## EPAG Impact Evaluation & Exit Poll: FACTSHEET

## What is the impact evaluation?

The **impact evaluation** is an assessment method EPAG is using to measure *causal effect* in the outcomes (changes in the living conditions) of our target population. It seeks to measure what changes the EPAG intervention has directly caused by comparing two groups: one that benefitted from the intervention (**treatment group**) and one that did not benefit from the intervention (**control group**).

> **Treatment group =** EPAG Round 1
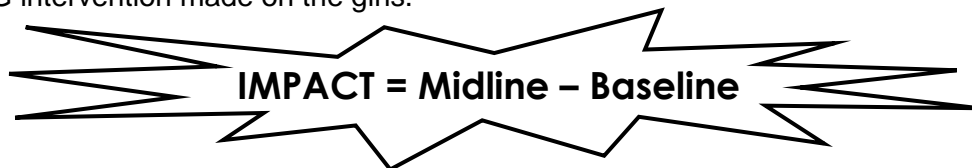> receiving training this year
>
> **Control group =** EPAG Round 2
> receiving training next year,
> starting July 2011
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> It is very important that the two groups be as similar as possible. For example: similar age-range, living in communities with similar conditions, etc. Placement into either of these groups must be done randomly, otherwise the samples are "contaminated," thus spoiling the whole impact evaluation!

### How does this work?

All EPAG girls were recruited through an unbiased, public recruitment process. (Any girl who met the eligibility criteria made it in the program.) In February and March ALL the girls were given a survey (**baseline**) to answer before the training started. Then, using a computer program, girls were RANDOMLY assigned to Round 1 or Round 2. No one had a choice about which Round they were assigned to.

The Round 1 girls (**treatment group**) started the program in March 2010. Their program completes in February 2011. In March 2011, ALL the girls (**treatment & control**) will be given *another* survey (**midline**). This "midline" survey will be very similar to the baseline. The midline results will be compared with the baseline results to determine what impacts the EPAG intervention made on the girls.

### IMPACT = Midline – Baseline

There will be *one more survey* at the end of the Round 2 (in July 2012). This is called the "**endline**" survey. The endline survey will help measure many interesting indicators, but in terms of the impact evaluation, the baseline and midline are the main concern.

## What is the exit poll?

Along with the project quality monitoring scores, the "exit poll" will help EPAG assess the quality of the trainings being offered to the girls. There will be two (2) exit polls, one in **September 2010** and one in **Jan/Feb 2012**—after each classroom training phase.

During the exit polls, focus group discussions will be conducted with both trainees and trainers. (About 20-25% of trainees will participate.) This *qualitative* data will be combined with the *quantitative* data gathered during the project quality monitoring to provide a holistic assessment of the training quality.

> **1.** Project quality monitoring: The random spot-checks conducted by the monitors. A lot of quantitative data have been collected.
>
> **2.** Exit poll: A qualitative method used to gather information from the trainees and trainers about their experiences during the six-months of classroom training.

**FYI:** There will be a **MID-TERM REVIEW** in March 2011 which will assess the *whole* picture of project implementation and coordination, including MoGD, SBA-GOPA, PFMU, World Bank, etc.