2019 in review

We learned a lot in 2019 – from research we funded, from the evidence community and from our members and partners. We closed out programmes on promoting latrine use in rural India and country engagement in Uganda, and we started new programmes focused on aquaculture in Bangladesh and on livelihoods, particularly for women’s economic empowerment, in India.

We organised well-attended events around our evidence weeks, partnering with the World Bank’s Independent Evaluation Group in Washington, DC and with the National Council for Applied Economic Research in New Delhi. In other regional and international conferences, our staff delivered engaging presentations on results from our programmes.
Completed three evidence gap maps and three systematic reviews across a range of sectors in 2019.

Completed 11 impact evaluations across 13 evidence programmes and projects, with 56 ongoing evaluations.

A 3ie-supported impact evaluation on the effects of humanitarian assistance provided to internally displaced people in the Democratic Republic of Congo is one of three studies that received the Best of UNICEF Research award in 2019.

A 3ie-supported impact evaluation on a youth livelihoods programme in Uganda resulted in modification of the programme design and increased operational funds for local governments.

The Philippines Evidence Programme, which began in 2014, received a second round of funding (about US$2 million) from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Supporting and producing evidence that makes a difference
Highlights

Measuring our impact and capturing stories of use

Validated 15 new examples of evidence use, bringing the total to 152 instances from 89 3ie-funded research programmes.

Published four in-depth evidence use case studies that unpack the factors driving evidence impact.
Highlights

Enhancing access to high-quality evidence

The Development Evidence Portal, the largest-of-its-kind online repository of rigorous evidence, makes 3,738 impact evaluations, 722 systematic reviews and 18 evidence gap maps available to researchers and policymakers.

Thirty-one new registrations on RIDIE, bringing the total to 189.

Published 32 impact evaluation reports, 3 evidence gap map reports, 4 replication papers, 3 systematic review technical reports, 1 systematic review summary report, 2 working papers and 19 briefs on our website.
Highlights

Engaging the evaluation community as champions for evidence use

Held seminars in London, Delhi and Benin and ventured into webinars, covering sectors such as agriculture, education, financial inclusion, governance, infrastructure, sanitation and women's empowerment.

Hosted two successful evidence weeks in Washington, DC (with World Bank’s Independent Evaluation Group) and New Delhi (with the National Council of Applied Economic Research). Jeff Hammer delivered the Sixth Howard White Lecture, ‘One hundred homes: a visual survey of India’.

Co-sponsored and played leading roles in events such as Uganda Evaluation Week, AfrEA, Asian Evaluation Week and the KDI School-3ie-ADB conference on impact evaluation in South Korea.
Highlights

Supporting and developing local researchers’ capacity

We awarded 74 bursaries to support L&MIC evaluation and evidence professionals to attend conferences or training, of which nearly half were awarded to women. Two thirds of awardees were from Sub-Saharan Africa.

The WACIE program trained 86 policymakers, provided 3 bursaries and presented on the programme in 8 international evaluation events, including 3 French-language webinars.
Highlights

Engaging with members committed to strengthen the culture of evaluation

Three new members joined our global programme: MS Swaminathan Research Foundation in India, the Centre de Connaissances en Santé en RD Congo and the Sustainable Development Policy Institute in Pakistan.

Five members re-affirmed their commitment to 3ie: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, American Institutes for Research, Population Foundation India, Public Policies Evaluation Bureau of the Office of the Prime Minister in Benin and the National Economic and Development Authority in the Philippines.
Highlights

Building an inclusive and sustainable organisation

Received **new funding of around US$11.58 million** from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation (for general operating support), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (evaluation of World Fish's aquaculture programme in Bangladesh and National Rural Livelihood Mission in India), Australia’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Philippines country evidence programme), the World Bank (evidence gap map on digital health interventions), and other donors.

After five successful years leading 3ie, Emmanuel ‘Manny’ Jimenez stepped down as the executive director. Marie Gaarder, 3ie’s director of evaluation office and global director for innovation and country engagement, will take over the role.
At a glance

Figure 1: Uptake and use of 3ie-funded impact evaluations, systematic reviews, working papers and evidence gap maps (2013–2019)

We documented 15 new instances of evidence use in 2019, bringing the total to 152 by the end of the year.

- Improve the culture of evaluation evidence use to strengthen the enabling environment
- Inform global policy discussions
- Inform discussions of policies and programmes
- Inform the design of other programmes
- Change policy or programme design
- Close programmes that do not work
- Take successful programmes to scale

Figure 2: Completed and ongoing evaluations

We completed 11 evaluations, with 56 ongoing across 15 evidence programmes, open windows, policy windows and other grants.

- Completed evaluations in 2019
- Ongoing evaluations in 2019

- Agricultural Innovations: 8
- Agricultural insurance: 6
- Aquaculture: 2
- Development priorities: 13
- Humanitarian assistance: 2
- Improving adolescents’ lives in South Asia: 7
- Innovations in increasing immunisation: 2
- National rural livelihoods mission: 5
- Open windows: 1
- Philippines evidence programme: 2
- Policy windows 2: 3
- Policy windows 3: 9
- Promoting latrine use in India: 5
- Transparency and accountability in natural resources governance: 1
- Other: 2
**Figure 3: 3ie publications (2013–2019)**

We produced 64 new impact evaluation reports, evidence gap map reports, replication papers, systematic review technical reports, systematic review summary report, working papers and briefs in 2019. This brings the total to 395* publicly available publications since 2013.

*Cumulative figures

1New category added in 2014

2New category added in 2015

3New category added in 2014

**Figure 4: 3ie members**

3ie added three members, all based in L&MIC. 3ie members are public and private donors, government agencies and NGOs. Visit our website to learn more.

**Figure 5: Percentage of bursary awards by region**

We awarded 74 bursaries, of which 47 per cent of recipients were women from L&MIC and 62 per cent were from Sub-Saharan Africa.