

International Initiative for Impact Evaluation



Annual report 2016

Evidence · Influence · Impact



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Suggested citation

International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), 2017. *Evidence, influence, impact: annual report 2016*. New Delhi: 3ie

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About 3ie

The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) is an international grant-making non-governmental organisation (NGO) promoting evidence-informed development policies and programmes. We are the global leader in funding, producing and synthesising high-quality evidence of what works, for whom, why and at what cost. We believe that better and policy-relevant evidence will help make development more effective and improve people's lives.

3ie supports theory-based impact evaluations that use a counterfactual to examine the full causal chain of the programme and answer questions about what works, for whom, why and at what cost. These designs use mixed methods to address evaluation questions along the causal chain.

3ie also funds and produces maps, systematic reviews and other syntheses of evidence in priority development sectors or themes. We are leaders in demonstrating rigorous review methodologies for development evidence and in developing evidence gap maps.

We have a highly qualified and diverse international staff and management governed by a board of eminent policymakers, development funders and experts. We are building a global community of policymakers, implementers and experts committed to supporting and promoting the production and use of high-quality evidence to strengthen development.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

ANC	antenatal care
ART	antiretroviral therapy
CAL	computer-assisted learning
CMI	community monitoring intervention
DFID	Department for International Development
EGM	evidence gap map
HIVST	HIV self-testing
IDCG	International Development Coordinating Group
IER	Impact Evaluation Repository
IRC	International Rescue Committee
J-PAL	Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab
L&MIC	low- and middle-income country
LSHTM	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
MoRD	Indian Ministry of Rural Development
NGO	non-governmental organisation
RCH	reproductive and child health
SDGs	sustainable development goals
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization
WWF	World Wildlife Fund



Chair's foreword



Richard Manning
Chair
3ie Board of Commissioners

This report records another busy and productive year for 3ie. It is the last that I shall have the pleasure of celebrating, as I step down as chair of the 3ie Board of Commissioners this spring. I am particularly pleased to see the large rise in our outputs, especially through the publication of reports, the further strong increase of low- and middle-income country (L&MIC) membership, and the growing examples of the uptake and use of 3ie-supported evidence.

These three things go together. If we are to improve development outcomes through using evidence to inform policy and programme implementation, we must continue to increase the availability of rigorous evidence. It must also continue to help a growing community of policymakers, particularly from L&MICs, understand and apply the lessons from such work.

Over nearly five years as 3ie chair, I have had the privilege of working with a strong Board of Commissioners, a group of members and a team of staff. Each of these groups is united in the belief that, in many areas of public policy, more rigorous evidence of what works and what does not is needed to help policymakers improve the quality of development programmes. At 3ie, we have not been naïve about the ease of translating such evidence into policy change, but we have seen enough examples – as shown again in this report – to believe that better evidence can often inform policy and programmes. In particular, we have seen the value of tackling the all too frequent divide between researchers and policymakers in the definition of research questions and in the learning from the results of the research.

In 2017, it is obvious that those who hold such beliefs – well-represented at last year's inaugural What Works Global Summit, co-sponsored by 3ie – cannot be at all complacent about the wider acceptance of their views. The case for rigorous scrutiny of the effectiveness of policies and programmes needs to be made more assertively and more persuasively in a climate where offering easy answers to complex questions has proven politically popular in many countries of widely differing levels of development.

This underpins the emphasis in our new strategy on providing support not only for the production of impact evaluations and systematic reviews but also for the global enabling environment for using the evidence for effective policies and programmes. We need to continue investing in 3ie and other, similar institutions to achieve these goals.

I would like to close with a few words of thanks. First, thank you to my colleagues on the Board of Commissioners, whose knowledge, skills and contacts have been central to 3ie's progress.

Secondly, I would like to thank 3ie's members, whose representatives have made a real contribution to our work. Among this group I have been particularly delighted to witness the development of an important community of interest across L&MIC governments, donors and civil society organisations.

Thirdly, I offer many thanks to Emmanuel Jimenez, who has taken up the always difficult job of following a charismatic founding chief executive with much skill and wisdom. My thanks also go to his colleagues in the 3ie senior management team and at all levels in our institution, whose commitment has been outstanding throughout. It has been a privilege to work with you all.

Finally, let me express my gratitude to Ruth Levine, who first involved me in this strand of work a dozen years ago, when she and William Savedoff at the Center for Global Development initiated the *When Will We Ever Learn?* report that led to 3ie's creation, and who now replaces me as chair of the Board of Commissioners. I cannot think of a better advocate for all that 3ie stands for.

Richard Manning

Letter from the executive director



Emmanuel Jimenez
3ie Executive Director

Students, athletes and performers often fear the 'sophomore slump' – when the second year doesn't quite live up to the excitement, achievements and expectations of a successful first year. I must admit to thinking about this syndrome as I entered my second year as 3ie's executive director. But, as you will read in this annual report, I need not have worried. What was I thinking?

In 2016, we have continued to build on our strengths in a number of ways. Perhaps most gratifying is the growing number of studies that document how results from impact evaluations are being used to inform decisions that affect people's lives, across different countries and in diverse sectors. Moreover, this annual report also shows how syntheses of studies, such as systematic reviews and the production of evidence gap maps (EGMs) have the potential to guide decision makers.

These stories evidence uptake would of course not be possible without the principal building blocks to enhance the quantity and quality of rigorous and relevant evidence. Let me highlight just a few innovative examples from the many noteworthy ones mentioned in this report.

Our Development Priorities Window aims to fill global knowledge gaps in several sectors that have not benefitted from the recent increase of impact evaluations despite the huge funds being spent.

The first Development Priorities Window, generously funded by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID), focused on environment, governance, infrastructure and public finance – areas which may have been under-studied because of their methodological difficulties. Despite this, our 2016 call for impact evaluation proposals resulted in several hundred applications, many of high quality. This showed that there is great potential for progress in expanding the sectors covered by rigorous evidence gathering. We then worked to help engage researchers, programme implementers and other stakeholders to ensure that the evaluation questions were as relevant as possible to decisions.

The launch of the summary report of our systematic review of *What works to improve learning and school participation in low- and middle income-countries* could hardly have been more fortuitously timed. Just before the launch, the International Education Commission led by former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) launched major reports calling for massive increases in education spending to meet global targets by 2030. And the World Bank announced that it was, for the first time, devoting its flagship *World Development Report* to the theme of education. Many of those involved in these reports have said how useful our systematic review will be.

The annual report has many other examples that I would encourage you to read about. These include descriptions of innovative thematic windows on agricultural insurance and sanitation, the completion of some of our work on HIV and AIDS prevention interventions, the preparation of EGMs on forest conservation and adolescent sexual and reproductive health, and systematic reviews of what works to improve human development outcomes for disadvantaged groups.

During 2016, 3ie also made steady progress in improving the quality and accessibility of global evidence through our replication programme and Impact Evaluation Repository (IER). Our management and staff have been relentless in their advocacy for evidence, including co-sponsoring the What Works Global Summit.

Even with these accomplishments, we also conducted some much needed reflection to prepare our new strategy. An external review found that we have made significant contributions to the generation of rigorous knowledge about what works, for whom and why, to promote development. These achievements have contributed to our brand as a world leader in impact evaluation.

That review also pointed to the challenges that we need to address as we move from being a highly successful start-up: the persistent gaps in knowledge on certain topics and geographies, despite the increase in impact evaluations since we were founded; the continuing need to investigate and record how rigorous evidence can best inform decision-making; and the evolving institutional context in which we operate, with more research providers and a tighter funding environment. We are finalising a strategy to address these issues, and implementing that will be my and the senior management team's focus in the coming year.

On another note, the staff vignettes in this report profile some of my talented colleagues who are such a joy to work with. Without them, 3ie would not be where it is. Their talent and experience are often sought by other organisations, which can offer further opportunities for professional growth (as well as a chance to spread the 3ie brand). In late 2016, Annette N Brown, the head of our Washington Office and Jyotsna Puri, the head of our Evaluation Office, took up such opportunities. I would like to thank them for their significant roles in shaping 3ie – this report is part of the legacy of their work. I also have the pleasure of welcoming Sara Pacque-Margolis to replace Annette in Washington.

Finally, I would also like to acknowledge some important transitions in our Board of Commissioners. In 2016, Geoffery Deakin, chair of the Audit and Finance Committee, stepped down at the end of his term. He was replaced by Mario Marcel, who had to step down when he was named President of the Central Bank of Chile.

And, as noted by Richard Manning in his foreword, this is the last annual report that he will oversee as chair of the Board of Commissioners. Richard's vision and overall guidance have been instrumental in 3ie's growth, institutional stability and international brand. I am also grateful to him for mentoring me as I took up my role. When he steps down in May 2017, Ruth Levine has kindly agreed to take over the chair. As we look forward to working with Ruth, 3ie staff, management and I want to thank Richard from the bottom of our collective hearts, and to wish him the very best for the future.

Emmanuel Jimenez

How 3ie works



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graph LR; A[Increasing knowledge translation, and evidence uptake and use] --> B[Improving lives through better evidence];
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Increasing knowledge translation, and evidence uptake and use

Section 1 showcases 3ie-funded studies that have informed policies and programmes and how 3ie supports evidence use

Section 4 describes 3ie's integrated communication, knowledge translation and production

Improving lives through better evidence

3ie highlights from 2016

Completed **24** impact evaluations, initiated **21** new impact evaluations

Produced the most comprehensive systematic review to date on the effectiveness of education interventions in L&MICs

Commissioned **a new systematic review** on agroforestry interventions

Nine new members joined, bringing **total membership to 50**, of which **30 are members from L&MICs**

Published **23** impact evaluation reports, **10** systematic reviews, **5** systematic review summary reports, **1** replication paper, **1** scoping paper, **2** working papers, **3** interactive EGMs and reports and **14** briefs

Launched two new thematic windows: **promoting latrine use in rural India** and **agricultural insurance**

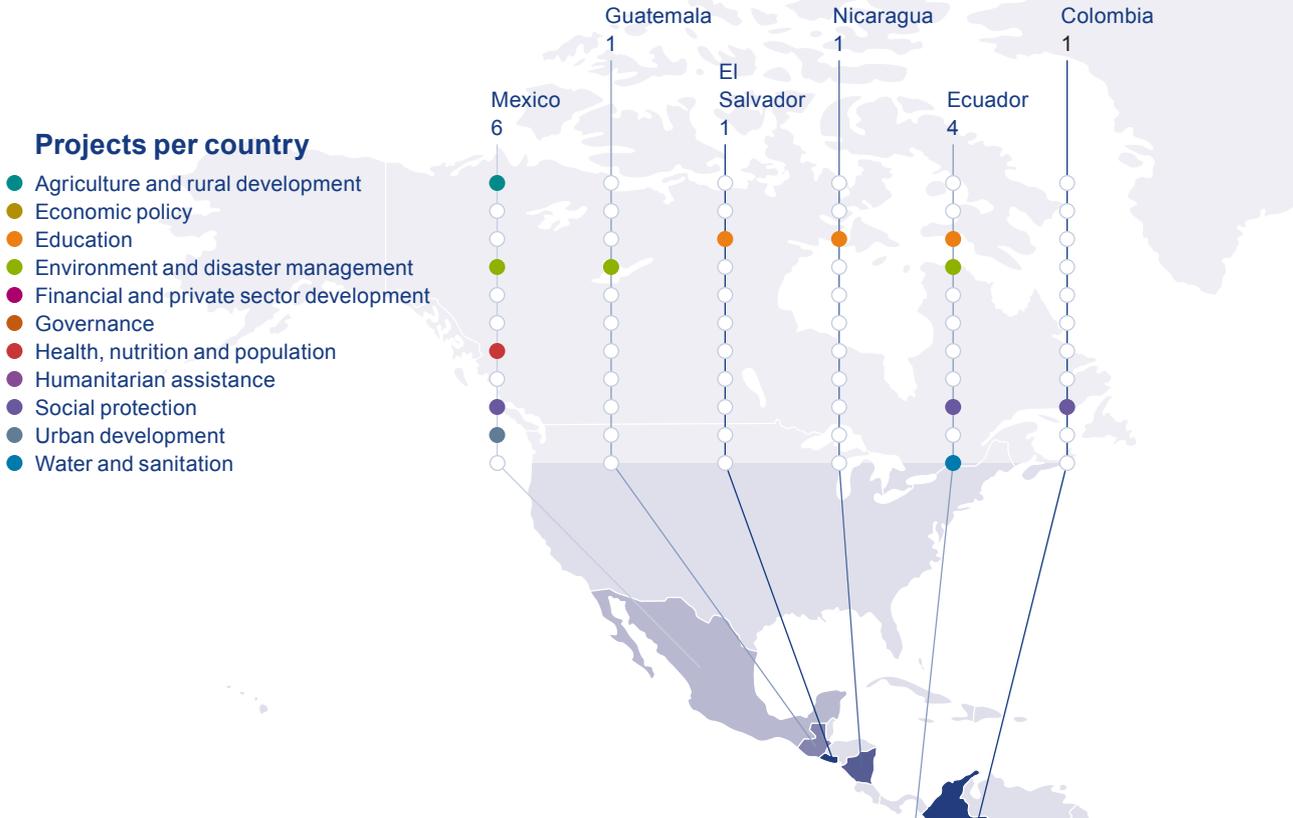
Co-sponsored the first What Works Global Summit in London, as well as 13 successful events in 7 L&MICs

Our Impact Evaluation Repository remains the largest resource of its kind, with more than **4,500 studies**

Significantly increased the number of **impact evaluation experts in the 3ie expert roster to 527**

Awarded 92 bursaries for L&MIC participants to attend various events. Thirty-nine per cent of participants were from Sub-Saharan Africa

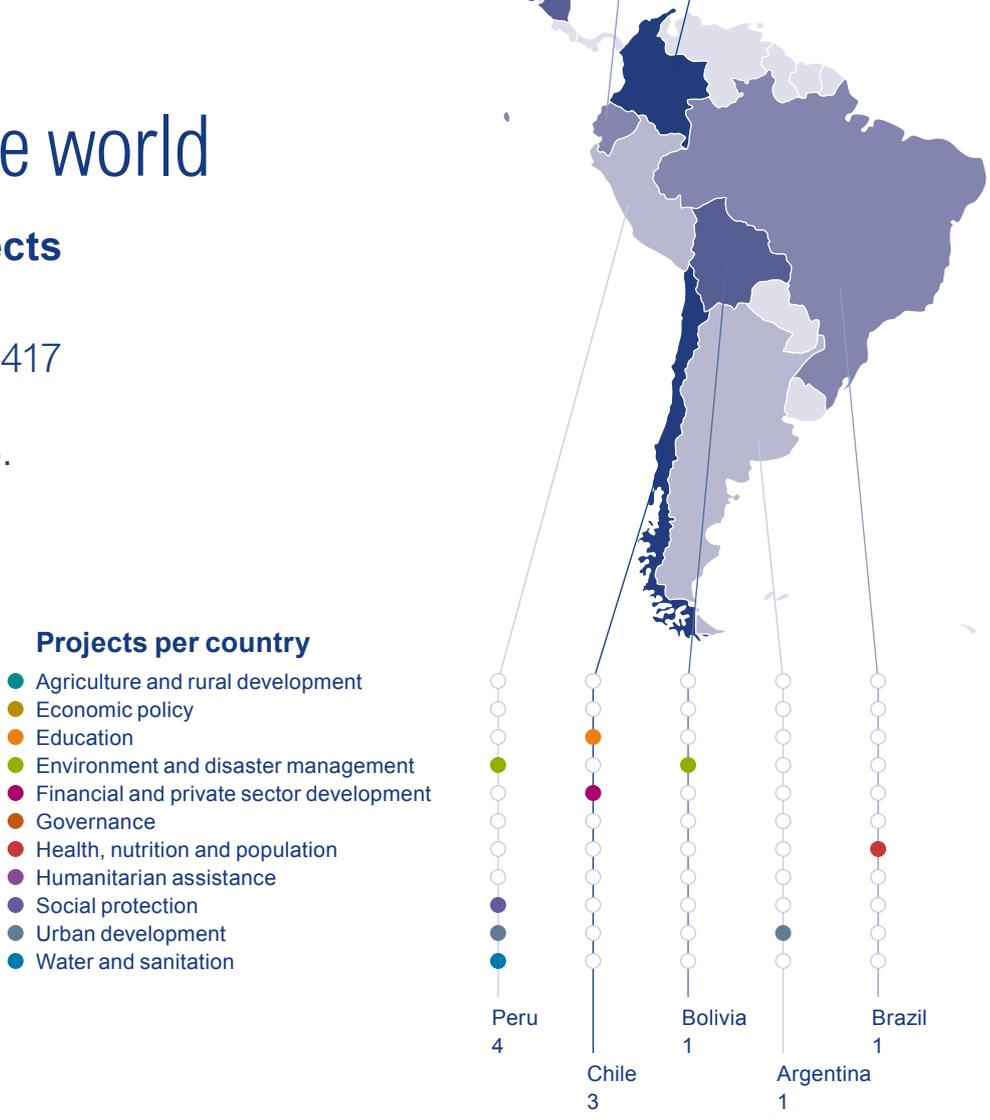
Annual income for 2016, including new signed agreements, was **US\$26.20 million**

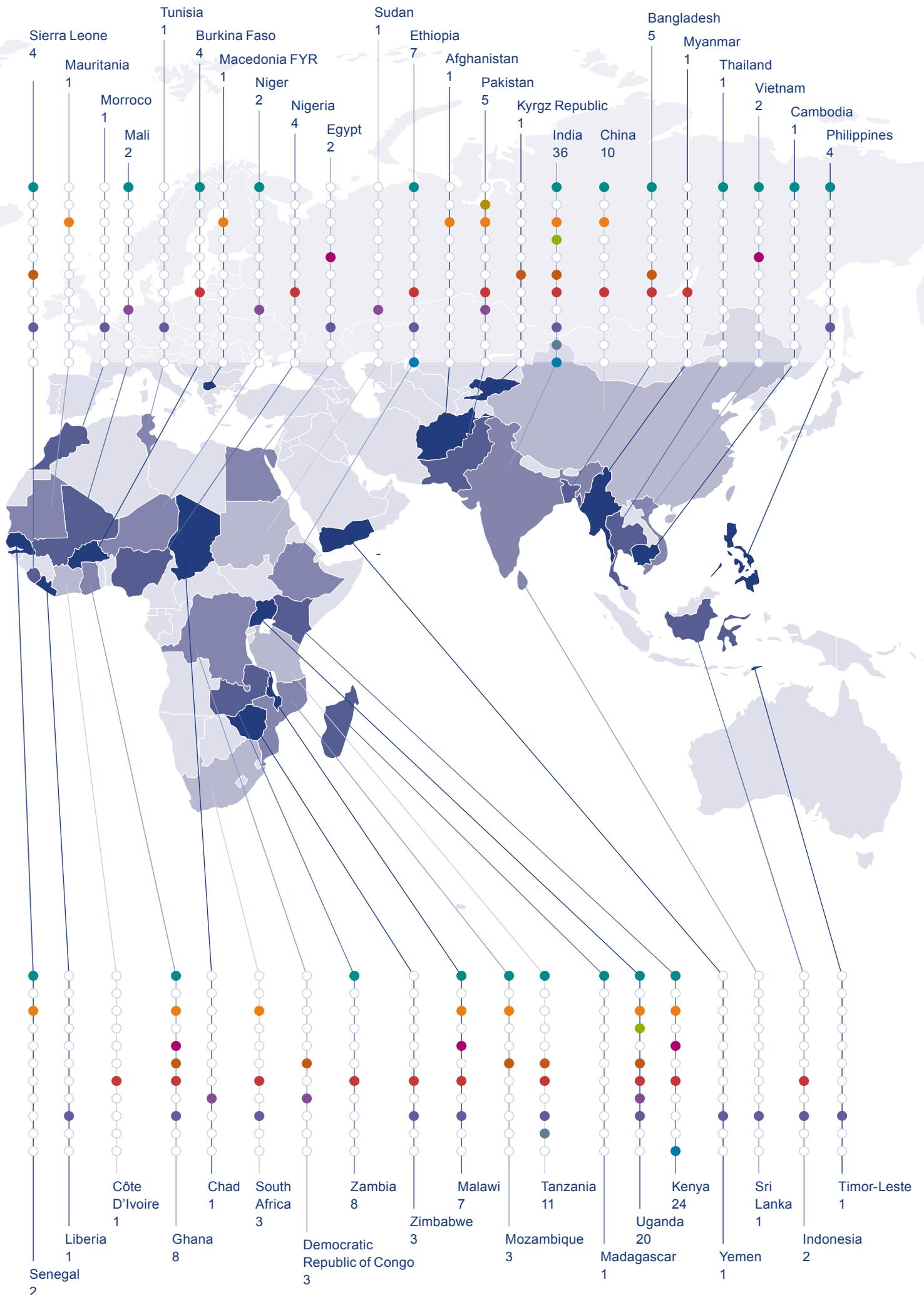


3ie around the world

Map of funded projects

We have committed a total of US\$111,475,417 for all grant windows as of December 2016.







‘3ie’s education review really added value by looking at how the processes involved in education programmes can matter for impact.’

Sally Gear

Head of profession, education, DFID,
at the launch of the education effectiveness
review at the What Works Global Summit,
London, on 27 September 2016

1 Improving lives through evidence-informed policymaking and programming

Evidence use from 3ie-funded studies

3ie-funded, policy-relevant impact evaluation studies generate evidence that informs decision making in more than 53 L&MICs. Below are some examples of changes informed by evidence from 3ie-funded studies in 2016.

Improving early childhood development outcomes in Mexico

The National Council for Educational Development in Mexico has been implementing an early childhood development programme for close to two decades. In the first impact evaluation of the programme, researchers at the World Bank assessed whether out-of-school training for parents by trained members of highly marginalised rural communities increased the involvement, especially of fathers, in child rearing. The study showed that, while the programme had a low take-up, it was an inexpensive way of improving both parenting practices and child development. Encouraged by the findings, the World Bank renewed its financial support for the programme. The National Council for Educational Development also expressed willingness to improve programme implementation and redesign some aspects of the programme based on the study findings.

Informing the discussion on the impact of India's largest public works programme

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is one of the largest public works programmes in the world. Implemented by the Indian Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), it aims to enhance livelihood security in rural areas. Researchers at the International Food Policy Research Institute evaluated the impact of the Act on a range of outcomes that produced particularly useful findings for policymakers. The study found that the scheme includes women, though with substantial variation across different states. It significantly increased the consumption and accumulation of assets at the household level, especially for the most marginalised populations. Political affiliations did not play a role in the disbursement of funds at the sub-national level or in influencing a household's ability to find work.

The MoRD cited the findings in Sameeksha II, an anthology of similar studies. MoRD invited one of the researchers, Sudha Narayanan, to review the evaluation tools that it plans to commission.



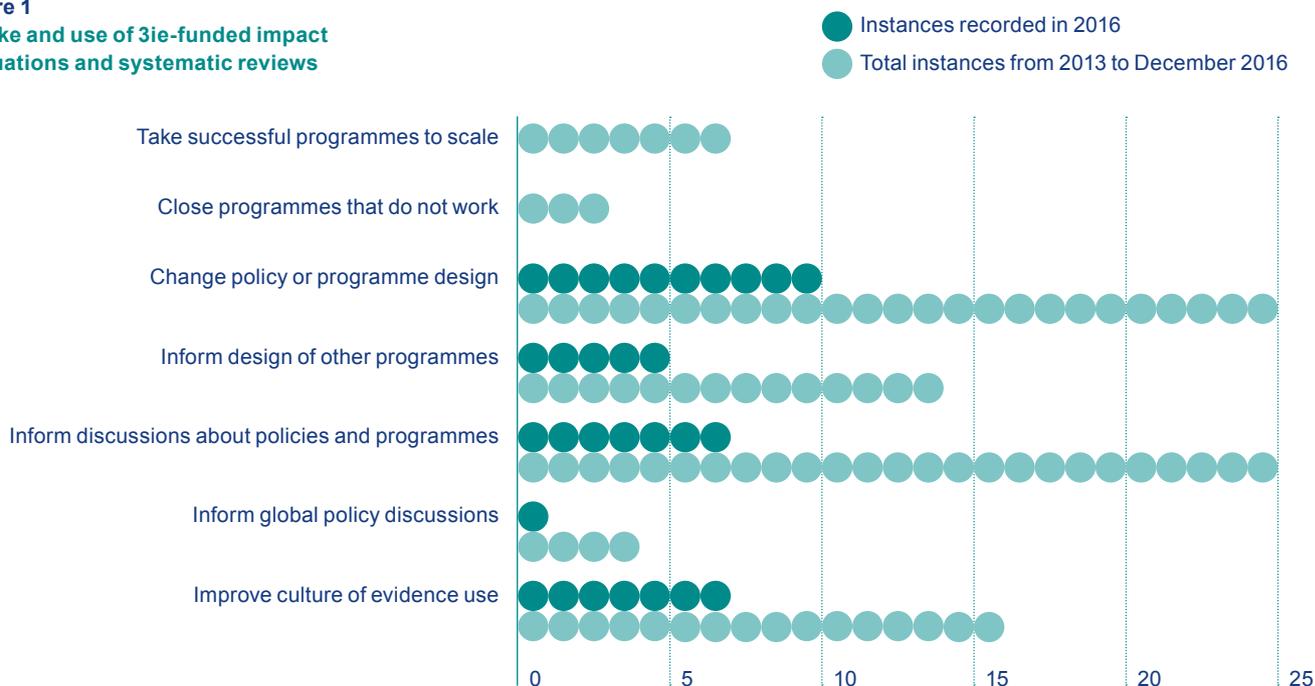
Informing Bangladesh's policies on child marriage

Adolescent girls in Bangladesh often drop out of school and lack the ability to influence decisions regarding their marriage and family planning. An evaluation of a programme to reduce child marriage and improve school enrolment in rural Bangladesh showed that a relatively inexpensive conditional stipend programme targeted at the families of adolescent girls is effective in delaying marriage and leads to large increases in school enrolment. However, the intensive empowerment programme targeting adolescent girls in disadvantaged settings did not have the desired impact. Researchers from the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), who conducted the study, are working with the Copenhagen Consensus Center to make recommendations to a high-level panel that is seeking evidence-informed solutions to Bangladesh's problems, including child marriage.

Changing programme design to improve students' academic achievement in China

An impact evaluation by researchers at the Shaanxi Normal University assessed the impact of a government-implemented computer-assisted learning (CAL) programme versus a similar programme implemented by researchers. The study showed that the researcher-led CAL programme significantly improved students' English test scores compared with students who received the government-implemented CAL programme. The poor performance of the government-implemented programme was most likely triggered by schools using existing English teachers to supervise the CAL programme and replacing regular classes with CAL sessions. In Qinghai province, where the study was implemented, the Haidong Prefecture Education Bureau used those findings in deciding to implement CAL after school hours for schools that have computers.

Figure 1
Uptake and use of 3ie-funded impact evaluations and systematic reviews



Improving the relevance and use of systematic review evidence

Encouraging systematic reviewers to promote evidence use requires a different approach to what we support in impact evaluations. This is because systematic reviews are desk-based and offer fewer opportunities for teams to interact directly with users. In 2015, we made a number of evidence-informed changes to how we support and guide systematic review grantees and we customised our guidance for developing and using a communication plan. Our guidance on advisory group membership stresses the importance of having a diversity of decision makers, implementers, sector experts and funders. The advisory process for systematic reviews is now central to providing the means to engage directly with stakeholders – at the right times – who can help to ensure reviews’ relevance, interpret their results and champion using the findings in their respective communities.

In 2016, the Belgian Red Cross review team embraced this approach in their review of evidence on promoting handwashing and sanitation behaviour change in L&MICs. Their advisory group included a number of Red Cross practitioners, donors, implementers and sector experts. They secured extra funding to convene two meetings. The advisory group gave inputs to the review’s theory of change and helped strengthen its mixed methods. Six months later, this advisory group met again to discuss the analysis, findings and interpretations. The research team also used that interaction to generate a communication plan with these stakeholders. The researchers believe that this approach made their review more rigorous and increased the chances of it being used. 3ie intends to continue monitoring this engagement to see how evidence is taken up in the coming year.

Spotlight: 3ie systematic review on education effectiveness



More than 263 million people around the world still cannot access school. And over 250 million children cannot read, write or do basic maths. A range of education programmes has been implemented across the world to resolve what is being seen as a learning crisis. But do these interventions work, and if so, for whom and in what contexts?

‘3ie’s education effectiveness review is the most expansive review, as it includes more studies than any education review I have looked at. One of the things 3ie’s review has done, that other reviews haven’t done in nearly so much detail, is that it examines how programmes were implemented.’

David Evans

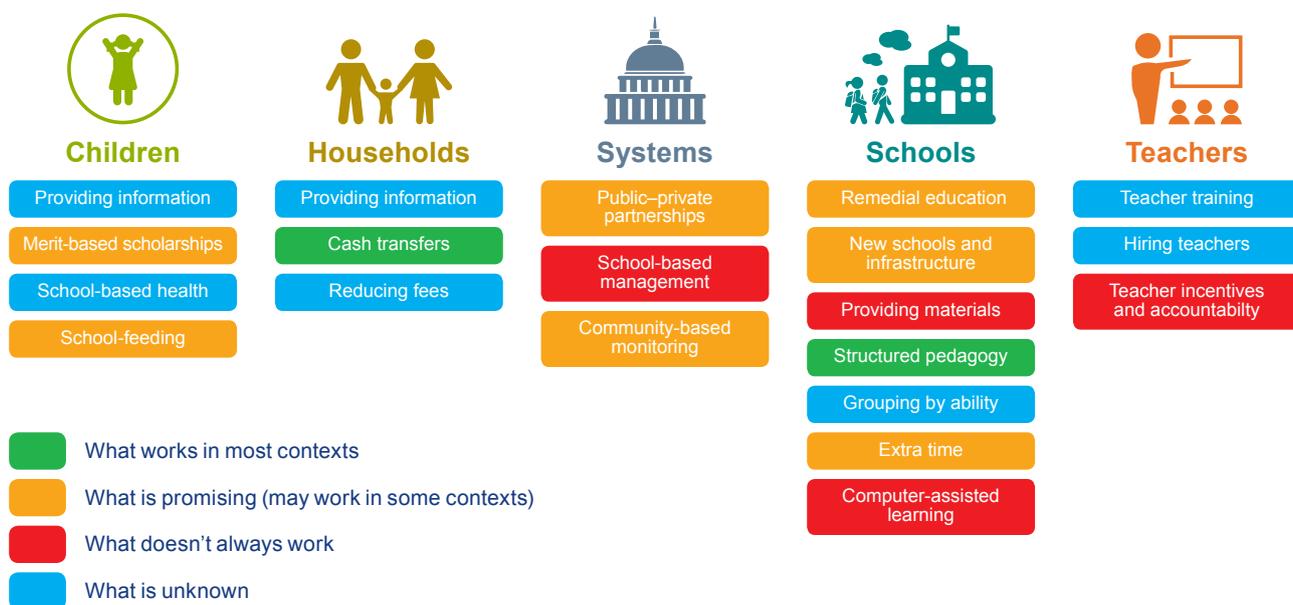
Senior researcher, the World Bank

To address these questions, 3ie’s in-house research team carried out a systematic review to assess the effects of education programmes in L&MICs. They included evidence from 20 different types of interventions and examined a range of school participation and learning outcomes. The review also assessed how the programme design, implementation and contextual factors can influence the success or failure of different programmes.

To ensure the usefulness of the review, the research team engaged an advisory group that included representatives from DFID in the UK, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Department for Basic Education in South Africa and education experts based in NGOs. The advisory group informed the scope of the review initially and helped distil the policy implications of its findings to ensure the review is relevant to decision makers.

After an extensive and ongoing systematic search of the education literature, the team identified 238 completed and ongoing impact evaluations, and 121 qualitative studies, process evaluations and project documents. The studies examined the effects of 216 education programmes in 52 L&MICs, reaching over 16 million children. To ensure that the review findings and implications are widely available and accessible in a useful format, 3ie produced a summary of the full review and a brief.

Figure 2
Findings of 3ie's systematic review on education effectiveness



Main findings of 3ie's education effectiveness review

3ie's systematic review on the effectiveness of education programmes highlights that there are no magic bullets for getting children to school and helping them learn.

Looking systematically at more than 20 different types of interventions the review found that, with a few exceptions, programmes typically improve either school participation or learning outcomes, but not both. The exceptions are community-based monitoring, school-feeding and multi-component interventions.

The review found that structured pedagogy programmes have the largest and most consistent positive effects on learning outcomes.

There is also fairly strong and consistent evidence that cash transfer programmes have relatively large positive effects on school participation outcomes.

There are multiple barriers to improving education outcomes, and these vary across contexts. New programmes may be more effective if their design is informed by an analysis of these barriers and if they reflect the capacity of different parts of the school system.



Finally, the review identified important gaps in the current evidence base, with studies unevenly spread across interventions and countries. For many intervention areas receiving substantive investments, such as programmes targeting teachers, there is paucity of evidence.

More and better evidence could help to ensure future education funding and contribute to inclusive and equitable access to quality education for all. As national governments work on strategies to meet the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets by 2030, we call for the increased use of evidence when deciding on education investments.



Global launch events

The review's launch in 2016 was particularly timely as it came on the heels of two other major education reports: UNESCO's 2016 *Global Education Monitoring Report* and the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity's *Learning Generation Report*. These reports underscored the serious shortfall in funding for global education and the need for more investments from both developing country governments and international aid agencies. The findings of our systematic review can help inform how those investments can be made effectively.

On 27 September 2016, we launched the systematic review summary report to a standing-room only audience of more than 160 people at the What Works Global Summit in London. This was the first of the series of well-attended launch events – others followed in Paris, Washington, DC, New York and New Delhi. These events were co-hosted with the World Bank in Washington, DC, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) in New York, the International Institute for Educational Planning UNESCO in Paris, and J-PAL South Asia in New Delhi.

'[3ie's systematic review] is a rich resource, which stands out in its sheer scope, covering studies investigating a diverse set of interventions and educational outcomes. The review is packed full of insights, worthy of the attention of anyone with an interest in education and development.'

Ben Durbin

Head of international education for the National Foundation for Educational Research

'From the perspective of a country like Peru, which has a huge challenge of making education a real pathway for prosperity for all its citizens, 3ie's systematic review and its summary report offers critical insights on the effectiveness of structured pedagogic programmes, additional instructional time, remedial education and community engagement.'

Jaime Saavedra

Minister of education for Peru

Early uptake of 3ie's education review's findings

Several organisations and networks have shown great interest in the findings of the review and in engaging with the authors. This includes DFID, USAID, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, the International Education Funders Group, Building Evidence in Education Donor Working Group, Jacobs' Foundation, the Global Education Monitoring Report team and the World Bank World Development Report team.

The NGO Pencils of Promise plans to use the findings of the education review to make decisions on new programmes. The NGO also plans to use the findings to develop its existing structured pedagogy and CAL programmes.

'This review was very useful because it covers all of the important issues for us, and we are hoping to work with the authors to see how we can mainstream it and engage different players in South Africa.'

Tshediso Matona

Acting director general, Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Government of South Africa, at the What Works Global Summit, London, on 27 September 2016

All of our launch events featured panel discussions that sparked debate on several topics: the usefulness of synthesised evidence for decision making, the need to understand how the design and implementation of education programmes can be tailored for specific contexts and what we mean when we call a systematic review 'high quality'.

The London launch was held in a packed public lecture hall, making it the best-attended event of the What Works Global Summit. At the Paris event in October 2016, Aaron Benevot, the director of UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring Report team, engaged with the review authors to discuss how the review evidence could inform thinking about the 2030 SDGs.

In Washington, DC, the panel discussion featured representatives from the World Bank, USAID, the Global Partnership for Education, and the Center for Global Development. Donors and education experts discussed the education intervention designs and looked at the implementation and evaluation of education programmes using a systems approach. This approach looks at identifying the problem, assessing resource needs and introducing appropriate components.

In New York, the United Nations Evaluation Group, 3ie, United Nations Development Programme Independent (UNDP) Evaluation Office and the UNICEF Evaluation Office jointly organised a webinar. Our Executive Director Emmanuel Jimenez presented the main findings of the review. The event was chaired by Arild Hauge, deputy director, Independent Evaluation Office, UNDP with Mathieu Brossard, senior advisor, Education Section, Programme Division, UNICEF as the discussant.

We launched the review as part of Delhi Evidence Week in November 2016. Prominent education experts from government and civil society debated the political and practical considerations involved in using research evidence for improving education policies and programmes in India.

Presentations of the education review at these events, as well as other conferences, have spurred conversations in the social and traditional media around the world.

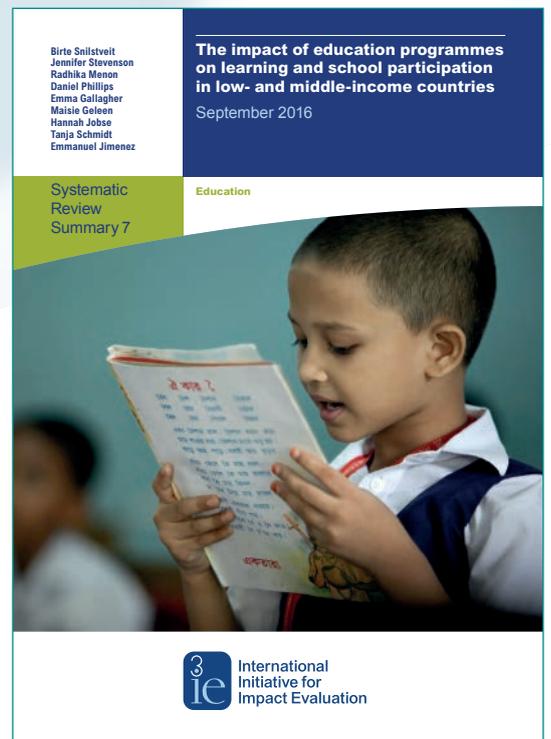
3ie's education effectiveness review in the news

The launch of the education review at events and conferences across the globe has spurred conversations in social media and the traditional media.

The summary report on 3ie's education effectiveness review was launched on 27 September 2016. By the end of December, it was 3ie's most downloaded publication for the year.



Number of briefs downloaded:
2,587



Number of systematic review reports downloaded:
2,809



Tweets





Media coverage



INDEPENDENT

30 September, 2016

Computers and textbooks will not solve growing global education crisis alone, major report finds

“Simply spending money on computers and materials will not solve a growing global education crisis, experts have warned. A major new report reviewing the impact of education programmes in lower and middle-income countries has revealed that computer-assisted learning, widely regarded as one of the most effective and forward-thinking classroom tools, does not improve learning outcomes in all contexts.”



10 October, 2016

A step towards better science for education policy

Evidence-based policy. It’s one of those phrases that has become ubiquitous. But what exactly does it mean? And perhaps more importantly, where is that evidence coming from, and can it be trusted as a basis for formulating policy?

The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) has been wrestling with such questions in the field of education, and its most recent study ‘The impact of education programmes on learning and school participation in low and middle-income countries’ was launched last week (September 27) at the What Works summit in London, UK.



22 April, 2016

Cash gifts are best way to raise school attendance

3ie’s review included 50 studies referring to 38 cash transfer programmes in different countries. It found that in most places they improved school enrolment and attendance, cut school dropout rates and increased student completion. But the review showed that cash transfers only made “limited improvements” to learning outcomes, such as maths and language skills.

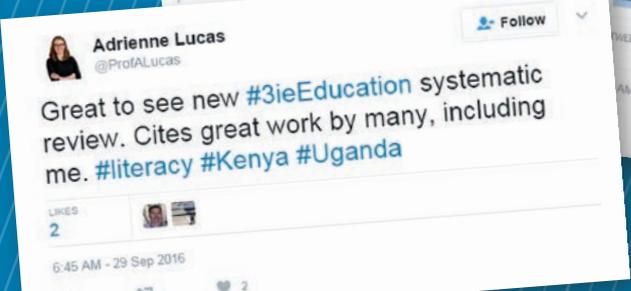
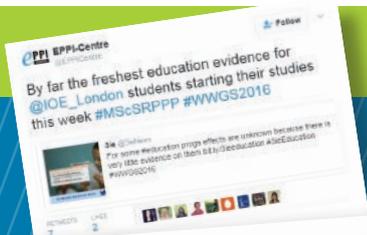


Education Times

25 October, 2016

Evidence of learning impact

“Research evidence and political will are required to deliver education for all in India, say education experts. A review of 216 education programmes in 52 low- and middle-income countries was launched in Delhi last week. The report by International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) that analyses the effectiveness of education interventions for improving children’s enrolment, attendance, completion and learning, highlights findings on what works and what doesn’t to improve key education outcomes.





‘Thanks to an introductory workshop on impact evaluation for policymakers, organised by 3ie, the senior staff at the Government of Cameroon’s Ministry of Public Health is progressively increasing its understanding of the need to use evidence in the choice of programmes to be implemented.

Maurice Fezeu

Head of Health Information Unit,
Ministry of Public Health, Cameroon

2 Producing better evidence

Impact evaluations

3ie is committed to funding and supporting the production of high-quality impact evaluations. The impact evaluations that we support employ a counterfactual to establish attributable effects of policies and programmes and demonstrate for whom, and why, the policy or programme is working or not.

Since our inception in 2008, we have completed 89 impact evaluations, of which 24 were completed in 2016. The number of completed studies is increasing steadily, reflecting the growth in our grant-making. The 21 new impact evaluation grants reflect changing global development evidence demands.

Thematic windows

3ie's thematic windows help to address evidence gaps in particular sectors, by providing answers to specific questions or set of questions. Our grant programmes typically start with a consultative process that includes a scoping study to identify the current state of evidence in a particular sector. So far, we have launched 14 thematic windows that cover a range of sectors and sub-sectors including education, health, agriculture and social protection.

In 2016, we launched two new thematic windows; on promoting latrine use in rural India and on agricultural insurance.

Open Window

Our Open Window funds impact evaluations of socio-economic development interventions across sectors in L&MICs. There have been four rounds of grant-making under this window, which has come to be one of 3ie's most popular initiatives. Of the 65 completed impact evaluations under this window, 11 were completed in 2016.

Figure 3
Distribution of impact evaluations
across thematic windows



Learning workshop with the International Fund for Agricultural Development

3ie co-hosted a three-day workshop at the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) headquarters in Rome. The workshop brought together a group of donors, implementing agencies and researchers involved in impact evaluations of cash transfers and agricultural development projects across our grant windows.

This learning workshop included design clinics and learning laboratories, where participants shared strategies that they used to overcome challenges during the planning, implementation, analysis and use of impact evaluations of innovative agricultural and cash transfer programmes.

Everyone agreed that we need more high-quality evidence in agriculture and social protection. Researchers and programme managers from IFAD and the Food and Agriculture Organization shared their experiences evaluating large-scale programmes and innovative pilots. 3ie shared lessons learnt from supporting impact evaluations. Participants discussed how to improve the gender-responsiveness of impact evaluations.

The Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa, IFAD and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research experts described their approaches to measuring impact and the use of evidence in the agricultural sector.



Other panel discussions focused on the evidence on the adoption of new technologies in agricultural programmes; the evidence on cash transfer programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean; and a session on using secondary data in evaluations to measure the impact of agricultural programmes.

The workshop was successful on all levels, generating insightful thoughts and suggestions on ways to move forward in the two sectors. Emmanuel Jimenez, Beryl Leach (deputy director and head of policy, advocacy and communication), Jyotsna Puri (former deputy executive director-evaluation), Diana Lopez (evaluation specialist) and Stuti Tripathi (senior policy and evidence uptake officer) represented 3ie at the workshop.



Promoting latrine use: addressing sanitation challenges in rural India

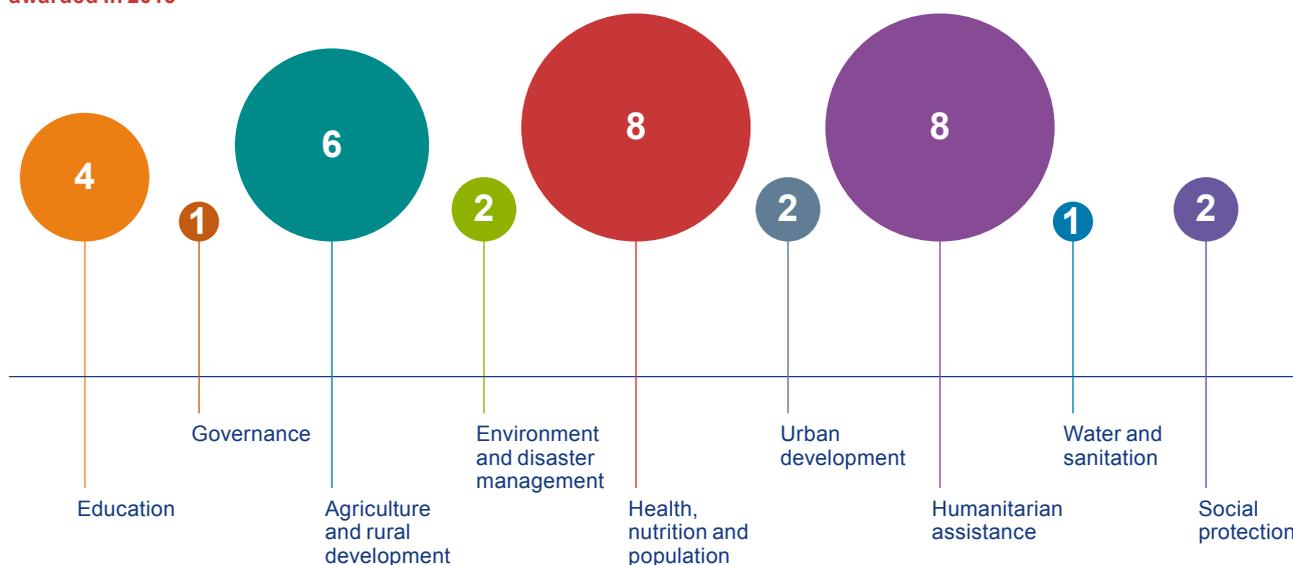
More than 560 million people across the world defecate in the open, and of these nearly 60 per cent live in India. Uncontained faecal matter facilitates the spread of disease that could lead to chronic undernutrition and stunting in children, diminished cognitive abilities and lost human capital.

To tackle the widespread and persistent health challenge posed by open defecation, the Indian government initiated a national sanitation programme, the Swachh Bharat (Clean India) Mission to eliminate open defecation by 2019. Part of the programme is to ensure that each household has a toilet by 2019. This will require a significant increase in latrine coverage in rural India, where approximately 90 per cent of households do not have toilets.

While increasing latrine use is a normal part of interventions to reduce open defecation, very few evaluations have focused on latrine use as a primary or secondary outcome. To address this knowledge gap, we launched a new thematic window, Promoting latrine use in rural India, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The aim of this thematic window is to support the design and evaluation of low-cost, innovative interventions to promote latrine use.

Research teams will employ diverse behaviour change approaches to sanitation, collaborate with local NGOs or state governments and test whether the interventions they propose are feasible. These pilot projects will undergo a rigorous evaluation process and six research teams will be awarded additional funding to scale-up and conduct full impact evaluations. The results of these efforts will inform the Indian government's mission before the 2019 deadline.

Figure 4
New impact evaluation grants
awarded in 2016



Development Priorities Window

3ie launched the Development Priorities Window in 2015 to generate evidence in sectors that are closely aligned to the SDGs, but where evidence is scarce. In the first funding round, we supported impact evaluations in the environment, governance, infrastructure and public finance sectors.

In 2016, we selected 16 proposals for a provisional award, of which five received full impact evaluation grants by the end of the year. These studies are on: the bus transit systems in Tanzania; payments for ecosystem services in Bolivia; socio-economic and environmental impact of Konkan railways in India; supply constraints on community toilet use in India; and rural institutional innovation in Bangladesh.

Some of the studies are employing innovative evaluation methods and are using various sources of data, including big data. For example, for the first time, we are funding an impact evaluation that will use big data to evaluate how subway expansion in Beijing is addressing traffic congestion and air pollution, and whether the benefits of the investments can justify their costs.

Pre-impact evaluation support

We are increasingly supporting formative or process evaluations to gauge the implementation feasibility and efficacy of a programme or policy. These initial evaluations help us and implementers understand how well interventions are being implemented before committing resources to evaluate their impact.

These evaluations are expected to articulate the programme's theory of change and assess implementation fidelity, the likelihood of the programme achieving its outputs and outcomes, and the feasibility of undertaking an impact evaluation. In 2016, we awarded six formative evaluations under the Agricultural Insurance Thematic Window. A formative evaluation of an HIV self-testing (HIVST) programme in Zambia was completed. Of the four process evaluations completed under the Uganda Country Policy Window in 2016, two were awarded full impact evaluation grants.



Policy Window

The main objective of our Policy Window is to support impact evaluations of programmes and policies deemed important by our members implementing them in L&MICs. This demand for an evidence-driven approach gives implementing organisations the opportunity to implement rigorous, mixed-method impact evaluations of their development interventions. In 2016, we awarded a total of six policy window grants, with a total budget of US\$1,666,970.

Country Policy Window

Our Country Policy Window was created to stimulate demand for impact evaluations and help generate evidence on national priorities. Unlike one-off studies, this window funds multiple evaluations and other evidence production. It also funds capacity building to strengthen support for evaluation in the focal country, among country-level donor offices, implementing agencies and researchers.

Under our Philippines Country Policy Window, we funded an impact evaluation to study the Sustainable Livelihoods Program, run by the Department of Social Welfare and Development. As part of capacity-building activities, we supported a two-week impact evaluation course coordinated by the Philippines Institute of Development Studies.

Our Uganda Country Policy Window is the result of collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister of Uganda, a 3ie member, with support from DFID. In 2016, we funded two impact evaluations on primary education and family planning under this window. We also supported four process evaluations under this window as part of the process for preparing impact evaluations. Oxford Policy Management disseminated key findings from the process evaluations at the Uganda Evaluation Week and presented them during a retreat for cabinet officials.

3ie-supported impact evaluations in focus



Does reconciliation affect conflict and development in Sierra Leone?

Research team

Jacobus Cilliers, Oeindrila Dube and Bilial Siddiqi

Context

This study examines the consequences of a programme in post-conflict Sierra Leone aimed at rebuilding social capital through truth and reconciliation efforts. As part of the programme, forums were held in which war survivors detailed their experiences and perpetrators admitted to crimes and sought forgiveness for their actions. After the forums, the implementing NGO set in place additional institutional structures in treatment villages. For instance, a Peace Tree served as a focal point for promoting dispute resolution and a Peace Mothers' Group facilitated discussions on gender-based violence and promoted economic activities among women. In some places, land was then set aside for communal farms as a pledge to reconciliation.

Impact evaluation

This study asked questions related to forgiveness and psychological well-being, attitudes towards ex-combatants and women, trust, the strength of social networks, conflict incidence and resolution, economic activity, public goods provision and household socio-economic welfare.

It used random assignment to study its impact across 100 sections, surveying 2,200 individuals in these areas. The short-term effects were measured nine months after the forums as a part of the intervention. In a sub-sample of sections, longer-term effects, 31 months after the forums took place, were gauged.

Findings

- The reconciliation programme has had both positive and negative consequences. On one hand, the programme led to greater forgiveness of those who perpetrated violence during the civil war. On the other hand, the reconciliation process undermined psychological well-being and left lasting psychological damage.
- Respondents were found to be more trusting of ex-combatants, and social networks became stronger, as people sought more help and advice from each other.
- Individuals residing in treatment villages also became more community-oriented in their behaviour. However, individuals in treated communities scored worse on three psychological measures: anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder.
- All psychological and societal effects, persisted for nearly three years after the intervention. These results suggest that confronting past war experiences may prove traumatic.



Evaluation of infant development centres: an early years intervention in Colombia

Research team

Alison Andrew, Orazio Attanasio, Raquel Bernal, Lina Cardona, Sonya Krutikova, Diana Martínez Heredia, Carlos Medina, Ximena Peña, Marta Rubio-Codina and Marcos Vera-Hernández

Context

As part of the Colombian National Strategy De Cero a Siempre (from zero to forever), the government decided to upgrade a type of childcare called Hogares Infantiles. The upgrade included: hiring additional and better-qualified personnel and the delivery of a one-off pedagogical endowment of toys, books and other materials. In addition to the upgrade, some centres received a set of further improvements provided by a private foundation, Fundación Éxito (FE). These improvements included three core programmes: further nutritional support; pedagogical training of teachers; and a reading programme for teachers, children and parents.

Impact evaluation

The researchers designed a controlled social experiment, taking advantage of the expansion phase of Hogares Infantiles enhancement. Researchers collected data from 1,989 children. They collected a baseline, a follow-up (18 months later) and additional monitoring data.

Findings

- Children in centres that received both the government and the private foundation improvements performed significantly better in assessments of cognitive and language development than children in the control centres.
- Across most measures of child development, the centres that received the government and private foundation improvements together had significantly more positive effects than those that only received the government support.
- There was limited evidence of the impacts of both treatment arms on children's nutritional outcomes.

Evidence uptake

The findings showed that the nutritional component that FE was supporting was not leading to better nutritional outcomes and children were better off with the nutritional component being offered by the government. As a result, FE has decided to phase out its funding to Hogares Infantiles centres and redefine its strategy to improve early childhood outcomes.



Given the positive results of the foundation's reading intervention on cognitive development, the government has decided to include reading rooms and a librarian at the centres, in addition to providing books. The study team is working with the government to help evaluate the short-term impacts of the National Early Childhood Strategy.

Improving adherence to antiretroviral therapy at maternal and child health clinics in Tanzania

Research team

John Chalker and Dennis Ross-Degnan

Context

A high level of adherence is required for antiretroviral therapy (ART) to be effective and prevent mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV. In June 2013, Tanzania adopted Option B+, whereby all pregnant women with HIV are immediately offered ART treatment for life at reproductive and child health (RCH) clinics, rather than specialised ART clinics, which had previously been the sole providers of HIV treatment. To roll out this new approach, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare distributed appointment and patient-tracking registers to all RCH clinics with no formal guidelines on how to use them.

Impact evaluation

This study addressed whether training RCH clinic staff to use the appointment and patient-tracking registers would improve appointment attendance rates and adherence to ART in the newly integrated facilities. The Management Sciences for Health research team implemented a matched pair randomised control trial in 24 RCH clinics in eight districts in Mbeya region, Tanzania. Management Sciences for Health and specialist staff from the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare trained two staff members from each of the 12 intervention RCH clinics on how to use the appointment tracking system. They also conducted four rounds of monthly supportive supervision at each intervention clinic to reinforce the training. All RCH clinic staff trained were diploma-level nurses.

Findings

- Training RCH clinic staff on how to use the appointment and patient-tracking registers reduced the rate of missed visits.
- There was a significant increase of treatment adherence, with patients attaining at least 95 per cent coverage of dispensed medicines.
- Qualitative data from both clinic and district staff and women on ART suggested that improvements in the health system, due to the intervention, reduced workloads.



Promoting HIV self-tests by male partners and couples in Kenya

Research team

Harsha Thirumurthy, Eunice Omanga, Beatrice Obonyo, Samuel Masters and Kawango Agot

Context

The uptake of HIV testing and counselling among men in eastern and southern Africa is low, despite several strategies used to promote it. HIV status knowledge is key for the early treatment that reduces transmission, improves survival and reduces long-term morbidity.

Although one promising new approach to address low testing and counselling uptake is HIVST, little is known about its ability to promote regular HIV testing and counselling. Previous studies on HIVST in Sub-Saharan Africa have shown that it is both highly acceptable to stakeholders and accurate. As many women receive antenatal care (ANC) and postpartum care, providing HIVST to pregnant women and new mothers could improve the uptake of testing and counselling among men.

Impact evaluation

This study examines whether providing HIVST to women can improve HIV testing uptake among the partners of women attending ANC and postpartum care clinics in Kisumu, Kenya.

A sample of 600 women receiving ANC and postpartum care services were randomly assigned to the treatment group or the control group. The women assigned to the intervention clinics received two OraQuick Rapid HIV-1/2 tests and instructions on how to use them for themselves and their partners. They received training on the proper use of the HIVST, including a demonstration. The women in the control clinics received an invitation card for clinic-based HIV testing to give to their male partner.

Findings

- Distributing HIVST to women receiving ANC and postpartum care services led to a significant increase in male partner HIV testing.
- There was also a significant increase of HIV testing together by couples.

Evidence uptake

In December 2016, the World Health Organization (WHO) issued a supplement to the previously issued consolidated guidelines on HIV testing services. This supplement, among other evidence, uses findings from this study and another 3ie-supported impact evaluation of pilot interventions in Kenya, to provide recommendations and additional guidance on HIVST and HIV partner notification services.



Diana Milena Lopez-Avila
Evaluation Specialist,
New Delhi

At 3ie, I am responsible for managing thematic windows on agricultural innovation and improving adolescents' lives in South Asia. Working at 3ie has allowed me to understand a variety of programmes and organisations, which has broadened my perspective on contexts, problems and solutions in developing countries. This is quite interesting for a development economist.

Managing the windows requires a lot of engagement and interaction with donors, implementing agencies and researchers.

This is particularly interesting, but challenging as well, as each of these actors has different expectations and motivations regarding the impact evaluations.

I've learned a lot from this interaction. By reviewing the grants, I've realised the importance of rigour and being succinct when conducting and reporting on study findings. Finally, being from a different country, working in 3ie's New Delhi office has been an enriching personal experience.

Evidence synthesis and reviews Evidence gap maps

3ie has been pioneering the production and use of evidence syntheses in international development. Evidence syntheses aim to bridge the gap in knowledge translation between the evidence generated by academic impact evaluation studies and policymakers' needs in making decisions.

Our approach ensures that evidence synthesis is as rigorous and relevant as possible for decision makers, by:

- Developing the EGM approach;
- Supporting the production of mixed-method systematic reviews; and
- Communicating findings in accessible summary formats.

We first developed EGMs in 2010 as a tool to identify what evidence exists, and what does not, in a particular thematic or sector area. The initial reason was to ensure, at an early stage, that enough quality evidence existed to support doing a systematic review. Since then, their popularity has quickly increased in international development.

EGMs use systematic methods of data collection to help donors and researchers identify knowledge gaps that inform the commissioning and conducting of research. 3ie EGMs provide an innovative and visual approach to establishing what we know and do not know about the effectiveness of development interventions. They are displayed on an interactive, user-friendly platform on our website. This platform allows users to navigate existing evidence through summaries of impact evaluations and systematic reviews.

In 2016, we published three EGMs, on the following subjects: forest conservation, with funding from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF); land-use change and forestry; and adolescent sexual and reproductive health, funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.



‘Adolescent sexual and reproductive health is an important topic, but lacks high-quality impact evaluation evidence in key areas like social norm change and community-based approaches. The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation commissioned 3ie to study these gaps and share what they found to help funders, implementing organisations and governments choose where to invest in research, evaluation and programming.’

Margot Fahnestock

Programme officer, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

What we know and don't know about effects on greenhouse gas emissions and food security

With support from the Children's Investment Fund Foundation, we conducted an EGM to assess the evidence on effects of land-use change and forestry programmes on greenhouse gas emissions and human welfare outcomes, in particular on food security.

The EGM identifies, displays and categorises 241 impact evaluations and 11 systematic reviews according to 15 interventions and 12 outcome types. The main finding of the map is that the existing evidence base does not offer guidance to decision makers on which interventions are most effective in reaching emissions reduction targets, while avoiding negative effects on food security and other human welfare outcomes. This is an important evidence gap, which future primary studies should address.

Examining the evidence base for forest conservation interventions

This EGM, commissioned by WWF, identified 110 impact evaluations and 12 systematic reviews. One of its main findings is that there is a paucity of high-quality evidence in areas significant for policy. These include the effect of forest-related climate change policies, trade laws and management, and education and awareness campaigns on environmental and social outcomes among forest communities.

Identifying what works in adolescent sexual and reproductive health programming

3ie developed an EGM as part of a scoping work project funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. While the EGM identified many impact evaluations and systematic reviews in L&MICs, it also revealed several evidence gaps on specific interventions. These included: community health worker approaches; mobile health and other information and communication technologies; outcomes at parental and community levels; programmes specific to pregnancy prevention; and effects for adolescent sub-populations.



Stella Tsoli
Research Assistant,
London

I joined the Synthesis and Reviews Office in June 2016. I support in-house systematic reviews and EGMs. The highlight has been working on the EGM on reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, in collaboration with WHO. It is a comprehensive EGM on community-oriented interventions to strengthen individual, family and community capabilities.

I also serve as managing editor for International Development Coordinating group (IDCG), which prepares, updates and disseminates

systematic reviews of high policy relevance, focusing on social and economic development interventions in L&MICs.

My work at 3ie has challenged my research comfort zone and triggered my professional development.

The ethos of the organisation and the determination of my colleagues in producing high-quality evidence are inspirational. As a public health scientist, it is exciting to be part of an organisation that strives to champion evidence-informed policymaking and high-quality systematic reviews and EGMs.

Systematic reviews

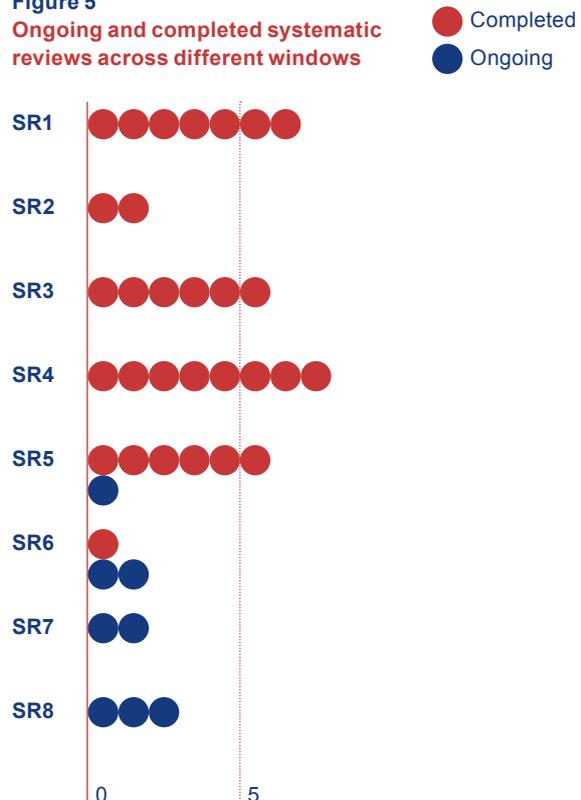
Systematic reviews collect and analyse the evidence generated by impact evaluations, alongside evidence on process and implementation. They provide information about both the reliability of the existing evidence and the magnitude of changes in different contexts to provide actionable policy recommendations to decision makers and the public.

3ie's brand is built on studies that are both rigorous and relevant. We have done much work to show that systematic reviews can answer relevant questions on complex development programmes using rigorous methods. These reviews can answer a very broad range of policy questions, not just on what works, where and for whom, but why and at what cost, as well as questions around scaling up.

In 2016, we commissioned one new systematic review on agroforestry. We also published nine new systematic reviews that summarise high-quality evidence on the following topics: access to electricity; community monitoring in health and education; community support for children's literacy; economic self-help groups for women's empowerment; small firm productivity and the business environment; youth employment; and youth gang membership (see Appendix D for a full listing).

We also collaborate to provide quality assurance for systematic reviews commissioned and funded by other organisations, as part of its professional support services. We host the IDCG of the Campbell Collaboration in our London office, providing technical and editorial support to teams conducting systematic reviews. In 2016, the IDCG published five systematic reviews quality assured by 3ie staff.

Figure 5
Ongoing and completed systematic reviews across different windows



3ie-supported systematic reviews in focus



Deworming and adjuvant interventions for improving the developmental health and well-being of children in L&MICs

Research team

Vivian A Welch, Elizabeth Ghogomu, Alomgir Hossain, Shally Awasthi, Zulfi Bhutta, Chisa Cumberbatch, Robert Fletcher, Jessie McGowan, Shari Krishnaratne, Elizabeth Kristjansson, Salim Sohani, Shalini Suresh, Peter Tugwell, Howard White and George Wells

Context

Soil-transmitted helminthiasis and schistosomiasis affect more than a third of the world's population. There is debate about the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of mass deworming of children as a strategy to improve child health in endemic areas.

Systematic review

The review evaluates the effects of mass deworming approaches on children. The authors include 65 rigorous evaluations covering more than 1 million study participants, using meta-analysis to synthesise evidence across programmes.

Findings

- Mass deworming reduces worm loads but does not consistently improve growth, educational achievement, cognition, school attendance or quality of life in children aged 6 months to 16 years in endemic helminth areas.
- For schistosomiasis, mass deworming may be effective in improving children's weight.
- Evidence for positive effects on longer-term outcomes such as earnings is limited to a few contexts and is of variable quality.

Community monitoring to curb corruption and increase efficiency in service delivery: evidence from low-income communities

Research team

Ezequiel Molina, Laura Carella, Ana Pacheco, Guillermo Cruces and Leonardo Gasparini

Context

Community monitoring interventions (CMIs) enable communities to monitor public service providers to increase their accountability to users. These approaches are intended to address corruption, inefficient allocation of resources, inadequate access and poor quality of outcomes.



Systematic review

The authors systematically searched for and incorporated rigorous evaluations from 23 programmes, synthesising evidence meta-analysis and thematic synthesis.

Findings

- The authors find that CMI can reduce corruption and improve the use of health services, but there was no improvement in health service waiting times or child mortality.
- CMIs do not improve the use of the education services, as measured by enrolment or drop-outs, but there are beneficial effects on education outcomes as measured by test scores.
- CMIs appear to improve outcomes more effectively when promoting direct contact between citizens and service providers or politicians, and equipping citizens with tools to monitor the performance of service providers and politicians.

Systematic review summary reports

3ie’s systematic review summary report series aims to present review evidence in a more useful format for decision makers and other non-research users. The summaries focus on the information readers need in order to understand and use the findings easily and effectively. These summaries are much shorter than the full technical review reports. In 2016, we published five systematic review summary reports, some of which are summarised here.

Identification and measurement of health-related spillovers

Spillovers may be positive or negative, and when they are ignored they may alter cost-effectiveness estimates. This review finds that spillovers are most consistently positive for vaccination programmes. The evidence of positive spillovers for mass drug administration interventions to control parasites, trachoma and insecticide-treated bed nets, is promising but impact evidence from more contexts is needed. Evidence for spillovers from health education programmes, cash transfers, and water and sanitation was mixed and of lesser quality.



Community-based rehabilitation for people with disabilities

Community-based rehabilitation is endorsed by WHO to improve access to health, education, employment and other aspects of daily life for people living with disabilities. But its effectiveness is not clear. Evidence from this review suggests that rehabilitation is effective for people living with physical and mental disabilities. The evidence also shows modest beneficial effects on quality of family life and the burden of giving care.

Supplementary feeding to improve the health of disadvantaged infants and children

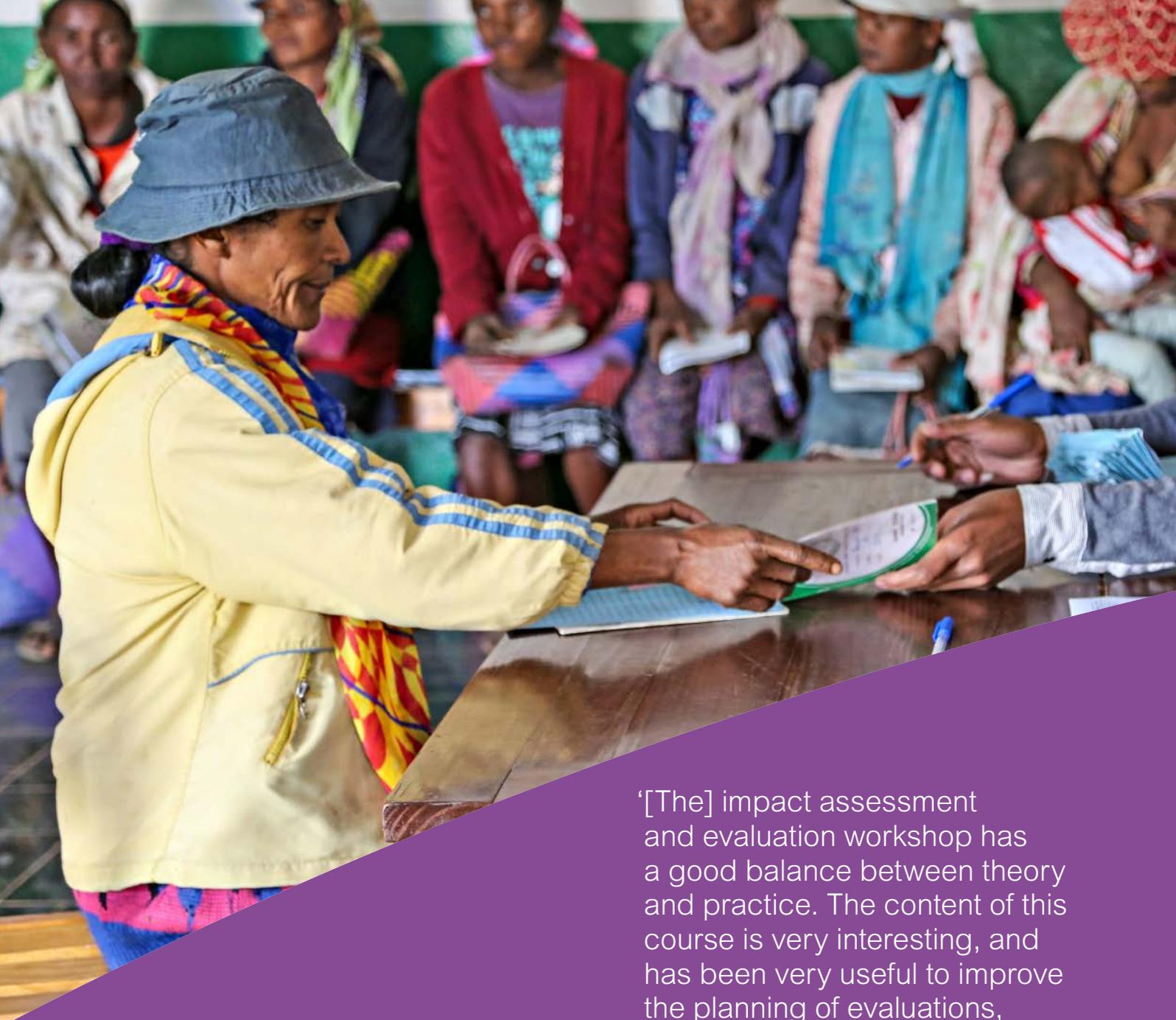
Supplementary feeding programmes for children vary greatly. Their long-term goals generally include improved survival, growth and health, and normal cognitive and behavioural development. Some programmes aim to cure (or at least ameliorate) existing undernutrition, while others aim to prevent it.

This report summarises the findings from a systematic review of impact evidence and a realist review of broader evidence, including on implementation. It finds that supplementary feeding has a small, positive effect on children's weight and height, and may have a positive effect on cognitive and psychosocial development. Implementation is key to the effectiveness of feeding programmes.

Programmes targeting children under the age of two and poorer or less well-nourished groups, and those providing a greater proportion of recommended daily nutrient allowance and supervised feeding, were more successful in improving outcomes.

Training, innovation and technology for African smallholder farmers

We know little about which programmes and approaches are most effective at improving smallholders' food security and economic outcomes. This review finds that technological innovations, such as improved seeds and training (agricultural extension), are intended to improve food security and household income and biofortified crops have a positive impact on household food security. Orange-fleshed sweet potatoes in Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa and Uganda have been particularly effective in improving nutritional status. Improved seeds also increase the monetary value of cash crop harvests and overall household income. Top-down training methods such as agricultural extension are not effective in improving yields or food security. Evidence suggests that bottom-up communication methods such as farmer field schools are promising but more impact evidence from more contexts is needed.



'[The] impact assessment and evaluation workshop has a good balance between theory and practice. The content of this course is very interesting, and has been very useful to improve the planning of evaluations, especially to achieve a good design of evaluations of public policy. The course facilitates an understanding of the role that impact evaluations have in the policy process.'

Laura Salas Noguera

Leader of evaluations, National Planning Department, Colombia, who received a 3ie bursary to attend the impact assessment and evaluation short course conducted by Public Administration International in the UK

3 Supporting better impact evaluation, synthesis and mapping

Replication programme

This programme is designed to highlight the benefits of internal replication of impact evaluations of development studies in the sector and to incentivise conducting replication studies of influential, innovative and controversial impact evaluations.

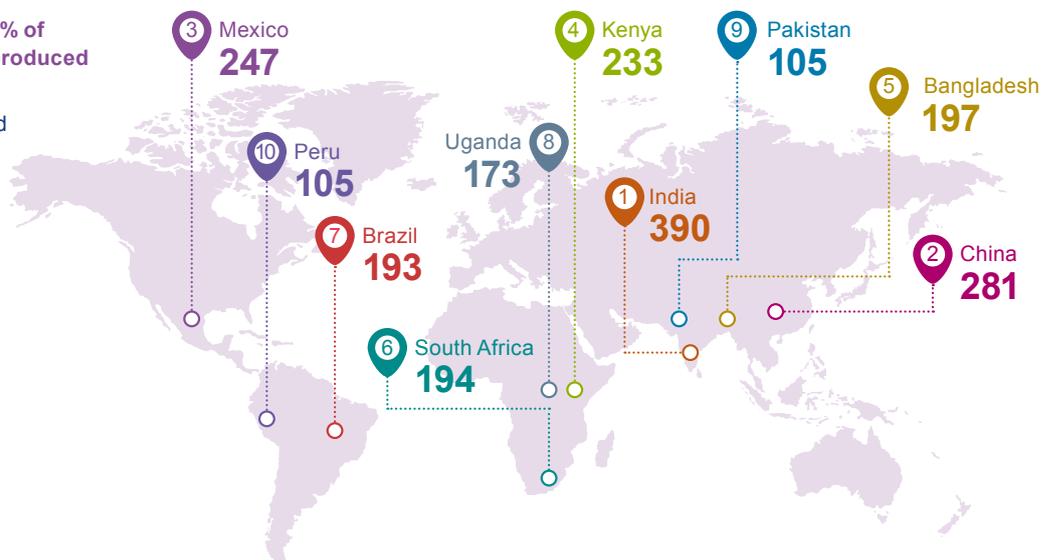
3ie's replication programme funds internal replication¹ studies, which use the original data from completed impact evaluations to explore the same evaluation question independently. Since 2012, we have given 23 replication research awards and published 10 replication papers.

We are currently administering replication grant-making in HIV and financial services, both funded by the Gates Foundation. In October 2016, the researchers presented their plans and pure replications² at the HIV results for prevention conference in Chicago. Our newest replication funding window focuses on research into financial services for the poor. The Gates Foundation selected seven impact evaluations for replication, including ones on mobile money, cash transfers, bank deposits and other financial service interventions aimed at under-served and unbanked populations in L&MICs

Figure 6
Top 10 countries where 47% of impact evaluations were produced

Countries and number of impact evaluations produced

Source: 3ie Impact Evaluation Repository



New manual on power calculations in experimental impact evaluation design

Since the 1990s, researchers have increasingly used experimental impact evaluations to measure the effects of interventions, programmes and policies. However, usefulness is limited when evaluations use sample sizes that are insufficient for detecting whether meaningful effects have occurred. Such a finding might wrongly lead policymakers to cancel a development programme, or make counterproductive or even harmful changes to public policies. However, data collection is expensive and 3ie requires that it be done ethically. Therefore, it is important to ensure that an evaluation research design does not use a larger sample size than is required.

Power calculation helps to avoid the consequences of having a sample that is too small to detect the smallest magnitude of interest in the outcome variable. We published a working paper, *Power calculation for causal inference in social science: sample size and minimum detectable effect determination*, to help researchers improve and verify their sample sizes. The paper includes detailed definitions of parameters used in different formulae and useful guidelines. The paper also includes formulae to calculate both minimum detectable effect and sample sizes (using the sample size determination approach) when determining statistical power for experimental impact evaluation designs.

Expert roster

3ie's expert roster is the first of its kind in the field of impact evaluation. It is a free resource available to help commissioners identify experts to design and implement impact evaluations of their development interventions.

At the end of December 2016, the roster has 527 experts, an increase of 53 per cent from 2015. These experts are located in 150 countries, compared with 118 countries last year. The top three L&MICs represented in the expert roster are Colombia, India and Mexico.

Impact Evaluation Repository

The Impact Evaluation Repository (IER) is the largest database of published impact evaluation studies of development interventions in L&MICs. In 2016, we revised the search and screening protocol and updated the IER. The highlights of the revised protocol are new techniques for duplicate removal, automated web searching for studies and the prediction of positive results. The IER now has more than 4,500 impact evaluations and includes publications in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

We presented findings from this recent update at the What Works Global Summit in London. At this event, we underlined three important findings. Firstly, health, nutrition and population, education and social protection continue to be the topics with the most impact evaluations. Secondly, the 10 countries in which the highest number impact evaluation studies are produced (See Figure 6 on page 43) account for 47 per cent of all impact evaluations in L&MICs. Thirdly, the World Bank, *the Lancet* and the National Bureau of Economic Research are the most prevalent publishers of impact evaluations.



Jorge Miranda
Research Associate,
Washington, DC

Since joining the Washington office in 2015, I have been an active advocate for more and better data at 3ie. I currently manage the IER, which is the largest database of impact evaluation research into interventions in developing countries. I also conduct analysis and create knowledge products based on the data within the IER for internal and external audiences. A key highlight of 2016 was the first update of the IER since its creation in 2014. We added over 1,300 new impact evaluation studies, and took the opportunity

to incorporate new techniques, such as systematic search and screening, web scraping and predictive analytics to populate the repository. The results of this update were presented in a blog post and at the What Works Global Summit 2016 conference in London.

Starting in January 2017, I will be leading an initiative to upgrade 3ie databases, which will improve the organisation's capacity to provide international public goods and promote open access and transparency in international development.

3ie starts to expand its capacity-building efforts

We continued to expand our capacity-building work in 2016. In January, staff gave a two-day training session to a South African research team on EGM methods. In April, participants from more than 30 UK charities, including two 3ie members, benefitted from an interactive one-day workshop that introduced our approaches to EGMs and systematic reviews. Staff delivered separate short courses on systematic reviews to ISEAL Alliance and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).

We provided impact evaluation training to 40 participants through the London International Development Centre and to 110 participants at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration in Mussoorie, India.

We also strengthened our work in building awareness about, and support for, monitoring, measuring and using evidence – mainly through conference workshops and member services. Demand is building for more 3ie activities to support improving the capacity of, and commitment to, using evidence to inform decision making.

Professional services

Through our professional and advisory services programme, we have continued to support L&MIC stakeholders to build their capacity to commission, implement and use impact evaluation evidence. In 2016, our professional services engagements totalled US\$1,758,451, and we provided professional services to the following organisations:

- **Campbell and Cochrane Collaborations:** We provided expert inputs on systematic review methods development to address the risk of bias in impact evaluations. The quality assurance that we provide is reported in Section 2.
- **Children's Investment Fund Foundation:** In partnership, we produced an EGM that assesses available evidence on the effects of land-use change and forestry programmes on greenhouse gas emissions and human welfare outcomes.
- **William and Flora Hewlett Foundation:** We produced an EGM and report of the evidence base for adolescent sexual and reproductive health. A related scoping paper was published in early 2017.
- **London International Development Centre:** Staff provided a short course on impact evaluations.



- **International Center for Research in Agroforestry:** 3ie and this organisation are partnering to develop an EGM and conduct a systematic review of agroforestry interventions, particularly in relation to enhancing and restoring productivity and well-being in smallholder farming systems in L&MICs.
- **Millennium villages programme, Ghana:** We continued leading the peer review group for the impact evaluation led by Institute of Development Studies, ITAD, LSHTM and Participatory Development Associates Ltd, Ghana, commissioned by DFID. In 2016, the mid-term report was extensively discussed and feedback was provided to the research team.
- **National Rural Livelihoods Mission:** We are providing advisory support, including quality assurance, to the Indian MoRD. Within this initiative, the Gates Foundation commissioned a multi-component grant of US\$1,386,791 to collate and coalesce evidence on rural livelihood programmes in India. The main deliverables for 3ie under this grant are: to create a synthesised document on the National Rural Livelihoods Mission; to benchmark and recommend best practice models for a management information system and outcome monitoring system for this project; to quality assure impact evaluations by technical partners of the Gates Foundation; and to conduct a formative assessment.
- **One Acre Fund:** We are assisting in the quality assessment of an impact evaluation on the effects of One Acre Fund's intervention on increasing farmers' yields and profits in Kenya.
- **Population Foundation of India:** We provided quality assurance for the impact evaluation of an entertainment education programme. Key activities carried out in 2016 include the quality assessment of the evaluation design, field protocols and the baseline report.
- **Technoserve:** We increased our support for the impact evaluation of Technoserve's regional youth entrepreneurship programme in East Africa (STRYDE 2.0). We worked with a research team that included Innovations for Poverty Action and Technoserve in finalising the design and implementation of the impact evaluation. This engagement will continue until the evaluation is completed in 2019.
- **Treatment as Prevention study:** This large-scale HIV combination prevention randomised evaluation in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, concluded in 2016. The study team shared the findings at the International AIDS Conference in South Africa.
- **WWF:** We produced an EGM and report of the evidence base for forest conservation interventions (including protected areas, decentralised forest governance, payments for ecosystem services and international policy instruments) in L&MICs.

'I had a wonderful experience at the Africa Evidence Network Conference in Pretoria. I would like to thank 3ie for sponsoring the trip, which enabled me to interact with a diverse set of experts in this field. Lessons from the conference have helped me a lot in my day-to-day work of reviewing health-related research proposals in regards to the science and ethics employed. More importantly, I would like to develop my skills on how one can monitor and evaluate government programmes and interventions [as] presented by Adeline Sibanda, president of the African Evaluation Association.'

Billy W Nyambalo

Ministry of Health, Research Department,
National Health Sciences Research Committee Secretariat, Malawi

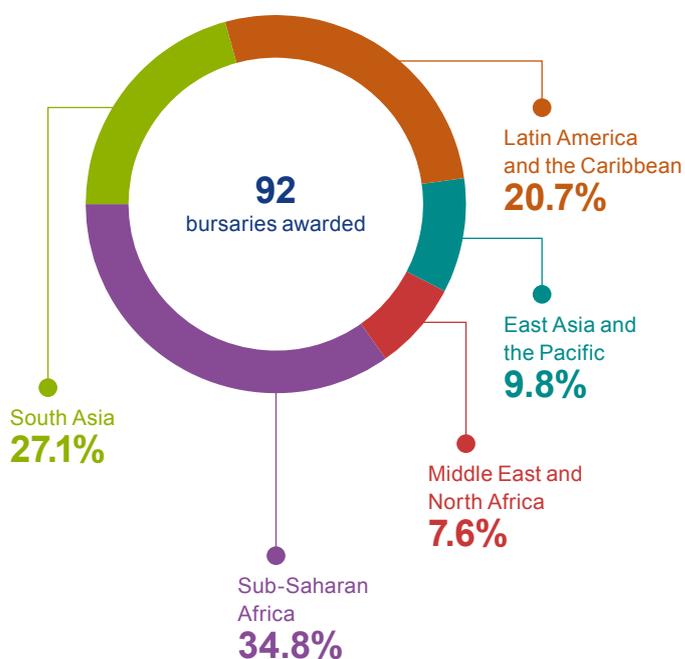
Bursary programme

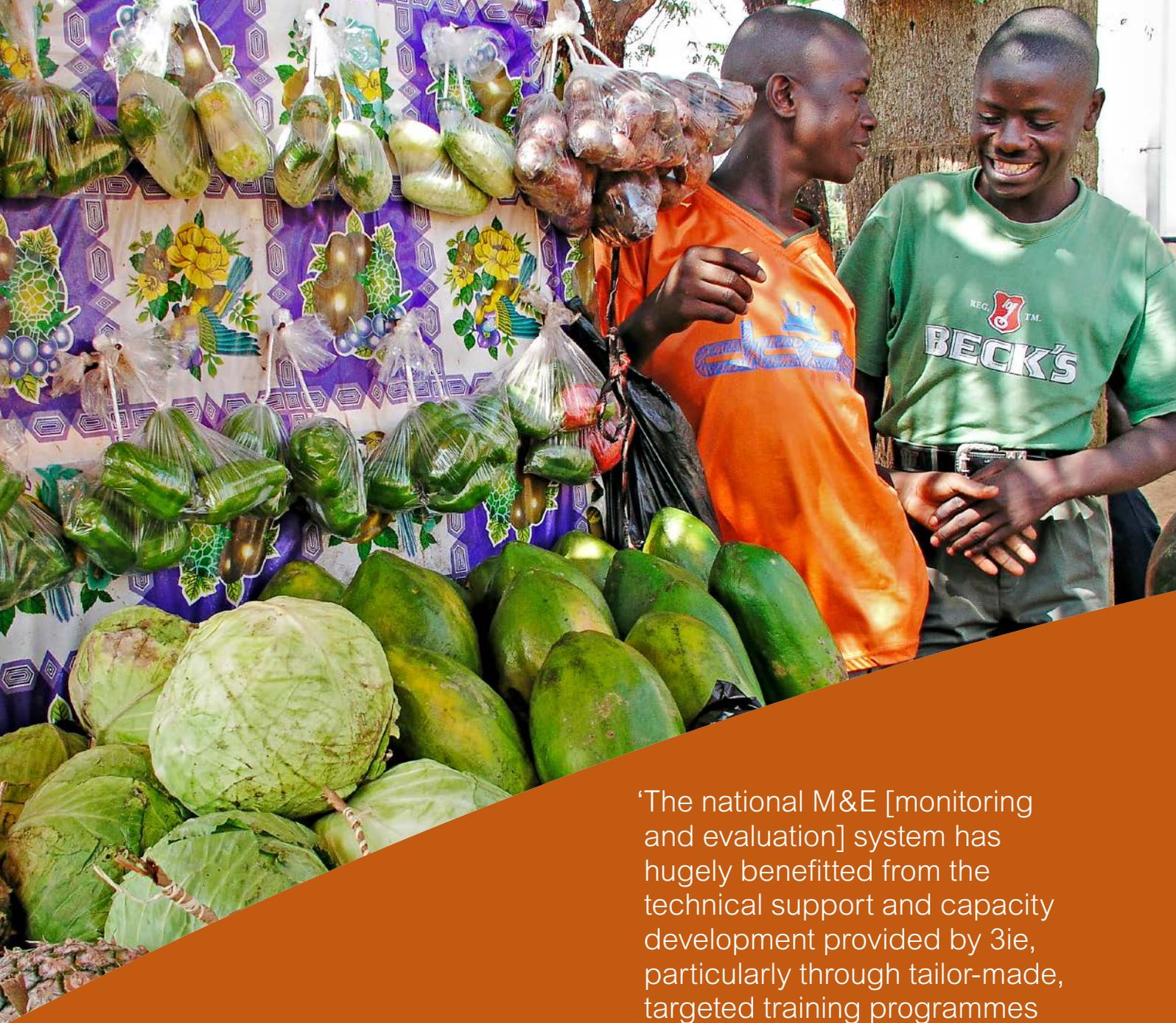
Our bursary programme continued to be an important way of supporting capacity-building impact evaluations and systematic reviews for 3ie members and other qualified applicants from L&MICs. In 2016, we awarded a total of 92 bursaries to policymakers, researchers and development professionals to participate in a range of events.

These included: the What Works Global Summit in London; an impact evaluation training event organised by Centers for Learning on Evaluation and Results and the Shanghai International Program for Development Evaluation Training in Shanghai; and the Evidence 2016 conference organised by the Africa Evidence Network in Pretoria.

We also supported participants in several short courses on impact evaluation, including training conducted by the University of East Anglia and Crown Agents in the UK.

Figure 7
Percentage of bursary awards by region in 2016





'The national M&E [monitoring and evaluation] system has hugely benefitted from the technical support and capacity development provided by 3ie, particularly through tailor-made, targeted training programmes and by sponsoring staff to attend structured courses offered by internationally renowned training institutions on development evaluation. We also cherish 3ie's contribution in reviewing evaluation products and processes, quality control and supporting the development of systems.'

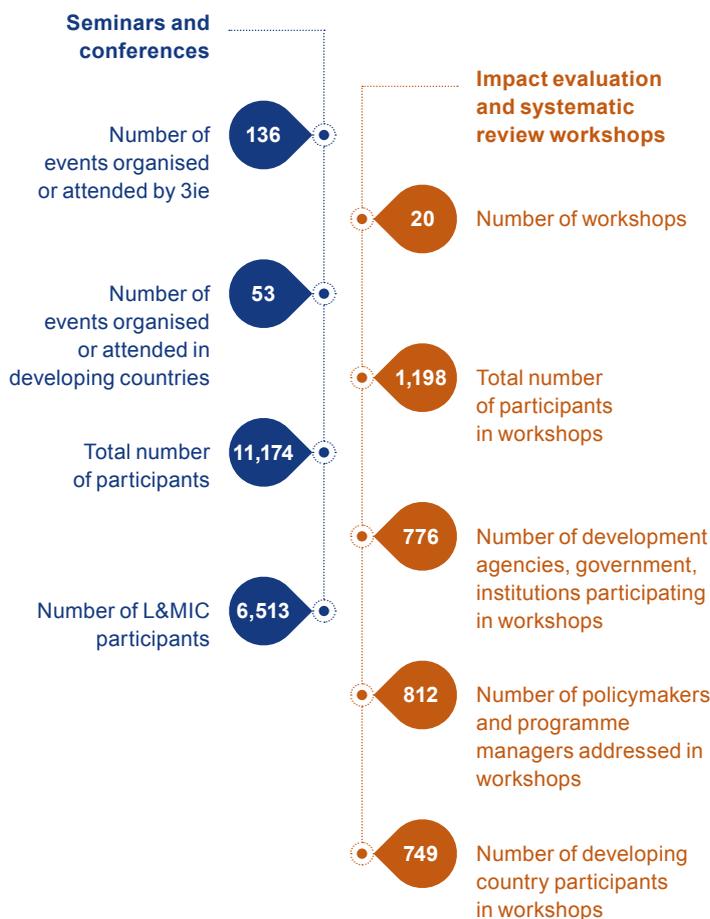
Timothy Lubanga

Assistant commissioner of Monitoring and Evaluation, Office of the Prime Minister, Government of Uganda

4 Increasing knowledge translation, and evidence uptake and use

Figure 8
3ie staff participation in external events

Note: The number of participants in events are estimates



3ie at events

3ie staff participated in 136 external events throughout the year. They promoted the use of evidence in decision making, programming and practice to diverse audiences, including high-level policymakers, programme managers and L&MIC stakeholders.

We also conduct workshops for developing country policymakers, which are designed to promote their interest in commissioning and using impact evaluations and systematic reviews. We engage directly with policymakers and programme decision makers through these awareness-raising workshops. These workshops help provide practical knowledge on impact evaluations and systematic reviews, and provide guidance on how findings from these studies can be used.

To reach our target audience and to build network and communities of practice, we run a seminar series in New Delhi, London and Washington, DC. A full list of seminars can be found on our website.

These seminars feature presentations on the evidence and methodological issues in impact evaluations, systematic reviews or evidence synthesis. They also promote public conversations on increasing the production and use of high-quality evidence to inform policies and programmes.

Highlights from 3ie participation in selected events

Global Development Network's annual conference

The 2016 conference was held in Lima, Peru, with the theme Education for development: quality and inclusion for changing global human capital needs. 3ie Executive Director Emmanuel Jimenez showcased our education effectiveness review in the plenary and parallel sessions. The audiences consisted of policymakers, ministers of education and researchers from some of the world's top research institutions and universities.

World Humanitarian Summit 2016

In May, we participated in the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, which served as a platform to highlight the ongoing impact evaluations under 3ie's Humanitarian Assistance Thematic Window. Jyotsna Puri was part of a panel discussing Better use of evidence to increase humanitarian impact, led by DFID and the International Rescue Committee (IRC). She also presented at a panel organised by the Colombian government's Unit for the Assistance and Comprehensive Reparation to Victims. 3ie and 23 organisations in the humanitarian field set up the Evidence Lounge, which showcased partners' evidence initiatives in the sector.

What Works Global Summit 2016

3ie, Campbell Collaboration, Sense about Science and Queen's University Belfast organised the What Works Global Summit, held in London. The summit brought together over 850 international and UK-based participants from more than 25 countries to talk about their experiences of producing, promoting and using evidence in formulating better policies and programmes. 3ie provided ten bursaries to ensure substantive participation from developing countries.

With 150 sessions and a diverse array of speakers, including policymakers, programme managers, researchers and funders, this unique conference featured active participation from producers and users of evidence.

We organised eight pre-summit practice-focused workshops. We continued our advocacy to strengthen ethics in evaluation by hosting a workshop and a high-level panel discussion. We held a first-ever practice workshop on monitoring and measuring evidence uptake and use that generated a lot of interest. Other workshops covered critical appraisal of impact evidence, the role of replication in development policymaking and designing impact evaluations in the humanitarian sector. Each of these well-attended workshops spurred conversations, both online and offline.



WHAT WORKS GLOBAL SUMMIT 2016

3ie staff participated in more than 25 summit panel sessions. We were able to highlight our work on the replication programme (see page 43), and the innovative methodologies needed to generate high-quality evidence that is relevant for the humanitarian sector.

We held discussions on new evidence and global experiences in evidence production and synthesis. The summit gave 3ie the opportunity to interact with producers, users and intermediaries in development and generate a dialogue on the challenges faced across different sectors. The conference also emphasised the need for strong partnerships and networks to build an enabling environment for evidence production, synthesis and use.

On 27 September, we launched the systematic review summary report on education effectiveness, followed by a panel discussion that included experts such as David Evans (World Bank) and Sally Gear (DFID). Further details on the report, its launch and subsequent press coverage, are on pages 20–25.



Beryl Leach
Deputy Director and
Head, Policy, Advocacy
and Communication

When I joined 3ie's senior management team in 2013, the prospect of being part of building a young organisation with such an important mission was very exciting. It still is.

We know that the best evidence is not worth much if it is not useful and used. We started by strengthening how we promote, measure and share learning about evidence uptake and use from our studies. Our new strategy is an exciting opportunity to grow our advocacy for evidence production, synthesis and use in decision making.

Effective communication underpins everything we do. When I started, PACO was a new office in 3ie with just five staff members. Now, 14 of us are working with grantees and with other teams, as well as building our profile externally.

I am very proud to be part of an organisation that values learning, innovation and change, and where colleagues inspire each other through their hard work and commitment.

Asia Pacific Evaluation Association conference

Emmanuel Jimenez participated in this conference held in Hanoi in November, which brought together institutions and organisations concerned with the production and use of evaluation across the Asia Pacific region. Evaluation experts, practitioners, managers and researchers presented their experiences, ideas, thoughts, innovations, tools and methods. Our message of bringing more rigour to the generation and use of evidence was well received.

Uganda Evaluation Week

We are working with one of our members, the Ugandan Office of the Prime Minister, on a Country Policy Window. This programme of work includes impact evaluations and capacity-building. 3ie's participation at the evidence week was an opportunity to disseminate results from the first phase of this programme, which included process evaluations of programmes on education, decentralised governance, health and youth. We also conducted an impact evaluation training workshop.

AIDS 2016 international conference

Anna Heard (senior evaluation specialist), Annette N Brown (former deputy director and head of our Washington office) and Nancy Diaz (programme officer) participated in the AIDS 2016 conference in Durban, South Africa, in July. They hosted a pre-completion workshop for grantees of the Integration of HIV Services Thematic Window. Government representatives from Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, where studies are being implemented, attended, providing valuable insights for a panel at the conference. 3ie grantees participated in poster presentations on HIVST in Kenya and Zambia at the event, and we hosted two well-attended satellite sessions.

Africa Evidence Network conference

Beryl Leach, Birte Snilstveit (senior evaluation specialist) and Deo-Gracias Houndolo (consultant evaluation specialist) attended this biennial Africa Evidence Network conference. Beryl delivered the keynote address on understanding the interplay of differences affecting uptake and use of research evidence. She also led a session on the impact of networks. Birte led a session on international challenges and opportunities for evidence mapping. Deo met Africa Evidence Network members with a view to linking with the West Africa capacity-building and impact evaluation initiative.

3ie evidence weeks



London Evidence Week

We organised our second successful evidence week at LSHTM and Birkbeck College, University of London. Leonard Wantchekon (Africa School of Economics and Princeton University) delivered the annual Howard White lecture, on how town hall meetings between voters and candidates affected the outcome of elections in Benin and the Philippines. James Hargreaves, director of LSHTM's Centre for Evaluation, led a seminar on convergence and divergence in the way that economists and epidemiologists conduct randomised research. The oversubscribed, one-day conference on 14 April was on Meeting local and global development goals: how rigorous evidence can help.

Alison Evans, chief commissioner, UK Independent Commission for Aid Impact, delivered the keynote address on the importance of evidence and scrutiny in development.

On the final day, we organised an interactive workshop on EGMs and systematic reviews, attended by representatives from UK development NGOs.



Delhi Evidence Week

We held our second Delhi Evidence Week in November. Michael Woolcock (lead social development specialist at the World Bank) delivered the opening public lecture on finding more effective ways to use evaluation to assess the internal and external validity of complex interventions. He stressed that impact evaluation methods are often inadequate to address the complexities of local contexts, especially in sanitation.

3ie and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council also co-hosted a one-day conference, Sanitation for all. This featured four sessions on how high-quality research evidence can be used to address challenges in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector in India.

We also partnered with J-PAL South Asia for a half-day focusing on education evidence, where we launched the education effectiveness review. A panel of Indian experts then analysed the importance of better evidence to improve education in India. Atishi Marlena, advisor to the deputy chief minister of Delhi, spoke about the challenges facing the government in implementing major education reforms, and the need for embedding researchers within the implementing agency to give regular advice.



Kanika Jha
Policy and Evidence
Uptake Officer,
New Delhi

I have been at 3ie for four years and each day has brought with it an opportunity to learn something new. I work on our impact evaluation grant management, providing technical inputs on policy-relevant design, engagement, promoting evidence uptake for grants, and effective communication about our grant-making to 3ie's audiences. I also monitor and extract narrative data on stakeholder engagement and evidence uptake from 3ie-funded impact evaluations and reviews. These help us understand how evidence from 3ie-supported

studies and reviews is informing programmes and policies, and what factors led to any changes.

In 2016, I had an exciting opportunity to see how 3ie's impact evaluations are informing policies and programmes in Malawi. Several stakeholders cited the role of 3ie-supported studies in informing key decisions, such as using preliminary findings to inform the programme design or get additional funding support for their programmes. These instances emphasise the role that 3ie plays in international development.

Engaging with 3ie's communities

During 2016, we increased engagement across online platforms by strengthening the integration of our communication approaches. The 3ie Newsletter, a bi-monthly publication aimed at researchers, programme managers, policymakers and other decision makers, now reaches 14,884 subscribers. On Twitter, our number of followers increased by almost 200 per cent, while Facebook followers increased by 130 per cent. Even our LinkedIn platform saw 100 per cent growth in terms of followers (see Figure 9, below).

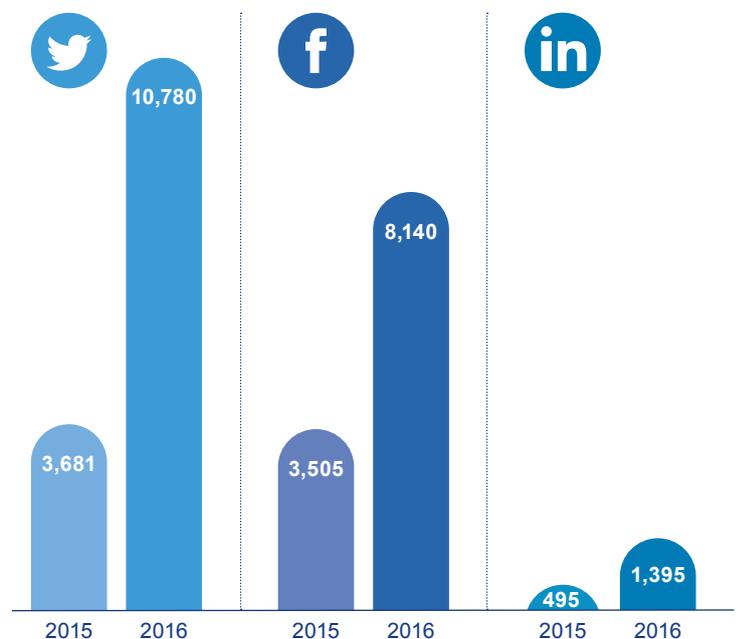
3ie's work sparks online conversations

In 2016, our work continued to spark discussions across traditional and digital platforms. Our flagship in-house publication, the education effectiveness review, was widely discussed in online and print publications. Prominent development actors discussed our work in blogs and editorials and an editorial by Shah Ebrahim in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* recognised 3ie's work on replication research.

Ben Durbin, head of the National Foundation for Educational Research, discussed findings from the education effectiveness review in a blog hosted by the World Bank.

In a blog for the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on intimate partner violence, Melissa Hidrobo, Amber Peterman and Shalini Roy cited a 3ie-supported study in Ecuador on the effect of cash vouchers and food transfers on physical and sexual violence against women. Finally, Bill Gates referred to the 3ie-supported impact evaluation of the Chiranjeevi Yojna programme, targeted at pregnant women to promote institutional deliveries in Gujarat, in the foreword to *Millions Saved*, a book launched by the Center for Global Development.

Figure 9
3ie's growing social media followers



Friday Note: Mind the Gap Map

By Ruth Levine
January 22, 2016

Friday note: mind the gap map

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation blog
January 2016

Ruth Levine's blog praises 3ie's EGMs and describes them as elegant and colourful visualisations of what we know and what we have yet to discover. She recommends them as a one-stop-evidence-shop for experts and curious non-experts alike.

3ie in the news

The Economics of the Big Cut

By A
It's c
HIV
Volu

The economics of the big cut

REED Magazine
January 2016

An article on the various approaches used to encourage men to get circumcised to curb the spread of HIV infection cites a 3ie-funded study in South Africa.

Worm wars, data resources and vitamin D

(VMCM) is a powerfu
HIV in areas with hig
virus, accor
Organizatio
Nonetheless
down the d
government
encourage r
Center
Global
Development

Worm wars, data resources and vitamin D

International Journal of Epidemiology
January 2016

Shah Ebrahim congratulates us for our work in funding and facilitating replication research. His editorial recaps the debate over the replication of the deworming study. It also highlights the importance of replicating data and the usefulness of such studies for supporting evidence-informed policymaking.

around the international development busine
probably heard someone ask, "So, what do w
Maybe it's a parliamentarian, a minister, or th
of U
men
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orm

What's wrong with how we do impact evaluations

World Bank blog
February 2016

Markus Goldstein cites our working paper on *Evaluations with impact: decision-focused impact evaluation as a practical policymaking tool*.

IMPACT EVALUATIONS

What's wrong with how we do impact evaluation?

Impact Eval
the Wonkie
the World C
BetterEvaluation
Sharing information to imp

Impact evaluation: how the wonkiest subject in the world got traction

Center for Global Development blog
March 2016

Ruth Levine and William Savedoff describe the series of events that led to the creation of 3ie. They also elaborate on how we have contributed to an increase in the quantity and quality of impact evaluations, at an accelerated pace, over the last decade.

Missing Link: Sustained and Emerging Impact Evaluation

5 Stories Of Youth Unemployment Worldwide

Missing link: sustained and emerging impact evaluation

BetterEvaluation
May 2016

In this blog post, Jindra Cekan and Laurie Zivetz of Valuing Voices discuss our work and the need for post-project impact evaluations.

5 stories of youth unemployment worldwide

Huffington Post
June 2016

The *Huffington Post* cites our EGM on youth and transferable skills and discusses the rigorous evidence available on youth development programmes.



Computers and textbooks will not solve growing global education crisis alone, major report finds

Computers and textbooks will not solve growing global education crisis alone, major report finds

Independent
September 2016

This news article discusses the major findings of our education effectiveness review, after its launch in London. It extensively quotes 3ie's Birte Snilstveit and discusses the implications of the study.



Bringing science and development together through news and analysis

ent Health Governance Enterprise

Dev.Net at large



A step towards better science for education policy

A step towards better science for education policy

SciDev.Net
October 2016

This news piece discusses the major findings of our education effectiveness review, after its London launch.

Impact evaluation Makes Good Sense!

with BW Businessworld, Dr. Emmanuel Jimenez who recently moved years at the World Bank, talks about the role of impact evaluation in makers

Impact evaluation makes good sense

Businessworld
November 2016

This interview with Emmanuel Jimenez, published ahead of Delhi Evidence Week 2016, delves into the role of impact evaluations in evidence-informed policymaking.



EDUCATION

If we build it, they may not come: implementing effective education and policy

If we build it, they may not come: implementing effective education programs and policy

World Bank, Education for global development
November 2016

Ben Durbin from the National Foundation for Educational Research describes our education effectiveness review as an impressive and rich resource packed with valuable insights.

EducationTIMES

TOWARDS TOMORROW

Courses Careers Tests Scholarships

Evidence of learning impact

Evidence of learning impact

The Times of India
November 2016

The Times of India, India's largest English-language daily in terms of circulation, captures key findings of our education effectiveness review and the interesting discussions at Delhi Evidence Week 2016.

Impact evaluation: a stepping stone

Sulabh Swachh Bharat
December 2016

This feature article on Delhi Evidence Week 2016 was published by Sulabh International's online and print publication. Recapping the sessions, the article talks about the importance of evidence-informed policymaking and rigorous data collection.

सुलभ स्वच्छ भारत

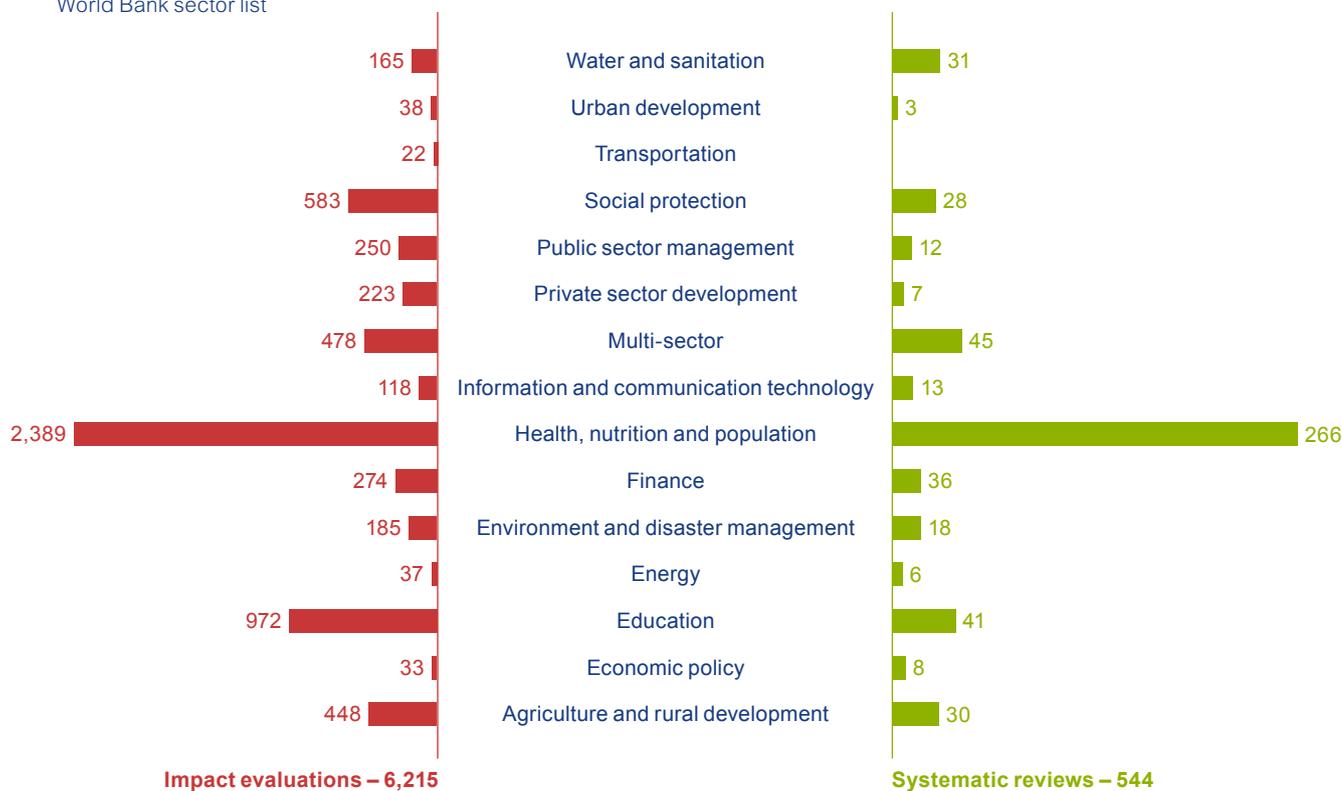
A STEPPING STONE

3ie Delhi Evidence Week 2016
15-16 November, 2016 | India Habitat Centre | New Delhi

#3ieDEW2016
www.3ieimpact.org

Figure 10
Distribution of impact evaluations
and systematic reviews in the
3ie evidence portal, by sector

Note: Sectors are derived and modified from the World Bank sector list



Knowledge sharing through the 3ie website

Our website continues to be the main medium for us to communicate regularly and effectively with our target audiences and to fulfil our mandate to make knowledge freely available. Website use in the past year was similar to the previous year, with individual users numbering just under 100,000.

With two new thematic window launches and the launch of the Development Priorities Window, the Get Funding page on our website was the most visited, followed by the page for the impact evaluations database. Our EGM products are also proving to be popular. For example, the youth and transferable skills EGM has had approximately 2,300 views.

We produced 31 new event videos, including of our seminar series, conferences, our video lecture series and short interviews with researchers, policymakers and programme implementers.

3ie evidence portal

The 3ie evidence portal provides access to a database of impact evaluations and systematic reviews of policies and programmes in international development.

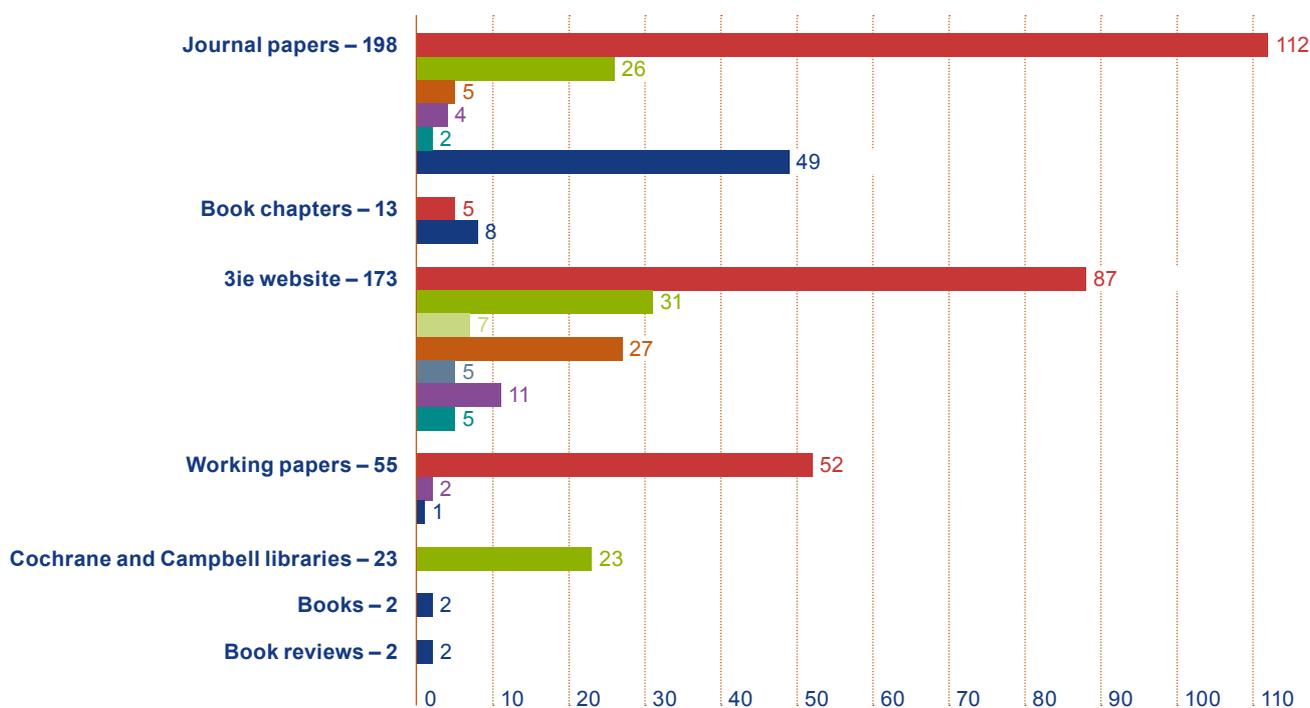
The IER records have increased from 2,700 to more than 4,500 impact evaluations, and now includes publications in English, Spanish and Portuguese. The systematic reviews repository contains almost 400 records of studies, drawn from a range of sources and sectors.

Figure 11

Publications arising from 3ie-funded research

Note: While these publications have been produced since 2010, regular tracking and reporting by 3ie only commenced in August 2013

- Impact evaluations – 256
- Systematic review technical reports – 80
- Systematic review summary reports – 7
- Working papers – 32
- Scoping papers – 5
- Replication papers – 17
- Evidence gap map reports – 7
- 3ie staff publications – 62



3ie publications

As part of our mandate as a knowledge producer and translator for our main audiences, we publish briefs, EGMs and their reports, impact evaluations, replication papers, scoping papers, systematic reviews, systematic review summary reports and working papers.

3ie publications can be downloaded from our website for free. The full list of all of 3ie publications produced in 2016 can be found in Appendix D.

Publications arising from 3ie-funded research

Publications arising from 3ie-funded research and by 3ie staff continue to be published in peer-reviewed journals and in other publications, raising the profile and reach of these policy- and programme-relevant evidence findings. A full list of the peer-reviewed journal articles that we recorded in 2016 is available on our website.

Several journals, such as *AIDS and Behavior*, *AIDS Care*, *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, *BMC Public Health*, *the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, *the Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, *the Journal of Development Effectiveness*, *Journal of International AIDS Society*, *Nature*, *PLoS Medicine*, *Science*, *Sport in Society* and *World Development*, to name a few, have published articles from our own and 3ie-funded research.

In October 2016, seven impact evaluations funded under our Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision Thematic Window were published as articles in a supplement of *the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*. Annette N Brown and Eric W Djimeu contributed a paper interpreting findings across the seven impact evaluations, taking into account the relative strength of evidence.



‘As the IRC has deepened and detailed our approach to being outcomes-driven and evidence-based, I’ve found 3ie membership to be one of our most valuable resources, whether I’m looking for a technical sounding board, a thought partner or a source of high-quality training, regardless of the outcome or sector!’

Anjali Shivshanker

Deputy director of programs, IRC

5 Building 3ie

3ie's Programme, Finance and Reporting, Information Technology and Administration office is responsible for developing and maintaining robust and reliable reporting systems, financial management, IT infrastructure, human resources and office administration. The team works to facilitate the flow of information across all our offices, and from 3ie to our auditors, donors and grantees.

The past year was the second where our New Delhi office has operated as a registered branch office. Office operations have been smooth. The finance office verified documentation for the US\$26.2 million we spent in 2016, for which we received a clean audit report.

The programme office managed the administration of more than 139 active impact evaluation grants, of which 27 were new evaluations and 10 were new proposal preparation grants. The office successfully managed to review and communicate on all deliverables for the various grant stages through the year.

Our IT department worked on rolling out new online staff time reporting software. The office continues to play a key role in ensuring smooth launches of new grant windows and enhanced management reporting using the online grant management system.

3ie donors, members and commissioners continue to receive updates through quarterly narrative reports, semi-annual associate members' newsletters and donor reports prepared by jointly by staff.



Membership

3ie membership is open to agencies that implement social and economic development programmes in L&MICs, spend at least US\$1 million per annum on such programmes, and are committed to the rigorous evaluation of the programmes they support.

Member services

Each year, members may avail up to five days of work from 3ie expert staff, free of charge. The shape and scope of these technical support services are agreed between the member and the 3ie staff member point of contact. Particularly noteworthy in 2016 was the rising demand for more focus on how members can promote evidence use effectively in their own institutions.

Africa

In South Africa, we provided EGM training to the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation staff and their contracted mapping team. In September, we provided expertise on developing a theory of change, deciding on evaluation questions and preparing possible evaluation methods during their annual clinic.

We provided a professional skills and impact evaluation awareness workshop to the Cameroon Ministry of Health.

We also presented professional skills-building workshops on designing, undertaking and managing impact evaluations at the African Development Bank in March.

3ie staff participated in the policy evaluation days organised by the Benin Government in September. They conducted a workshop on why and when to evaluate impact, and possible methods to address attribution and estimation bias. Staff members also participated in a panel discussion on institutional approaches to increasing the dissemination and uptake of research findings, and discussed 3ie's perspective.

Europe

In August, our systematic review specialists ran a workshop for DFID staff on the process of updating existing reviews and producing rapid reviews.

In October, we participated in a high-level panel on promoting evidence use in government agencies, organised by the evaluation unit at the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation. This included senior staff from the Netherlands' Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Through the year, we provided IPPF with technical advice and support in reviewing applications from member associations to conduct impact evaluations, and evaluation proposals from prospective research teams.

Institution building: commissioned support to strengthen financial management and human resource policies

Our financial reporting has consistently been shown to be sound in a series of statutory audits. The 3ie Board of Commissioners is satisfied with our financial accounting practices and financial reporting. In 2016, a consultant reviewed our financial management and accounting system, which confirmed that 3ie accounting is sound. To strengthen staff timesheet reporting, we rolled out a customised online time reporting system in October.

In the future, we will develop a financial management system that will provide monthly financial statements to managers and strengthen budget preparation for funding proposals and annual planning.

We also commissioned consultants to prepare a human resources manual that is suitable for use across all 3ie offices and will improve on current policies in Delhi. This work is ongoing.

Latin America and the Caribbean

3ie and the Peru Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion organised a workshop for government agencies and line ministries on commissioning and managing impact evaluations. Representatives from ten agencies attended a full day of training on impact evaluation, its relationship to programming, models of institutionalisation and more. The workshop was led by our Senior Evaluation Specialist Mario Picon, and featured speakers from the Group for the Analysis of Development and the Ministry of Economics and Finance.

Also in Peru, we provided quality assurance and advisory services to the Ministry of Education, commenting on its evaluation programme and the design of specific impact evaluations. Similar services were provided to the City of Buenos Aires, one of our most recent members.

In Colombia, we organised a workshop on impact evaluations and systematic reviews for more than 40 government officials, hosted by 3ie member SINERGIA, the government's M&E unit. We organised an impact evaluation clinic to answer specific questions from SINERGIA's team in charge of assessing the quality of impact evaluations produced with funding from the Department of National Planning.

North America

We provided an introductory workshop on impact evaluations for staff at The MasterCard Foundation.

IRC and 3ie staff organised two well-attended seminars for IRC staff to discuss the opportunities and challenges of promoting gender- and equity-responsive evidence production. The seminars focused on changes in organisational structures and culture, evidence production, programming, evaluation, and the demands and expectations of donors.



Member engagement programme and members' conference

We formalised our member engagement programme in 2016 in recognition of the increase in the number of members.

We based these changes on a consultation with member representatives on the benefits of 3ie membership, their experiences engaging with us and what they would like to see going forward.

Member engagement activities include: an annual members' conference, including a formal business meeting and peer-learning sessions; induction for new members and new member representatives; and an ongoing member webinar series.

We also launched a new section of our website to post member profiles. These profiles highlight member activities related to the production and use of rigorous evidence, and provide examples of how members engage with 3ie to support these activities.

Funding

Funding of 3ie's grant programmes continued to expand, supported by generous contributions from our donor members. The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation continued its core support under existing grant agreements by committing US\$6 million over the next three years. This support will help ensure that funding is available to underpin our mandate to provide public evidence goods.

DFID committed US\$1.17 million for the Government of Bihar's sector-wide approach to strengthening health programmes and the Uganda Country Policy Window.

The Gates Foundation committed US\$2.90 million for the window on promoting latrine use in rural India and the replication programme.

UNICEF committed an additional US\$500,000 to fund our thematic grant-making on improving adolescent lives in South Asia.



Gaurav Sharma
Finance Officer,
New Delhi

I have worked at 3ie for the past four years. My main responsibilities include producing financial reports for 3ie's senior management and our donors. I am also tasked with ensuring statutory compliance.

Since I first started working here, I have seen 3ie rapidly grow into a significant organisation in the field of impact evaluation. Led by an approachable, highly-qualified management team, 3ie is an organisation that takes care of its employees.

I feel very proud to be a part of the 3ie family, one that is inclusive, friendly and thrives in a multicultural environment. It gives me immense pleasure to contribute to one of 3ie's key objectives: promoting the production and use of rigorous impact evaluation of development projects to improve lives in developing countries.

Member webinar series

We launched our member webinar series in early 2016 in response to significant interest among our members in experience-sharing and peer-learning activities. The series aims to highlight member innovations and experiences related to the production and use of rigorous evidence, as well as 'hot topics' or debates in the sector.

3ie and an interested member choose a topic, shape the webinar agenda together and co-host. Any staff members from 3ie member agencies can participate in the live webinars, along with the invited guests of the member co-host. Each webinar also features time for listeners to pose questions.

We record these webinars and publish them on the 3ie YouTube channel and website. The following webinars were organised in 2016:

- The story of 'worm wars': what policymakers should know about the hottest development evidence debate of 2015 (speaker: David Evans, World Bank).
- MineduLab experience: Innovation and evidence generation in a Latin American public agency (Co-host: Ministry of Education, Peru). Both the presentations and the discussions were held in Spanish.
- Evidence gap maps: What to consider before commissioning, producing or adapting EGMs (Co-host: IRC).
- Country evaluation briefs: institutionalising the use of evidence through user-friendly products (Co-host: Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation).

The member webinar series has been well received, with the number of registrations increasing over the course of the year. We received especially positive feedback on the second webinar, which was held in Spanish.

Appendix A

3ie staff

Our organisational structure is headed by the executive director, with a team of five deputy directors who lead offices of specialised teams. 3ie staff are located in New Delhi, London and Washington, DC.

This list is as of 31 December 2016.

Executive Director's Office **New Delhi**

Emmanuel Jimenez
Executive Director

Subashini Perumal
Research Associate

Bindu Joy
Executive Assistant

Advancement and Impact Evaluation Services Office **Washington, DC, US**

The Washington office supports our impact evaluation and professional services programmes, and our business development and special initiatives. Impact evaluation services promote research transparency and higher quality evidence production, including the Registry for International Development Impact Evaluation, the IER and the replication programme. Professional services include providing 3ie membership benefits and contracted work delivered by 3ie staff, including capacity-building, impact evaluation support, scoping exercises and EGM. The HIV and AIDS evidence programmes include impact evaluation grant-making in HIVST, voluntary medical male circumcision, integrated services and HIV treatment as prevention.

Annette N Brown
Deputy Director – Washington Office
(January to July)

Anna Heard
Senior Evaluation Specialist

Benjamin DK Wood
Senior Evaluation Specialist

Mario Picon
Senior Evaluation Specialist

Eric Djimeu
Evaluation Specialist

Jennifer Ludwig
Senior Programme Manager

Scott Neilitz
Programme Manager

Nancy Diaz
Programme Manager

Kristen Rankin
Evaluation Specialist

Jorge Miranda
Research Associate

Shayda Sabet
Research Associate

Brigid Monaghan
Operations Associate

Evaluation Office New Delhi, India

This office is responsible for developing new grant windows for impact evaluations, reviewing and quality assuring 3ie-funded impact evaluations and conducting in-house evaluations.

Jyotsna Puri

Deputy Executive Director – Evaluation

Monica Jain

Senior Evaluation Specialist

Neeta Goel

Senior Evaluation Specialist

Bidisha Barooah

Evaluation Specialist

Diana Milena Lopez-Avila

Evaluation Specialist

Francis Rathinam

Evaluation Specialist

Rosaine N Yegbemey

Evaluation Specialist

Tara Kaul

Evaluation Specialist

Priyanka Dubey

Research Associate

Ritwik Sarkar

Research Associate

Shaon Lahiri

Research Associate

Ankur Gautam

Research Assistant

Avantika Bagai

Research Assistant

Bharat Kaushish

Research Assistant

Raag Bhatia

Research Assistant

Poonam Vasandani

Staff Assistant

Policy, Advocacy and Communication Office New Delhi, India

The office is responsible for developing strategic and effective approaches to research communication and evidence uptake in policy and programming. This helps to ensure policy relevance and the impact of 3ie-funded studies and reviews. Staff support 3ie's advocacy for evidence-informed decision-making and commitment to evaluation. They support grant development and implementation, and monitor and publish examples of the impact of evidence from 3ie-funded studies and reviews. The team is responsible for 3ie's internal and external communication, including producing knowledge and communication products.

Beryl Leach

Deputy Director – Policy, Advocacy and Communication

Angel Kharya

Policy, Advocacy and Communication Assistant

Stuti Tripathi

Senior Policy and Evidence Uptake Officer

Kanika Jha

Policy and Evidence Uptake Officer

Deeksha Ahuja

Evidence Uptake and Learning Associate

Radhika Menon

Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer

Deepthy Menon

Managing Editor

(January to June)

Senior Communication Manager

(July to December)

Durgadas Menon

Communication Officer

Tanvi Lal

Communication Officer

Akarsh Gupta

Communication Assistant

Kunal Kishore

Digital Manager

Pradeep Singh

Information, Communication and Technology Assistant

Programme, Finance, Reporting, Information Technology and Administration Office New Delhi

This team is responsible for managing 3ie's administration, reporting, grant management, information technology and finance requirements and processes, as well as membership administration.

Hitesh Somani

Deputy Director – Finance and Administration

Mithlesh Joshi

Travel and Administration Manager

Saurabh Khandelwal

IT Project Manager

Sibasish Mishra

Finance Manager

Minna Madhok

Senior Programme Associate

Ditto Joy

Programme Officer – Monitoring, Donor Grant Management and Reporting

Gaurav Sharma

Senior Finance Officer

Jatin Juneja

Senior Finance Officer

Sivesh Kumar

Human Resources Officer

Ashima Mohan

Programme Associate

Asha Gosain

Programme Associate

Jamila Khan

Programme Associate

Sandeep Rawat

Finance Assistant

Renu Phillips

Receptionist

Synthesis and Reviews Office London

This office funds, promotes and conducts evidence syntheses, including systematic reviews of development interventions using methodological best practices. The office provides technical support to systematic reviews and evidence-synthesis products funded by 3ie and other agencies. We are partners with, and co-chair, the IDCG of the Campbell Collaboration, whose secretariat is based at 3ie's London office, to quality assure Campbell-registered reviews. This office also supports systematic reviews independently of the IDCG. The team is leading the development of high-quality and effective methods for producing EGMs and an interactive online map platform. They manage the 3ie database of almost 400 systematic reviews.

Edoardo Masset

Deputy Director – Synthesis and Reviews Office

Hugh Waddington

Senior Evaluation Specialist

Birte Snilstveit

Senior Evaluation Specialist

Daniel Phillips

Evaluation Specialist

Jennifer Stevenson

Research Associate

Ami Bhavsar

Programme Manager

Christopher Coffey

Research Assistant

Stella Tsoli

Research Assistant

Appendix B

3ie Board of Commissioners

Richard Manning

Chair

Senior Research Fellow, Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford
UK

Alex Ezeh

Executive Director, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC)
Kenya

Elizabeth M King

Senior Fellow (non-resident),
Brookings Institution
US

Geoffery Deakin (June 2011 to May 2016)

Group General Manager Public Affairs,
St Vincent's Health Australia (SVHA)
Australia

Gonzalo Hernandez Licona

Executive Secretary,
Consejo Nacional de Evaluación
(National Council for the Evaluation of Social
Development Policy)
Mexico

Ian Goldman

Deputy Director General and Head of Evaluation,
Department of Performance Monitoring and
Evaluation, The Presidency
South Africa

Mario Marcel (June to October)

Central Bank of Chile
Chile

Miguel Szekely

Director, Center for Education and Social Studies
Mexico

Oumoul Khayri Ba Tall

Secretary General, Association
Mauritane de Suivi-Evaluation
(National Evaluation Association)
Mauritania

Patricia Rader

Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator in the
Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning, USAID
US

Ruth Levine

Director, Global Development and
Population Program, The William and
Flora Hewlett Foundation
US

Uma Lele

Independent scholar
India

Appendix C

3ie members and associate members

3ie members are public and private donors, government agencies from L&MICs, and L&MIC national NGOs and international NGOs. Together, they form a diverse global community, united by a commitment to using evidence from rigorous impact evaluations and systematic reviews to improve their policies and programmes.

3ie members support or implement at least US\$1 million in development programming per year. With extensive experience of working across regions and development sectors, our members can share their expertise, perspectives and interests with each other through the 3ie members' network. They also provide feedback to 3ie that helps us maintain relevance and impact. We encourage our members to promote a culture of evaluation and evidence use in their own countries, regionally and globally.

Members

At the end of 2016, 3ie had 50 members, of which 60 per cent are in L&MICs.

African Development Bank, Tunisia
American Institutes for Research, US
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, US
BRAC (formerly Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee), Bangladesh
Corporation Andina de Fomento (Latin American Development Bank)
Danish International Development Agency, Denmark
Department for International Development, UK
Department of Education, the Philippines
Department of Health, Government of Kerala, India
Executive Leadership Training Center, National Health and Family Planning Commission, People's Republic of China
General Directorate of Planning and Poverty Alleviation, Ministry of State, Ministry of Planning and Development, Côte d'Ivoire
General Directorate of Planning under the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Government of Guinea-Bissau
Government for the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina
Hand in Hand India
Henan Province Department of Education, People's Republic of China
International Fund for Agricultural Development, Italy
International Planned Parenthood Federation, UK
International Rescue Committee, US

Karnataka Evaluation Authority,
Government of Karnataka, India

Millennium Challenge Corporation, US

Ministre de la Planification du Développement
(Ministry of Development Planning), Togo

Ministry for Energy and Development of
Renewable Energies, Senegal

Ministry of Education, Peru

Ministry of Education, Rwanda

Ministry of Planning, Paraguay

Ministry of Public Health, Cameroon

Ministry of Social Development and Inclusion,
Peru

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Policy and Operations
Evaluation Department, the Netherlands

Ministry of Vocational Training and Employment,
Republic of Tunisia

National Council for the Evaluation of Social
Development Policy, Mexico

National Economic and Development Authority,
the Philippines

National Planning Commission, Nepal

National Planning Department, Colombia

National Social Protection Agency, the Maldives

National Technical Secretariat of the Strategy
for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable
Development under the Ministry of Economy
and Finance, Burkina Faso

Norwegian Agency for Development
Cooperation (Norad), Norway

Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda

Planning Commission, Pakistan

Population Foundation of India

Poverty Eradication Unit of the Prime Minister's
Office, Fiji

Public Policies Evaluation Bureau of the Office
of the Prime Minister, Benin

Save the Children, UK

Shaanxi Province Department of Education,
People's Republic of China

Sightsavers, UK

The High Commission for State Modernisation
(Haut Commissariat pour la Modernisation
de l'Etat), Niger

The MasterCard Foundation, US

The Presidency, South Africa

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, US

US Agency for International Development

West African Development Bank (Banque Ouest
Africaine de Développement), Togo

Associate members

Associate members are a community of institutions committed to improving lives through impact evaluation. 3ie supports the production of a biannual newsletter and allows associate members a small scoring benefit in grant applications. At the end of 2016, 3ie had 164 associate members.

Africa

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab,
South Africa

African School of Economics, Benin

Associação NOVAFRICA para o
Desenvolvimento Empresarial e Económico
de Moçambique, Mozambique

Centre for Health Science and Social Research,
Zambia

Direction Générale de l'Evaluation des
Programmes de Développement, Niger

Enhancing Care Foundation, South Africa

Environmental-Economics Policy Research Unit
(EPRU), University of Cape Town School of
Economics, South Africa

Environmental Surveys, Information, Planning
and Policy Systems International Ltd, Uganda

Global Agenda for Total Emancipation, Nigeria

Initiative for Evidence-Based Development and
Empowerment, Nigeria

Institute for Monitoring and Evaluation,
South Africa

Institute of Policy Analysis and Research,
Rwanda

Kelello Consulting, South Africa

Laterite Ltd, Rwanda
National Programme for Food Security, Nigeria
Palm Associates Ltd, Zambia
Policy Research Ltd, Nigeria
Population Council, West Asia and North Africa
Regional Office, Egypt
Project OKURASE, Ghana
Research Solutions Africa Ltd, Kenya
Soul Foundation, South Africa
Women Youth and Children Upliftment
Foundation, Nigeria
World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Kenya

Asia

Ambuja Cement Foundation, India
Association for Stimulating Know How, India
Catalyst Management Services, India
CENPAP Research and Consultancy Pvt Ltd,
India
Center for Economic Research, Pakistan
Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia
and the Pacific, Bangladesh
Centre for Poverty Analysis, Sri Lanka
Centre for Research and Development, India
Centre for Research, Innovation and Training,
Nepal
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, India
China Health Economics Institute, China
CGIAR Research Programme on Dryland
Systems, Jordan

Department of Agrarian Reform-Bureau of
Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Development,
Philippines
Domrei Research and Consulting, Cambodia
Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement,
India
ICAR – National Institute of Agricultural
Economics and Policy Research, India
Idinsight, India
Indian School of Business, India
India Development Foundation, India
Institute for Financial Management and
Research, India
Institute for Training and Social Research,
Bangladesh
Institute of Health Management Research, India
Institute of Public Health, India
International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease
Research, Bangladesh
International Water Management Institute, Sri
Lanka
Intercooperation Social Development India
J-PAL South Asia at IFMR, India
KDI School of Public Policy and Management,
South Korea
Lahore University Management Sciences,
Pakistan
Micro-Credit Ratings International, India
Mother and Infant Research Activities, Nepal
National Council of Applied Economic Research,
India
Neerman, India
Nepal School of Social Work, Nepal
Public Health Foundation of India
Samhita Social Venture, India
School of Economics, Peking University,
People's Republic of China
Social Network India
SSA-TC Fund-Technical Services Agency, India
The World Vegetable Center, Taiwan
UDA Consulting, Turkey

Latin America

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab – Latin America, Chile
Center for Research on Economic Development, Colombia
Center of Implementation of Public Policies for Equity and Growth, Argentina
Development Analytics SA, Honduras
Econometria SA, Columbia
Group for the Analysis of Development, Peru
Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública (National Institute of Public Health), Mexico
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México
PREVIVA, Colombia
School of Public Health, Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia
Universidad de Montevideo, Uruguay

OECD countries

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab – Europe, France
Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab – US
Action Research for Co-Development, Italy
ActKnowledge, US
Amsterdam Institute for International Development, the Netherlands
Capra International, Canada
Carolina Population Center, US
Center for Economic and Social Research, US
Center for Evaluation and Development
Center for International Development, US
Center for New Institutional Social Sciences, US
Center of Evaluation for Global Action, US
Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation, the Netherlands

Centre for the Study of African Economies, UK
Chair of Development Economics, University of Passau, Germany
Chr Michelsen Institute, Norway
Development Economics, University of Göttingen, Germany
CODESPA Foundation, Spain
Committee on Sustainability Assessment, US
Center for the Study of Development Strategies, Columbia University, US
CUNY Institute for Implementation Science in Population Health, US
Development Assistance Research Associates, Spain
Development Economics Research Group, Copenhagen University, Denmark
Development Services Group, US
Earth Institute, Columbia University, US
École de santé publique de l'Université de Montréal, Canada
Economic Development Initiatives Ltd, UK
Evidence for Development, UK
Family Services Research Center, Medical University of South Carolina, US
Fondation Ensemble, France
Escalera Foundation, US
Global Health Group, University of California San Francisco, US
Global Institute For Development Evidence (Previously Advisory Research Group International), US
Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, US
Healthbridge Foundation of Canada
Heidelberg Institute of Public Health, Germany
Impact, University of Aberdeen, UK
Innovations for Poverty Action, US
Institute for Fiscal Studies, UK
Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, the Netherlands
Institute for the Study of Labor, Germany
Institute for Maternal and Child Health IRCCS Burlo Garofolo, Italy

Institute of Development Studies, UK

Institute of Social Studies, the Netherlands

International Centre of Water for Food Security, Charles Sturt University (IC WATER), Australia

International Development Department, University of Birmingham, UK

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), US

International HIV AIDS Alliance, UK

International Literacy Institute, US

International Security and Development Center, Germany

Jhpiego, US

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, US

Kyiv Economics Institute, Ukraine

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK

Mercy Corps, US

National Opinion Research Center, US

Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich, UK

Navarra Center for International Development, Spain

Novell Community Development Solutions, Canada

Oxford Evidence and Interventions Ltd, UK

Oxford Policy Management, UK

PATH, US

Policy Studies Institute, UK

Public Policy Centre, US

RAND Corporation, US

Research and Evaluation Bureau, Kent State University, US

Rheinisch-Westfälisches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, Germany

Rockwool Foundation, Denmark

Rural Education Action Project, US

Sam Houston State University, US

Samuel Hall, US

Schneider Institutes for Health Policy, US

School of International Development, University of East Anglia, UK

Seed International, US

Social Research Unit, US

Sydney School of Public Health, Australia

Tamas Consultants Inc, US

The Cloudburst Group, US

University of Alabama, Birmingham, US

University of California, Berkeley, US

University of Groningen, Germany

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, US

University of New South Wales, Australia

University of Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development, US

Valid International Ltd, UK

Water Resources Management Group, the Netherlands

Youth Employment Network, US

Appendix D

3ie publications in 2016

Impact evaluations

Using advertisements to create demand for voluntary medical male circumcision in South Africa, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 53. Frade, S, Friedman, W, Rech, D and Wilson, N (2016)

The use of peer referral incentives to increase demand for voluntary medical male circumcision in Zambia, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 52. Zanolini, A, Bolton, C, Lyabola, LL, Phiri, G, Samona, A, Kaonga, A and Thirumurthy, H (2016)

Using smartphone raffles to increase demand for voluntary medical male circumcision in Tanzania, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 51. Mahler, H and Bazant, E (2016)

Voluntary medical male circumcision uptake through soccer in Zimbabwe, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 50. DeCelles, J, Kaufman, Z, Bhauti, K, Hershov, R, Weiss, H, Chaibva, C, Moyo, N, Braunschweig, E, Mantula, F, Hatzold, K and Ross, D (2016)

Measuring the impact of SMS-based interventions on uptake of voluntary medical male circumcision in Zambia, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 49. Leiby, K, Connor, A, Tsague, L, Sapele, C, Koanga, A, Kakaire, J and Wang, P (2016)

Assessing the impact of delivering messages through intimate partners to create demand for voluntary medical male circumcision in Uganda, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 48. Semeere, AS, Bbaale, DS, Castelnovo, B Kiragga, A, Kigozi, J, Muganzi, A, Kambugu, A and Coutinho, AG (2016)

Optimising the use of economic interventions to increase demand for voluntary medical male circumcision in Kenya, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 47. Thirumurthy, H, Omanga, E, Rao, SO, Murray, K, Masters, S and Agot, K (2016)

The impact of earned and windfall transfers on livelihoods and conservation in Sierra Leone, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 46. Bulte, E, Conteh, B, Kontoleon, A, List, J, Mokuwa, E, Richards, P, Turley, T and Voors, M (2016)*

Property tax experiment in Pakistan: incentivising tax collection and improving performance, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 45. Khan, A, Khwaja, A and Olken, B (2016)*

Impact of mobile message reminders on tuberculosis treatment outcomes in Pakistan, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 44. Mohammed, S, Glennerster, R and Khan, A (2016)*

Notes

* These reports were first published online as grantee final reports. They have now been published in the impact evaluation series.

** These grantee final reports have been published online and are scheduled for publication in the impact evaluation series in 2017.

Making networks work for policy: evidence from agricultural technology adoption in Malawi, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 43. Beaman, L, BenYishay, A, Fatch, P, Magruder, J and Mobarak, AM (2016)*

Estimating the impact and cost-effectiveness of expanding access to secondary education in Ghana, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 42. Dupas, P, Duflo, E and Kremer, M (2016)*

Evaluating the effectiveness of computers as tutors in China, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 41. Mo, D, Bai, Y, Boswell, M and Rozelle, S (2016)

Micro entrepreneurship support programme in Chile: impact evaluation, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 40. Martínez, CA, Puentes, EE and Ruiz-Tagle, JV (2016)*

Thirty-five years later: evaluating effects of a quasi-random child health and family planning program in Bangladesh, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 39. Barham, T, Kuhn, R, Menken, J and Razzaque, A (2016)*

Effectiveness of a rural sanitation programme on diarrhoea, soil-transmitted helminth infection and child malnutrition in India, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 38. Clasen, T, Boisson, S, Routray, P, Torondel, B, Bell, M, Cumming, O, Ensink, J, Freeman, M, Jenkins, M, Odagiri, M, Ray, S, Sinha, A, Suar, M and Schmidt, W (2016)*

Evaluating the impact of vocational education vouchers on out-of-school youth in Kenya, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 37. Hamory, J, Kremer, M, Mbiti, I and Miguel, E (2016)*

Removing barriers to higher education in Chile: evaluation of peer effects and scholarships for test preparation, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 36. Banerjee, A, Duflo, E and Gallego, F (2016)*

Sustainability of impact: dimensions of decline and persistence in adoption of a biofortified crop in Uganda, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 35. McNiven, S, Gilligan, DO and Hotz, C (2016)*

A triple win? The impact of Tanzania's Joint Forest Management programme on livelihoods, governance and forests, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 34. Persha, L and Meshack, C (2016)

The effect of conditional transfers on intimate partner violence: evidence from northern Ecuador, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 33. Hidrobo, M, Peterman, A and Heise, L (2016)*

The effect of transfers and preschool on children's cognitive development in Uganda, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 32. Gillian, DO and Roy, S (2016)*

Improving maternal and child health in India: evaluating demand and supply strategies, 3ie Impact Evaluation Report 30. Mohanan, M, Miller, G, La Forgia, G, Shekhar, S and Singh, K (2016)*

Grantee final reports

A multiple intervention approach to increasing technology adoption with a view towards scaling up: evidence from Mexico, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Corral, C, Giné, X, Mahajan, A and Seira, E (2016)

Age at marriage, women's education and mother and child outcomes in Bangladesh, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Field, E, Glennerster, R, Nazneen, S, Pimkina, S, Sen, I and Buchmann, N (2016)**

General equilibrium impact assessment of the Productive Safety Net Program in Ethiopia, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Filipinski, M, Taylor, JE, Abegaz, GA, Ferede, T, Taffesse, AS and Diao, X (2016)**

Can the wounds of war be healed? Experimental evidence on reconciliation in Sierra Leone, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Jacobus Cilliers, J, Dube, O and Siddiqi, B (2016)**

Estimating supply and demand responses to an information intervention in the Chilean education sector, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Autor, D, Bertrand, M, Duflo, E, Feigenberg, B and Gallego, F (2016)

Estimating the effects of a low-cost early stimulation and parenting education program in Mexico, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Cardenas, S, Evans, D and Holland, P (2016)**

Evaluating the effectiveness of a community-managed conditional cash transfer program in Tanzania, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Evans, D, Holtemeyer, B and Kosec, K (2016)

Evaluating the impact of double fortified salt on anaemia in Bihar, India, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Banerjee, A, Barnhardt, S and Duflo, E (2016)

Evaluation of centres of infant development: an early year's intervention in Colombia, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Andrew, A, Attanasio, O, Bernal, R, Cordona, L, Krutikova, S, Heredia, DM, Medina, C, Peña, X, Rubio-Codina, M and Vera-Hernández, M (2016)**

Fighting tuberculosis through community-based counsellors: a randomized evaluation of performance-based incentives in India, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Bossuroy, T, Delavallade, C and Pons, V (2016)

Free access to child care, labour supply and child development: medium-term impacts of the free availability of public childcare in Rio de Janeiro, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Attanasio, O, Paes de Barros, R, Carneiro, P, Evans, D, Olinto, P and Schady, N (2016)**

Reduced-form impacts of formal insurance against weather shocks: evidence from India, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Tobacman, J, Stein, D, Shah, V, Litvine, L, Cole, S and Chattopadhyay, R (2016)**

The better obstetrics in rural Nigeria (BORN) study: an impact evaluation of the Nigerian midwives service scheme, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Okeke, E, Glick, P, Abubakar, IS, Chari, AV, Pitchforth, E, Exley, J, Bashir, U, Setodji, C, Gu, K and Onwujekwe, O (2016)**

The impact of skills training on financial behaviour, employability, and educational choice of youth in Morocco, 3ie Grantee Final Report. Bausch, J, Dyer, P, Gardiner, D, Kluge, J and Mizrokhi, E (2016)**

Systematic reviews

Effects and mechanisms of market-based reforms on access to electricity in developing countries: a systematic review, 3ie Systematic Review 31.

Bensch, G, Sievert, M, Langbein, J and Kneppel, N (2016)

Youth gang violence and preventative measures in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review (Part II), 3ie Systematic Review 30.

Higginson, A, Benier, K, Shenderovich, Y, Bedford, L, Mazerolle, L and Murray, J (2016)

Youth gang membership and violence in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review (Part I), 3ie Systematic Review 29. Higginson, A, Benier, K, Shenderovich, Y, Bedford, L, Mazerolle, L and Murray, J (2016)

Cash-based approaches in humanitarian emergencies: a systematic review, 3ie Systematic Review Report 28. Doocy, S and Tappis, H (2016)

Factors affecting uptake of voluntary and community-based health insurance schemes in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review, 3ie Systematic Review 27. Panda, P, Dror, IH, Koehlmoos, TP, Hossain, SAS, John, D, Khan, JAM and Dror, DM (2016)

Parental, community and familial support interventions to improve children's literacy in developing countries: a systematic review, 3ie Systematic Review 26.

Spier, E, Britto, P, Pigott, T, Roehlkapartain, E, McCarthy, M, Kidron, Y, Song, M, Scales, P, Wagner, D, Lane, J and Glover, J (2016)

Business support for small and medium enterprises in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review, 3ie Systematic Review 25.

Piza, C, Cravo, T, Taylor, L, Gonzalez, L, Musse, I, Furtado, I, Sierra, AC and Abdelnour, S (2016)

Economic self-help group programmes for improving women's empowerment: a systematic review, 3ie Systematic Review 23. Brody, C, De Hoop, T, Vojtkova, M, Warnock, R, Dunbar, M, Murthy, P and Dworkin, SL (2016)

Supplementary feeding for improving the health of disadvantaged infants and young children: a systematic and realist review, 3ie Systematic Review 15.

Kristjansson, E, Francis, D, Liberato, S, Greenhalgh, T, Welch, V, Jandu, MB, Batal, M, Rader, T, Noonan, E, Janzen, L, Shea, B, Wells, GA and Petticrew, M (2016)

The impact of land property rights interventions on investment and agricultural productivity in developing countries: a systematic review, 3ie Systematic Review Report 14. Lawry, S, Samii, C, Hall, R, Leopold, A, Hornby, D and Mtero, F (2016)

Systematic review summary reports

The impact of education programmes on learning and school participation in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review summary report, 3ie Systematic Review Summary 7. Snilstveit, B, Stevenson, J, Menon, R, Phillips, D, Gallagher, E, Geleen, M, Jobse, H, Schmidt, T and Jimenez, E (2016)

Effects of training, innovation and new technology on African smallholder farmers' economic outcomes and food security, 3ie Systematic Review Summary 6. Stewart, R, Langer, L, Da Silva, RN and Muchiri, E (2016)

Supplementary feeding for improving the health of disadvantaged infants and children: what works and why?, 3ie Systematic Review Summary 5. Kristjansson, E, Francis, D, Liberato, S, Greenhalgh, T, Welch, V, Jandu, MB, Batal, M, Rader, T, Noonan, E, Janzen, L, Shea, B, Wells, GA and Petticrew, M (2016)

Community-based rehabilitation for people with disabilities, 3ie Systematic Review Summary 4. Lemmi, V, Kuper, H, Blanchet, K, Gibson, L, Kumar, KS, Rath, S, Hartley, S, Murthy, GVS, Patel, V and Weber, J (2016)

Identification and measurement of health-related spillovers in impact evaluations, 3ie Systematic Review Summary 3. Benjamin-Chung, J, Colford, J, Abedin, J, Berger, D, Clark, A, Falcao, L, Jimenez, V, Konagaya, E, Tran, D, Arnold, B, Hubbard, A, Luby, S and Miguel, E (2016)

Working papers

Examining the evidence on the effectiveness of India's rural employment guarantee act, 3ie Working Paper 27. Bhatia, R, Chinoy, SL, Kaushish, B, Puri, J, Chahar, VS and Waddington, H (2016)

Power calculation for causal inference in social science: sample size and minimum detectable effect determination, 3ie impact evaluation manual, 3ie Working Paper 26. Djimeu, EW and Houndolo, D-G (2016)

Replication papers

Power to the people? A replication study of a community-based monitoring programme in Uganda, 3ie Replication Paper 11. Donato, K and Garcia Mosqueira, A (2016)

Scoping papers

Adolescent sexual and reproductive health: the state of evidence on the impact of programming in low- and middle-income countries, 3ie Scoping Paper 5. Rankin, K, Heard, AC and Diaz, N (2016)

Briefs

Impact evaluation briefs

Can peers and other influencers increase voluntary medical male circumcision uptake?

Do lottery-based incentives help increase voluntary medical male circumcision?

Exploring the impacts and ethics of providing economic incentives to increase voluntary medical male circumcision

Learning brief

Early implementation lessons from 3ie-supported impact evaluations of humanitarian assistance

Replication brief

3ie replication programme

Systematic review briefs

Do programmes outside the formal education system improve children's literacy in developing countries?

Do self-help groups empower women? Evidence from a systematic review

Does community-based rehabilitation improve the lives of people with disabilities?

Measuring spillovers matters

The impact of school programmes on learning and school participation in low- and middle-income countries

What evidence do we have on transferable skills programming for youth in low- and middle-income countries?

What factors impact the effectiveness of emergency WASH interventions?

What is the evidence on smallholder agriculture interventions in Africa?

What works in addressing the needs of street-connected children and young people

Evidence gap maps

(available on the 3ie website)

3ie adolescent sexual and reproductive health evidence gap map

3ie forest conservation gap map

3ie land use change and forestry gap map

Evidence gap map report series

Adolescent sexual and reproductive health: an evidence gap map, 3ie Evidence Gap Map Report 5. Rankin, K, Jarvis-Thiébault, J, Pfeifer, N, Engelbert, M, Perng, J, Yoon, S and Heard, A (2016)

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Appendix E

3ie financial report

3ie is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit corporation registered under the laws of the State of Delaware in the US.

As of 31 December 2016, 3ie's assets stood at US\$78.54 million, comprising US\$37.98 million in cash balances, US\$40.16 million as grants receivable (i.e. undisbursed balances in signed grant agreements) and US\$0.40 million in other receivables, fixed assets and deposits. 3ie has liability towards grants and/or expenses payable and refundable advances of US\$2.14 million.

The undisbursed grants commitment of agreements signed by 3ie with sub-grantees is US\$24.31 million.

Income for the year 2016 was US\$7.28 million, comprising multi-year grants from various donors, service income and interest income. Expenses for the same year were US\$26.20 million, of which grant disbursements account for 71.1 per cent. The other major categories of expenses were salaries at 15.9 per cent, consulting fees at 4.6 per cent and travel at 3.4 per cent.

Income for 2015 and 2016

Grants, conference income, service income and other

Particulars	US\$ millions		
	2015	2016	Total
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	2.79	2.9	5.69
Department for International Development, UK	25.90	(3.71)	22.19
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	–	6.00	6.00
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia	(0.99)	–	(0.99)
Danish International Development Agency	0.14	–	0.14
United States Agency for International Development	0.28	0.16	0.44
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	–	0.10	0.10
MasterCard Foundation	–	0.10	0.10
Wellspring Advisor	–	0.18	0.18
UNICEF	1.44	0.50	1.94
World Food Program	1.25	–	1.25
Technoserve	0.45	–	0.45
United Nations Office for Project Services – Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council	0.02	0.08	0.10
Care UK	–	(0.52)	(0.52)
IFAD	0.75	–	0.75
Others	0.58	0.55	1.13
Discount on grants receivable	(0.74)	0.94	0.20
Total	31.87	7.28	39.15

Notes

1
Accounts are prepared on accrual basis.

2
Assets: Grants receivable is undisbursed portion of funds in signed grant agreements, with discount on grants receivable adjusting to present value, using 3.25 per cent discount rate.

3
Operational expenditure is not all overhead, including staff time and other expenditure such as travel related to achieving 3ie objectives to promote the capacity to produce and use of impact evaluations.

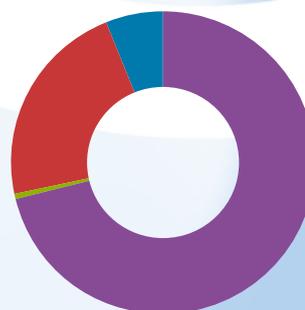
4
Board expenses are only fee payments, not meeting-related expenses.

Expenditure for 2015 and 2016

	2015		2016	
	US\$	%	US\$	%
Grants	18,470,952	70.8%	18,640,611	71.2%
Open Window	2,351,435	9.0%	1,888,912	7.2%
Systematic reviews	636,854	2.4%	411,820	1.6%
Policy windows	2,942,943	11.3%	4,080,976	15.6%
Social Protection Thematic Window	558,830	2.1%	627,954	2.4%
HIV and AIDS combination prevention	5,787,463	22.2%	3,907,117	14.9%
HIV Self-testing and Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision Thematic Windows	854,894	3.3%	1,342,533	5.1%
Agricultural Innovations Thematic Window	1,817,586	7.0%	1,439,561	5.5%
Integration of HIV Services Thematic Window	900,461	3.5%	497,593	1.9%
Humanitarian Assistance Thematic window	303,140	1.2%	1,191,232	4.6%
Transparency and Accountability Thematic Window	1,079,201	4.1%	743,381	2.8%
Immunisation Thematic Window	837,491	3.2%	1,647,300	6.3%
Other thematic windows	376,687	1.4%	634,235	2.4%
Other grants	23,967	0.1%	227,997	0.9%
Advocacy	373,149	1.4%	196,368	0.7%
Policy influence and monitoring	84,901	0.3%	–	0.0%
Workshops and conferences	206,723	0.8%	162,266	0.6%
Printing and publications	55,218	0.2%	34,102	0.1%
IT support for website	26,307	0.1%	–	0.0%
Professional fees	1,845,819	7.1%	1,554,320	5.9%
Auditing and accounting	54,887	0.2%	63,405	0.2%
Consulting fees	1,419,801	5.4%	1,208,926	4.6%
Registry	255,000	1.0%	150,344	0.6%
Legal	35,277	0.1%	22,606	0.1%
Global Development Network services	20,771	0.1%	–	–
Training and development	60,083	0.2%	109,039	0.4%
Operational expenses	5,407,136	20.7%	5,809,776	22.2%
Salaries and benefits	3,676,180	14.1%	4,177,610	15.9%
Board honorarium	44,000	0.2%	39,000	0.2%
Travel	960,151	3.7%	899,462	3.4%
Amortisation	26,680	0.1%	30,219	0.1%
Office expenses	700,125	2.7%	663,485	2.6%
Total	26,097,056	100.0%	26,201,075	100.0%

Expenditure by activities (2016)

Grants	71.14 %
Advocacy	0.75%
Operational expenses	22.17%
Professional fees	5.93%
Total	100.0%



Financial position

	2015	2016
Assets	US\$	US\$
Held in Citibank and TD bank checking, and money market accounts	41,115,853	37,984,659
Grants receivable	57,153,613	41,154,206
Discount on grants receivable	(1,931,812)	(995,707)
Other receivables	211,932	244,996
Software and equipment and others	179,466	153,835
Total	96,729,052	78,541,989

	2015	2016
Liabilities and net assets	US\$	US\$
Accrued expenses	1,409,308	2,141,058
Unrestricted net assets	26,896,269	27,330,073
Temporarily restricted net assets	68,423,475	49,070,858
Total	96,729,052	78,541,989

End notes

1

The reanalysis of the original data and, in some cases, the validation of the data analysis by using different data sources for the same population.

2

Pure replication is the reproduction and reconciliation of the results published in the original study using the same data and techniques. Pure replication requires more than re-running the original programming files on the cleaned data. It involves independent construction of the variables from the raw data and re-estimation using the study's methodologies.

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