Studies in African politics often focus on citizen demands placed on national legislators. Using surveys administered to Ghanaian cocoa farmers and non-parametric matching, I investigate characteristics that might lead citizens to prefer local politicians.

1: Afrobarometer Evidence

Pre-existing factors cause certain otherwise alike citizens to prefer local politicians to national politicians when facing problems.

2: Harvard Cocoa Sample

Ghana | 5 Cocoa Regions | 2800+ Farmers

- Brong Ahafo | n=325
  - female: 25.24%
  - average age: 51.76

- Western
  - n=610
  - f:17.06%
  - a:46.58

- Ashanti
  - n=1073
  - f:16.97%
  - a:52.04

- Central | n=273
  - fem: 15.38%
  - age: 52.96

3: Theory

Citizens face a problem!

Go to: MP or Local Assembly?

4: Treatments

Size proportional to successful matches.

5: Select Findings

- Women, young farmers and church members tend not to approach local politicians.
- Political interest and group membership leads citizens to MPs.
- More education corresponds to increased visits to either politician.
- Donor groups should focus on strengthening all political levels.
- There are further results, and this research continues.