



Terms of reference for a consultant team

Measurement of latrine use in rural India project

Issue date: 20 April 2017

Application submission deadline: 18:00 Indian Standard Time (IST), 25 May 2017

1. Overview

The [International Initiative for Impact Evaluation \(3ie\)](#), in collaboration with the [Research Institute for Compassionate Economics \(r.i.c.e.\)](#), is inviting applications from research organisations or consortia for a latrine use measurement project under its Promoting Latrine Use in Rural India Thematic Window.

The selected consultant team (henceforth called the measurement team) is expected to test different data collection tools to measure latrine use. The measurement team will also be expected to independently collect data on latrine use within project areas in rural India where 3ie is supporting impact evaluations. The objective of this project is to compare latrine use measurements across different settings in rural India using standardised methods and practices.

2. Introduction to 3ie's Promoting Latrine Use in Rural India Thematic Window

3ie's [Promoting Latrine Use in Rural India Thematic Window](#) aims to generate evidence on the design and implementation of context-specific, low-cost interventions to promote latrine use in rural India. This programme will award grants to five or six teams (henceforth called grantee teams) for implementing and evaluating interventions that can be scaled-up with the resources available through the Government of India's national sanitation programme, *Swachh Bharat Mission* (SBM) or Clean India Mission. The interventions may be implemented in SBM-covered villages or in areas where similar programmes have been implemented.

The grantee teams are expected to follow best practices when measuring latrine use. These teams will be using standardised methodology for measuring latrine use, which includes surveys and latrine observations. Some teams may also use direct observation.

The duration of the impact evaluations under this grant window is 18 months. The grantee teams will be selected from a pool of nine study teams that had been awarded grants for

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conducting formative studies from January to April 2017 in eight Indian states – Telangana, Bihar, Odisha, Karnataka, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

In May 2017, these teams will submit impact evaluation proposals and five or six teams will be awarded grants. The settings or the geographical areas where these impact evaluations will be carried out may differ from the formative study settings. The final list of the states and districts, where impact evaluations will be carried out, will be available by July 2017. The selected measurement team will be expected to work in these project areas to carry out the independent study on latrine use measurement.

3. Scope of the measurement team's work

The latrine use measurement project has two goals:

1. Test different data collection tools that measure latrine use.
2. Measure latrine use among a randomly-selected subset of each grantee team's study sample.

The study settings are rural areas across multiple states in India. The team selected to conduct the latrine use measurement study will be required to collect data during both the baseline and endline periods of each grantee team's impact evaluation. All logistical requirements including translation, transportation and accommodation are the responsibility of the agency selected for the measurement study.

Grantee teams will be collecting data on a common set of variables to measure latrine use. For comparability, the measurement team will also be required to collect data on the same set of variables, in addition to other data. The measurement team will be expected to collect data using these approaches:

1. latrine observations,
2. household surveys, and
3. direct observation of defecation behavior.

For conducting research on accuracy and acceptability of data collection tools for latrine use, the measurement team may generate additional hypotheses and tools. The team is expected to qualitatively or quantitatively test these questions. The measurement team would be required to share these additional questions and tools, along with the study design, with 3ie and r.i.c.e. before they are used in the field.

After each round of data collection, the measurement team will be required to submit a report that compares their estimates of latrine use with those generated by the grantee teams. The comparison would need to be done separately for treatment and control subsamples for each project. These reports should also discuss what has been learned about the questions and tools that measure latrine use most accurately.

Specific deliverables and outputs from the latrine use measurement project

- A plan for exploring questions and tools that measure latrine use most accurately
- Datasets and associated code files generated from data collection

- Two synthesis reports of findings – after baseline and endline – comparing latrine use estimates and providing an overview of lessons learned regarding the questions and tools that measure latrine use most accurately

Selection of villages for the latrine use measurement study

The measurement team will have to randomly select villages from each grantee team's sample. For the endline, randomly selected villages should cover treatment and control villages in equal proportions. Within villages, households will have to be selected randomly from grantee team sample households. We expect the measurement team to visit approximately 20 to 30 villages per impact evaluation project, and to spend one day collecting data in each village.

4. Budget

The maximum budget for the latrine use measurement project, including all indirect costs, is US \$130,000. Proposals exceeding this amount will not be considered.

5. Eligibility

1. The call is open to any legally registered organisation with experience implementing or evaluating sanitation programmes in any low- or middle-income countries. However, priority will be given to agencies familiar with sanitation measurement in rural India.
2. Only legally registered organisations, or consortia of registered organisations, not individuals may apply.
3. Organisations that are 3ie grantees under its Promoting latrine use in rural India thematic window are not eligible to apply.
4. Each proposal must be submitted by a single organisation that may include others as sub-grantees (in accordance with 3ie's [direct](#) and [indirect](#) cost policies).
5. All funds will be disbursed from 3ie's Washington D.C. office, and the grant-holding organisation should meet the necessary regulatory requirements to receive them. Indian organisations should be Foreign Contribution Regulation Act compliant.
6. For-profit organisations may apply, but are restricted to the same indirect cost limits as non-profit organisations and may not charge a fee.
7. Budgets should be submitted in US dollars, and should not exceed US\$130,000, including all sub-grantee and indirect costs.
8. Teams should include Indian nationals based in India, preferably with knowledge of the regional languages spoken at study sites.

6. Timeline

Details on the tentative timeline for this project is provided in the table below.

Table 1. Tentative timeline for independent latrine use measurement project.

Activity or deliverable	Key dates (Deadline: 1800 IST)
Terms of reference (ToR) document is posted	20 April 2017
Deadline for submitting queries related to ToR	2 May 2017
Responses to queries posted on 3ie website	4 May 2017
Deadline for submission of applications	25 May 2017
3ie announces selected measurement team	16 June 2017
Meetings between 3ie, measurement team and grantee teams	by mid-July 2017
Baseline measurements	September – December 2017
Preliminary baseline synthesis report submitted to 3ie	January 2018
Results of report shared with grantee teams for feedback	January 2018
Feedback on report received from grantee teams and r.i.c.e.	February 2018
Comments for revision submitted to measurement team	February 2018
Final baseline synthesis report submitted to 3ie	March 2018
Mid-term learning workshop	June 2018
Endline measurements	September – December 2018
Preliminary endline synthesis report submitted to 3ie	January 2019
Results of report shared with grantee teams for feedback	January 2019
Feedback on report received from grantees and r.i.c.e.	February 2019
Comments for revision submitted to measurement team	February 2019
Final endline report submitted to 3ie	March 2019

7. Selection criteria

3ie and r.i.c.e will review submitted applications. 3ie may provide comments and request applicants to make changes to their applications. 3ie reserves the right not to award any grant in case we don't receive applications of adequate quality. Table 2 provides the selection criteria and weights for the assessment of proposals.

Table 2. Application selection criteria

Selection criteria	Weight (%)
Qualifications of team <i>Assessed from the CVs, application and sample publications</i>	15
Sanitation experience of team, especially in rural India <i>Assessed from the CVs, application and sample publications</i>	25
Technical quality of proposal <i>Assessed from the application</i>	40
Cost-effectiveness <i>Assessed from the budget</i>	20

8. Application components

Completed applications must include the following documents and information:

1. Completed [application form](#) (.doc or .docx format);
2. Curriculum vitae of all team members (pdf or word format);
3. Up to three relevant publications related to this project (one pdf file); and
4. A completed [3ie budget form following 3ie budget guidelines](#).

9. Submission guidelines

The completed application must be submitted to tw14@3ieimpact.org with a cc to slahiri@3ieimpact.org and sangita@riceinstitute.org with the subject "Measurement Application." Please submit the complete application package in a single email by **18:00 IST, 25 May 2017**

Budget notes may be submitted as a separate Microsoft® Word or .rtf file in font size equal to or larger than 11.

Please direct any questions related to this terms of reference to tw14@3ieimpact.org with 'measurement query' in the subject line.

Only shortlisted organisations will be contacted.