

# Cash transfers to stimulate school re-enrollment among vulnerable adolescent girls in urban informal settlements as Kenya responds to COVID-19

<b>Submission date</b> 16/11/2020	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 18/11/2020	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 16/03/2021	<b>Condition category</b> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

Due to prolonged school closures and extreme household economic stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic, adolescent girls who were attending school in March 2020 are at high risk of not re-enrolling in school and losing key literacy and numeracy skills. The combination of household inability to pay school fees, teenage pregnancy, and prioritization of boys education have created a harmful environment for girls education.

### Who can participate?

A former cohort of adolescent girls in two informal settlements in Nairobi, Kenya, which was part of the Adolescent Girls Initiative-Kenya evaluation (ISRCTN77455458) will be leveraged to implement the cash transfer study.

### What does the study involve?

This study will evaluate the effect of a one-time cash transfer of ~US\$150 on school re-enrollment in Kenya. Households will receive the cash transfer the first week of January, when schools are scheduled to re-open after the COVID-19 closures. Households will be contacted in November and December 2020 to establish current details and payment avenues and then followed up in February 2021 to assess school enrollment approximately six weeks after the transfer is paid, and then again in July 2021.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

There are minimal benefits or risks to the participants in this study.

### Where is the study run from?

Population Council (Kenya)

### When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

October 2020 to June 2021

Who is funding the study?  
Echidna Giving (USA)  
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (USA)  
Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (UK)

Who is the main contact?  
Dr. Karen Austrian, atkaustrian@popcouncil.org

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
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## Additional identifiers

**Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)**  
Nil known

**ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)**  
Nil known

**Protocol serial number**  
p661

## Study information

**Scientific Title**  
The effect of cash transfers on school re-enrollment during COVID-19 among vulnerable girls in informal settlements in Kenya: a randomised controlled trial

**Study objectives**

A one time cash transfer paid to the household when schools re-open after the prolonged COVID-19 school closures will increase re-enrollment amongst adolescent girls

### **Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

### **Ethics approval(s)**

Approved 28/10/2020, Population Council IRB (1230 York Avenue, New York, NY 10065, USA; +1 212 3277112; ngontarz@popcouncil.org), ref: p661

### **Study design**

Individual randomized controlled trial

### **Primary study design**

Interventional

### **Study type(s)**

Prevention

### **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Increasing school enrollment among adolescent girls after the long-term COVID-19 school closures

### **Interventions**

Intervention arm: Households will receive a one-time cash transfer in January 2021 (the week that schools re-open for all students). The amount of the one-time transfer will be KES 16,000 (~\$150). The funds will be paid into a bank account designated by the student's parent/guardian.

Control - no treatment

An existing cohort that has five arms will be used. Half of each arm will be randomized into each arm.

Participants in all study arms will be enrolled approximately six weeks before schools are currently set to open and will be followed up for an additional six weeks after schools open/the payment is made. Within the cohort there are five arms. Using a program in STATA, half of the eligible participants in each arm will be randomized to the treatment and half to the control

### **Intervention Type**

Behavioural

### **Primary outcome(s)**

School enrollment 6 weeks after the start of the school term measured by self-reported enrollment at baseline and 6 weeks after school re-opening

### **Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. School matriculation at any point in the 6 weeks since the start of the school term measured by self-reported enrollment 6 weeks after school re-opening
2. Sibling school enrollment measured by self-reported enrollment 6 weeks after the start of the school term

**Completion date**

30/06/2021

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Interviewed in 2019 as part of AGI-K cohort
2. Had not reported completing secondary school in 2019
3. Not in the final year of secondary school in 2019
4. Attended school between 2017 and 2019

**Participant type(s)**

Healthy volunteer

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Child

**Sex**

Female

**Key exclusion criteria**

Does not meet inclusion criteria

**Date of first enrolment**

21/11/2020

**Date of final enrolment**

15/12/2020

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

Kenya

**Study participating centre****Population Council Kenya**

Avenue 5, 3rd Floor

Rose Avenue

PO Box 17643-00500

Nairobi

Kenya

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# Sponsor information

## Organisation

Population Council - Kenya

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Charity

### Funder Name

Echidna Giving

### Funder Name

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

### Alternative Name(s)

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Gates Foundation, Gates Learning Foundation, William H. Gates Foundation, BMGF, B&MGF, GF

### Funding Body Type

Government organisation

### Funding Body Subtype

Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

### Location

United States of America

### Funder Name

UK Aid - Kenya

# Results and Publications

## Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study will be stored in a publically available repository.

The de-identified data will be stored in the Adolescent Data Hub. <http://popcouncil.org/girlcenter/adolescentdatahub/> The data set from the follow up survey six weeks after the

transfer will be made available at the time of the publication of the main results manuscript. The underlying data from the AGI-K cohort is already posted in that repository. The data will be available indefinitely. The person interested in the data will need to submit a request and so long as what they are proposing to do with the data isn't overlapping with the study investigators ongoing research objectives, the data will be made available for downloading from the site. The consent forms for the study include language on de-identified data from the study being made available open access.

## IPD sharing plan summary

### Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Statistical Analysis Plan</a>		19/01/2021	19/01/2021	No	No