Building Democratic Governance in Africa: Assessing Strategies to Increase Effectiveness

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What we know

- DG assistance has a positive impact.
- DG assistance has the *largest* positive impact in Africa.

What we don’t know

- Which *components* of DG assistance have the most impact: governance, rule of law, elections, civil society?
- How does this impact vary for different conditions or different stages of democratic development?
  - A key challenge is that—while more general national-level measures of ‘democracy’ exist—we do not have sufficient indicators to measure the components of democracy.
Our Objectives

• Assess which democracy and governance programs, under what conditions, are having the most impact in Africa

• Define how the US Government can use this information to guide and improve future democratic assistance
CCAPS Case Studies

• Paired countries with similar conditions and dissimilar democratic outcomes

• Focus on sectors and sequencing within DG promotion

• Key similar conditions:
  - Economic development, natural resources, political history and institutions, state failure indicators, ethnic and linguistic fragmentation, conflict, length and amount of US DG assistance, IO memberships...

• Possible environments for paired cases:
  - Post-conflict, Political instability, High level of ethnic division, Advanced economies, Low level of human development, US Military presence
Outcomes

• 3-5 pairs of case studies analyzing which democratic assistance programs were most successful in varied environments

• Collaboration with USAID to identify indicators that measure the components of democracy, and strategies for collecting these data in Africa

• Strategies for baseline assessment and ongoing evaluation of democracy and governance programs in Africa
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