



## Quarterly Report July – September 2017

### Evidence uptake and use from 3ie-funded studies

#### **Improving the culture of evidence use to reform public financial management in Pakistan**

Low tax revenues act as a serious constraint to economic growth and provision of state services. Pakistan, in particular, has done poorly on tax revenue collection, including property taxes. Government employees often lack incentives to collect taxes. Researchers at Innovation for Poverty Action and the Center for Economic Research in Pakistan collaborated with the provincial government of Punjab to evaluate if paying tax collectors for performance had an impact on tax revenue, while maintaining or improving assessment accuracy and customer satisfaction. The impact evaluation results showed that the pay-for-performance scheme resulted in higher tax collection through an expanded tax base, with no damage to public perceptions of the Excise and Taxation Department.

The impact evaluation was part of the team's ongoing engagement with the Punjab government to address short- and long-term policy priorities and to build the evidence base on issues around public financial management and governance. Driven by this strong engagement, as well as demand for rigorous evidence from government decision makers, including the chief minister, the research team is undertaking another impact evaluation supported through 3ie's Development Priorities grant programme. The evaluation will test whether increasing the alignment between the demand for and provision of urban services in a neighbourhood and how that links to taxes paid may strengthen the social compact between the state and citizens.

### New 3ie publications

**Evidence map report:** [A map of evidence maps relating to sustainable development in low- and middle-income countries](#)

**Evidence gap map:** [A map of evidence maps relating to sustainable development in low- and middle-income countries](#)

**Evidence gap map briefs:** [A map of evidence maps relating to sustainable development in low- and middle-income countries](#) and [Mapping the evidence on science, technology, innovation and partnerships for development](#)

**Evidence use brief:** [Using evidence to inform the scale-up and adoption of bio-fortified orange sweet potato in Uganda](#)

**Impact evaluation reports:** [Impact of the Uddeepaan programme on child health and nutrition: evidence from India](#), [Reduced-form impacts of formal insurance against weather shocks: evidence from India](#), [General equilibrium impact assessment of the Productive Safety Net Program in Ethiopia](#), [Promoting partner and couples HIV testing using self-test kits in Kenya](#), [Evaluating oral HIV self-testing to increase HIV testing uptake among truck drivers in Kenya](#), [Increasing male partner HIV testing using self-test kits in Kenya](#), [Improving ART adherence at reproductive and child health clinics integrating Option B+ in Tanzania](#) and [Evaluating the impact of community health worker integration into prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV services in Tanzania](#)

**Impact evaluation briefs:** *Encouraging Kenyan men to use HIV self-test kits*, *Encouraging HIV testing among truck drivers in Kenya* and *What is the impact of a community-managed conditional cash transfer programme in Tanzania?*

**Scoping papers:** *Promoting latrine use in India* and *Understanding financial risks for smallholder farmers in low-and middle-income countries: what do we know and not know?*

**Systematic reviews:** *Interventions to improve the labour market for adults living with physical and/or sensory disabilities in low- and middle-income countries* and *The effectiveness of contract farming in improving smallholder income and food security in low- and middle-income countries: a mixed-method systematic review*

**Systematic review summary report:** *Promoting handwashing and sanitation behaviour change in low- and middle-income countries: A mixed-method systematic review*

**Systematic review brief:** *Handwashing and sanitation behaviour change in WASH interventions*

### 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

**Uganda Policy Window:** 3ie received three applications in response to a recent [call for proposals](#) to conduct a process evaluation of Uganda's Vegetable Oil Development Programme. This call was part of the existing Uganda Country Policy Window, under which we have previously [awarded](#) process and formative evaluations.

**Policy Window Philippines Supreme Court:** 3ie awarded an impact evaluation grant to Innovations for Poverty Action for a study, 'Impact evaluation of the Supreme Court of the Philippines programme: eCourt and continuous trial and small claims procedures'.

**Promoting latrine use in rural India thematic window:** 3ie awarded an impact evaluation grant to Emory University for a study, 'Implementing and evaluating low-cost interventions to improve latrine use among rural households in Odisha, India'.

**Policy Window 3:** 3ie awarded an impact evaluation grant to Rheinisch-Westfälisches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (RWI) for a study, 'Increasing the effectiveness of improved and clean cook stove interventions in rural Senegal using experimental and quasi-experimental methods'.

### Registry for International Development Impact Evaluations, Impact Evaluation Repository, Systematic Reviews Repository and Expert Roster

The Registry for International Development Impact Evaluations ([RIDIE](#)) had 116 registrations at the end of third quarter. The [Impact Evaluation Repository](#) currently hosts 4,783 records, of which 6 are new in this quarter. The [Systematic Review Repository](#) has 676 records, of which 50 are new this quarter. We added five new experts to the impact evaluation Expert [Roster](#), bringing the total number to 545. We sent a survey to all of the experts in the expert roster to gain more information on how they view the expert roster, how we could improve the expert roster, and how we could improve engagement with this tool. We will analyse the results in last quarter of 2017 to determine how to implement those improvements.

## Bursaries

3ie funded 28 bursaries this quarter. Six bursaries were awarded to MEASURE's impact evaluation programme in Ethiopia; four to ILO's executive evaluation course in Kenya; four to CLEAR-Anglophone Africa's development evaluation training in South Africa; five to the Global Evidence Summit in South Africa; seven to INSP/MEASURE's impact evaluation training in Mexico and two bursaries were awarded to the Sri Lanka Evaluation Association's international conference. Recipients from Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East, North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa comprised individuals actively involved in impact evaluation projects with governments, NGOs, and academia.

## Membership

**Member webinar: Building evaluation capacity of the Moroccan government:** 3ie co-hosted its sixth member webinar with the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) on 7 September. Ryan Moore, director of evaluation, focused on the Labour Market Impact Evaluation Lab, a key initiative under the five-year MCC-funded grant called the [Morocco Employability and Land Compact](#). The lab will be launched in 2018 and will finance up to USD5 million towards experimental impact evaluations, other rigorous empirical studies and policy-research engagements to build the capacity of the Moroccan government to commission and generate experimental evaluation evidence. Mario Picon, 3ie senior evaluation specialist, spoke about our experiences and those of other members engaged in similar policy research engagements. This was followed by a brief, interactive discussion on both presentations. Eleven members participated, including representatives from the MasterCard Foundation, Fiji, Benin, USAID and Sinergia. You can view the webinar [here](#).

## 3ie events

### Satellite session at the International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Science, Paris, 24 July

3ie organised a satellite session on evaluating the impact of HIV self-testing availability on testing uptake, focusing on the evidence from 3ie-supported studies in Uganda, Zambia and Kenya. The session was well attended by approximately 100 participants, including 3ie grantees and the permanent secretary from Zambia's health ministry. 3ie's studies received good press coverage and our Zambia study was listed among the conference highlights in the IAS conference newsletter. 3ie also hosted a 'Friends of 3ie Reception' attended by grantees, health ministry colleagues, and others who have collaborated with 3ie on our HIV thematic windows.

### Global Evidence Summit 2017, 13-16 September, Cape Town

The summit attracted more than 1,300 participants, with many being systematic review researchers because the summit was integrated with the regular Cochrane colloquium. 3ie organised three well-attended panels: (1) [Rigorous and relevant systematic reviews: Lessons learned from mixed methods approaches in international development](#); (2) [A panoramic view of rapid reviews – uses and perspectives from global collaborations and networks](#); and (3) [Mapping the evidence: Different approaches to evidence mapping across disciplines](#). 3ie staff also participated in three sessions: [Evidence and gap maps: A systematic approach to scoping](#); [Evidence-based education policy and practice: Sharing global experiences](#); and [Mapping the evidence: Different approaches to evidence mapping across disciplines](#). 3ie's workshop, organised with grantees at the Belgian Red Cross, explored how [better stakeholder engagement can improve the relevance of the review and use of evidence](#) from it. 3ie co-chaired a session on [Evidence matters: Examples of evidence-based decision making in humanitarian emergencies and how it can be improved](#). 3ie's Science,

technology, innovation and partnerships (STIP) [evidence gap map](#) and [report](#) was the basis of a [long oral session presentation](#).

### **Capacity building to produce useful evidence: Who sets the agenda and what needs to change? Satellite session, Global Evidence Summit, 12 September**

3ie, the Africa Evidence Network, DPME, CLEAR-AA and J-PAL Africa organised a satellite session to share capacity-building approaches and experiences in improving evidence production and use. In recent years, investing in improving primary research in Sub-Saharan Africa has increased. However, building capacity to produce and use evaluation evidence and evidence synthesis has been more sporadic, highly targeted and implemented toward accountability and internal or donor requirements. Often, efforts are one-offs, not based on best practice or user needs. This workshop was part of an ongoing initiative among 3ie and partners to increase and sustain a productive dialogue that will help identify needs and effective capacity-building approaches and foster their adoption. One clear action point was the need for providers to communicate more with each other and collaborate better.

### **3ie Delhi Seminars**

- [Peer comparison interventions: cases from developing countries](#), Saugato Datta, managing director, Ideas42.org, 13 July
- [Do farmers learn from extension services? Evidence from Malawi](#), Annemie Maertens, senior lecturer in economics, 23 August
- [The role of primary research and big data to evaluate Aadhaar](#), Ronald Abraham and Elizabeth Bennett, IDinsight, New Delhi, 22 September

### **3ie-LIDC London Seminar**

- [Improving early grade reading in South Africa: Lessons from a government-led randomised control trial](#), Stephen Taylor and Jacobus Cilliers, South African Department of Basic Education, 4 September

### **3ie-IFPRI Washington Seminar**

- [How early one should start financial education? Evidence from a large scale experiment](#), Caio Piza, World Bank, 15 June

## **New funding**

The National Opinion Research Centre (NORC) at the University of Chicago has awarded us USD90,268 for a systematic review for the USAID Democracy Human Right and Governance: Learning, Evaluation and Research (DRG-LER) programme. DRG-LER is designed to advance learning activities in this US foreign assistance sector and provide critical data on the impact of DRG activities to assist with decision-making.

## **3ie finance update**

As of 30th September 2017, 3ie's assets stood at USD65.50 million, including USD34.59 million held in bank accounts, USD30.48 million as grants receivable, i.e. undisbursed balances in signed grant agreements, USD0.43 million in other receivables, fixed assets and deposits and the accrued liabilities for expense and grants payables at USD1.06 million. Total expenses in the quarter were USD5.58 million, of which USD3.89 million were grant expenses.