



International Initiative for Impact Evaluation

Improving lives through impact evaluation



Quarterly Report July - September 2014

New reports in 3ie Impact Evaluation Report Series

Social Protection: [A youth wage subsidy experiment for South Africa](#), [Assessing long-term impacts of conditional cash transfers on children and young adults in rural Nicaragua](#), **Health, Nutrition and Population:** [Scaling up male circumcision service provision: results from a randomised evaluation in Malawi](#) **Education:** [The impact of mother literacy and participation programmes on child learning: evidence from a randomised evaluation in India](#) **Governance:** [An impact evaluation of information disclosure on elected representatives' performance: evidence from rural and urban India](#)
Agriculture and rural development: [Providing collateral and improving product market access for smallholder farmers: a randomised evaluation of inventory credit in Sierra Leone](#), [A randomised evaluation of the effects of an agricultural insurance programme on rural households' behaviour: evidence from China](#).

Making Impact Evaluation Matter conference

The Making Impact Evaluation Matter conference brought together 600 participants – a mix of researchers, policymakers, programme managers and development practitioners - for the first major international conference on impact evaluations and systematic reviews in Asia. The event, which ran from 1 to 5 September 2014 in Manila, was organised by 3ie in partnership with the [Asian Development Bank](#) and the [Philippine Institute for Development Studies](#).

New video lectures on impact evaluation

[3ie-Asian Development Bank video lecture series](#) : This video lecture series is a primer on impact evaluations, systematic reviews and policy engagement. Experts in these areas use plain language and graphics to explain technical concepts. By drawing from several case studies, they illustrate how rigorous methods are used to assess the impact of development programmes in multiple sectors.

Policy window updates

Country Policy Window: community-based health initiatives in Bihar. We issued a [request for qualifications](#) for proposal preparation grants for two community-based initiatives (*Gram Varta* and the *Uddeepan* initiative, focused on improving the functioning of nodal *Anganwadi* centres under the Sector Wide Approaches to Strengthen Health in Bihar, India. We received ten applications for the *Gram Varta* initiative and nine for the *Uddeepan* initiative.

Policy Window 2: integrating technology with learning in Senegal and Kenya. We held an inception workshop in collaboration with Neil Butcher and Associates in Johannesburg, South Africa to aid the design and implementation of two impact evaluations in Senegal and Kenya. The

inception workshop brought together implementers on the ground, the evaluation research team and also 3ie staff.

Policy window 3: edutainment in Egypt. We have awarded an impact evaluation grant to a team from J-PAL and the Paris School of Economics to measure the effects of entrepreneurship edutainment that teach young Egyptians entrepreneurial skills and good business practices.

West African Development Bank's regional food security programme. We received eight applications in response to our [request for qualifications](#) for proposal preparation grants for the impact evaluation of West African Development Bank's regional food security programme.

Design clinic in South Africa. Heather Lanthorn and Jyotsna Puri conducted design clinics in conjunction with the South African Presidency's Department for Planning Monitoring and Evaluation that representatives from 13 national departments attended. The workshop focused on the design of implementation (or process) evaluations.

Thematic window updates

Jordan and Lebanon Humanitarian Assistance Thematic Window: We have awarded a proposal preparation grant to a team from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health to design an impact evaluation of the [cash versus electronic vouchers pilot programme](#) for Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon. The programme has been implemented by the World Food Programme.

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Humanitarian Assistance Thematic Window: We have awarded two proposal preparation grants, one to a research team from the Catholic University of Bukavu and another one to a research team from Rebuild Hope for Africa, to design impact evaluations of [humanitarian assistance interventions](#) in the DRC. We held inception workshops with both teams to aid in the design of the impact evaluation.

Thematic Window on Transparency and Accountability of Natural Resource Governance: We issued a [request for qualifications](#) for impact evaluations of initiatives aimed at improving transparency and accountability of governance of natural resources in the extractives sector.

One full impact evaluation grant has been awarded under this window to the Kumasi Institute of Technology, Energy and Environment which will be conducting an impact evaluation of various components of Ghana's Petroleum Revenue Management Act.

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Thematic Window: We held an inception workshop in The Philippines that brought together nine teams that have been awarded proposal preparation grants under the window, with representation from both the researchers and the implementers. Each team made a joint presentation that covered the context, research questions and theory of change of the projects being prepared.

HIV Oral Self-Testing Thematic Window:

Kenya: We held a selection panel committee meeting in Melbourne on 24 July to select awards for the second phase of the HIV self-testing grants. Committee members included representatives from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, a Kenyan government official, a researcher from the Harvard School of Public Health and 3ie. We received nine applications for three available grants. The panel voted to award the three grants to University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Jhpiego and City University of New York. We held a post-award workshop in Nairobi on 11-12 September.

Zambia: 3ie received five applications in September for a grant to conduct formative research on the feasibility of oral self-testing kits in Zambia. We anticipate awarding the grant in early next quarter.

Evidence Programme on HIV and AIDS Treatment Cascade: 3ie hosted an information session on Thematic Window 7 on Integration of HIV Services in Melbourne to coincide with the International AIDS Conference. Applications were due by 15 September and we received a total of 17 eligible applications. We anticipate awarding the grants in early next quarter.

Replication Window

The Replication Window 3 (HIV prevention) scoring committee reviewed the first full proposal received and awarded a grant to Fernando Martel García of the Cambridge Social Science Division Lab for a replication of Dupas, Pascaline, 2011. "Do Teenagers Respond to HIV Risk Information? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Kenya." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 3(1):1-34.

Systematic review call 7

We launched the seventh call for systematic review proposals on 30 September. 3ie in association with the [Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development \(DFATD\) Canada](#), [UN Women](#), the [United States Agency for International Development \(USAID\) Office of Foreign of Disaster Assistance \(OFDA\)](#), and the [World Bank Independent Evaluation Group \(IEG\)](#) have developed six systematic review questions for this call. The request for proposals is available [here](#).

3ie-funded systematic reviews

We published five 3ie-funded systematic review protocols in the last quarter. A list of titles and links to their published protocols are provided below:

- [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](#)
- [Agricultural Input Subsidies for Improving Productivity, Farm Incomes, Consumer Welfare and Wider-Growth in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Systematic Review](#)
- [Parental, Familial and Community Support for Children's Literacy in Developing Countries: A Systematic Review](#)
- [The Effects of Training, Innovation and New Technology on African Smallholder Farmers' Wealth: A Systematic Review](#)

In-house systematic reviews: The 3ie in-house team is working on a comprehensive systematic review of the effects of a range of different interventions on the quality of education in low- and middle-income countries. 3ie published the project title in the Campbell Collaboration library in September. As part of the review scoping exercise the team has produced an evidence gap map of existing systematic reviews in the education sector. The team presented a poster on the evidence gap map at the ADB-3ie conference in Manila in September. The Campbell Collaboration published the full technical report on the in-house [farmer field schools](#) study in September.

International Development Coordinating Group (IDCG)

In the last quarter, the IDCG published one systematic review which looked at the evidence on the effectiveness of [farmer field schools](#) to transfer specialist knowledge, promote skills and empower farmers. Additionally, the IDCG published six protocols and one title registration. The protocols cover a broad range of topics including education, agriculture and youth gang violence. The IDCG published two protocols on youth gang violence, one focusing on the [risk factors](#) for becoming involved with youth gangs and the other focusing on the effectiveness of [interventions to prevent youth gang violence](#). Links to the full versions of these protocols can be found in the [Campbell Library](#). The IDCG title registration was published in collaboration with the nutrition sub-group and focuses on the [effectiveness of nutrition interventions on preventing stunting in children](#).

Registry of International Development Impact Evaluations (RIDIE)

[One study](#) was registered in the third quarter of 2014. A total of [32 studies were registered](#) by the end of September 2014. Several more were under review at the end of September.

Impact Evaluation Repository (IER)

There are currently [2,453 impact evaluation](#) records in the 3ie IER. An additional 53 studies have been approved and are being uploaded to the database for a total of 2,506 impact evaluations. Drew Cameron presented a poster at the 3ie-ADB conference in Manila showing the initial analysis of the repository records.

Bursary programme

During the third quarter, **3ie's Bursary Programme provided funding for 22 participants to attend** seven courses and conferences in India, Mexico, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States. In July, 3ie provided four bursaries to participants attending short courses organised by the University of East Anglia in Brighton, UK. In July, 3ie provided funding for five bursaries to participants from Sub-Saharan Africa to attend an international workshop on Impact Evaluation of HIV and AIDS and Health Programmes. The workshop took place at the University of Pretoria and was co-sponsored by School of Health Systems and Public Health at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, Public Health Foundation of India and MEASURE Evaluation, in collaboration with GEMNet-Health. In September, five participants attended the 22nd Cochrane Colloquium in Hyderabad, India and three attended the 8th Annual Meeting of the Impact Evaluation Network (IEN) of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) in Washington, DC, United States.

New funding and membership

USAID, Philippines had given US\$25,000 to support 30 bursaries for participants from The Philippines for the [Making Impact Evaluation Matter](#) conference. DFID increased its contribution for the Transparency and Accountability Thematic Window from £600,000 to £2,386,239 (an increase of £1,786,239). DFID has also confirmed a grant of £850,000 as part of the second phase of the Humanitarian Assistance Thematic Window.

During the quarter, 3ie approved and signed agreements with six new members: the MasterCard Foundation, the Ministry of Education in Peru, the Independent Evaluation Office in India, the Shaanxi Department of Education in China, the Henan Department of Education in China and the National Health and Family Planning Commission in China.

3ie finance update

3ie Finance Update: As of 30 September 2014, **3ie's assets stood at US\$85.94 million, comprising US\$45.28 million held in bank accounts, US\$40.22 million as grants receivable, i.e. undisbursed balances in signed grant agreements, US\$0.44 million in other receivables, fixed assets and deposits and the accrued liabilities for expense payables at US\$ 0.89 million. Total expenses in the quarter were US\$4.56 million, of which US\$2.59 million were grant expenses.**

3ie in the news

- A paper entitled [A review of the Evidence harm from self-tests](#) by Annette N Brown, Eric Djimeu and Drew Cameron was published in *AIDS and Behavior*.
- Deo-Gracias Houndolo was [interviewed](#) by the *Journal Nouvelle*. His [participation at the Journées Béninoises de l'Évaluation](#) was also covered by the same newspaper.
- ALNAP mentioned Jyotsna Puri's [post on the Humanitarian Evaluation Community of Practice](#) in their [July newsletter](#).
- Howard White's [blog on Unexpected and disappearing outcomes](#) was mentioned on Development Impact [Friday links](#).
- Ruth Levine mentions 3ie in her blog [succeeding at Succession](#).
- Announcement of new 3ie executive director was featured in the [Hindustan Times](#) newspaper.
- A paper by Daniel Phillips, Hugh Waddington and Howard White on farmer field schools targeting has been published in the *Development Studies Research*. Hugh's and Howard's systematic review summary, [Farmer field schools: from agricultural extension to adult education](#), was reviewed in the journal of *Food Security*.
- A 3ie-supported study on [vocational education in rural China](#) was featured in *The Economist* (23 August 2014). Another study on [Paying for performance in China's battle against anaemia](#) was also featured in *The Economist*.
- The 3ie-ADB video lecture series was featured on ELRHA, [people-centred development](#), [AuthorAid](#), [BetterEvaluation](#), [Perspectives in development and evaluation](#), [Weitzenegger.DE](#), [ALNAP](#), [ADB](#), [Philippine Institute for Development Studies](#), [DM&E for Peace](#) and [Flexible Learning Strategies](#). People visiting these websites can click and go directly to them.
- 3ie was appreciatively mentioned in a blog [From CAHRD to Campbell](#) by Dr Yen-Fu Chen, on the NIHR CLAHRC West Midlands News Blog.