3ie promotes evidence-informed equitable, inclusive and sustainable development. We support the generation and effective use of high-quality evidence to inform decision-making and improve the lives of people living in poverty in low- and middle-income countries (L&MICs). We provide guidance and support to produce, synthesise and assure the quality of evidence of what works, for whom, how, why and at what cost.

‘3ie champions evidence that can drive inclusive and equitable improvements in people’s lives.’

Emmanuel Jimenez
3ie
3ie at a glance

We are closing evidence gaps and promoting evidence use in high-priority development sectors and geographic areas and for vulnerable and marginalised populations. We do this by:

- Funding, producing and assuring the quality of evidence gap maps, impact evaluations, systematic reviews and replications;
- Providing a range of capacity development services to L&MIC stakeholders to commission and use evidence;
- Helping L&MIC governments build effective monitoring and evaluation systems through our country evidence programmes;
- Monitoring and measuring how our evidence is used and its impact;
- Advocating for evidence-informed decision-making for equitable, sustainable development; and
- Partnering and collaborating with evidence funders, producers and users.

“We have very limited evidence from the humanitarian sector and fragile states, so I think the work that 3ie does to ensure that evaluation is taking place in those difficult contexts is very important.”

Charlotte Watts
UK Department for International Development
Generating high-quality evidence

3ie supports and manages ethical, policy-relevant, and gender- and equity-responsive evidence programmes. We specialise in providing ongoing technical support as part of our project management and quality assurance systems. Our programmes are cost-effective and deliver value for money.

We are evidence mapping pioneers. These maps can be produced quickly, help reduce research duplication, show where evidence can be synthesised and indicate gaps to prioritise.

We support a range of rigorous evaluation designs and encourage innovative and mixed-method approaches to build a more deeply informative evidence base. We fund scoping studies, implementation research, and formative and process evaluations that support impact evaluations.

As global leaders in producing and assuring the quality of theory-based systematic reviews, we support the generation of useful evidence on the effectiveness of development interventions. Our staff work with researchers to promote innovative review methodologies.

By supporting and producing in-house replications of development impact evaluations, 3ie lends credibility for using impact evaluation findings in policymaking and programmatic decision-making.

Using evidence from 3ie-funded work

We are specialists in increasing access to, demand for and use of evidence by governments, parliaments, beneficiaries, civil society and media. We have documented more than 100 instances of evidence use and are pioneering ways to monitor and measure it.

The Tanzania Social Action Fund is using impact evaluation findings to inform design and implementation of a cash transfer programme expansion.

The UK Department for International Development refers to a systematic review on community-based rehabilitation to inform priorities for its new disability inclusion research programme.
Strengthening country capacities to produce and use evidence

3ie works with L&MIC governments and regional capacity development partners to implement integrated country evidence programmes to build effective and sustainable monitoring and evaluation systems.

Our evidence programmes and services help build technical capacity to commission and conduct rigorous evaluations, produce evidence gap maps, conduct evidence synthesis, and use evidence.

Our bursary programme supports L&MIC policymakers, programme managers and researchers to participate in specialised training and international events.

Enhancing accessibility

We produce a range of in-house publications and multimedia learning resources that are freely available on our website. Our research transparency policy guides our leadership in promoting open access to 3ie study results and data.

The 3ie website is an open access evidence hub. It includes the largest repositories of impact evaluations and systematic reviews of development effectiveness, interactive evidence gap maps and our impact evaluation registry.

Promoting innovation, equity and learning

Our investments in innovation to improve methods and results ensures research and evaluation are more inclusive, are ethically accountable and promote gender equity. We practice adaptive management and ensure learning from all that we do.

Collaborating for effective development

3ie works closely with a unique, collaborative network of members and partners to champion more and better evidence production and use in decision-making.

‘Our national M&E system has hugely benefitted from the technical support and capacity development provided by 3ie. We also cherish 3ie’s contribution in reviewing evaluation products and processes, quality control, and supporting the development of more effective systems.’

Timothy Lubanga
Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda

‘3ie’s evidence gap maps are an invaluable contribution. We found the methodology extremely useful and versatile. We co-produced maps with partners in national government, which were directly informed by and modelled on 3ie’s evidence gap maps.’

Ruth Stewart
Africa Centre for Evidence and Africa Evidence Network