



Quarterly Report April – June 2017

Evidence uptake and use from 3ie-funded studies

Using evidence on what does not work in improving maternal health to inform global health policies: Two states in India implemented programmes incentivising private health service providers to increase institutional deliveries among pregnant women living below the poverty line. The *Chiranjeevi Yojana* in Gujarat is a state-wide programme reaching over 800 private hospitals. The *Thayi Bhagya Yojana* in Karnataka, on the other hand, was smaller in scale, covering five districts and close to 90 healthcare providers. The impact evaluation of the programmes, led by researchers at Duke University, showed no increase in the rates of institutional deliveries or improvement in maternal health. The study pointed to factors, such as low service quality and lack of service providers' motivation in limiting the potential impact of government initiatives.

The study stands to make an important contribution to global health policy by highlighting the limitations of monetary incentives in increasing institutional deliveries. In a recent report titled *Investing in Global Health Systems: Sustaining Gains, Transforming Lives* (2014), the Institute of Medicine cited findings from the study to highlight the potential cost of not embedding impact evaluations in large-scale health programmes and scaling up ineffective programmes in the absence of rigorous evidence. Commissioned by the USAID Bureau on Global Health, the reports seek to inform policymakers in the US Congress and other government authorities on the value of American investment in health systems in low- and middle-income countries.

New 3ie publications

Programme brief: *Assessing the impact of agricultural risk insurance programmes on smallholder farmers*

Evidence gap map briefs: *Mapping what we know about intimate partner violence* and *Mapping the evidence on state-society relations*

Evidence gap map reports: *Understanding financial agricultural risk for smallholder farmers in developing countries: what do we know and not know?* and *Intimate partner violence prevention: an evidence gap map*

Interactive evidence gap maps: *Agricultural risk and mitigation gap map* and *Intimate partner violence prevention evidence gap map*

Evidence use briefs: *Evidence-informed policy change: improved access to groundwater in West Bengal, India* and *Using evidence to prevent violence against women in Uganda*

Impact evaluations: *Impact of free availability of public childcare on labour supply and child development in Brazil* and *Estimating the effects of a low-cost early stimulation and parenting education programme in Mexico*

Scoping paper: *Integrating HIV services with other health services to improve linkage to care, retention and adherence*

Systematic reviews: *Promoting handwashing and sanitation behaviour change in low- and middle-income countries: a mixed-method systematic review* and *Interventions to improve the labour market outcomes of youth: a systematic review of training, entrepreneurship promotion, employment services and subsidised employment interventions*

Systematic review summary report: *Effectiveness of agricultural certification schemes for*

[improving socio-economic outcomes in low- and middle-income countries](#)

Systematic review brief: [Does agricultural certification improve well-being?](#)

3ie-funded studies and 3ie publications in peer-reviewed publications

Please click [here](#) to access the list of all the 3ie-funded studies and 3ie-produced publications appearing in peer-reviewed publications

3ie grant updates

Policy Window 3: 3ie awarded an impact evaluation grant to the University of Minnesota for a study, ‘Government-driven evaluation to improve student learning in Nepal’s secondary schools.’

Uganda Policy Window: 3ie awarded three formative grants in this quarter:

1. Measure Africa for a study, ‘Impact of school facilities grant on access and learning achievements in Uganda’;
2. Uganda Youth Development for a study, ‘Impact evaluation of the youth livelihoods programme’; and
3. Socio-Economic Data Centre Ltd for a study, ‘Impact evaluation of the Government of Uganda family planning programmes and policies targeting young people aged 15-24’.

Agricultural Innovation Thematic Window (TW4): 3ie awarded two impact evaluation grants under this window. The University of Connecticut will conduct a mixed-method evaluation of the smallholder market-led farmer programme project in Swaziland. The Innovations for Poverty Action Lab will conduct an impact evaluation of the Ghana Agricultural Sector Investment Programme to promote the conservation agriculture techniques.

3ie’s registry, repositories and roster

The Registry for International Development Impact Evaluations ([RIDIE](#)) had 114 registrations at the end of second quarter. The [Impact Evaluation Repository](#) currently hosts 4,688 records, of which 135 were added. [The systematic review repository](#) has 626 records, of which 223 are new this quarter. We added one new expert to the [roster](#), bringing the total number to 540.

Bursaries

3ie funded eight participants this quarter to attend the Community of Evaluators–South Asia (COE-SA) conference in Bhutan (6-9 June). Recipients were from Nepal, Sri Lanka and India and comprised researchers and individuals involved in policymaking.

Membership

3ie’s ninth annual Members’ Conference was held on 25 April 2017 in Washington DC as part of 3ie’s Washington Evidence Week. Thirty-three members attended. They were joined by several members of 3ie’s Board of Commissioners in a non-voting capacity. Tania Alfonso of USAID chaired the members’ organising committee, which included Poonam Muttreja (Population Foundation of India), Norma Altshuler (Hewlett Foundation) and Fabiola Caceres (Ministry of Education, Peru). Members shared information about their evaluation successes and challenges. The members re-elected three current commissioners, Miguel Székely, Uma Lele, and Oumoul Ba Tall, and two new commissioners, Marco Segone and Ju-Ho Lee, to the Board for three-year terms.

Ruth Levine takes over as the new chair of the 3ie Board of Commissioners

We were very pleased to announce on 1 June that Ruth Levine has taken over from Richard Manning as board chair. Ruth, a development economist and an expert in global health, education, and evaluation, has served on the 3ie board for the past two years. She currently serves as the director of the Hewlett Foundation’s Global Development and Population Program. To read the

announcement, click [here](#), and to read our Q&A with her, please click [here](#).

3ie events

Washington Evidence Week, 24-27 April 2017: 3ie hosted a series of internal and external events, including the bi-annual board meeting and members' conference. Notably this year, members participated in an organised discussion about the 3ie membership structure and functions. Commissioners and members enjoyed learning about work that the 3ie Washington office is doing. Everyone showed their appreciation for Richard Manning's exemplary tenure as the board chair by organising a quintet ensemble performance and dinner. 3ie also organised a one-day conference on 27 April, 'Evidence for whom: do decision makers have the evidence they need to address inequalities?' More than a 100 people attended four sessions demonstrating how high-quality evidence production and its use helps us address inequalities. Highlights from the four sessions are provided below.

Whose impact? Inequality, gender and disadvantaged groups in impact evaluation Edoardo Masset, 3ie deputy director and head of the Synthesis and Reviews Office, led this discussion. Panellists talked about the need to build a gender-responsive evidence base for women by collecting sex-disaggregated data and conducting gender analysis, increasing the sample size of surveys and the need to include men and boys in researching gendered inequalities.

HIV evidence for whom? What it means for the UNAIDS 90-90-90 goal Anna Heard, 3ie senior evaluation specialist, led a panel that explored barriers keeping young women and men from seeking HIV testing or care. Sanyukta Mathur (Population Council) shared learning from the DREAMS partnership that seeks to reduce HIV infections amongst adolescent girls and young women in Sub-Saharan Africa. Stella Babalola (Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health) called for building the capacity of an affected community, giving them ownership over the data.

Evidence for populations that need it most: impact evaluation in humanitarian crises and conflict-affected countries Mario Picon, 3ie senior evaluation specialist, chaired a panel on impact evaluation in humanitarian crises and conflict-affected countries. Panellists discussed the various challenges faced and the approaches adopted. Panellists shared the various tools they used to collect data, including collecting data from children through drawings, and using technology, including social media, to monitor hate speech.

Promoting evidence use for all Deputy director and head of 3ie's Policy, Advocacy and Communication Office, Beryl Leach, facilitated a discussion on promoting evidence use that benefits marginalised populations. Gonzalo Hernandez Licona shared CONEVAL's leverage in promoting the use of evaluation results by national and state officials because, by law, they are all made public. Silvia Diazgranados Ferrans shared IRC's groundbreaking internal tool, the [outcomes and evidence](#) framework. IRC developed this tool to integrate and ensure that staff use rigorous, equity-responsive evidence in designing, implementing and evaluating their work. Norma Altshuler from Hewlett Foundation focused on their global strategy for promoting evidence use by building capacities in priority regions and actors, with a focus on the importance of linking evidence producers and users organically around evidence use at the national level.

Closing remarks Richard Manning summed up the conferences messages by underscoring the need for rigorous evaluation, and how we could work better to generate and deliver useful evidence for policymakers. He emphasised the importance of country ownership and collaboration in conducting evaluations as well as the need for high-quality studies, stating that methodologically

poor work was unlikely to be useful. Read the transcripts of his closing remarks [here](#). Click [here](#) to view the video. Please click [here](#) to watch the video recordings of all the sessions.

Evaluation Conclave 2017, 6-9 June, Thimphu, Bhutan

3ie staff participated in the Evaluation Conclave 2017 hosted by the Community of Evaluators–South Asia (CoE–SA), in collaboration with the Gross National Happiness Commission, Bhutan. 3ie organised two skill development workshops, five panels and presented one paper. Emmanuel Jimenez spoke at the inaugural key note panel and moderated the second keynote session. 3ie supported eight bursaries, including ones to ensure grantees under our financial inclusion and improving adolescents' lives windows could share their experiences with a wider audience. 3ie's senior management also had a very constructive and encouraging meeting with the chief of research and evaluation at the Gross National Happiness Commission.

3ie Delhi Seminar

- **Transparency and reproducibility of impact evaluation: a turning point for the evaluation community**, Arnaud Vaganay, director of Meta-Lab, Catalyst (Fellow) of the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in Social Sciences (BITSS), 28 April, 2017.

3ie-LIDC London Seminars

- **Can mass media save lives? Findings from a cluster randomised controlled trial in Burkina Faso**, Dr Joanna Murray, Director of Research at Development Media International, 17 May 2017.
- **Do agricultural certification schemes benefit producers and workers in developing countries?**, Carlos Oya and Florian Schäfer, 9 June 2017

New funding

- 3ie signed a consultancy contract with Global Development Network for USD18,000 to provide training, counselling, guidance and methodological advice to researchers recruited to conduct evaluations and impact assessments of selected Impact Financing Envelope projects funded by European Investment Bank.
- 3ie signed an agreement with the International Food Policy Research Institute for USD126,768 to support capacity building for use of nutrition data and evidence in India
- The Gates Foundation has approved the supplemental grant amount of USD1,477,803 for consolidation of evidence, learning and measurement capacity for the National Rural Livelihood Program in India. The total grant amount is now USD2,864,594. The grant period has now been extended to 31 December, 2019.

3ie finance update

As of 30th June 2017, 3ie's assets stood at USD70.41 million, including USD35.57 million held in bank accounts, USD34.40 million as grants receivable, i.e. undisbursed balances in signed grant agreements, USD0.44 million in other receivables, fixed assets and deposits and the accrued liabilities for expense and grants payables at USD0.61 million. Total expenses in the quarter were USD4.94 million, of which USD3.16 million were grant expenses.