

IEDP Invited Lecture Series:

BEN PIPER CHIEF OF PARTY, SENIOR RESEARCH EDUCATION ANALYST RTI INTERNATIONAL

MAR 17, 2014 3:00pm-4:30pm Silverstein Forum, Stiteler Hall

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Join us in welcoming Ben Piper

Date: Mar 17, 2014

Time: 3:00pm-4:30pm

Location: Silverstein Forum,

Stiteler Hall

Contact Information: Lauren Scicluna, sclauren@gse.upenn.edu TITLE: TEACHING AND TEACHER CHANGE: Improving Outcomes at Scale from the Classroom in Sub-Saharan Africa

ABSTRACT: Literacy and numeracy instruction in early primary school is often very similar across contexts in Sub-Saharan and remarkably resistant to reform. I argue that the failure to organize interventions around the teacher change process has led to these difficulties. Embedded in the context the Primary Math and Reading (PRIMR) program in Kenya, focused on literacy and numeracy improvement in 1381 schools, I present the key elements of PRIMR's work to address the teacher change and decision-making processes in a low-cost, scale-able program.

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Benjamin Piper, EdD, is a senior research education analyst with RTI International and chief of party, Kenya-PRIMR. He currently investigates the impact of a variety of language-of-instruction educational policies on student outcomes, with particular focus on how pedagogical differences relate to early-grade reading acquisition and the transfer of reading skills between the first language and the second language.