



# Opportunities for Understanding the Long-term Impacts of Child-health Interventions

Evidence to Action (E2A)

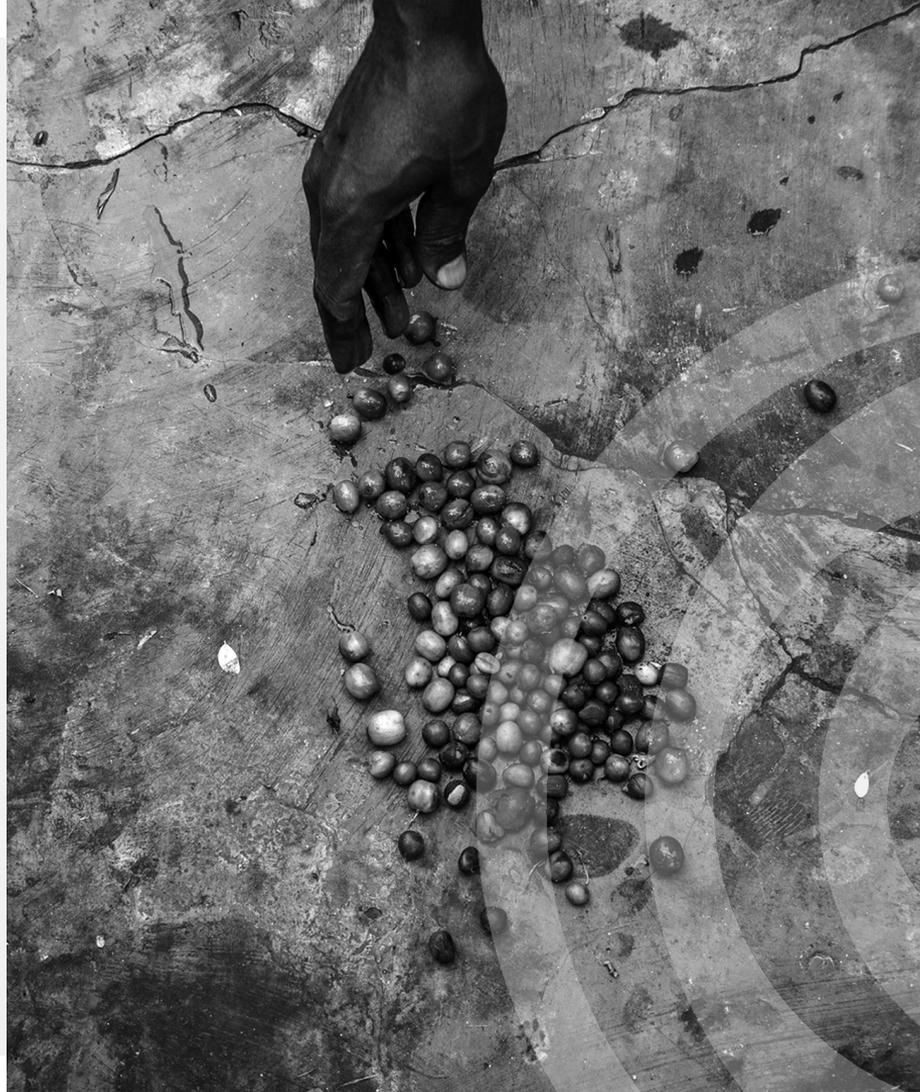
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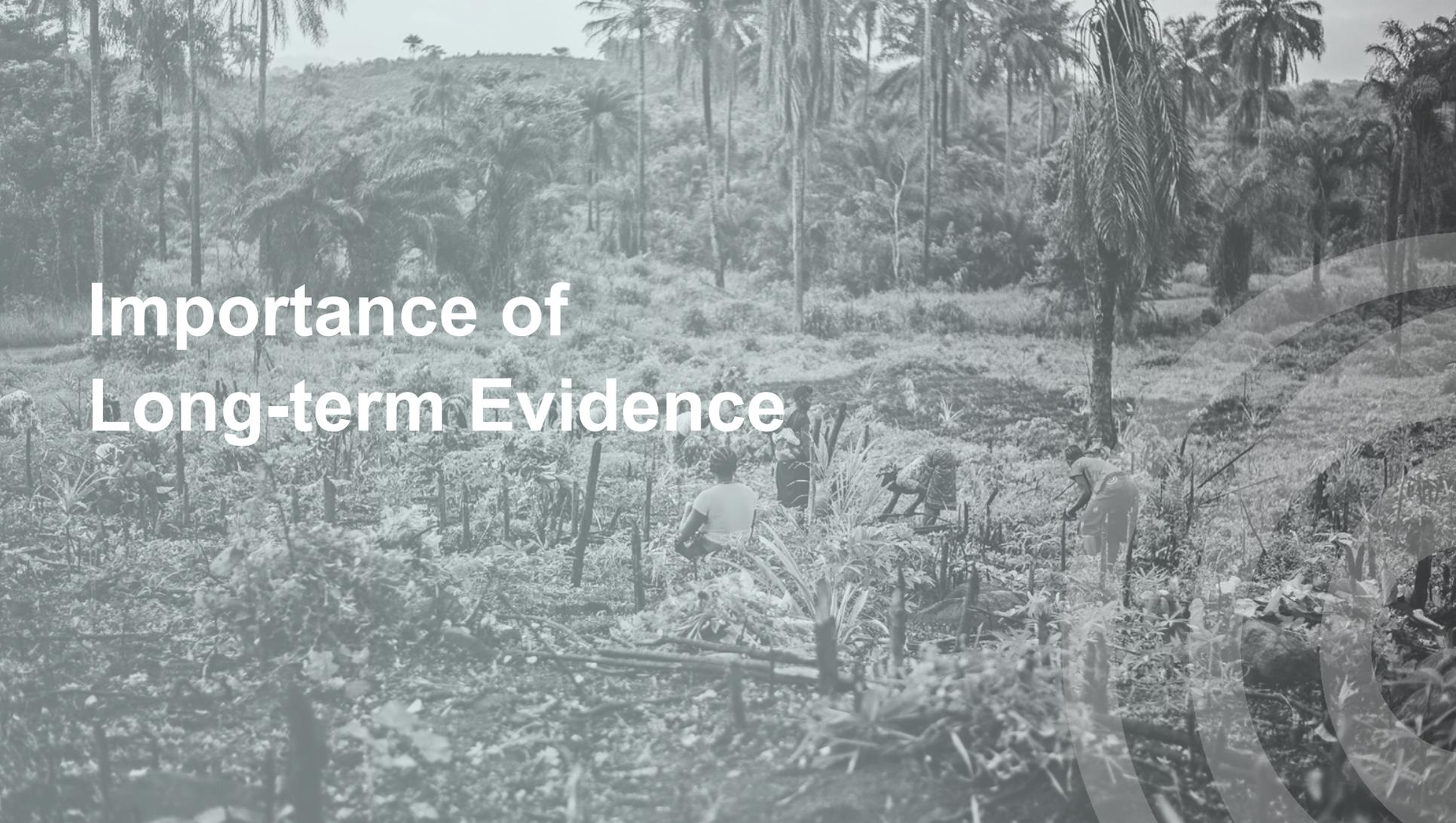


## Overview

- Importance of Long-term Evidence
- **Long-term Impact Discovery Project**
  - Main Objectives
  - Methodology
  - Output
  - Examples
- Conclusion



# Importance of Long-term Evidence





## Importance of Long-term Evidence

- Over the past 30 years, accumulation of robust evidence from RCTs documents short-term impact of a number of interventions
- In contrast, **little evidence on long-term impact**
- Notable exceptions (e.g., Baird et al., 2016, 2018; Gertler et al., 2014; Attanasio et al., 2017)
- Of utmost **importance to policy-making** (both cost and benefit side)



# Long-term Impact Discovery Project (LID)



## The LID Project

- Team of **CEGA-affiliated economists**
- Funded by grant from **GiveWell**



- **Main Objective**

- Develop new opportunities to identify long-term effects of childhood interventions that have the potential to be life-transforming

- **General criteria**

- *Rigorous*: Classical randomized control trials with sound design
- *Long-term*: Conducted at least 8 years ago
- *Feasible*: Research design likely still intact, potential to follow-up
- *Focused*: As of now, child-health or cash-transfer interventions



# Methodology

1. Systematic review of the **study universe**
2. Rigorous selection procedure to identify set of **methodologically soundest studies** (*next slide*)
3. In-depth evaluation to assess **feasibility of follow-up** (*next slide*)
4. **Implementation** of follow-up



# Methodology II

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## 2 phases of study selection

1. <b>Methodological</b> concerns	Statistical power
	Sufficient (differential) exposure to treatment
	Existence of short-term effects
	Etc.
2. <b>Feasibility</b> concerns	Unique identifiers
	Individual tracking, re-sampling
	Concurrent conflict, etc.
	Survey attrition
	Etc.



## Output

- Finalized **systematic reviews** on ...
  1. Cash transfers
  2. Malaria treatments
  3. Nutrition supplementation
  4. Diarrhea treatments
- Including **power calculations** for long-term income effects
- Including preliminary **implementation budget**
- **28 high-caliber studies recommended for follow-up**



## Output: Examples

- **Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention in Mali** (Dicko et al., 2011)
  - Individual-level, placebo-controlled RCT
  - **3,017 children** 3–59 months of age
  - Finds reduction in **malaria** and **anaemia** (mortality not reported)
  
- **Bednets in India** (Nevill et al., 1996)
  - Clustered RCT (no placebo; phase-in after 2 years)
  - **35,484 participants** (including children), **56 clusters**
  - Finds reduction in **malaria** and **mortality** (anaemia not reported)

# Conclusion





## Conclusion

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28 high-caliber studies recommended for follow-up

Cash transfers	9 studies
Malaria treatments	7 studies
Nutrition supplements	12 studies

- Ready to contact original PIs (*partly done*) and implement follow-up
- **Low cost/high returns funding** opportunity
- Methodology **easily transportable** to study space of choice

# Thanks for your attention



## CEGA

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