

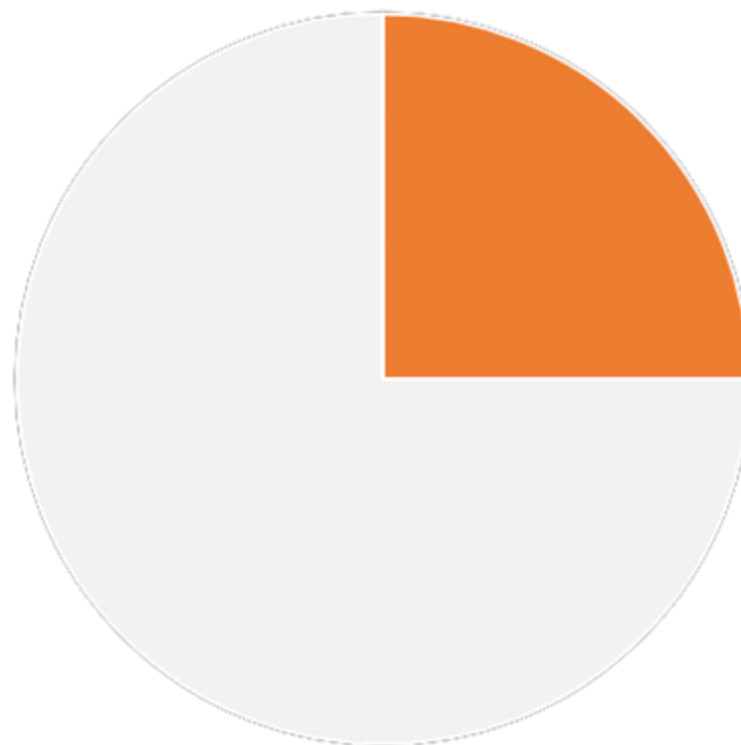
What does financing have to do with service delivery?

Shanta Devarajan
Georgetown University
July 2025



Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda

“The name of
the dog is
Puppy”



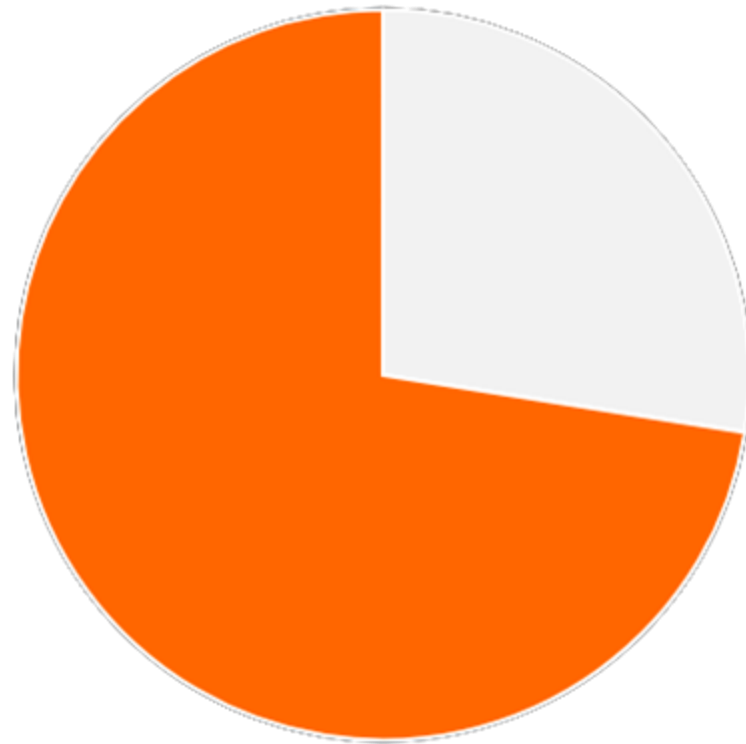
**Could
understand**

**Grade
3**



Rural India

-46



17

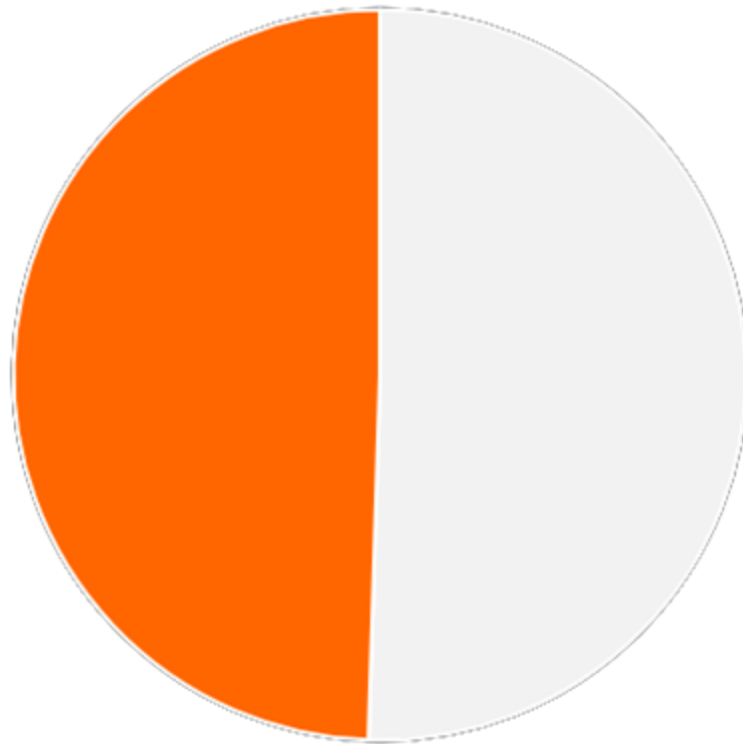
Could not
solve

Grade
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Rural India

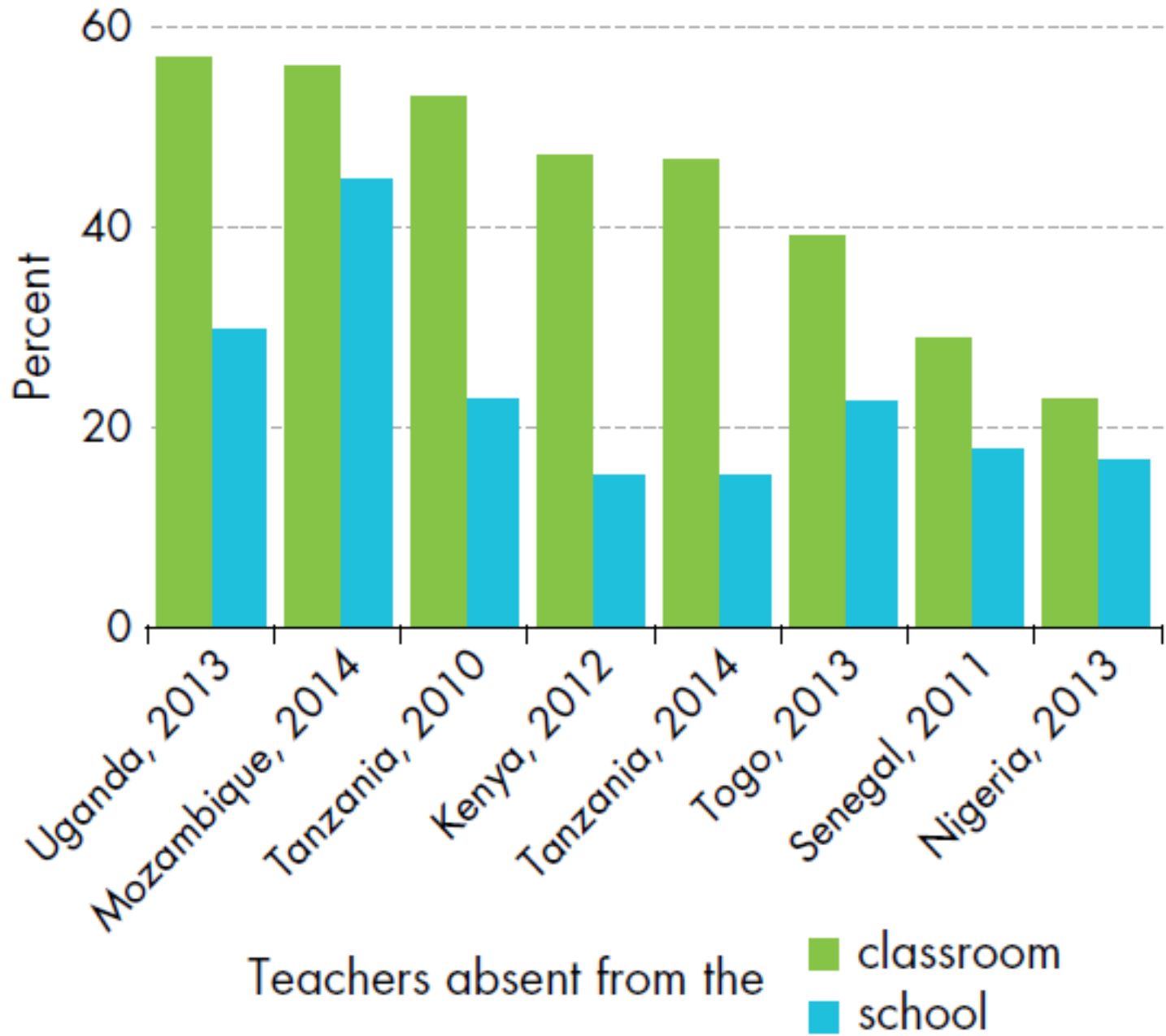
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17

Could not solve

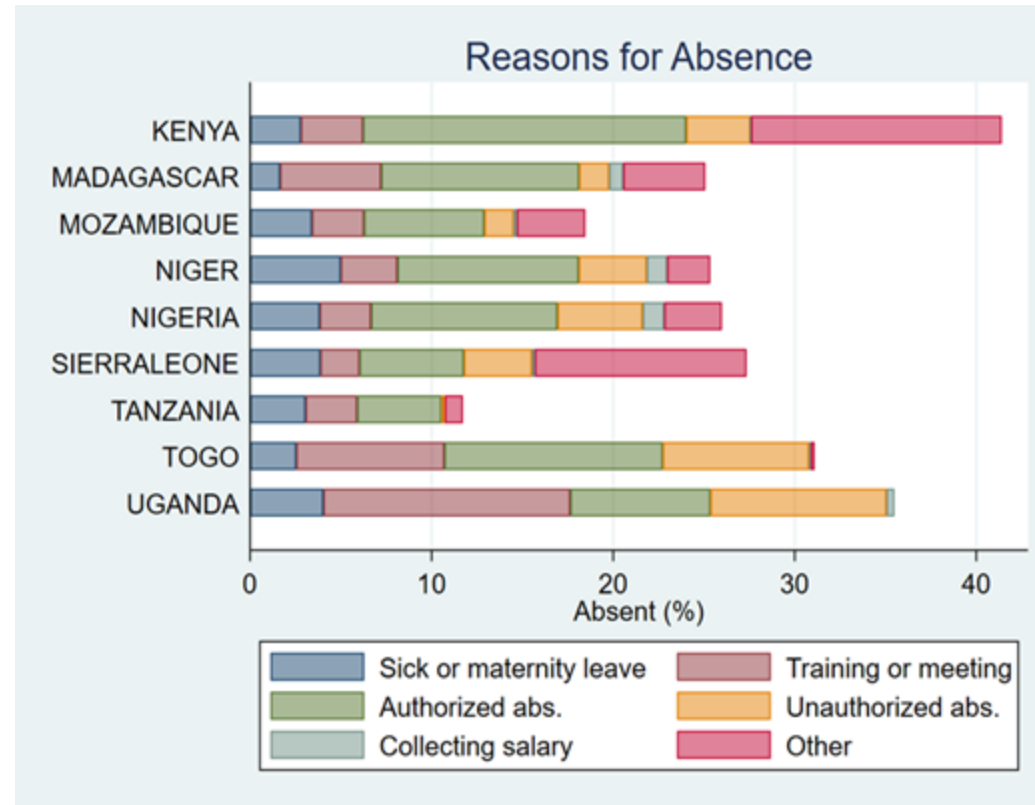
Grade
5



*

* Nigeria here is 4 States: Anambra, Bauci, Ekiti, Niger

Africa: Doctors absent 25-40 percent of the time



The same provider has the lowest checklist adherence in their public sector clinic....and the highest in their private sector clinic

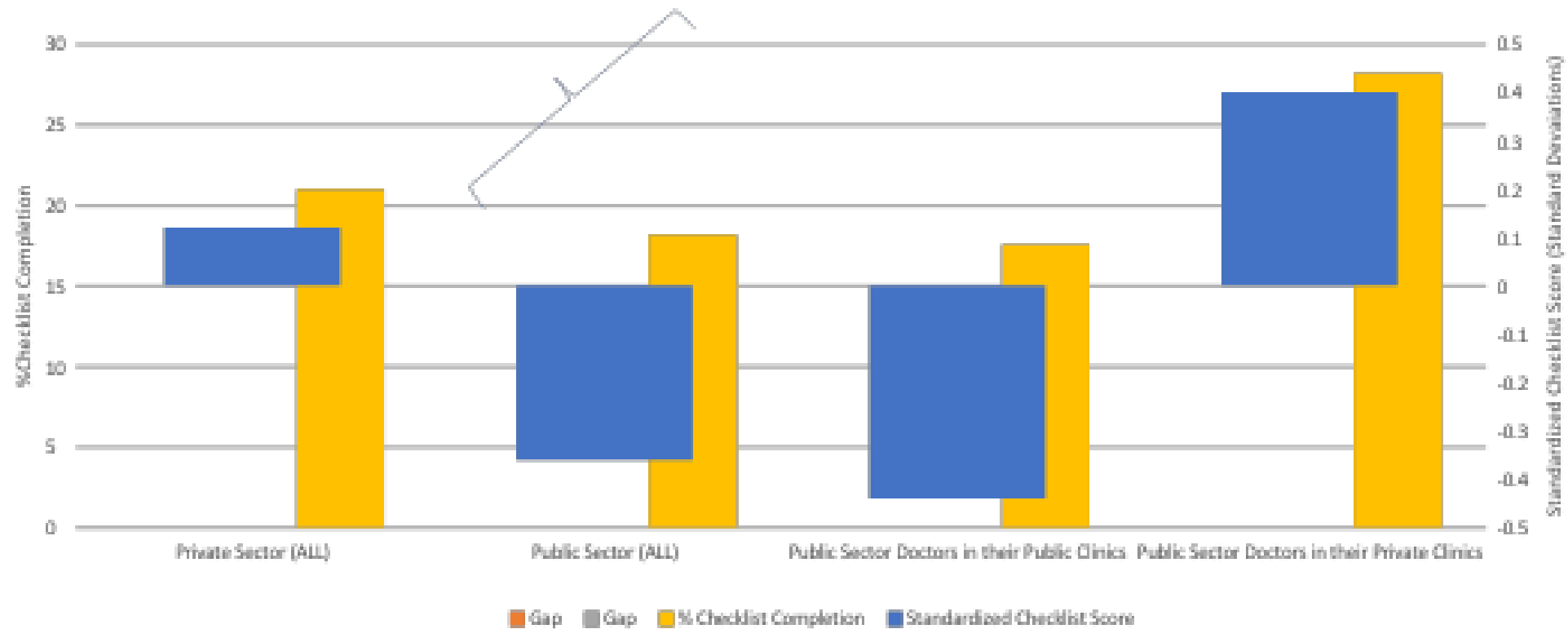


Table 2

Teachers' Content Knowledge: Minimum Thresholds

	<i>All</i>	<i>Min</i>	<i>Max</i>
<i>Subject knowledge: Language</i>			
Teachers with ...			
80% of knowledge equivalent to a 4th grader	66%	26% (Nigeria)	94% (Kenya)
Minimum knowledge for teaching	7%	0% (Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania survey I, Togo)	34% (Kenya)
Number of teachers	3,770		
<i>Subject knowledge: Mathematics</i>			
Teachers with ...			
Minimum knowledge for teaching	68%	49% (Togo)	93% (Kenya)
Number of teachers	3,957		

Resource-rich countries have lower tax revenues

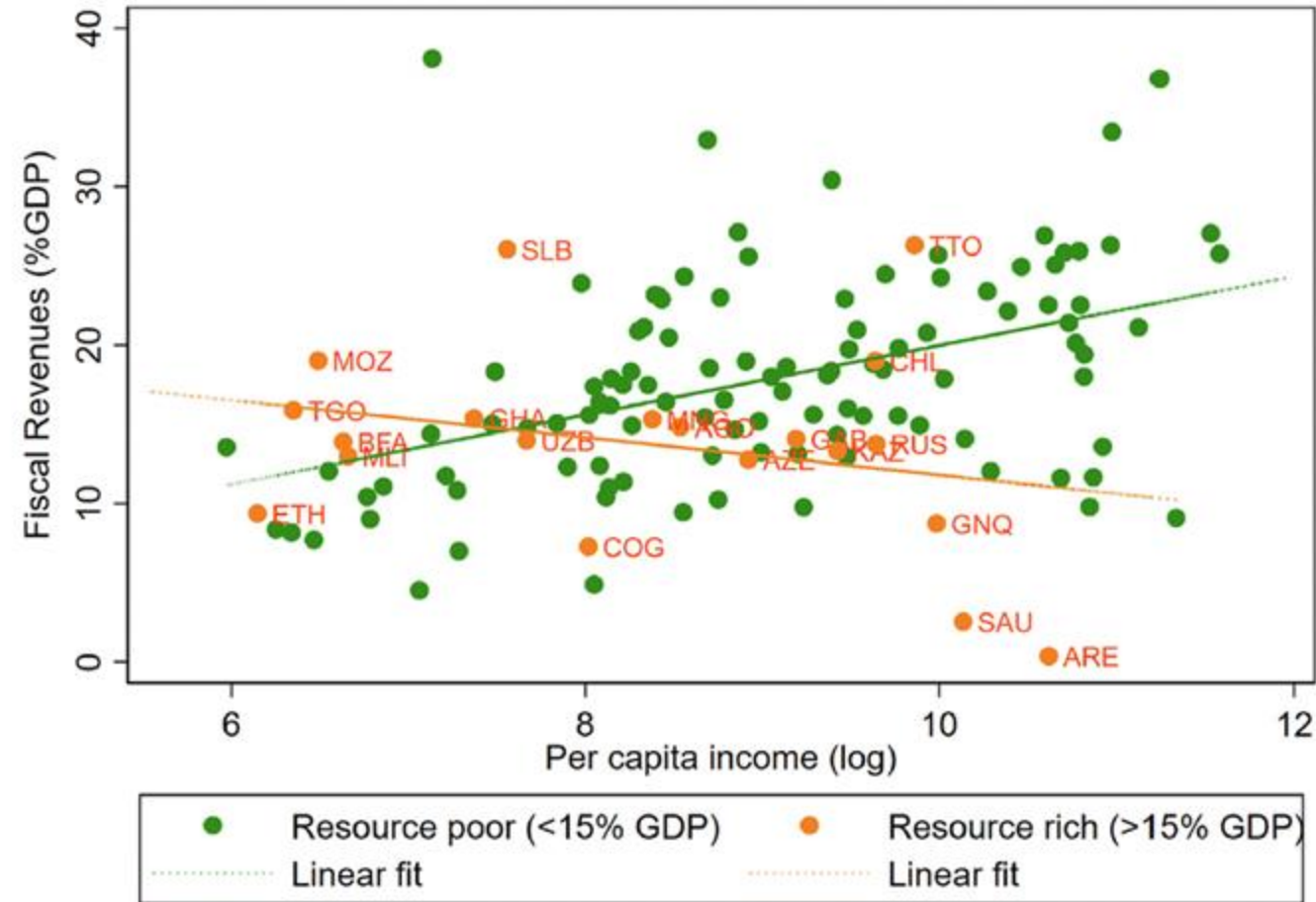
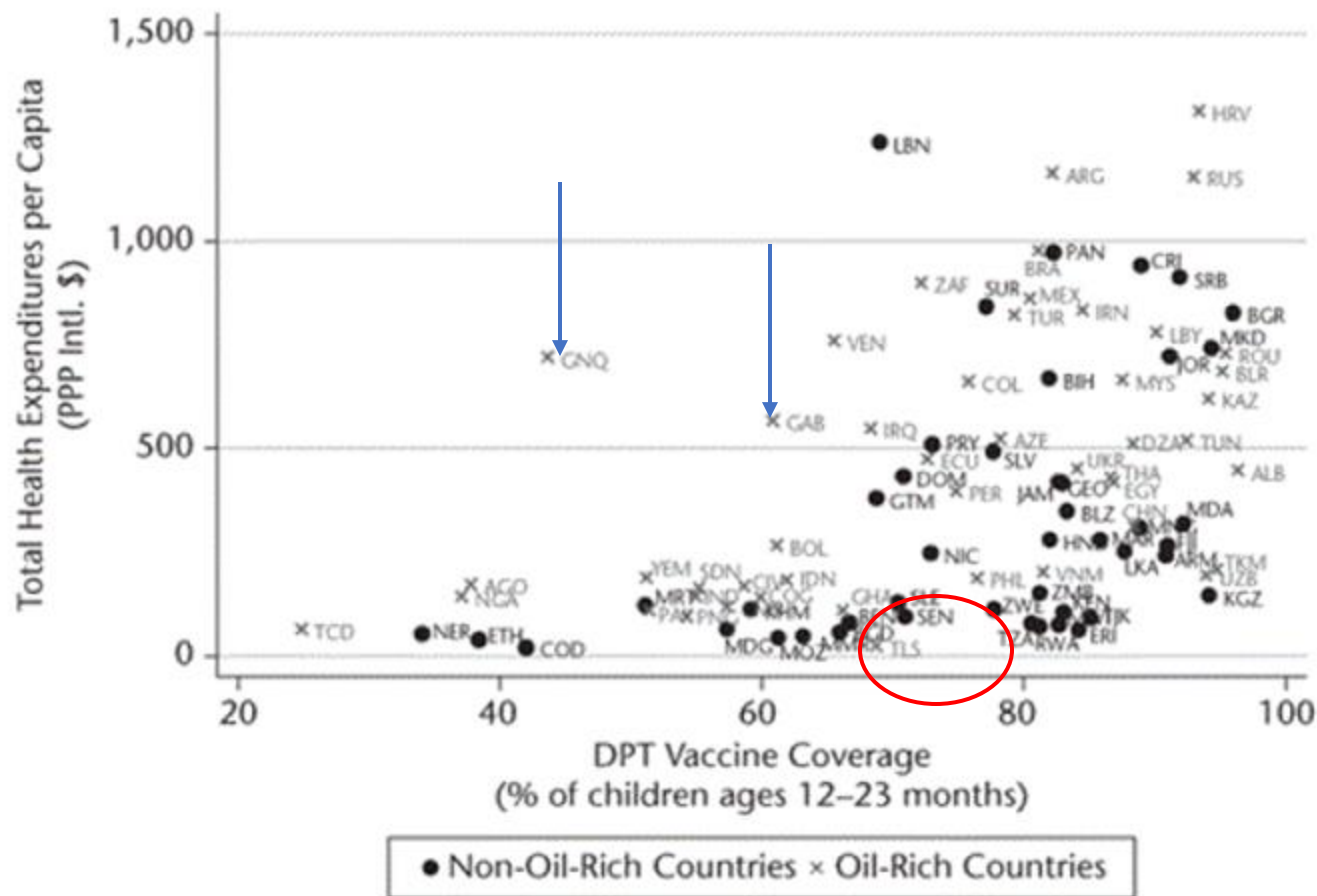


Fig. 2. Fiscal revenues and per capita GDP. *Notes:* Data on resource revenues, fiscal revenues as a fraction of GDP, and per capita income are measured in 2012 and obtained from the World Development Indicator database (accessed October 20, 2021). Observation for Timor-Leste was dropped (outlier).

Figure 4: Health Spending and Immunization Coverage in Developing Countries



Sources: EAI, WDI, and WHO.

Notes: PPP = purchasing power parity. Oil-rich countries are those for which oil production is above the sample median (40,000 barrels per day), calculated over the 1980–2016 period.

Source: Devarajan (2019)

The participation dividend from taxation in D.R. Congo

- Randomly introduced door-to-door collection of property taxes in a province in D.R. Congo
 - Tax compliance increased by 11 percentage points
 - Citizens in treated neighborhoods
 - Participated more in town meetings
 - Demanded accountability from elected officials
- ““Why should the inhabitants of Lukonga pay taxes when the roads are in such disastrous condition?”
- “The provincial government should inform us how this money will be spent on public infrastructure and not wasted on other things.”

From the New York Times, July 3, 2025:

Oman is introducing an income tax: “The policy could lead to a recalibration of the relationship between citizens and their government...Once a government begins to collect revenue from its citizens, some may start to ask more serious questions about how their leaders are spending that money, wanting to hold them accountable.”