

# Which is more important, the cost or the effectiveness?

Joseph DeStefano, RTI International Arlington, VA August 22-25, 2011

2011 Global Education Workshop: From Evidence to Action



## **Consider C-E Evidence from EQUIP2 Research**

- 10 case studies of community-based, complementary education programs
- Costs and effectiveness of complementary education program and regular public schools compared in each case
- Effectiveness in terms of completion and learning



### Some of the data

	BRAC Bangladesh		Mali Community Schools		Zambia Community Schools	
	Comp Ed	Public	Comp Ed	Public	Comp Ed	Public
Annual per pupil cost	\$20	\$29	\$47	\$30	\$39	\$67
Completion rate	<b>94</b> %	67%	67%	56%	72%	72%
Cost per completer	\$84	\$246	\$421	\$322	\$376	\$655
% Meeting Learning Outcome	70%	27%	51%	43%	40%	35%
Cost per Learning Outcome	\$120	\$911	\$825	\$748	\$939	\$1,873

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# **Comparing Cost and Effectiveness**

- BRAC schools
  - Effective, lower cost model
  - 31% less expensive to implement
  - 2.5 times as effective at producing learning outcomes
- Mali community schools
  - Effective, higher cost model
  - Higher cost compared to chronically under-resourced public schools
  - Only 19% more effective at producing learning outcomes
  - Community schools would have had to achieve 58% of students meeting the learning outcome to be as cost-effective as public schools.



# **Comparing Cost and Effectiveness**

- Zambia Community Schools
  - Much lower cost
    - (little financial support for community schools at the time)
  - Only slightly more effective
  - Twice as cost effective, but ....
  - Would we advocate such a poorly resourced approach



## Where do we want to be?

