All T's are not Equal: Perspectives from USAID/Rwanda

2015 Global Education Summit @USAIDEducation #LetGirlsLearn #endpoverty
Rwanda at a Glance

- 11.7 m/2.3 m primary
- 2400 schools
- P1 @ 7 years
- 2009 shift to English
- Recent National Curriculum reform
USAID/Rwanda Recent Reading Activities

Literacy, Language and Learning (L3)
$26.7 m, Cooperative Agreement
August 2011-January 2017

- Reading, Math, and English (P1-P4)
- Instructional Materials Kinyarwanda, Math and English
- Ministry Capacity
Rwanda Basic Education Sector Snapshot
Reading Outcomes in Rwanda: What’s Really Going On?

Figure 1. Kinyarwanda Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) – P4 and P6 (Beginning of Academic Year)
Rwanda Reading Outcomes: What Works?

Figure 5. Relative Impact on Kinyarwanda Oral Reading Fluency of the Listed Factors

- students reading silently
- students using worksheets
- content of lesson is spelling
- teacher focused on whole class
- individual student reading aloud
- students watching/listening to teacher
- content of lesson is grammar
- students writing individually
- students using notebooks
- students reading sentences
- students not focused on lesson
- content of lesson is not reading
- teacher writing on board
- teacher not focused on students
- teacher focused on small groups
The Biggest ‘T’?: Time

Structural Challenges:

- Shifts & Multi-Levels
- Class Sizes
- Transition to LOI
- Blocks & Pacing
Time Enough For Reading?

4 hour classroom shift

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…Way forward