



Quarterly report
April to June 2019

Evidence uptake and use from 3ie-funded studies



3ie-supported evidence informs USAID's policy on investments in the education sector:

In November 2018, USAID launched its [education policy](#) to guide agency-wide investments and inform the design of education programmes across several countries. The policy aims at strengthening the capacity of partner countries in designing and implementing programmes to

deliver quality learning and skills to children and youth. It also provides guidance on improving the project cycle and operational effectiveness of various programmes. Among other evidence, several 3ie-supported studies, including a [working paper](#) and [systematic review on improving learning outcomes in primary and secondary schools](#), [3ie's education effectiveness review](#), as well a review on [technical and vocational education](#), have been cited. USAID also cites a 3ie-supported evidence gap map on [primary and secondary education](#) and one on [youth and transferable skills](#).

New 3ie publications

Evidence gap map report: [Improving and sustaining livelihoods through group-based interventions: mapping the evidence](#)

Impact evaluation reports: [Unpacking the determinants of entrepreneurship development and economic empowerment for women in Kenya](#); [Impacts of formal registration of businesses in Malawi](#); [Impacts of community stakeholder engagement interventions in Ugandan oil extractives](#); [Increasing HIV testing demand among Kenyan truck drivers and female sex workers](#); [Impacts of community monitoring of socio-environmental liabilities in the Ecuadorian and Peruvian Amazon](#); and [Impacts of increasing community resilience through humanitarian aid in Pakistan](#)

Programme overview brief: [West Africa Capacity-building and Impact Evaluation Program](#)

Systematic review: [Does incorporating participation and accountability improve development outcomes? Meta-analysis and framework synthesis](#)

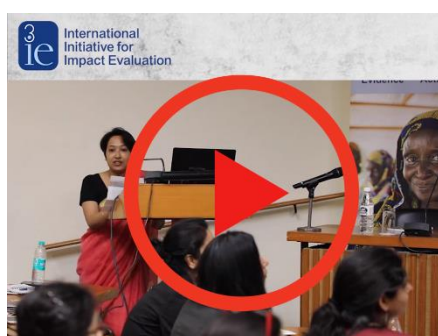
3ie-funded studies and 3ie publications in peer-reviewed publications

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

3ie @ recent events

3ie and World Bank Independent Evaluation Group's conference on citizen engagement and accountable government, Washington DC, 8 April: 3ie and IEG co-organised a highly-interactive and well-attended one-day conference on citizen engagement and accountable government. A full house of approximately 130 participants heard from experts, interacted with their peers and shared their thoughts on the need to go beyond just what works to increase citizen engagement that can hold governments accountable. You can read the summary of discussions at each session [here](#). Watch videos of conference sessions [here](#).

gLOCAL Evaluation Week 2019, 3–6 June: 3ie conducted two webinars in French that were led by 3ie's [West Africa Capacity-building and Impact Evaluation Programme](#) team in Benin. The first webinar focused on how strengthening national evaluation systems can facilitate funding and implementation of impact evaluations, as well as evidence use in low- and middle-income countries. The second one was on evidence gap map methodology and how findings can inform impact evaluations conducted in West African Economic and Monetary Union countries. Watch the webinars [here](#).



[Click to watch the presentation](#)

We also hosted a Delhi seminar on opportunities and challenges in evaluating group-based livelihoods programmes in India. Bidisha Barooah (3ie) shared lessons from a [large-scale impact evaluation](#) of India's National Rural Livelihoods Mission. Other panellists included Varun Shah (CMS), Leena Johri (Ministry of Rural Development) and Gayatri Acharya (World Bank). Approximately 65 participants, including researchers, government officials and students attended.

Capacity development workshop, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 15-17 May: 3ie, at the request of Côte d'Ivoire's planning ministry, organised a capacity development workshop on conducting impact evaluations and understanding their use in public policy and their value in the national evaluation systems. There were 46 participants, including directors from ministries involved in planning and M&E and officials from the audit office and inspector general's office.

Using evidence for a more effective development policy and practice: the role of evidence synthesis conference, Bonn, 9–10 May:

Marie Gaarder (3ie) presented on how evidence gap maps and synthesis can contribute to effective development policy, which she illustrated with highlights of a 3ie-supported [systematic review on payments for environmental services](#). Hannah Chirgwin (3ie) presented findings from 3ie's updated [water, sanitation and hygiene evidence gap map](#), highlighting how research patterns have shifted over the last 10 years, and where we still need new evidence. Over 100 participants from various German research institutes and ministries, as well as from various international organisations, attended. The conference was organised by the Campbell Collaboration and the German Institute for Development Evaluation.



Impact of universal test-and-treat on HIV incidence in Zambia and South Africa: results of the HPTN 071 (PopART) trial, 9 May, London: 3ie, LIDC, PopART, HIV Prevention Trials Network and LSHTM collaborated to host a lecture, 'Impact of universal test-and-treat on HIV incidence in Zambia and South Africa'. Richard Hayes, the principal investigator, presented the primary results and discussed the implications of the findings in the context of other trials of universal test-and-treat. Peter Piot (LSHTM) chaired this well-attended event. Click [here](#) to read more.

New grant

As part of the 3ie HIV combination prevention project, we awarded a \$266,000 grant to the Africa Health Research Institute to conduct a pilot study on how to optimise uptake of and retention of adolescents and young people in HIV prevention and care programmes in hyper-endemic rural and impoverished areas in South Africa. This study will contribute to the existing literature on what works to promote HIV prevention and retention in care programmes.

3ie blogs

A shot in the arm: why engaging with a range of stakeholders matters Ananta Seth and Radhika Menon provide examples from 3ie's [immunisation evidence programme](#) that show the importance of engaging with a range of stakeholders, and how that engagement informed intervention design, evaluation implementation and evidence uptake.

How can a rethink of lessons from field experiments inform future research in transparency, participation and accountability? In this guest blog, Jonathan Fox (American University) draws on evidence from recent field experiments to highlight the issues involved in assessing the narrow theories of change of 'low-dose' interventions. He makes a case for a 'reality check' and for looking at diverse change strategies.

Be careful what you wish for: cautionary tales on using single studies to inform policymaking Emmanuel Jimenez provides an example of the recent political and judicial controversy in the Philippines to illustrate the danger of relying on single studies to inform policymaking. He emphasises the importance of synthesising evidence through rigorous theory-based systematic reviews, generating more evidence, and promoting research transparency and replications.

Registry for International Development Impact Evaluations and the Impact Evaluation and Systematic Reviews Repositories

Registrations in the [Registry for International Development Impact Evaluations](#) increased from 166 to 176 in the last quarter. Five records were added to the [Impact Evaluation Repository](#), bringing the total to 4,802 records. The [Systematic Review Repository](#) now has 692 records.

Membership

We hosted our 11th annual members' conference as part of Washington Evidence Week. More than 20 members participated, which included workshops and engagement activities. We also had the opportunity to interview some of our members to better understand their needs and how they would like to continue engaging with 3ie.

Marie Gaarder presented on 3ie's evidence gap maps at an event hosted by the Colombian National Planning Ministry in Bogota on 17 May. The ministry was launching the Spanish-language [Methodological guide to producing evidence gap maps](#), and encouraging its use. Gonzalo Hernández Licona, head of CONEVAL in Mexico and former 3ie board commissioner, spoke about how they have used EGMs. Approximately 100 participants, mostly civil servants across a number of ministries, attended. This is a great example of how 3ie's members are learning from each other and 3ie.

To know more about 3ie's membership programme, download our brochure in [English](#), [French](#) or [Spanish](#). You can also write to members@3ieimpact.org.

Bursaries

3ie awarded nine bursaries this quarter. Four bursaries were for a short course on impact evaluation organised by the University of East Anglia. We awarded five bursaries for participants to attend a course on measurement theory and quantitative survey design organised by J-PAL South Asia in New Delhi. Participants were from South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, East Asia and Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. 3ie is committed to achieving gender balance in our selection process. We encourage qualified women to apply for opportunities advertised on [our website](#). During this quarter, 67 per cent of the bursary recipients were women.

New funding

3ie signed a consultancy agreement for USD 123,486 with the World Bank Group to produce an evidence gap map on digital health interventions.

3ie finances

As of 30 June 2019, 3ie's assets stood at USD 48.72 million, including USD 34.35 million held in bank and investment accounts, USD 14.12 million as grants receivable, i.e. undisbursed balances in signed grant agreements, USD 0.25 million in other receivables, fixed assets and deposits, and the accrued liabilities for expense and grants payables at USD 0.78 million. Total expenses in the quarter were USD 2.62 million, of which USD 0.91 million were grant expenses.