ILSA ANALYTICAL ISSUES

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Workshop Series on International Large-Scale Assessment (ILSA)
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Overview of Comments

- Conditional on having ILSA, what can be done?
  - Very useful reviews and analyses by Jan-Eric Guftafsson and Anna Katyn Chmielewski
- Appeal of ILSAs
- Why not to use ILSAs
- Possible improvements
Appeal of ILSAs

- Identify what is possible
  - Provides goals
  - Direct policy (MDGs, SDGs)
Average Math+Science, PISA 2012
UN Sustainable Development Goals
Appeal of ILSAs

- Identify what is possible
  - Provides goals
  - Direct policy (MDGs, SDGs)

- Understand effects of broad institutions
  - General equilibrium impacts
  - Selection effects
  - Generalize from country results

- Project impacts of improvement
Hanushek, Piopiunik and Wiederhold (2016)
Teacher Skill Premia

Hanushek, Piopiunik and Wiederhold (2016)
Appeal of ILSAs

- Identify what is possible
  - Provides goals
  - Direct policy (MDGs, SDGs)

- Understand effects of broad institutions
  - General equilibrium impacts
  - Selection effects
  - Generalize from country results

- Project impacts (benefits) of improvement
The Knowledge Capital of Nations

Education and the Economics of Growth

Eric A. Hanushek and Ludger Woessmann

CESifo Book Series

Universal Basic Skills
WHAT COUNTRIES STAND TO GAIN

http://hanushek.stanford.edu/
Growth = Skills
Individual Returns to Skills (PIAAC)

Hanushek, Schwerdt, Wiederhold, and Woessmann (2015)
Why NOT to Use ILSAs

- Not good for much evaluation
- Within country
  - Larger samples
  - Individual panel data
  - Cheaper
- Often clearer causal analysis
Potential Improvements

- Keep constant measurement
  - *Country panels*
- Develop better external institutional data
- Consider individual panels
  - *Canada, Australia, Poland(?)*
- Link students in low income countries to world