

Project: A Big Push Through The Finish Line: Evidence from a Composite Scholarship for Ugandan Students

Overview

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Software: STATA

Objective: To study the effects of funding secondary school education among the 2014 and 2015 cohorts of the Mastercard Foundation Scholarship Program in Uganda.

Folder Structure:

- The Folder is divided into multiple subfolders. Each sub-folder has a Master.do file that calls the task-specific master do-files that call all dofiles needed for that task.
- The EncryptedData folder is divided into two sub folders (Caregiver, Applicant) which de-identifies and cleans respective LTFU surveys and saves data used for analysis in the respective "Data" folder in MasterData.
This folder is confidential and should only be accessed by the MCSFP team.
- The MasterData folders is divided into four folders (Administrative, Applicant, Attrition, Caregiver) which uses de-identified and cleaned data to construct outcome variables, builds tables and created figures used for analysis.

How to run the Master.do files:

- The Master.do files in each folder set up the global paths used in the project.
- To avoid any path failures, first access the "Project_MasterDofile.do" and copy-paste project paths under 'Root folder globals' and switch the 'global user#' to corresponding number. To find this code line, please look for the words "ACTION NEEDED: update to switch user".
- Please note to run the Master.do file to specific tasks to avoid any path failures.
- Please note to 'switch on' in-built "switches" in the Master.do files to run specific tasks. By default all the switches have been switched off. To find the switches, please look for the word "ACTION NEEDED" in Part 3 of the Master.do file.
- In case of reproducibility checks, please 'switch on' all the non-encrypted switches in the Master.do files i.e, Project_MasterDofile.do (all but the two encrypted), Caregiver_MasterDofile.do, Applicant_MasterDofile.do, Administrative_MasterDofile.do to seamlessly run the entire code
- The input for Table B.X is provided in the excel file Cost Effectiveness Analysis, sheet "Benefit Cost Analysis Table"

Data

Data Availability Statement

Data: Primary data collected by surveying beneficiary households and applicants. All data is temporarily embargoed by the authors (expected to be made public in the future).

Source: World Bank. The data were collected by BRAC Uganda for program selection and evaluation, as part of a randomized controlled trial designed and implemented in collaboration with Mathematica Policy Research and the World Bank.

The dataset includes multiple rounds of data collection, covering both treatment and control groups:

- **Baseline (2014–2015):** Application form data; District interview records; PLE scores; Baseline caregiver survey.
- **2-Year Follow-Up (2016–2017):** Follow-up caregiver survey for eligible applicants.
- **8-Year Follow-Up (2022):** Applicant survey and caregiver survey; Education outcomes and aspirations; Attrition tracking and household information.

For more details on the data folder organization, please refer to the `folder_structure.txt` file included in the reproducibility package.

Statement about Rights

- ☒ I certify that the author(s) of the manuscript have legitimate access to and permission to use the data used in this manuscript.
- ☐ I certify that the author(s) of the manuscript have documented permission to redistribute/publish the data contained within this replication package. Appropriate permission are documented in the LICENSE.txt file.

LIST OF OUTPUTS

(Name in Paper and Name of File in parentheses)

- Administrative > Outputs > Figures:
 - Figure VII: COST COMPARISON - ANTIPOVERTY AND EDUCATION INTERVENTIONS (benefit_cost_comparison, cost_effectiveness_comparison)
 - Figure A.IX: COMPARATIVE IMPACTS ON TEST SCORES (impact_comparison)
 - Figure A.I: TEST-TAKERS' PERFORMANCE AT PLE (PLE_distribution_overall)
- Applicant > Outputs > Tables:
 - Table VI: APPLICANTS' EMPLOYMENT, PAST 12 MONTHS (ITT Effects/ITT Effects_Horizontal/RI_Bounds/Tab15_applicant_RI_bounds_MHT_H)
 - Table B.VI: INDICES FOR COGNITIVE AND SOCIO-EMOTIONAL SKILLS (ITT Effects/ITT Effects_Horizontal/RI_Bounds/Tab16_applicant_RI_bounds_MHT_H)

- Table B.V: ACTUAL AND DESIRED FERTILITY, OVERALL AND BY GENDER (ITT Effects/Gendered ITT Effects_Horizontal/Tab12_applicant_gender_H)
 - Table B.VII: APPLICANTS' ACTIVITY OVERALL AND BY GENDER, PAST 12 MONTHS (ITT Effects/Gendered ITT Effects_Horizontal/Tab15_applicant_gender_H)
 - Table B.VIII: APPLICANTS' EMPLOYMENT OVERALL AND BY GENDER, PAST 12 MONTHS (ITT Effects/Gendered ITT Effects_Horizontal/Tab2_applicant_gender_H)
 - Table F.XII: COGNITIVE SKILLS (ITT Effects/ITT Effects_Vertical/Tab6_applicant)
 - Table F.XIII: SELF-EFFICACY (ITT Effects/ITT Effects_Vertical/Tab7_applicant)
 - Table F.XIV: SELF-ESTEEM (ITT Effects/ITT Effects_Vertical/Tab8_applicant)
 - Table F.XV: RESILIENCE (ITT Effects/ITT Effects_Vertical/Tab9_applicant)
 - Table F.XVI: ATTITUDE AND SELF CONFIDENCE (ITT Effects/ITT Effects_Vertical/Tab10_applicant)
- Applicant > Outputs > Figures:
 - Figure III: DISTRIBUTION OF THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF COMPLETED EDUCATION (education_ind_levels_CI)
 - Figure IV: FERTILITY AND CONTRACEPTIVE USE BY GENDER (Family_planning_gender)
 - Figure V: APPLICANTS' MAIN ACTIVITY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (education_work_split_both_12mths)
 - Figure A.VII: DISTRIBUTION OF UACE YEAR BY COHORT AND TREATMENT STATUS (UACE)
 - Figure A.VIII: WHAT APPLICANTS THINK IS NEEDED TO FULFILL ASPIRATIONS (Aspirations_education)
 - Caregiver > Outputs > Tables:
 - Table II ATTRITION (LTFU_table_attrition_update1)
 - Table B.I: SAMPLE SIZE BY SURVEY AND RESPONDENT (LTFU_table_participation)
 - Table I: DESCRIPTIVE CHARACTERISTICS AND BALANCE TESTS (Balance Tables/table_balance_all_eligibles)
 - Table E.I: BALANCE TESTS INCLUDING NON-RESPONDERS AT 2Y FOLLOW-UP (Balance Tables/table_balance_attrition_FU)
 - Table E.II: BALANCE TESTS INCLUDING NON-RESPONDERS AT 8Y FOLLOW-UP (Balance Tables/table_balance_attrition_LTFU)
 - Table III: EFFECTS ON SCHOOL OUTCOMES (table_education)
 - Table B.II: PRE-INTERVENTION O-LEVEL PERFORMANCE OF APPLICANTS' SCHOOLS (table_schoolquality)
 - Table IV: SCHOOL COMPLETION (Education Outcomes/LTFU_education_outcome2_bounds_RI_MHT)
 - Table V: SCHOOL PERFORMANCE OF TEST TAKERS (Education Outcomes/LTFU_education_outcome1_bounds_RI_MHT)
 - Table B.IV: EFFECTS ON SIBLINGS' EDUCATION (Tab1_roster, Tab2_roster, Tab3_roster)
 - Table B.IX: SUMMARY OF EFFECTS - INCLUDING THE LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP (Tab0_compare)
 - Table F.III: FIRST STAGE TABLE (ITT Effects/Tab_FirstStage)
 - Table F.IV: EFFECTS ON EXPENDITURES IN PAST 30 DAYS (ITT Effects/Follow_up_Tab2)
 - Table F.V: EFFECTS ON NUTRITION (ITT Effects/Follow_up_Tab4)
 - Table F.VI: EFFECTS ON ASSETS - INTENSIVE MARGIN (ITT Effects/Follow_up_Tab1)
 - Table F.VII: EFFECTS ON ASSETS - EXTENSIVE MARGIN (ITT Effects/Follow_up_Tab7)
 - Table F.VIII: EFFECTS ON INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES (ITT Effects/Follow_up_Tab3)

- Table F.IX: EFFECTS ON PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLBEING (ITT Effects/Follow_up_Tab5)
- Table F.X: EFFECTS ON WOMENS' EXPENDITURE DECISION (ITT Effects/Follow_up_Tab8)
- Table F.XI: EFFECTS ON WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT (ITT Effects/Follow_up_Tab9)
- Caregiver > Outputs > Figures:
 - Figure II: SUMMARY OF HOUSEHOLD IMPACTS AT 2-YEAR FOLLOW-UP (Coefplot_summary.pdf)
 - Figure VI: SUMMARY OF HOUSEHOLD IMPACTS AT FOLLOW-UP (Coefplot_summary_T_0_compare)
 - Figure A.IV: EFFECT ON SIBLINGS' EDUCATION BY SCHOOL GRADE (Coefplot_TbySchoolGrade.pdf)
 - Figure A.V: STUDENTS OFFERED A SCHOLARSHIP BY TREATMENT STATUS (FinalSelected_byAssignment.pdf)
 - Figure A.VI: HETEROGENEITY IN INTENT-TO-TREAT EFFECTS (Binsc_AssetsHet.pdf, Binsc_BusinessHet.pdf, Binsc_WelfareHet.pdf)