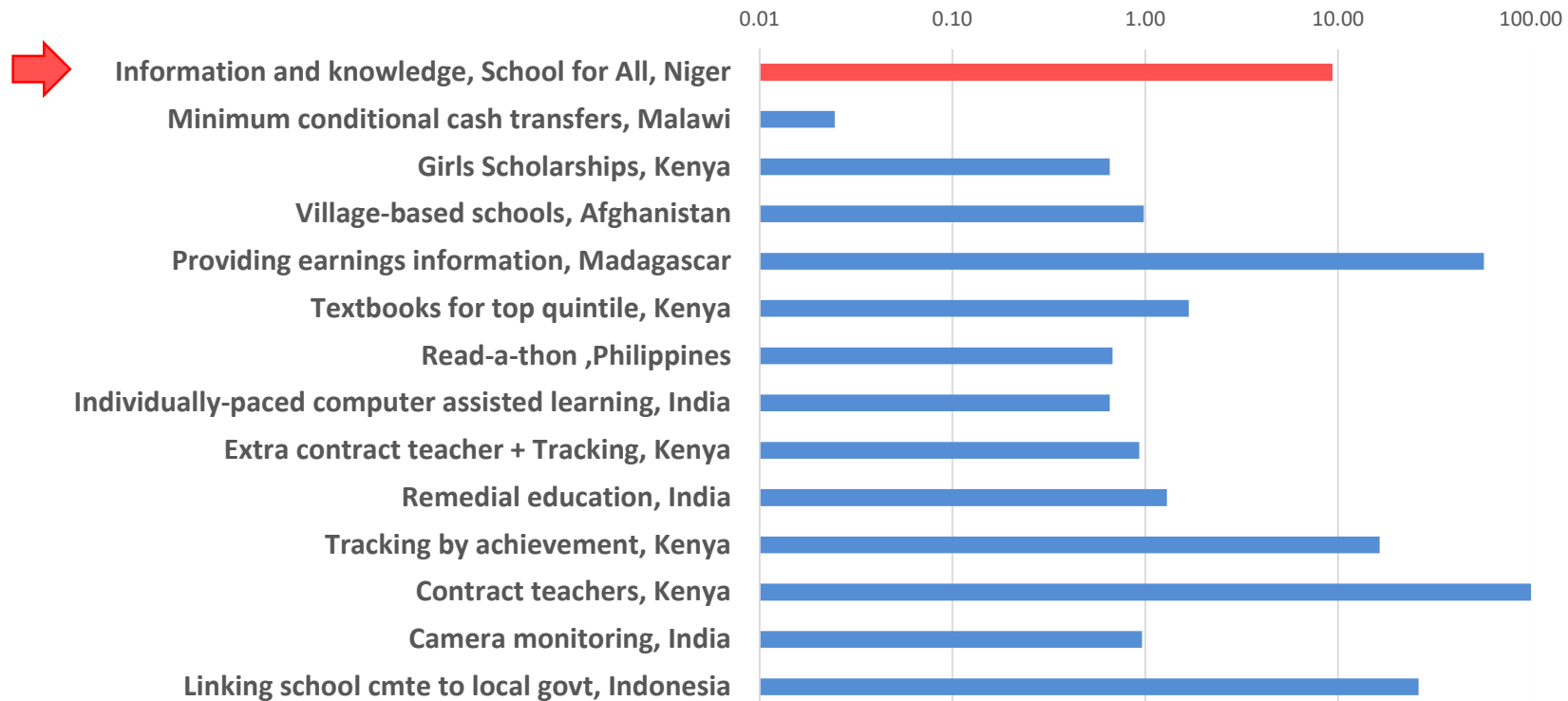
Working at scale is not just “scaling up.” The concept of scaling up in education implies taking interventions that have been shown to be effective on a pilot or experimental scale and replicating them across hundreds or thousands of schools. However, this approach often fails because the key actors are human beings, operating with human aspirations and limitations in a politically charged arena. Real-world complications can undermine well-designed programs, especially when new, systemwide forces come into play. (p. 23)

Why Start by Measuring Learning?

A recommendation to start tackling the learning crisis with more and better measurement of learning may seem jarring. Many education debates highlight the risks of overtesting or an overemphasis on tests. ...But in many systems the problem is too little focus on learning—not too much. (p. 17)

Information is Power

Information and knowledge intervention for the community is cost effective.



Compared education interventions cited in Kremer, Brannen, and Glennerster (2013) "The Challenge of Education and Learning in the Developing World." Science 340 (6130) and Kozuka (2018) "Enlightening Communities and Parents for Improving Student Learning: Evidence from Randomized Experiment in Niger." JICA Research Institute Working Paper 166.

Insights for Japan and JICA

- ◆ Is there hope for teacher training to solve the learning crisis?
- ◆ Does “Japanese-Style Education” work in other countries?

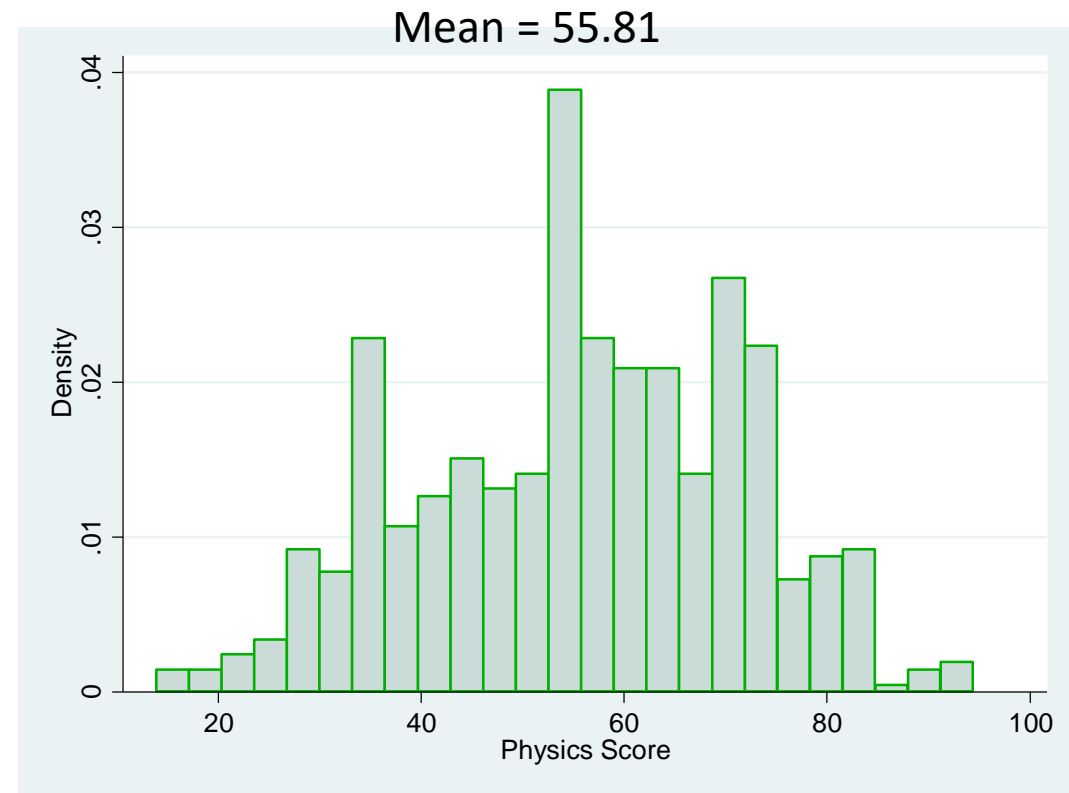
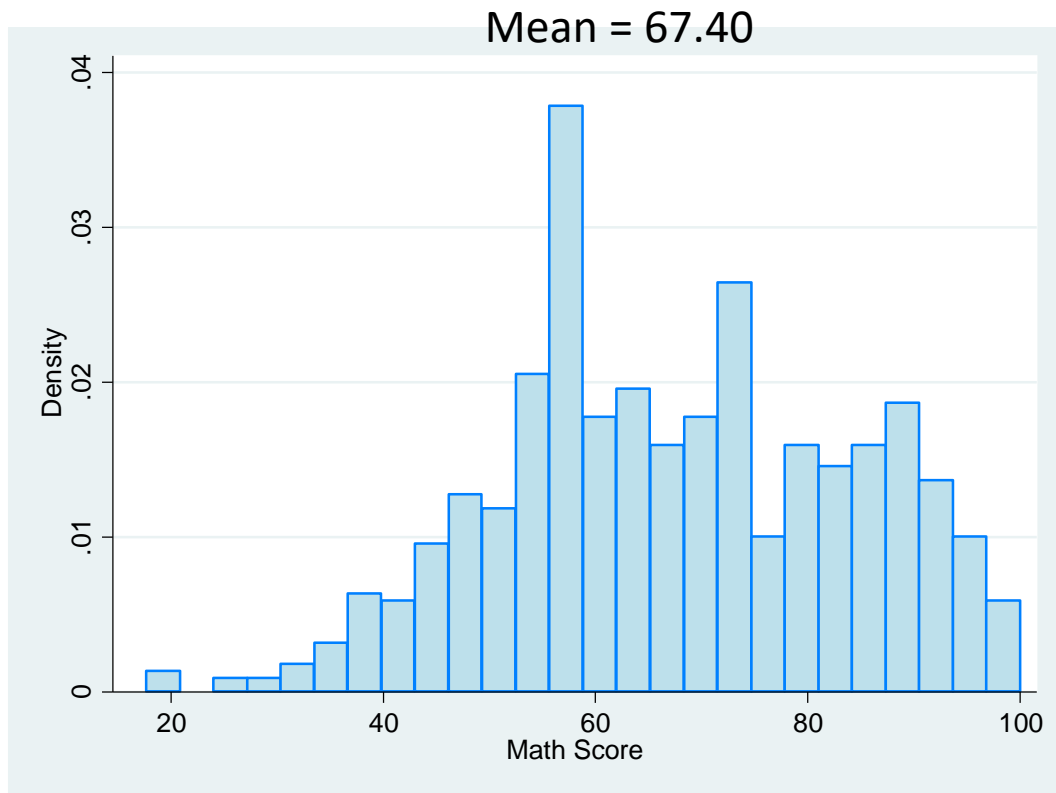
Is there hope for teacher training to solve the learning crisis?

In-service professional development requires significant time and resources. A survey of 38 developed and developing countries found that 91 percent of teachers had participated in professional development in the previous 12 months. Two-thirds of World Bank projects with an education component in the last decade incorporated teacher professional development.

Developing countries spend many millions a year to strengthen teachers. But a lot of teacher professional development goes unevaluated—and much of it may be ineffective. (p. 131)

Teachers were not learning?

Results of G8 student exams taken by teachers



How can we make “Japanese Style Education” work in other countries?

*The need for coherence between different parts of an education system makes it **risky to borrow from other countries**. Education policy makers often scrutinize higher-performing systems to identify what they could borrow to improve learning outcomes in their own systems. Indeed, **the search for the secret ingredient behind Finland’s record of learning** led in the 2000s to a swarm of visiting delegations in what has been dubbed “PISA tourism.” Finland’s system gives its well-educated teachers considerable autonomy, so they are able to tailor their teaching to the needs of their students. **But lower-performing systems that simply import Finland’s teacher autonomy into their own contexts—contrary to the advice of Finnish educators who emphasize coherence—are likely to be disappointed**. If teachers are poorly prepared, unmotivated, and loosely managed, then giving them greater autonomy will likely compound the problem. (p. 175)*

JICA' Randomized Experiments in Education

Country	Intervention Area	Pilot schools	Positive results	Scale-up
Burkina Faso	SBM: election and school improvement planning & implementation	137 schools	Social Capital Enrollment Repetition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nation wide Scale-up completed in 2016
Niger	School grant & training for student learning	60 schools	Test score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded into 1,000 schools with GPE funds in 2016
Ethiopia	Teacher training and workbook in math and science	100 schools	(Tentative) Test score Classroom teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aiming for scaling-up workbook type intervention in Ethiopia and other countries
El Salvador	Math textbook development, teacher training & monitoring	250 schools	<i>Under intervention</i>	

Education Research by JICA Research Institute

Title	Purpose
Japan's International Cooperation in Education Sector: Historical Analysis (2017-2020)	Compile Japanese foreign assistance in education, including ODA and non-ODA, from the 1950s and analyze its transition and unique feature with respect to relevant domestic policies and international agenda
Empirical Research on Impacts of Study Abroad in Developing Countries	Investigate the impact of study abroad, focusing on academic professionals who work at flagship universities in developing countries, which serve as the foundation of knowledge-based society and play a critical role in human resource development
Obtaining "A Second Chance: Education during and after Conflict" (2015-2017)	Investigate how to overcome lost education caused by violent conflict by collecting life stories of people who lost education due to violent conflict but regained "second chance" afterward in Rwanda, Uganda, Timor-Leste, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Palestine
Disability and Education" (2014-2017)	Examine the way forward to improve the quality of education for children with disabilities in developing countries by survey and interview with parents and school principals and teachers in Mongolia, Cambodia, and Nepal

Thank you

For further details on JICA RI, please visit :

<https://www.jica.go.jp/jica-ri/index.html>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the JICA Research Institute. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Contact Us', 'Sitemap', 'Mobile/Smart Phone', and '日本語'. Below this is a search bar labeled 'Google Custom Search'. The main navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Research', 'Publications', 'Experts', 'News & Views', and 'About JICA-RI'. The featured article is titled 'Land Readjustment As a Means to Solve Urban Problems' and includes a photo of a busy street scene in an urban area. Below the featured article is a 'News & Views' section with two news items: 'Appointment of Nobuko Kayashima as the New Director of JICA Research Institute' (dated April 1, 2018) and 'JICA-RI Hosts Session on 'Science, Technology and Innovation' at 18th Global Development Conference in India' (dated March 30, 2018). A sidebar on the right contains a profile picture of a woman and a list of links: 'Message from the Director', 'Our Research', 'Research', 'Experts', and 'How to Find Us'.

JICA Research Institute

Home Research Publications Experts News & Views About JICA-RI

Land Readjustment As a Means to Solve Urban Problems

JICA-RI has published a book "Land Readjustment: Solving Urban Problems Through Innovative Approach."

more

News & Views

News & Views

Appointment of Nobuko Kayashima as the New Director of JICA Research Institute

April 1, 2018

The JICA Research Institute is pleased to announce the appointment of Nobuko Kayashima as its new Di...

News & Views

JICA-RI Hosts Session on 'Science, Technology and Innovation' at 18th Global Development Conference in India

March 30, 2018

JICA Research Institute

- Message from the Director
- Our Research
- Research
- Experts
- How to Find Us