



Quarterly Report July – September 2016

3ie launches most comprehensive systematic review on education effectiveness to date



3ie launched its systematic review on education effectiveness in low- and middle-income countries at the What Works Global Summit in London on 27 September 2016. This is the most comprehensive systematic review carried out on this topic to date. It examined the impact of 216 education programmes on 16 million children in 52 L&MICs. It synthesised evidence on the effects of 21 different types of education interventions on school enrolment, attendance, completion and learning.

Overall, the results demonstrate there are no ‘magic bullets’ to ensure high-quality education for all. However, there are several lessons that can be learned for improving future education programmes. Most education programmes typically improve either school participation or learning outcomes. They rarely improve both. The review found that cash transfers were most effective in improving school participation, while structured pedagogy programmes have the largest and most

consistent effects on learning outcomes. The evidence suggests that school-feeding is a promising intervention for improving both school participation and test scores. Despite being widely implemented, the effects of providing information to children and/or parents, reducing user fees and school-based health programmes are not clear because few studies have been conducted. For more about 3ie’s systematic review on education effectiveness programmes and the summary report, please click [here](#).

The launch event at the What Works Global Summit, London on 27 September 2016

The packed Woburn House main hall indicated the excitement and interest among policymakers, programme managers and other stakeholders in this new and comprehensive education effectiveness review. Richard Manning welcomed over 160 attendees following which, the report’s lead author, Birte Snilstveit, presented the main review findings. Emmanuel (Manny) Jimenez moderated the discussion that featured Caine Rolleston (professor at the Institute of Education of UCL), David Evans (senior economist at the World Bank) and Sally Gear (head of profession, education for DFID). The participation and the praise that the review garnered confirmed that it is a major contribution to the evidence base that deserves wide reading and use by decision-makers. Sally Gear welcomed the findings, expressing the desire to work further with the data to improve policy outcomes. She said, “3ie’s education review really added value by looking at how the processes involved in education programmes can matter for impact”. To read our launch summary and other updates from the launch, click [here](#)



Evidence uptake and use from 3ie-funded studies

Realigning programming priorities to address gender-biased discrimination in Haryana, India: Selective abortion of female foetuses is prevalent across India, particularly in the state of Haryana. In 2011, the sex ratio for newborns and children up to 6 years of age was 830 girls per 1000 boys, which is indicative of gender-biased sex selection (GBSS). To address this issue in Haryana, the NGO [Breakthrough](#) designed an intervention that uses multimedia, training programmes and other communication platforms to encourage youth to raise awareness among themselves and encourage them to act against sex selection in their communities. Under 3ie’s Policy Window, researchers at J-PAL

South Asia worked closely with Breakthrough to design a randomised evaluation to assess the impact of a school-based awareness programme. The programme aims to improve attitudes towards girls and decreasing support for sex-selective abortion. The baseline findings showed that GBSS and the poor health status of girls stems from gender-biased discrimination. Based on these preliminary findings, Breakthrough refocused its programming against sex selection to address gendered discrimination more systemically, while also working on issues around GBSS. Breakthrough has presented these findings to a range of stakeholders, including policymakers, donors and practitioners at a think tank meeting.

New 3ie publications

Impact evaluation reports: *The impact of earned and windfall cash transfers on livelihoods and conservation in Sierra Leone; Property tax experiment in Pakistan: incentivising tax collection and improving performance; Impact of mobile message reminders on tuberculosis treatment outcomes in Pakistan; Making networks work for policy: evidence from agricultural technology adoption in Malawi; Estimating the impact and cost-effectiveness of expanding access to secondary education in Ghana; Effectiveness of a rural sanitation programme on diarrhoea, soil-transmitted helminth infection and malnutrition in India; Evaluating the impact of vocational education vouchers on out-of-school youth in Kenya; Improving maternal and child health in India; and Computers as tutors? Making the best use of China's 12th five year plan investment.*

Systematic reviews: *Youth gang membership and violence in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review (Part I); and Youth gang violence and preventative measures in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review (Part II).*

Systematic review summary reports: *The effects of training, innovation and new technology on African smallholder farmers' wealth and food security; and The impact of education programmes on learning and school participation in low- and middle-income countries.*

Replication papers: *Power to the people? A replication study of a community-based monitoring programme in Uganda*

Briefs: *The impact of school programmes on learning and school participation in low- and middle-income countries; What is the evidence on smallholder agriculture interventions in Africa?; What evidence do we have on transferable skills programming for youth in low- and middle-income countries?; and Early implementation lessons from 3ie-supported impact evaluations of humanitarian assistance.*

New blogs

What's first for replication studies is what's next for 3ie's replication programme; Implementing impact evaluations: trade-offs and compromises; Is HIV self-testing passing the test?; and Is impact evaluation still on the rise?

3ie funded studies and 3ie publications in peer-reviewed publications

Please click [here](#) to access the list all of the 3ie-funded studies and publications produced by 3ie appearing in peer-reviewed publications.

New 3ie Policy Window 3 grant

Impact evaluation of a health intervention in Cameroon: 3ie is requesting research organisations or consortia to submit qualifications for a proposal preparation grant under 3ie's Policy Window 3. The proposal preparation grant will be for the rigorous impact evaluation of a health intervention implemented or supported by the Ministry of Public Health. The deadline for submitting proposals is **14 November 2016**. Click [here](#) for more information

3ie grant programme updates

Policy Window 3: 3ie awarded an impact evaluation (IE) grant to the Chinese Academy of Sciences for a study, *Perfecting parenting: A randomized controlled trial of an early childhood intervention designed to improve parenting practices in rural China*.

Uganda country policy window: 3ie signed an IE grant with Measure Africa for the study, *Impact of school facilities grant on access and learning achievements in Uganda*. 3ie also awarded another IE grant to the Socio-Economic Data Centre Ltd for an impact evaluation of the Government of Uganda's family planning programmes and policies targeting young people aged 15-24 years.

Innovations in Increasing Immunisation Thematic Window (TW10): 3ie signed an impact evaluation grant with PATH for the study, *Community-led video education to increase vaccination coverage in Uttar Pradesh, India*

HIV Self-Testing Thematic Window (TW2): 3ie's HIV team held a successful satellite session at the [International AIDS Conference 2016](#) in Durban, South Africa on 22 July. 3ie grantees presented results from pilot studies on HIV self-testing in Kenya. Recent award winners from Uganda and Zambia presented on their ongoing studies. Participants included representatives from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Government of Kenya.

Agricultural Innovation Thematic Window (TW4): The American Institutes of Research (AIR) received a grant for quasi-experimental impact evaluation of IFAD's project in Madagascar, *Project for the Support of the Development of Menabe and Melaky*. Under this thematic window, the University of Manheim also received an IE grant for the evaluation of the rural financial intermediation and agricultural investment project in Zambia.

Humanitarian Assistance Thematic Window (TW6): 3ie grants for two randomised evaluations on the effects of humanitarian assistance in the Democratic Republic of Congo were awarded to the Catholic University of Bukavu. The University of Mannheim will conduct the study, *Impact evaluation of humanitarian aid and natural disasters in Pakistan*.

Integration of HIV Services Thematic Window (TW7): 3ie held a pre-completion workshop with TW7 grantees in Durban on 17 July to discuss study results, challenges, lessons learned and to coordinate messaging for the satellite session held later in the week. The workshop also included a panel consisting of five government officials from Cote d'Ivoire, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, where studies funded under this window are underway.

Improving adolescents' lives in South Asia (TW12): 3ie signed an IE grant with the University of Mannheim for the impact evaluation of the UNICEF-IKEA Foundation programme on improving adolescents' lives in Pakistan.

Replication Window: 3ie launched its Financial Services for the Poor Replication Window on 28 June. We received 16 high-quality expressions of interest (EOI) for the seven studies chosen by the Gates Foundation for replication. This is 3ie's most successful replication window to date. The EOIs were scored and two research teams were chosen to send full proposals for each original study.

Registry for International Development Impact Evaluations (RIDIE), Impact Evaluation Repository (IER) and 3ie Expert Roster

RIDIE: RIDIE had 91 registrations at the end of third quarter.

IER: 3ie's recently fully updated Impact Evaluation Repository (IER) now holds 4,335 [impact evaluation records](#), including those in French, Portuguese and Spanish.

Expert roster: There are currently more than 500 experts on our expert roster.

Bursaries

3ie funded 25 candidates between June and September to attend a variety of IE trainings. Participants from across Asia and Africa were sponsored to attend the [CLEAR Shipdet technical course](#), following a rigorous selection process involving a quantitative skills test. 3ie also funded 12 participants to attend the [What Works Global Summit 2016](#) in London. Five researchers and policymakers were funded to participate in trainings offered by MEASURE-GEMNet and two others for a workshop organised by the University of East Anglia. 3ie also awarded five bursaries to researchers and policymakers to attend the Africa Evidence Network's [Evidence 2016](#) conference in Pretoria held on 20-22 September.

Membership

3ie hosted the second member webinar, *Innovation and evidence generation in a Latin American public agency*, in its new series on 6 July. The webinar featured presentations on the experience of MineduLAB, an innovation lab dedicated to generating rigorous evidence around education policy in Peru. The webinar began with a presentation on the how MineduLAB works with the Ministry of Education's monitoring and evaluation unit. It was followed by presentations from principal investigators of two impact evaluations who shared results on tested innovations. Presenters included Fabiola Cáceres, head of the monitoring and evaluation unit, Ministry of Education, Peru (3ie member representative); Juan Hernández-Agramonte,

deputy country director for Innovations for Poverty Action-Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay; Alan Sánchez, associate researcher at GRADE and principal investigator of the Young Lives study in Peru; and Mario Picon, senior evaluation specialist, 3ie.

3ie events

What Works Global Summit 2016, 24-28 September, London: 3ie was a co-organiser of the [What Works Global Summit](#), held in London from 24-28 September that brought together over 850 participants from developing and developed countries. The first two days consisted of pre-summit workshops, of which eight were organised by 3ie. 3ie staff were also involved in organising and participating in 25 conference sessions. 3ie's executive director Emmanuel Jimenez spoke at the closing plenary on the demand for rigour in evidence. Our events were very well-attended and attracted lots of positive buzz and tweets. To read more about 3ie's participation in WWGS2016, click [here](#).

3ie Washington-IFPRI seminar series: Kim Ashburn from Georgetown University spoke on her study, *Effects of a social network diffusion intervention on family planning use and unmet need in Benin* on 22 September.

3ie in the news

- The launch of 3ie's education effectiveness review and the main findings were reported in the [Independent](#), [Scidev.net](#) and [The Statesman](#).
- The 3ie-funded IMATCHINE study that looked into the Chiranjeevi maternal and child health programme of the Gujarat government of India was referred to in the foreword by Bill Gates for the third edition of the book *Millions Saved*, edited by [Amanda Glassman](#). Click [here](#) to read the 3ie report.

New funding

- The National Opinion Research Centre (NORC) at the University of Chicago gave USD76,785 for an evidence gap map on state-society relations for USAID. This grant is subcontracted through NORC.
- The Campbell Collaboration gave USD13,791 to fund a new guide, *A tool to assess risk of bias in non-randomised studies for Campbell systematic reviews*.
- The Inter-American Development Bank gave USD20,000 to support the What Works Global Summit 2016, which was co-organised by 3ie.
- DFID increased its core funding grant by GBP392,248 to bring the total to GBP 49,221,812 for completing the evaluations of DFID's Sector-Wide Approach to Strengthen Health(SWASTH) programmes in Bihar.
- UNICEF added USD106,969 to its funding for the evaluation of the regional adolescents' programme in Afghanistan, India and Pakistan run by UNICEF and IKEA Foundation. The total funding is now USD1,935,939.
- The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council increased its existing funding by USD80,327 for the design and implementation of impact evaluations of sanitation and hygiene programmes. The total funding is now USD1,640,979 through March 2018
- DFID increased its contribution to the Uganda Policy Window by GBP500,000. Total funding is now GBP 1,000,000 until March 2017.
- 3ie signed a professional services agreement for USD50,000 with One Acre Fund to quality assure a randomised evaluation in Kenya.

3ie finance update

As of 30 September 2016, 3ie's assets stood at USD84.06 million, including USD37.23 million held in bank accounts, USD46.44 million as grants receivable, i.e. undisbursed balances in signed grant agreements, USD0.39 million in other receivables, fixed assets and deposits and the accrued liabilities for expense and grants payables at USD1.28 million. Total expenses in the quarter were USD5.07 million, of which USD3.14 million were grant expenses.