



**International Initiative
for Impact Evaluation**

DFID Department for
International
Development

Review of Expressions of Interest for the Social Protection Thematic Window

We received a total of **220 Expressions Of Interest (EOI)**. Of these, **84** EOIs have been invited to submit a full application.

The 220 EOIs covered 70 countries with a strong focus on Sub-Saharan Africa (39%), South Asia (23%) and Latin America and the Caribbean (23%). Furthermore, 75% of the EOIs sought evidence on research questions that related to the overall impact of social protection programmes, while 16% focused on design issues related to social protection programmes and 9% related to analysis of the political and institutional conditions that determine the selection of the programmatic approach.

The EOIs were subject to a review by an internal and an external reviewer. Of the 220 EOIs, 122 were considered to have a sufficiently rigorous methodology and to meet the definition of social protection as stated in the request for proposals. 3ie and DFID analysed the selected 122 EOIs to decide on the selection of clusters of research proposals. Three clusters were selected: 1) public works programmes (22 EOIs), 2) unconditional/social and conditional cash transfers (60 EOIs) and 3) youth training and labour insertion (22 EOIs). The 84 EOIs in the clusters have a very strong focus on Sub-Saharan Africa (51%) and Latin-America and the Caribbean (30%), while 14% of the 84 EOIs cover evaluations in South Asia.

3ie and DFID selected the clusters based primarily on the enduring questions raised in the scoping report. The scoping report concludes that both public works programs and youth training and labour insertion programs are under-researched. Additionally, the scoping report suggests focusing on design issues related to unconditional/social and conditional cash transfer programs. 3ie and DFID consider the 84 selected EOIs to be of sufficient quality to answer the enduring questions raised in the scoping report.