

Research meeting
June 20, 2013

Update on progress with GiveWell Labs (Alexander)

Initial ("super shallow") investigations

- Chose 5 topics to conduct initial investigations for, aiming to cover diverse questions and causes
- Aiming to spend 10-15 hours on initial investigation, including 2-3 conversations with experts in the field and drafting write-up, then assess what we were able to learn
- Status of 5 initial investigations
 - Nuclear safety
 - Had 3 conversations, including one with Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
 - Read overview of the field
 - Drafted write up
 - We have a good idea of how much money is in it from US foundations, but don't know how that money is being spent
 - Business regulation in developing countries
 - Had 1 conversation, looking for next person to talk to
 - Road safety in developing countries
 - Setting up conversations
 - Criminal justice reform
 - Setting up conversations
 - Antibiotic resistance
 - Had 1 conversation, setting up another

Meta-research

- Holden is writing a blog post on open science
- We'll be making a decision soon about which, if any, conferences to go to in September

Medium-depth investigations

- We're working to find contractors who could conduct medium-depth investigations for a few causes:
 - Increasing labor mobility (migration)
 - Geoengineering research
 - Malaria (including net distributions, R&D on drugs, vaccines, and insecticides, research on nets and insecticide resistance, malaria control and elimination)
- We had previously considered finding contractors for medium-depth investigations of water and nutrition, but have deprioritized those because we are not at the point where we would want to contract out further work in those areas.

Staff discussed recent conversations with Giving What We Can staff.

All research meeting notes available at <http://www.givewell.org/research-meetings>.