



## International Initiative for Impact Evaluation

*Improving lives through impact evaluation*



## Quarterly Report October – December 2013

### Policy influence updates from 3ie-funded studies

#### **Empowering voters with information**

The Ministry of Rural Development in India is working with a researcher from a 3ie-funded study of voter education to make information on the [Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act](#) accessible to the public and officials. This initiative follows on the [Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab \(J-PAL\)](#) study, which showed the importance of information provided to the public in pre-election voter awareness campaigns.

#### **Mexican NGO strengthens evaluation capacity after 3ie study experience**

Following a [3ie-funded study](#) of their slum upgrading programme, the Mexican NGO, TECHO, has now set up its own monitoring and evaluation unit, and intends to conduct impact evaluations of all its programmes in future. The 3ie-funded study provided support for TECHO's plan to broaden its work in slums beyond housing provision.

### 3ie publications

**Impact Evaluations: Agriculture and rural development:** [Providing collateral and improving product market access for smallholder farmers: inventory credit in Sierra Leone](#), [Impact of the irrigation improvement component of Agricultural Sector Program Loan](#), [Does marginal cost pricing of electricity affect the groundwater pumping behaviour of farmers? Evidence from India](#) **Education:** [The Impact of Mother Literacy and Participation Programs on Child Learning](#), [Paying for performance in China's battle against anaemia](#) **Governance: Aid and accountability:** [Governance effects of a CDD program in eastern Congo](#), [An impact evaluation of information disclosure on elected representatives' performance in India](#), [The GoBifo project evaluation report: Assessing the impacts of community-driven development in Sierra Leone](#), [Truth telling by third-party audits and the response of polluting firms: Experimental evidence from India](#) **Health, Nutrition and Population:** [Scaling up Male Circumcision Service Provision](#), [The Diffusion of Health Knowledge through Social Networks: An Impact Evaluation of Health Knowledge Asymmetries on Child Health in Burkina Faso](#), [Estimating the Effectiveness of a Food Supplementation Intervention Integrated into an AIDS Care and Treatment Program](#), [Impact of malaria control and enhanced literacy instruction on educational outcomes among Kenyan school children: a multi-sectoral, prospective, randomised evaluation](#), [No margin, no mission? Evaluating the role of incentives in the distribution of public goods in Zambia](#) **Multisector:** [Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty \(LEAP\) in Nicaragua](#) **Social Protection:** [Impact evaluation of the non-contributory social pension programme 70 y más](#), [The Impact of Day Care on Maternal Labor Supply and Child Development in Mexico](#), [An Impact Evaluation of the UCT program:](#)

[Evidence from the Indonesia, Improving Targeting in CCT Programmes in Indonesia, Cash Transfers, Health Insurance and Health Outcomes in Ghana LEAP](#) **Urban development:** [Building a Brighter Future: A Randomized Experiment of Slum-Housing Upgrading in Mexico](#) **Water and Sanitation:** [The Impact of Water Supply and Sanitation on Child Health: Evidence from Egypt](#), [Do Piped Water and Flush Toilets Prevent Child Diarrhea in Rural Philippines?](#), [Do Water and Sanitation Interventions Reduce Childhood Diarrhoea? New Evidence from Bangladesh](#)

**Systematic Reviews: Education:** [School Enrolment Policies and Programs in developing nations](#) **Trade:** [What are the effects of free trade zones on employment and wages?](#) **Urban development:** [Slum upgrading strategies involving physical environment and infrastructure interventions and their effects on health and socio-economic outcome](#)

## Policy Window

Three grants were made during the last quarter under 3ie's Policy Window, which engages low- and middle-income agencies in identifying their evaluation priorities. An impact evaluation grant was given to Human Sciences Resource Council in Pretoria for a study on improving early-grade reading in South Africa. Proposal preparation grants were also awarded to the Population Council for an impact evaluation that will analyse the impact of removing user fees on universal health coverage in eastern, central and southern Africa and the Institute for Financial Management and Research for designing an impact evaluation of a programme that aims to reduce maternal and neo-natal mortality in Kerala, India.

## Thematic Windows

### **Voluntary Male Medical Circumcision (VMMC) Thematic Window**

Seven awards have been made for studies of pilot projects in Tanzania, South Africa, Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Uganda.

3ie staff got a chance to visit one of the implementing agencies during a site visit to Grassroot Soccer's Football for Hope Centre, where they observed Grassroot Soccer's approach in action. The centre integrates improving children's soccer skills with improving their HIV prevention knowledge. 3ie is funding an impact evaluation of Grassroot Soccer's VMMC work in Zimbabwe.

### **Humanitarian Assistance Thematic Window**

3ie has commissioned two studies in preparation for contracting studies under this window. Evidence Aid is producing a scoping study to identify priority questions for evaluations in the humanitarian sector. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, together with 3ie's Evaluation Office, are reviewing methodologies to conduct impact evaluations in the humanitarian sector.

The Request for Qualifications for proposal preparation grants for this new window will be launched on **7 February**. The deadline for applications will be at the end of February.

### **Evidence programme on HIV/AIDS treatment cascade**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) awarded 3ie a grant to fund an evidence programme on the HIV/AIDS treatment cascade. This thematic window will operate synergistically with Pangaia Global Health's Best Practices, for which they a grant (also from BMGF), to produce case

studies on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. To initiate scoping work for this window, 3ie hosted an expert task force meeting during the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa in December in Cape Town, South Africa.

## Replication Window

### 3ie published two new replication plans this quarter:

- [Fighting Corruption to Improve Schooling](#)
- [India's Janani Suraksha Yojana](#)

## International Development Coordinating Group

### New systematic review titles

- Preventive Interventions to Reduce Youth Gang Violence in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Systematic Review
- Predictors of Youth Gang Membership in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Systematic Review.
- Interventions to Improve Labour Market Outcomes of Youth: A Systematic Review of Training, Entrepreneurship Promotion, Employment Services, Mentoring, and Subsidised Employment Interventions

### New systematic review protocols

- Impact of Payment for E-Services and De-centralized Forest Management on Environmental and Host Communities' Welfare: A Systematic Review
- Interventions to Promote the Inclusion of Adults with Physical and Sensory Disabilities in Employment: A Systematic Review

## Gap maps

3ie staff published a World Bank working paper entitled *Evidence gap maps - a tool for promoting evidence-informed policy and prioritizing future research*. Click [here](#) to read more.

## Registry of International Development Impact Evaluations

3ie held the first of five lotteries for a prize of a tablet computer to be awarded to authors registering planned studies in our new Registry of International Development Impact Evaluations (RIDIE).

## Bursary Programme

3ie announced its [bursary](#) plans for 2014, though we remain open to other courses which may be of interest.

During this quarter, 3ie awarded 18 bursaries to African participants for the CLEAR impact evaluation course in South Africa, of which eight were for 3ie member agencies. Existing bursary holders attended courses in London (RIPA), the IEN meeting in Lima, Peru, and a two-day meeting to discuss the inclusion of quasi-experimental studies in systematic reviews of health systems research held at the Harvard School of Public Health.

## New funding and membership

BMGF awarded 3ie a new grant of US\$2.6 million to fund the evidence programme under the HIV/AIDS Treatment Cascade Thematic Window. During the quarter, 3ie also received supplemental funding from the foundation for the HIV prevention grant (VMMC and HIV self-testing thematic windows, totaling US\$4.8 million) and the combination prevention grant (US\$2.6 million). Discussions continued on the renewal of core funding.

3ie signed a grant agreement with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for impact evaluations of development programmes in Philippines for AUS\$4 million.

Danida awarded 3ie a new grant of US\$0.4 million to fund the Climate Change Thematic Window. DFID awarded 3ie a new grant of GBP 0.6 million to fund the Transparency and Accountability Thematic Window.

At the 10<sup>th</sup> 3ie Board meeting, the commissioners agreed that membership fees for the multilateral organisation category will be US\$50,000 per annum for organisations that sign a MoU for membership for two years on or before 31 December 2014. The African Development Bank became the first agency to take advantage of these lower dues, joining in December 2013.

Membership discussions continued with the Ministry of Labor in Cameroon and the National Social Protection Agency of the Maldives.

## 3ie at events

3ie organised five events during the quarter, with over 200 participants, of whom half were policymakers and programme managers.

3ie staff also participated in 13 external events organised by other agencies that reached 605 people, including 511 policymakers and programme managers.

## 3ie finance update

As on 31 December 2013, 3ie's assets stood at US\$84.59 million, comprising US\$47.90 million held in Citibank accounts, US\$39.93 million as grants receivable, i.e. undisbursed balances in signed grant agreements, US\$0.22 million in other receivables, fixed assets and deposits and the accrued liabilities for grants and expense payables at US\$ 3.46 million. Total expenses in the quarter were US\$6.75 million, of which US\$5.03 million were grant expenses.

## 3ie in the media

- Howard White was featured on a radio programme, [The story of Aid](#) on the Rear Vision programme on Australia's ABC Radio.
- Jyotsna Puri spoke about 3ie on an Indian community radio programme [Radio Mewat FM 90.4](#), which has 500,000 listeners.