

## Conversation between GiveWell and Center for Global Development on 5/1/13

### Participants

- Amanda Glassman – Director of Global Health Policy and Senior Fellow, Center for Global Development
- Elie Hassenfeld – Co-Executive Director, GiveWell

*GiveWell spoke with Ms. Glassman about the Millions Saved project while considering it for a grant as part of its history of philanthropy project.*

**Elie Hassenfeld:** Are you planning to share the underlying data you rely on for the new cases? This is helpful to us because we'd like to be able to carefully consider each case's impact.

**Amanda Glassman:** We have a policy on data transparency and for any original analysis that we do, we would follow that policy. Sometimes we use published articles and we're dependent on what the journals allow. We could also grade the quality of the evidence that we're using. A lot is still open to debate regarding whether we rely solely on experimental evidence, look for additional, available statistics, or conduct our own original analysis.

**EH:** In the original book, the Sri Lanka and Thailand cases seemed to have particularly limited evidence for impact.

**AG:** In both cases, they rely on population-level statistics and not experimental data. In Thailand, in particular, there were other things going on at the time (e.g., the entire military was mobilized to change behavior). I'm not sure that cases with this type of evidence will be included in the updated version.

**EH:** Do you plan to include the total cost of each project?

**AG:** I would love to include that. It can often be hard to construct what was spent. We'll include it if we have the information.

**EH:** Do you plan to you include all of the actors involved in a program?

**AG:** I think we could do that.

**EH:** Could you include who drove the program, i.e., whether it was funders, local government, the implementing organizations or others?

**AG:** In some cases we'll have it, and in some cases we won't. We'll have to decide on a case-by-case basis.

**EH:** Are you open to sharing the process you go through in selecting cases?

**AG:** I think it'd be great to document the process and reflect it in the book. That's something the advisory group would have to discuss. It might be difficult to drop a case publicly due to sensitivities in the field. In principle, my idea would be to have

as transparent a process as possible.