

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Factsheet Impact Evaluation

Bern, February 2021

# **Education in Benin**

In Benin, more than 40% of children neither attend primary or secondary school nor have access to vocational training. The PAEFE programme intends to give these children a second chance by providing basic education and training. With an impact evaluation, the SDC monitors the progress and significance of the project and its value for beneficiaries and communities as well as its potential for Benin.

## Impact Evaluation

#### **Ground-breaking**

Three poverty researchers were awarded the 2019 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for their efforts to apply impact evaluations to alleviate poverty.

#### Two groups measured

Impact evaluations measure specific questions in two different groups. One is the study group taking part in the project. The other is the control group and not part of the project.

#### **Proven method**

Due to their study-design, impact evaluations deliver reliable answers regarding the best ways to fight poverty and therefore foster evidence-based policymaking and aid effectiveness.

#### Multi-dimensional

The impact evaluation in Benin surveyed a total of 2564 children and interviewed 120 stakeholders.

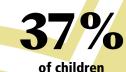
## PAEFE

stands for «Programme d'Appui à l'Éducation et à la Formation des Enfants Exclus du Système Éducatif».



children

attended the programme between 2011 and 2019, according to monitoring data collected by the project partner.



feel better prepared for the future after receiving education and training with PAEFE.

#### Promotion

Awareness campaigns on the role of secondary education, gender equality in career choices and sexual and reproductive health are recommended.

### Impact on:

(measured between end of 2017 and spring 2019, increase in percentage points)

understanding local language

reading local language

reading skills

understanding and reading French



view marriage before 18 more critically after the training.



#### → Connection

The evaluation recommends promoting interactions with the formal education sector and fostering the transition from education centres to secondary schools and vocational training.



To gain a broader understanding of the impact of PAEFE over a longer time period, an additional survey is highly recommended in one or two years.

→ Extension

Impact evaluations offer great learning potential for the key mechanisms and behavioural responses to projects. While they demand time and resources, impact evaluations provide rigorous insights into the causal effect of a project on its beneficiaries. This factsheet summarises the main facts and findings of the impact evaluation conducted in Benin by the Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED) and the Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy (IERPE), published in March 2020.

