



International Initiative for Impact Evaluation

From assuring access to ensuring success

The story of the National Social Protection Agency,
Maldives

3ie Member Webinar Series

Webinar no. 05

February 28, 2017

3ie Member Webinar Series

- What is it?
 - Quarterly “members only” webinars
 - Explore issues and innovations related to rigorous evidence for development decision making.
 - Presented by members, 3ie staff, and external experts
- Why?
 - Promote member innovations
 - Demand for peer learning
 - Strengthen community of practice
 - Engage with more staff from member agencies



Our speakers

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International Initiative for Impact Evaluation

Working together

How 3ie and its members collaborate to achieve evidence-informed policy

Ritwik Sarkar

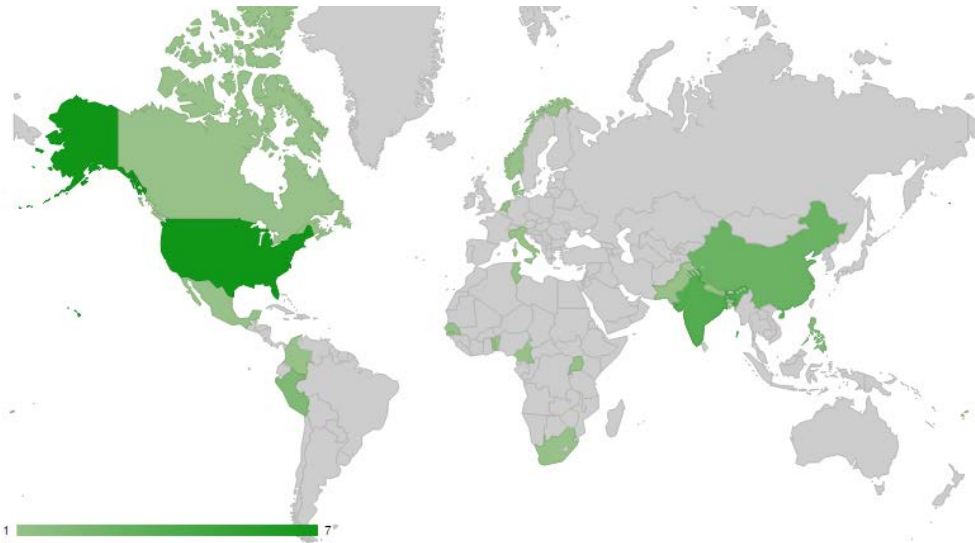
Research Associate, 3ie

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What is a Policy Window Grant?

- A **demand-driven** grant window that supports impact evaluation of programmes and policies identified by the developing country governments, NGOs and other implementing agencies
- Demand for evidence regarding the effectiveness of a programme or policy comes **directly** from the agency implementing it.



3ie members from the south organizations are eligible for a policy window grant

NSPA and 3ie: Background

- NSPA approached 3ie in 2015 with an interest in conducting impact evaluations of some its programmes.
- A Memorandum of Understanding with 3ie was signed in April 2015 to examine potential for conducting IE in the areas of health, education, local governance and infrastructure
- NSPA and 3ie identified four of programmes for rigorous impact evaluation to inform and strengthen their development:

- (1) Single Parent Allowance Programme;**
- (2) Disability Allowance Programme;**
- (3) Food Subsidy Programme;** and
- (4) Destitute Assistance Programme.**



NSPA and 3ie: Choosing the right team

- A Request for Qualification for selecting a research team to conduct the impact evaluation in 2 phases (Proposal preparation and impact evaluation) was launched by 3ie in January 2016.
- NSPA and 3ie worked together to determine the right mix of skills a team would require.
- After a rigorous selection process **London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine** was awarded a proposal preparation grant to determine the most appropriate program to be evaluated.
- LSHTM then conducted formative work with NSPA, the Ministry of Law and Gender, UNICEF, The Care Society, the Ministry of Planning, the Health Protection Agency. This included workshops, interviews and plenty of document analysis.



NSPA and 3ie: Finding the right target

- After the formative study, LSHTM and NSPA decided that the **Disability Allowance program** was best placed to be evaluated through an IE design. Some of the reasons they cited for its selection include:
 - It is the largest cash transfer program in the Maldives, having been established in 2010 and covering 6800 participants;
 - The amount of funding provided to participants is larger than for other programs, making estimating impact easier; and
 - It has not yet been evaluated.
- The LSHTM team then worked with NSPA to determine the Theory of Change and primary evaluation question.
- The IE commenced in February 2017

