



Quarterly Report October – December 2015

3ie publications

Impact evaluation report series: *Impacts of payments for ecosystem services programme in Mexico; The SASA! Study: a cluster randomised trial to assess the impact of a violence and HIV prevention programme in Kampala, Uganda*; and *What happens once the intervention ends? The medium-term impacts of a cash transfer programme in Malawi*

Replication paper series: *The effects of land titling on the urban poor: a replication of property rights for the poor*, and *Fighting corruption does improve schooling: a replication study of a newspaper campaign in Uganda*.

Working paper series: *Impact evaluation and policy decisions: where are we? A Latin American think tank perspective*; and *Evaluations with impact: decision-focused impact evaluation as a practical policymaking tool*.

Blogs

Getting to the goals: what we know and don't know about sustainable solutions for poverty eradication; Reflections on replication research: a conversation with Paul Winters; What does the evidence say about women's empowerment and domestic violence?; Seven impact evaluations on demand creation for VMMC: how a focused thematic window can meet multiple evidence needs; and Miles before we sleep: building evidence on forest conservation

Please visit the [blog site](#) to view all of our blog posts

Policy Window

Uganda Country Policy Window: 3ie has awarded four proposal preparation grants under this window: Universal primary education awarded to Winsor Consult Rwanda Ltd; Youth livelihoods process and impact evaluation, awarded to the University of California; Public service delivery and local governance, awarded to The Echelon Group (Pty) Ltd; and Family planning process and impact evaluation, awarded to Socio-Economic Data Centre Ltd.

Policy Window 3, Uganda Land Act: 3ie has awarded a proposal preparation grant to IFPRI-Uganda for an impact evaluation on the effectiveness of land policy in curbing illegal land evictions.

Policy Window 3, China: 3ie has awarded two impact evaluation grants: *Evaluating and scaling up teacher performance pay in Shaanxi Province*, awarded to Shaanxi Normal University; and *Training for the future: evaluating teacher training programs for rural teachers in China*, awarded to International Center for Action Research on Education, Henan University.

Philippines Policy Window: 3ie convened a high-level policy forum on impact Evaluation in Manila, the Philippines on 16 December. The forum aimed to build demand and raise awareness on impact evaluations among policymakers. Approximately 30 officials of the Philippines government participated.

Thematic Window

Thematic Window 2, HIV self-testing: 3ie selected four proposals for HIV self-testing studies in Uganda and Zambia for funding. 3ie conducted a post-award workshop for new grantees in Harare, Zimbabwe on 29 November

2015, which also coincided with the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa. Government representatives from the ministries of health in Zambia and Uganda actively participated in the workshop.

Thematic Window 3, voluntary medical male circumcision: 3ie launched a [video](#) on World AIDS Day that highlighted research from this window.

Thematic Window 4, Agricultural Innovations: 3ie has awarded two impact evaluation grants: Impact evaluation of soil-fertility management technologies to improve smallholder farmers' livelihood in Burkina Faso, awarded to University of Notre Dame; and Evaluation of the impacts of a soil-fertility training programme on farm productivity in the Volta region of Ghana, awarded to IFPRI. 3ie received eight applications and awarded two proposal preparation grants to the American Institutes of Research to conduct studies of IFAD-funded programmes in Kenya and Madagascar.

Thematic Window 6, Humanitarian Assistance: 3ie has awarded an impact evaluation grant to IFPRI for assessing the impact of conflict and the effects of humanitarian interventions by the World Food Programme on moderate-acute malnutrition and other developmental outcomes in Mali.

Thematic Window 10, Innovations in increasing Immunisation: 3ie awarded nine impact evaluation grants: (i) a formative process evaluation of the International Rescue Committee's 'Fifth Child' project, which aims to close the childhood immunisation gap in western Ethiopia; (ii) an impact and embedded process evaluation of the 'Fifth Child' project's community engagement strategy in northern Uganda, has been awarded to the International Rescue Committee, UK; (iii) an evaluation of the impact of Vaccine Indicator and Reminder (VIR) bands to improve vaccination initiation and completion in Pakistan has been awarded to Trust for Vaccines and Immunisation, Karachi, Pakistan; (iv) the Royal Tropical Institute, the Netherlands has been awarded grants for a formative evaluation of a participatory evaluation and action research to increase immunisation coverage in the Ogun state of Nigeria; (v) an impact assessment of the stimulate, appreciate, learn and transfer (SALT) approach of community engagement to increase immunisation coverage through ownership in Assam, India, was awarded to the Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi; (vi) a formative evaluation of networks of health-development army to improve immunisation coverage in pastoral communities of Ethiopia has been awarded to the Center for National Health Development, Addis Ababa; (vii) grants for community distribution of VIR bands to improve vaccination initiation and completion in Nigeria was awarded to the Health Strategy and Delivery Foundation, Abuja, Nigeria; (viii) a formative evaluation of the use of collaborative community checklists for immunisation to engage with hard-to-reach communities for improved immunisation in rural Myanmar, Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, Yangon, Myanmar; and (ix) a randomised controlled trial on community engagement through supportive feedback and non-monetary incentives in Ethiopia was awarded to Zerihun Associates, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Thematic Window 11, Sanitation and hygiene: 3ie has awarded two impact evaluation grants under this window: (i) The impact of a sanitation intervention on women's psychosocial health: A quasi-experimental, mixed methods study in Bihar, India, awarded to Oklahoma University; and The impact of enhanced, demand-side sanitation and hygiene promotion on sustained behaviour change and mental well-being in Ethiopia, awarded to Emory University, US and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK.

Systematic reviews

Systematic review reports published by 3ie: *The identification and measurement of health-related spill overs in impact evaluations: a systematic review; Interventions for Improving learning outcomes and access to education in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review; and The effects of school-based decision making on educational outcomes in low- and middle-income contexts: a systematic review.*

Systematic review protocols published by 3ie: *Short-term hygiene interventions in emergency response situation: a systematic review and impact analysis; and The effects of market-based reforms on access to electricity in developing countries: a systematic review of the evidence on effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and mechanisms.*

Published systematic reviews quality assured by IDCG: *The effects of economic self-help group programs on women's empowerment: a systematic review; Interventions to improve the labour market situation of adults with*

physical and/or sensory disabilities in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review; Preventive interventions to reduce youth gang violence in low-and middle-income countries: a systematic review; and Strategies to increase the ownership and use of insecticide-treated bed nets to prevent malaria: a systematic review.

Best paper award for 3ie evidence gap map: The USAID-funded paper on the [evidence gap map of productive safety nets](#) was among the six papers selected for the best paper award at the International Conference for Sustainable Development 2015 in New York City.

Replication Window

3ie's replication programme awarded five new grants under the Replication Window 3, HIV Prevention. Four grants went to the University of Nebraska and the Science Exchange, Inc. for the following replications: (i) *Task shifting of antiretroviral treatment from doctors to primary-care nurses in South Africa (STRETCH): a pragmatic, parallel, cluster-randomised trial*; (ii) *HIV development assistance and adult mortality in Africa*; (iii) *HIV development assistance and adult mortality in Africa, and* (iv) *Effect of a cash transfer programme for schooling on prevalence of HIV and herpes simplex type 2 in Malawi: A cluster randomised trial*. The replication of *The demand for, and Impact of, learning HIV status*, was awarded to the Johns Hopkins University. The Replication Programme also hosted an inception workshop for the grantees at the University of Nebraska on 16 November.

Registry for International Development Impact Evaluations (RIDIE) and the Impact Evaluation Repository

Researchers registered six new studies for a total of [73 studies](#) at the end of December 2015. The 3ie repository currently holds [2,702 impact evaluations](#). Its search and screening protocol is being updated.

Bursaries

3ie awarded a total of 36 bursaries during the period of October - December, 2015. Participants representing Sub-Saharan Africa (Benin, Kenya, Ghana, Sudan), MENA (Djibouti), East Asia and the Pacific (China, Philippines, Samoa), South Asia (India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives) and Europe and Central Asia (Azerbaijan) were supported to attend the National Evaluation Capacities conference in Bangkok, Thailand; the IDEAS Global Assembly in Bangkok; an ILO-JPAL short course on executive education in Cairo, Egypt; a course organised by the London International Development Centre (LIDC) on evaluation for development programmes. A member representative from Benin was also selected to attend the annual American Evaluation Association conference in Chicago, USA.

New funding

- 3ie received USD200,000 from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation for undertaking a scoping exercise for the impact evaluation of interventions in the area of adolescent reproductive health.
- We received a grant of USD750,000 from the International Fund for Agricultural Development to provide technical support for an ex-post impact evaluation of rural development projects in Kenya and Madagascar.
- We received USD46,500 from the Hewlett Foundation to support 3ie's efforts in developing our business model.
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation also approved an additional funding of USD1,401,673 for the immunisation thematic window 10. The additional funding will support two full impact evaluation studies that will examine ways to engage with communities more effectively to support the increased uptake of vaccines in priority areas. The total award for this window is now USD7,441,903.
- 3ie received a grant of USD1,386,791 from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for consolidation of evidence, learning and measurement capacity for the National Rural Livelihoods Programme in India.
- DFID increased the funding for the Humanitarian Assistance Thematic Window by GBP172,000, increasing the total funding available to GBP1,672,000.
- Danida approved the allocation of USD139,000 for an impact evaluation related to disaster prevention in Pakistan.

- UNOPS/WSSCC offered an additional funding of USD19,550, increasing the total funding available for the design and implementation of impact evaluations of sanitation and hygiene programmes to USD1,560,652.

3ie events

3ie also organised a series of public events on 7-8 October to mark the Delhi Evidence Week. The sessions on 7 October included a keynote lecture on *Learning for BRICS- or why countries like India can love impact evaluations* by 3ie executive director, Manny Jimenez and a full day of panels and discussions the next day. Click [here](#) to read more.

3ie staff organised a plenary and learning stations for the visiting board members ahead of the board of commissioners' meeting in New Delhi on 5 October. The format allowed smaller groups of staff from each team to interact more closely with the board members and the participating 3ie organisational members. After the board and members received an overview of the grant lifecycle processes, they were encouraged to visit learning stations focusing on specific topics, including the Agricultural Innovations Thematic Window, country policy windows, integrated communication, evidence uptake and monitoring policy engagement and 3ie videos. This [tweet](#) by 3ie board member, Ian Goldman summed up the meeting, '*Briefing on 3ie activities prior to board meetings. Good set of learning stations to understand different aspects*'.

3ie in the news

- An [editorial](#) in the International Journal of Epidemiology recognised 3ie for its work in funding and facilitating replication research.
- 3ie has been cited in an [article](#) which looks at the discussions that emerged from the [Global Forum for Research and Innovation for Health](#), held in the Philippines on 24-27 August. The article also appeared in [SciDev.net](#) and [MIT News](#).
- In this [blog](#) for Development Impact, David Evans writes about the lack of evidence on the impact of adult literacy programmes on adult literacy and cites 3ie evidence gap maps on primary and secondary education.
- 3ie's Martina Vojtkova's [blog](#), *Getting to the goals: what we know and don't know about sustainable solutions for poverty eradication* has been cross-posted by the [United Nations Evaluation Group](#) on their [website](#).
- 3ie's Ben and Annette wrote a blog for The Replication Network blog, [what 3ie is doing in the replication business?](#) The blog describes the motivation behind 3ie's replication programme policies and procedures.

Publications from 3ie-funded research

[Exposing concerns about vaccination in low-and middle-income countries: a systematic review](#), a study conducted as part of the project 'Evidence Portal—Immunisation' funded by 3ie and the Global Development Network (GDN) was published in the November 2015 issue of the International Journal of Public Health.

3ie finance update

As of 31 December 2015, 3ie's assets stood at USD96.59 million, comprising USD41.12 million held in bank accounts, USD55.09 million as grants receivable, i.e. undisbursed balances in signed grant agreements, USD0.38 million in other receivables, fixed assets and deposits and the accrued liabilities for expense and grants payables at USD1.31 million. Total expenses in the quarter were USD9.95 million, of which USD7.29 million were grant expenses.