

Cost and Cost-Effectiveness of a Pre-Primary School Program in Kenya.

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Abstract

We analyze the cost and cost-effectiveness of an early childhood development and education (ECDE) program in Kenya which aimed at preparing pre-primary children for primary school. A cluster randomized controlled trial design was used. Enrolled schools were provided with three different treatment packages that aimed at improving the instructional quality of ECDE centres complemented with a health component. We find that for every additional US\$ 1 spent on the second treatment package, the intervention yields 0.16 extra percentage points in public ECDE centres over two years of participation. This translates to a cost of US\$ 14.83 per child. Similarly, in private ECDE centres, results suggest that the yield of extra learning score per US\$ 1 spent on the second treatment package is 0.36 percentage points, which translates to a cost of US\$ 17.01 per child. Our findings indicate that combining the training of teachers, supervision staff, teacher support, books and teachers' guides may be cost-effective. Hence, this pre-primary program could be scaled-up in different counties of Kenya.

Keywords: Cost-effectiveness, cluster randomized controlled trial, early childhood development and education, Kenya.

Full text: <https://ged.univ-rennes1.fr/nuxeo/site/esupversions/ee3a0251-159b-42f4-8f17-9f477f62ff70?inline>