



Long Term Impact Evaluation of Rural Preschools in Mozambique

Tracking Survey

Terms of Reference

1. Summary

The survey firm will implement a tracking survey for the long-term impact evaluation of a rural Preschool program in Mozambique, pre-test and obtain the IRB authorization for a longer long-term follow up study. The firm will work under the direct supervision of Co-Principal Investigators Sebastian Martinez and Vitor Pereira, and in close collaboration with the project's Research Assistant and Data Quality Assurance Consultants. This TOR is for the implementation of a tracking survey on a sub-sample of 150 subjects originally from 30 communities in the districts of Bilene, Manjacaze and Xai Xai. The tentative dates for implementation of this consultancy is September 2025 to February 2026.

The tracking survey will attempt to relocate subjects in their current place of residence, whether that is in Gaza, other parts of Mozambique, or internationally. Re-contacts will be made through a combination of face-to-face interviews and remote interviews conducted by telephone, messenger app or similar. The consultant will implement all aspects of the tracking effort, including recruitment and training of enumerators, piloting of instruments and protocols for tracking individuals, programming data entry software, obtaining authorizations to conduct the tracking and conducting a short community leader survey to update basic information about children aged 3-5 from the baseline in 2008. The selected firm will also be responsible for pre-testing the complete long-term follow-up survey and obtaining the IRB for it.

Payment for this service is based on the completion of deliverables. The payment is contingent in part on the number of completed re-contact surveys (\$100 per completed survey up to 100 surveys, and \$400 per completed survey for surveys 101 to 150), with an additional bonus for completion of 80% or more of the sample.

2. Background

The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) promotes evidence-informed equitable, inclusive and sustainable development. We support the generation and effective use of high-quality evidence to inform decision-making and improve the lives of people living in poverty in low- and middle-income countries. We provide guidance and support to produce, synthesize and quality assure evidence of what works, for whom, how, why and at what cost. 3ie is registered as a non-governmental organization in the United States. It has offices in New Delhi, London and Washington, DC.

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3ie's evaluation office is responsible for developing and implementing evidence programs for impact evaluations, reviewing and quality assuring 3ie-funded impact evaluations and conducting in-house evaluations. Currently, the office supports projects and programs across thematic areas like aquaculture, agricultural innovation, sanitation, immunization, peacebuilding, social protection and livelihoods.

3ie seeks a survey firm to conduct a tracking survey to establish likely re-contact and re-interview rates for the long-term impact evaluation of a rural and community based preschool program. The program, implemented by Save the Children in the Gaza province of Mozambique starting in 2008, aimed to improve cognitive, social and emotional development of children aged 3 to 5, and facilitate transition to primary school. The evaluation sample was drawn from eligible households in 76 communities in the Gaza province of Mozambique. Communities were randomly assigned to receive the preschool program. A baseline study of two thousand children and their families was conducted in 2008, with follow-up surveys in 2010 and 2014. Short term effects included gains in several dimensions of child development and improved schooling outcomes.

The current study will measure the long-term impacts of the program when study subjects will be approximately 21 to 23 years old. Long-term outcomes of interest include educational attainment, labor market participation and income, health status and risky behaviors. We will study effects on marriage and fertility and inter-generational transmission of human capital to the next generation of children. As the first evaluation of its kind, this study represents a unique opportunity to shed light on the long-term returns to investment in ECD in a low-income country setting.

The first year of the study will assess the feasibility of locating the original evaluation sample through a tracking survey of approximately 150 subjects (target children) from the original sample. The tracking survey will focus primarily on establishing re-contact rates and collecting data on a reduced set of demographic, educational and socio-economic variables. The survey firm will contribute to developing, testing and implementing different approaches to tracking and developing protocols that can be scaled to achieve similar re-contact rates in the full evaluation sample in a subsequent phase of the long-term study.

The survey firm will attempt to locate and interview the highest percentage of the tracking sample as possible within the time and budget constraints set out for this consultancy. Approaches to re-locating subjects will include in-person field visits by enumerators to the last known place of residence, phone interviews, online searches on social media platforms and other search strategies to be agreed with the survey firm. The survey firm will attempt to identify updated contact information for the subjects through interviews with key-informants, who may include current or former household members, neighbors, friends and community members, community leaders, former teachers, and others. Based on this information, the survey firm will engage in an iterative process of updating the subject's contact information and conducting the search until the tracking survey is successfully completed, or the case is abandoned, based on protocols to be agreed with the survey firm.

This is a 6-month consultancy to be implemented between September 2025 and February 2026.

3. Activities

The selected firm will be responsible for implementing a tracking survey of a subsample of 150 individuals who were part of a 2008 early childhood development impact evaluation conducted in 76 rural communities in Gaza Province, Mozambique. Individuals will be randomly selected from a random sample of 15 treatment communities and 15 control communities out of the 76 communities of the study, in the districts of Bilene, Majacaze and Xai Xai. At the time of recruitment in 2008, subjects were between the ages of 3 and 5 years old.

The tracking survey aims to assess the feasibility of re-contacting subjects, now in the range of approximately 21–23 years old, ahead of a planned follow-up survey in 2026.

The firm will carry out the following activities:

1. Develop a detailed work plan including timelines and deliverables, aligned with the overall project implementation schedule provided by 3ie.
2. Review and adapt the re-contact protocols (phone and in-person), which will be provided by 3ie (See Annex 1 for preliminary recontact specifications). Adaptations must be proposed in writing and approved by 3ie before implementation.
3. Conduct a pretest of the tracking survey with at least six individuals, applying both telephone and in-person recontact strategies to assess the feasibility and effectiveness of each method.
4. Simultaneously pretest the initial version of the long-term follow up (2006) questionnaire, applying it to at least five different individuals from the recontact sample, to test the flow and comprehension of key modules.
5. Produce a detailed report on the recontact pretest, summarizing operational challenges, findings, and specific recommendations to improve the recontact protocols.
6. Produce a report on the long-term follow up (2006) questionnaire pretest, outlining findings related to question clarity, duration, respondent fatigue, and flow.
7. Design and program an electronic re-contact questionnaire to record all attempted recontact activities and administer a short interview (up to 20 minutes) to successfully recontacted individuals. The electronic tool must be built using either SurveyCTO or CSPro, and must include fields for enumerator notes, contact outcomes, and consent. In the field, collect updated locations including GPS location, record the audio for all attempts and take a picture of the place where the face-to-face interview is conducted.
8. Pre-select a pool of potential interviewers, ensuring at least 30% more candidates than the final required number, to allow for selection based on performance. Interviewers have to be proficient in Portuguese and Changana.
9. Train all preselected staff, including supervisors and enumerators, on the recontact protocols, electronic tools, and ethical considerations (e.g., informed consent).
10. Conduct a final staff selection process, using a test to be agreed with 3ie. Only candidates scoring above a pre-determined threshold agreed with 3ie may be deployed to the field.
11. Carry out the recontact field activities, strictly following the agreed protocols, and documenting all attempts and outcomes.
12. During community visits, validate the available information for all individuals listed in the baseline even if they are not part of the recontact pilot sample—by liaising with local leaders or community informants.

13. When recontact information is insufficient, take proactive measures to obtain new or updated data that will facilitate successful contact with the individual of interest (e.g., by reaching out to community members, family, 2008 peers, or through school records).
14. Consolidate daily recontact data in a central, secure database that is accessible to the 3ie team.
15. Participate in regular coordination meetings (daily or as otherwise agreed) with the 3ie team, providing updates and discussing challenges encountered in the field.
16. Deliver a final, fully consolidated dataset, containing complete information on all individuals attempted for recontact.
17. Prepare a final recontact report, detailing key results, operational challenges, success rates, and practical recommendations to refine the protocols for the 2026 full-scale follow-up.
18. Conduct a second pretest of the revised version of the long-term follow-up (2026) questionnaire. Prior to this pretest, the firm must complete coding the questionnaire in SurveyCTO or CSPro. Given the questionnaire's extended length, the selected firm should allocate sufficient time for coding in their project timeline, as this process may require considerable development time.
19. Prepare a version 2 of the long-term follow up (2026) questionnaire pretest report, documenting the results of this iteration and any further suggestions for improvement.
20. Secure all local and national authorizations required for implementation of the tracking survey before starting fieldwork, including the bioethics committee and any other local institutional review board (IRB) approval.
21. Liaise with national and local authorities to gather information of long-run outcomes of individuals from administrative data, such as school records of individuals.
22. Secure all local and national authorizations required for implementation of the long-term follow up survey planned for 2026, including the bioethics committee and any other local institutional review board (IRB) approval.

3.1 Data collection

In order to standardize data collection in all of the samples and monitor field operations, the field teams will collect the information using the technology platforms indicated, such as hand-held electronic devices for data capture and real-time data transfer using digital servers for data storage, popularly called computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI). The selected firm will program the questionnaires, CAPI or CATI, in either SurveyCTO or CSPro. In case the selected firm chooses to program in SurveyCTO, 3ie will provide the license. All attempts and interviews, CAPI or CATI, will be audio recorded for quality assurance.

The GPS location will be taken when tracking occurs in the field. In case the subject is found in the field and a face-to-face interview is successful, a picture of the front of the house will be taken, to facilitate locating the household in the long-term full data collection. GPS tracking of the enumerators might be collected, to ensure quality assurance.

3ie has the right to invalidate the interviews if the more than 10% of the questions in the data do not conform to the audio recordings.

The selected firm is responsible for all the logistics of the data collection, including training of enumerators, transportation, lodging, etc...

3ie is responsible for designing the questionnaire, which can be refined jointly with the selected firm.

The selected firm will also be responsible for obtaining all the approvals necessary to begin tracking subjects, including the approval of the bioethics committee and other approvals from national and local authorities.

In addition, the firm will be responsible for obtaining approval for the long-term follow up data collection with a longer interview, planned for 2026.

The selected firm will also liaise with local and national authorities to gather administrative data on outcomes of the individuals, such as school records.

The selected firm will be responsible for providing tablets and any other hardware needed for data collection.

3.2 Ethical and secure data collection, entry and transmission procedures and safeguards

Any personal identification information during household surveying should be securely kept with the field team, which must inform the evaluation team and take appropriate remedial actions in case of any loss of sensitive data.

The selected firm will provide access to the Survey CTO or CSPro Console, allowing for real-time download of the data collected. Access will be granted only for the 3ie research team, including the PIs, and the field coordinator and Sistemas Integrales Consulting, who will sign appropriate terms of confidentiality and sensitive data protection. 3ie will not have the privilege to exclude, include or modify any information at Survey CTO console.

Any evidence of data fabrication or fraud will lead to immediate replacement of the enumerator(s).

All agreements on further details of data collection between 3ie and the selected firm will be written and shared among the parts by email.

4. Data ownership

3ie would retain the right to the full data, with complete access to all names, addresses, georeferencing codes and survey data for individuals, households and institutions gathered through this exercise. The agency must be available to respond to queries after submission of the datasets.

5. Characteristics of the consultancy

Type of consultancy: International consultancy (survey firm)

Duration of the consultancy: The duration of the tracking survey is six months between September 2025 and February 2026.

Work location: Face-to-face re-contact surveys will be conducted in the Gaza Province of Mozambique and potentially Maputo and other areas identified to have a large number of

subjects. Subjects who have migrated to areas where transportation costs are prohibitive will be interviewed by phone.

6. Qualifications

Applicants must meet these minimum requirements to be considered:

- Only legally registered organizations in Mozambique, or consortia of such registered organizations, are eligible to apply. The survey partner should be based in Mozambique and have relevant and extensive experience conducting household surveys in the context of Mozambique. Experience with longitudinal surveys and tracking will be beneficial.
- The partner should have demonstrated experience and expertise in conducting CAPI using tablets, including managing all aspects of programming, data entry, ethical data storage and management, and data quality assurance.
- The partner will have demonstrated expertise in data quality assurance, including conducting high-frequency checks during data collection, identifying and cross-verification of data discrepancies and data cleaning.
- The partner must have sufficient expert staff, including skilled enumerators and supervisors, on board with availability to work from the time of signing the contract with 3ie.
- For-profit organizations are eligible to apply, but the indirect cost recovery is limited to 10 percent of direct costs.

7. Expected Deliverables

The firm will be responsible for producing the following outputs:

1. Detailed implementation work plan
2. Adapted recontact protocols (phone and in-person)
3. Recontact pretest report
4. Questionnaire version 1 pretest report of the long-term follow up survey
5. Electronic data collection instrument for recontact (SurveyCTO or CSPro)
6. Training materials for enumerators and supervisors
7. Final list of selected field personnel
8. IRB Approval for the tracking
9. IRB Approval for the long-term follow up survey
10. Partial, consolidated recontact dataset with audio recordings, GPS locations and pictures
11. Final, consolidated recontact dataset with audio recordings, GPS locations and pictures, Final Report on recontact activities
12. Questionnaire of long-term follow up survey version 2 pretest report
13. Final fieldwork report

8. Proposal format

Proposals should include the following information:

- A description of the organization's experience and qualifications to carry out the proposed scope of work (use the format in Appendix A)

- A work plan describing how the partner will complete the scope of work outlined above, a description of personnel roles and project management structure, duty of care policies and procedures in place, and risk identification and mitigation plans.
- Indicative field plan with field team structure, team size (enumerators and supervisors) and expected productivity given the context to ensure timely completion of data collection
- Indicative data quality assurance plan charting out briefly how the survey firm will assure submission of high-quality tracking data
- Financial proposal that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price for the project and a budget using the 3ie budget template
- Estimated timeline for the completion of main activities, as well as a breakdown of the costs

The qualifications, methods and work plan should not exceed 15 pages, using 11pt Arial font, 1.15-line spacing and 1-inch margins.

9. Indicative budget and payment

We expect proposed budgets up to a ceiling of USD 50,000 (including taxes). We will only consider proposals above this range if those include a substantive and compelling justification in the proposal. Please note that the number of completed re-contact surveys is approximately 150 surveys.

Payment will be made against approved deliverables according to the following schedule. Note that the total payment amount is partially contingent on the number of successful re-contacts. 3ie will conduct regular supervision and data quality assurance. Evidence of data falsification will be considered a breach of contract and may result in penalties, including cancellation of contract.

Payment	Deliverables	Payment	Date (on or before)
1	1. Detailed implementation work plan	\$10,000	Contract signing
2	2. Adapted recontact protocols (phone and in-person) 3. Recontact pretest report 4. Questionnaire 2026 version 1 pretest report 5. Electronic data collection instrument for recontact (SurveyCTO or CSPro) 6. Training materials for enumerators and supervisors 7. Final list of selected field personnel 8. IRB Approval	\$10,000	October 31 2025

Payment	Deliverables	Payment	Date (on or before)
3	9. Partial, consolidated recontact dataset	Based on # of completed surveys as of November 15, 2025 Payment according to following schedule: \$100 per completed survey for the first 100 surveys. \$400 per completed survey for surveys 101 to 150.	November 15 2025
	10. Final, consolidated recontact dataset 11. Final Report on recontact activities 12. Questionnaire 2026 version 2 pretest report 13. Final fieldwork report	Based on # of completed surveys as of February 15, 2026. Payment according to following schedule: \$100 per completed survey for the first 100 surveys. \$400 per completed survey for surveys 101 to 150. An additional bonus of \$5000 will be paid if 80% or more of the sample is completed (120 completed surveys or more).	February 15 2026

10. Selection

All proposals that qualify will be reviewed by a 3ie panel using a combined scoring method. The qualifications and methodology will be weighted at 70 percent, and combined with the price offer, which will be weighted at 30 percent. The technical part of the application will be assessed on the strength of the proposal that best fits 3ie's needs, as well as previous experiences of the provider in executing similar projects. 3ie may request a selected shortlist of firms to make presentations of their approach. 3ie may provide comments and request a resubmission if the proposal does not receive adequate scores. All shortlisted organizations are mandatorily required to go through the due diligence assessment (DDA) process to ensure compliance with 3ie requirements. The DDA process for organizations is designed to assess organizational capacity, governance, safeguarding, financial management, and risk mitigation systems. 3ie reserves the right to not award the contract in case no applicant meets the requirements.

11. Submission

Please submit complete proposals to mozambique_ie@3ieimpact.org, with the subject line, 'Proposal for Mozambique tracking survey.' The last date for submission of proposals is 4 July 2025 by 23:59 CAT. Early submissions are encouraged. Only complete submissions meeting the eligibility requirements will be considered. 3ie will only contact shortlisted survey firms. Requests for clarifications before final application may be directed to mozambique_ie@3ieimpact.org by 25 June 2025.

Appendix A: Survey firm's experience

Provide details of experience in undertaking large-scale household surveys or Impact Evaluations of nation-wide/inter-division/division-wide development projects or sub-divisional governments or their agencies/multilateral agencies/ international NGOs/ corporate sector during the last 3 years.

Please provide brief description of the projects in which CAPI was used for data collection including the name of the client, name of the project, states covered, households sample size, no of questionnaires used/ modules, average time required to administer a schedule/module, number of CAPI devices used, status of the project and so on.

Name of Project	Client	Scope of work Sample	Duration of Assignment	Value of Contract	Total HHs	No of Modules	Average time required to administer the HH schedule	No of CAPI devices used	No of enumerators	Data quality assurance mechanisms used	Contact details of references from at least 3 projects

Appendix B: Preliminary tracking protocol

Tracking sample protocol

This document outlines the sampling protocol for selection of a tracking sample to establish likely re-contact rates in a long-term follow-up survey of the Mozambique Preschool study. The original study sample recruited at baseline in 2008 was of 2000 children ages 3-5 and their families. In the latest re-contact in 2014 approximately 1700 children were successfully re-contacted.

2025 Tracking Sample

1. To establish a re-contact rate of 80% (CI 70%-90%) with confidence of 0.05 and power of 0.8 a sample of 137 observations is required. We propose a tracking sample of 150 subjects.
2. A stratified sample will be drawn in two stages:
 - a. First, a sample of 15 treatment and 15 control localities will be drawn at random to conform the sample of tracking communities
 - b. Second, a simple random sample of 5 subjects with complete re-contact information from the 2014 survey will be drawn for each tracking sample community
3. The tracking survey will attempt to contact the tracking sample of 150 individuals, attempting face-to-face or remote re-contact with the subject (target child). The case will be classified as a successful re-contact if:
 - i. The subject is located and the tracking survey is completed
 - ii. The subject is located remotely by phone, messenger or similar and the survey is completed
 - iii. The subject is located in person or remotely and the interview is refused by the subject
 - iv. The subject is confirmed to be deceased by a key informant such as a relative, friend, teacher, community leader or neighbor.
4. The re-contact will be considered unsuccessful if the subject is not located, even if his or her former household members are successfully located.
5. The tracking survey will consist of a short (up to 20 minute) survey to collect updated recontact information, and a reduced number of demographic and outcome variables.
6. The community leader survey will consist of a short (approximately 10 minutes) interview.