



Aprendiendo el Valor de la Educación

GOBIERNO DE LA REPUBLICA DOMINICANA · IDEICE · J-PAL LAC

Jim Berry - Cornell University

Lucas Coffman - Harvard University

Daniel Morales - IDEICE

Christopher Neilson - Princeton University



AVE as an example

- **Effective Public Policy**

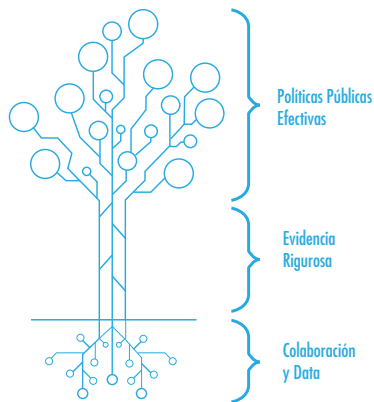
The challenge of the policy maker is to design cost-effective policies that are relevant to the needs of the country.

- **Rigorous Evidence**

Understanding which public policies work and how to adapt and improve them requires reliable evidence.

- **Collaboration and Data**

To generate relevant and inexpensive evidence, it is beneficial to build collaborations among academics and government institutions, in order to have political and financial support.



Motivation

During the last decade, a series of public policies have been implemented and evaluated that seek to increase investment in human capital by young people.

Motivation

During the last decade, a series of public policies have been implemented and evaluated that seek to increase investment in human capital by young people.

Motivation

During the last decade, a series of public policies have been implemented and evaluated that seek to increase investment in human capital by young people.

- Education Supply

Motivation

During the last decade, a series of public policies have been implemented and evaluated that seek to increase investment in human capital by young people.

- Education Supply
 - Improve access (more schools, subsidies, etc.)

Motivation

During the last decade, a series of public policies have been implemented and evaluated that seek to increase investment in human capital by young people.

- Education Supply
 - Improve access (more schools, subsidies, etc.)
 - Improve quality (teachers, pedagogy, infrastructure, etc.)

Motivation

During the last decade, a series of public policies have been implemented and evaluated that seek to increase investment in human capital by young people.

- Education Supply
 - Improve access (more schools, subsidies, etc.)
 - Improve quality (teachers, pedagogy, infrastructure, etc.)
- Education Demand

Motivation

During the last decade, a series of public policies have been implemented and evaluated that seek to increase investment in human capital by young people.

- Education Supply
 - Improve access (more schools, subsidies, etc.)
 - Improve quality (teachers, pedagogy, infrastructure, etc.)
- Education Demand
 - Condition Cash Transfers (Progresa, Juntos, Bolsa Familia, SUF)

Motivation

During the last decade, a series of public policies have been implemented and evaluated that seek to increase investment in human capital by young people.

- Education Supply
 - Improve access (more schools, subsidies, etc.)
 - Improve quality (teachers, pedagogy, infrastructure, etc.)
- Education Demand
 - Condition Cash Transfers (Progresa, Juntos, Bolsa Familia, SUF)
 - **Information** Interventions (scholarships, credits, returns, opportunities)

Motivation - Information as educational policy

- Preliminary evidence motivates to explore a potential public policy inspired by the idea that students can benefit from thinking about their future and the potential benefits they have for staying in school.

Motivation - Information as educational policy

- Preliminary evidence motivates to explore a potential public policy inspired by the idea that students can benefit from thinking about their future and the potential benefits they have for staying in school.
- ⇒ Will a policy of this kind be actually effective when implemented by the government?

Motivation - Information as educational policy

- Preliminary evidence motivates to explore a potential public policy inspired by the idea that students can benefit from thinking about their future and the potential benefits they have for staying in school.
- ⇒ Will a policy of this kind be actually effective when implemented by the government?
- ⇒ How to design this intervention to be the most effective?

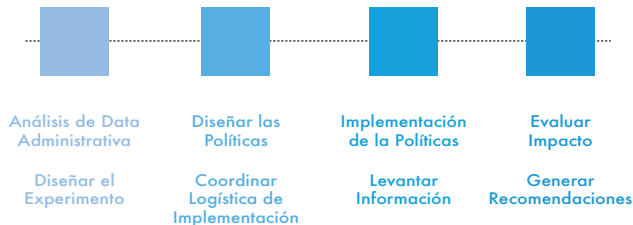
Motivation - Information as educational policy

- Preliminary evidence motivates to explore a potential public policy inspired by the idea that students can benefit from thinking about their future and the potential benefits they have for staying in school.
- ⇒ Will a policy of this kind be actually effective when implemented by the government?
- ⇒ How to design this intervention to be the most effective?
- ⇒ When scaling this type of policy to the entire country, what logistical and implementation challenges may the government face?

Progress of the AVE Project

2014

2016



LLEVAR A ESCALA

The intervention

Objectives:

- 1 Design the best intervention based on the evidence we have at the time and that suits the Dominican reality.
- 2 Make sure that the intervention is feasible to scale up.
- 3 Test at a smaller scale, introduce improvements and evaluate at a more massive level.
- 4 Collect beliefs data and educational plans in order to better understand the mechanisms.

The intervention

- Two series of four videos shown in class.
One with statistical data and another without.

The intervention

- Two series of four videos shown in class.
One with statistical data and another without.
- Posters in the classroom.
One with statistical data and another without.

The intervention

- Two series of four videos shown in class.
One with statistical data and another without.
- Posters in the classroom.
One with statistical data and another without.
- Both emphasize the benefits of education (monetary and non-monetary) as well as information about the feasibility of getting more education in the future.

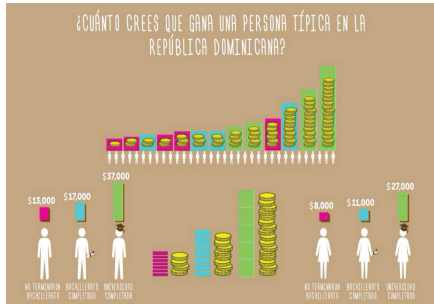
The intervention

- Two series of four videos shown in class.
One with statistical data and another without.
- Posters in the classroom.
One with statistical data and another without.
- Both emphasize the benefits of education (monetary and non-monetary) as well as information about the feasibility of getting more education in the future.
- Short and focused videos and an interactive application to be implemented on a tablet at the household.

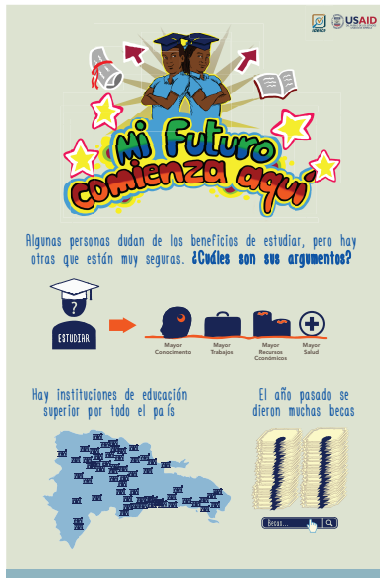
In class *Telenovela*



In class *Telenovela*



With and without statistical data



Data collection

- Administrative data on enrollment and standardized test \Rightarrow becomes a student panel.

Data collection

- Administrative data on enrollment and standardized test ⇒ becomes a student panel.
- Paper survey administered to students at school to document their plans and beliefs before and after watching the videos.
⇒ [Survey of 80,000 students](#)



Data collection

- Administrative data on enrollment and standardized test ⇒ becomes a student panel.
- Paper survey administered to students at school to document their plans and beliefs before and after watching the videos.
⇒ Survey of 80,000 students
- Detailed household survey to collect information about parents, teachers and students
⇒ Survey of 5,000 students and 2,000 households in 2015 and 2016.



Design 2014-2015

We take public schools population with 10 or more students taking the National Standardized Test in 2014.

Design 2014-2015

We take public schools population with 10 or more students taking the National Standardized Test in 2014.

- Videos evaluation 2014/2015

T1:	Videos with data	(200 escuelas, 11%)
T2:	Videos without data	(200 escuelas, 11%)
C:	No videos	(200 escuelas, 11%)

Design 2014-2015

We take public schools population with 10 or more students taking the National Standardized Test in 2014.

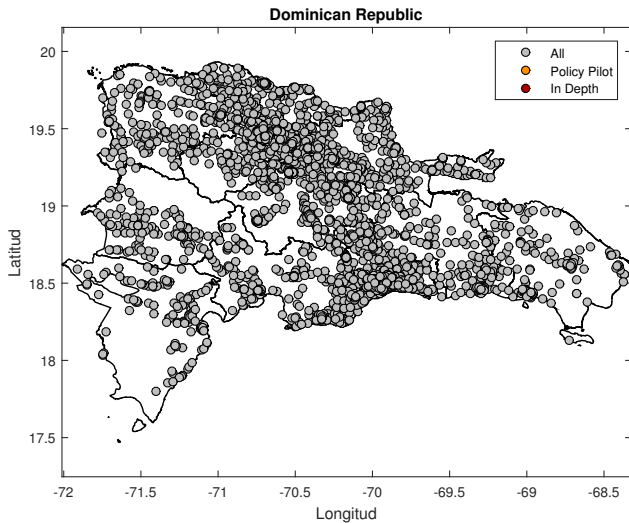
■ Videos evaluation 2014/2015

T1:	Videos with data	(200 escuelas, 11%)
T2:	Videos without data	(200 escuelas, 11%)
C:	No videos	(200 escuelas, 11%)

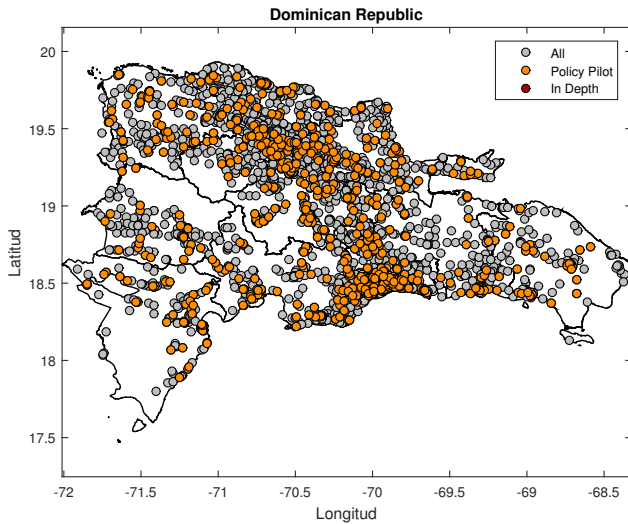
■ Videos evaluation 2015/2016

T1:	Videos with data	(600 escuelas, 33% total)
T2:	Videos without data	(600 escuelas, 33% total)
C:	No videos	(600 escuelas, 33% total)

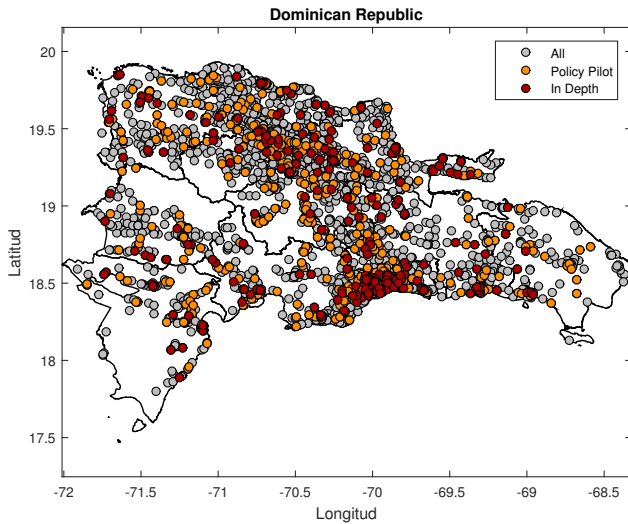
Schools Map



Schools Map



Schools Map



Results - Collaboration and Capacities

- Pruebas Nacionales technicians - surveys, tablets and georeferencing.

⇒ Collect information on infrastructure and geo-referencing of the country's schools.



Results - Collaboration and Capacities

- Pruebas Nacionales technicians - surveys, tablets and georeferencing.

⇒ Collect information on infrastructure and geo-referencing of the country's schools.

- Counseling and Psychology Technicians - implementing the videos and survey application.

⇒ Implementing videos and surveys in 1500+ schools.



Results - Collaboration and Capacities

- Pruebas Nacionales technicians - surveys, tablets and georeferencing.
 - ⇒ Collect information on infrastructure and geo-referencing of the country's schools.

- Counseling and Psychology Technicians - implementing the videos and survey application.
 - ⇒ Implementing videos and surveys in 1500+ schools.

- Call Center - Coordination with schools, technicians and teachers.
 - ⇒ Call and monitor implementation in 1500+ schools.



Results - Collaboration and Capacities

- Pruebas Nacionales technicians - surveys, tablets and georeferencing.

⇒ Collect information on infrastructure and geo-referencing of the country's schools.

- Counseling and Psychology Technicians - implementing the videos and survey application.

⇒ Implementing videos and surveys in 1500+ schools.

- Call Center - Coordination with schools, technicians and teachers.

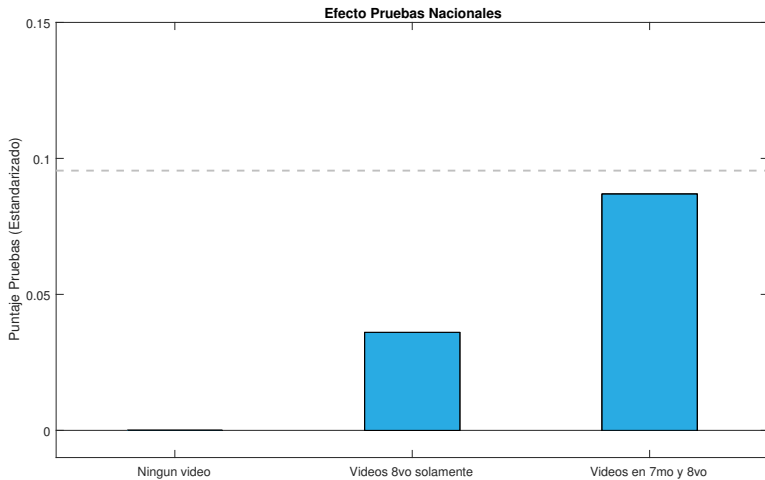
⇒ Call and monitor implementation in 1500+ schools.

- Central Bank - 2015 education module

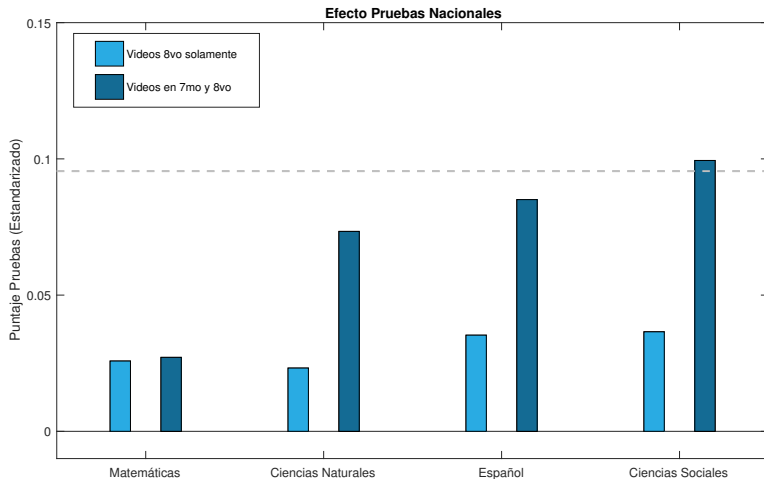
⇒ Statistics relevant to the Dominican Republic.



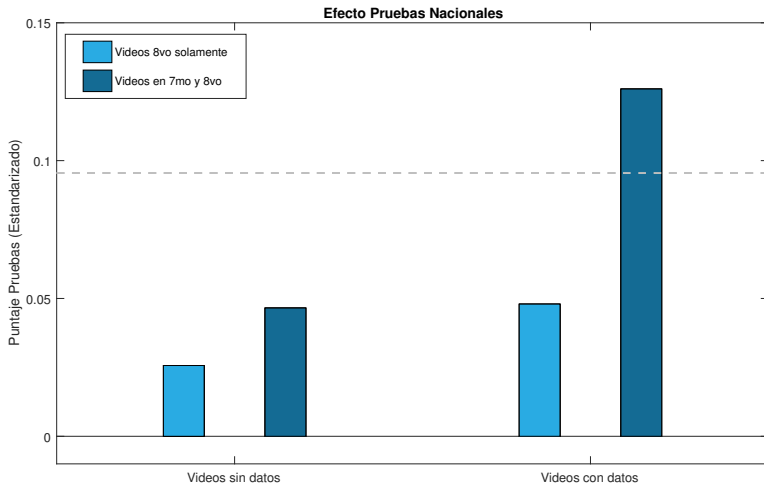
Results - Effect



Results - Effect



Results - Effect



What have we learned?

- **There is effect on performance**

We have seen that the evaluated policy impacts on performance between $0.05\sigma - 0.1\sigma$ in the different subjects.

What have we learned?

- **There is effect on performance**

We have seen that the evaluated policy impacts on performance between $0.05\sigma - 0.1\sigma$ in the different subjects.

- **Frequency matters**

We have seen that students who have seen the video for two years have the double effect.

What have we learned?

- **There is effect on performance**

We have seen that the evaluated policy impacts on performance between $0.05\sigma - 0.1\sigma$ in the different subjects.

- **Frequency matters**

We have seen that students who have seen the video for two years have the double effect.

- **Statistics make a difference**

We have seen that the impacts are larger when concrete information about salaries is added.

What have we learned?

- **There is effect on performance**

We have seen that the evaluated policy impacts on performance between $0.05\sigma - 0.1\sigma$ in the different subjects.

- **Frequency matters**

We have seen that students who have seen the video for two years have the double effect.

- **Statistics make a difference**

We have seen that the impacts are larger when concrete information about salaries is added.

- **Details matter!**

We have seen that the details are critical for the implementation.

What have we learned?

- **There is effect on performance**

We have seen that the evaluated policy impacts on performance between $0.05\sigma - 0.1\sigma$ in the different subjects.

- **Frequency matters**

We have seen that students who have seen the video for two years have the double effect.

- **Statistics make a difference**

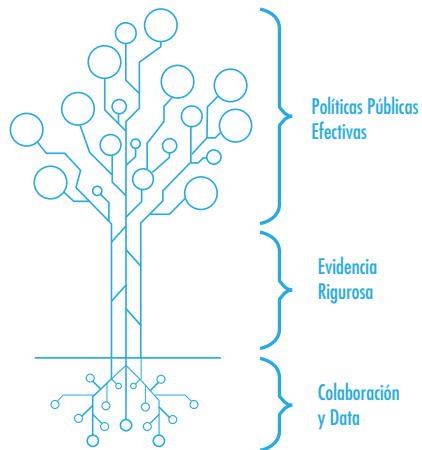
We have seen that the impacts are larger when concrete information about salaries is added.

- **Details matter!**

We have seen that the details are critical for the implementation.

There is much to improve and learn. This process is only the beginning of a policy of sustained support to the area of Orientation and Psychology.

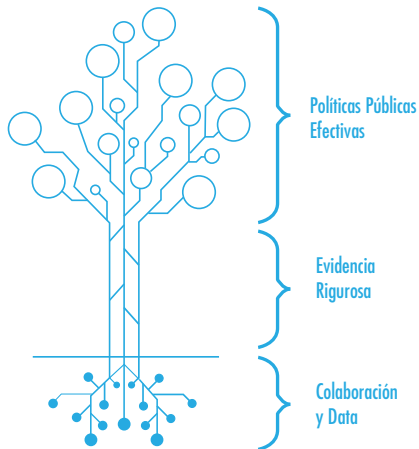
What have we achieved?



What have we achieved?

■ Collaboration

We have worked together to build partnerships between government and academics.



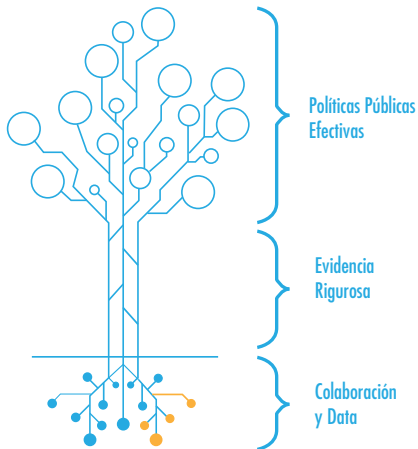
What have we achieved?

■ Collaboration

We have worked together to build partnerships between government and academics.

■ Capabilities

We have worked together to develop new assets for research and management, both inside the government and for the academia.



What have we achieved?

■ Collaboration

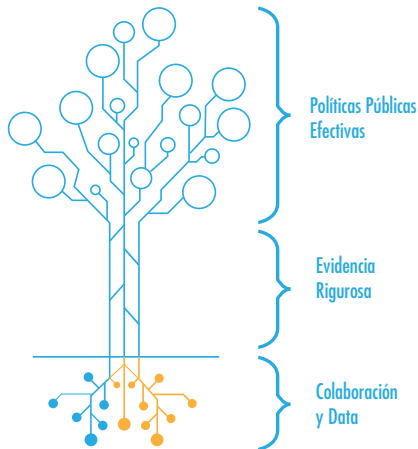
We have worked together to build partnerships between government and academics.

■ Capabilities

We have worked together to develop new assets for research and management, both inside the government and for the academia.

■ Big Data

We have worked into translating administrative data into useful information for making diagnostics, evaluations and better public policy decisions.



What have we achieved?

■ Collaboration

We have worked together to build partnerships between government and academics.

■ Capabilities

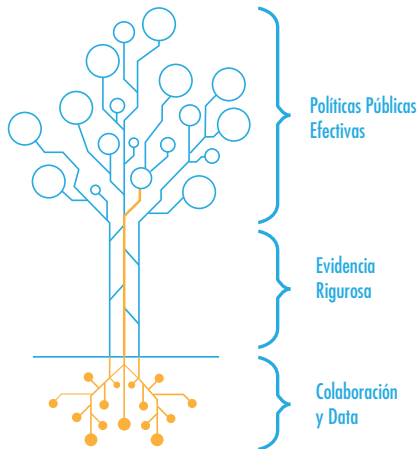
We have worked together to develop new assets for research and management, both inside the government and for the academia.

■ Big Data

We have worked into translating administrative data into useful information for making diagnostics, evaluations and better public policy decisions.

■ Processes

We have shown that rigorous evaluations and scaling up can be done.



What have we achieved?

■ Collaboration

We have worked together to build partnerships between government and academics.

■ Capabilities

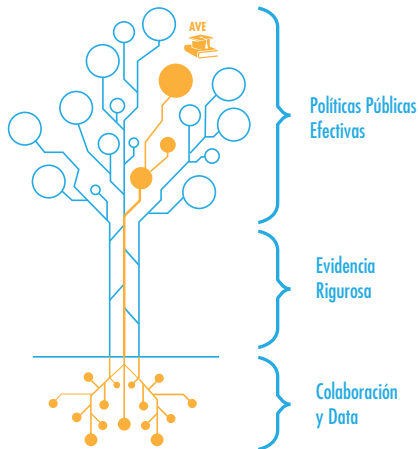
We have worked together to develop new assets for research and management, both inside the government and for the academia.

■ Big Data

We have worked into translating administrative data into useful information for making diagnostics, evaluations and better public policy decisions.

■ Processes

We have shown that rigorous evaluations and scaling up can be done.



What have we achieved?

■ Collaboration

We have worked together to build partnerships between government and academics.

■ Capabilities

We have worked together to develop new assets for research and management, both inside the government and for the academia.

■ Big Data

We have worked into translating administrative data into useful information for making diagnostics, evaluations and better public policy decisions.

■ Processes

We have shown that rigorous evaluations and scaling up can be done.

