Evaluation Specialist, Climate Change
or
Senior Evaluation Specialist, Climate Change
3ie, Washington, DC

1. Background

The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (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. We provide guidance and support to produce, synthesise and quality assure evidence of what works, for whom, how, why and at what cost. 3ie is registered as a non-governmental organisation in the United States. It has offices in New Delhi, London and Washington, DC.

Our programmes and projects include theory-based, mixed-methods impact evaluations, implementation research, systematic reviews, evidence gap maps, and replication studies. Our work encompasses a wide range of topics, sectors and themes including but not limited to: health, nutrition, education, agriculture, governance, microfinance, climate change, humanitarian interventions, and social protection.

3ie is inviting applications for the post of Evaluation Specialist, Climate Change (ES) or Senior Evaluation Specialist, Climate Change (SES), preferably based at the 3ie Offices located in Washington DC, London, or in New Delhi. Applicants should have the right to work in the United States, the United Kingdom, or India; In exceptional cases, we may consider a remote working arrangement.

2. Summary

The SES or ES will provide technical and management leadership with a thematic focus on issues relating to climate change, as a component of evidence programmes, individual impact evaluations and evidence synthesis. They will also provide support in the preparation of proposal materials for fundraising, writing programme documents, reviewing grant proposals, quality-assuring 3ie-funded studies, and managing external reviewers and consultants.
They are expected to assume full management responsibility for evidence programmes and to conduct research, lead and support evaluations, develop synthesis products, provide technical assistance for and conduct capacity development, and write content for publications, social media, and 3ie’s website. They will lead and/or participate in high-level events, conferences, and workshops. In various capacities, the SES or ES communicates and negotiates directly with funders and represents 3ie to policymakers and researchers.

The successful candidate will have significant experience with research relating to climate change and will have demonstrated expertise implementing research and translating research evidence for decision makers in low-and middle-income countries (L&MICs). We are seeking a highly diplomatic and entrepreneurial individual who is comfortable taking initiative and who thrives in a matrix-managed, fast-paced environment.

The SES or ES will report mainly to 3ie’s director of evaluation. In the case of staff located in the Washington Office, there will be a secondary reporting relationship to the director of the Washington, DC office.

The SES or ES may supervise and mentor junior staff. They will be working in a matrixed environment and will be expected to establish strong and collaborative relations with staff across all 3ie offices, with researchers and other stakeholders in the field and with 3ie members located in L&MICs. International and domestic travel is expected at approximately 10 to 20 per cent of their time, the situation permitting.

3. Key responsibilities

3.1 Climate change evaluation and technical assistance

- The ES or SES will conduct, review, oversee, and quality assure research on climate change, environmental interventions, and other related programming in L&MICs. This research will focus on both environmental and socio-economic outcomes. It may include impact evaluations, other primary research, and research syntheses, conducted both via grants to outside researchers and by 3ie staff;
- Lead and facilitate communication with clients, partner organizations, and subject matter experts about intervention details, assumptions, programme logic, preliminary models, analysis results, and policy and/or programmatic implications;
- Lead or contribute to 3ie strategic initiatives and partnerships, including advancing the use of climate change considerations in impact evaluation and synthesis;
- Provide other technical assistance to key 3ie stakeholders as needed, on topics including but not limited to capacity-building, evaluation methods and study design, database development, and evidence uptake and use; and
- Work with consultants and stakeholders in the field, as well as with 3ie staff, to ensure documentation of 3ie’s evaluation programmes.
3.2 Programme management and grant administration

- Provide programme management leadership and support for research and professional services grants and contracts to ensure the strategic, programmatic, technical, financial, and contractual integrity from project start-up through implementation and completion;
- Ensure that grant and contract implementation and spending are aligned with approved budgets, workplans and 3ie policies and practices;
- Undertake technical review of colleagues’ work and draft reports; and
- Recruit, onboard, manage, and supervise staff and consultants, as required, and mentor junior staff as needed.

3.3 Institutional advancement and communication

- Represent 3ie in evaluation and development fora, including technical working groups and donor, bilateral, and multilateral consultative groups and meetings;
- Strengthen and build relationships with 3ie’s key stakeholders, including members, donors, policymakers and researchers;
- Lead and contribute to technical reports, publications, briefs, blogs, website content, and other social media on evidence programmes and professional services; and
- Engage in strategic growth and diversification of 3ie initiatives to cultivate donors, develop partnerships, write technical proposals, and support innovations in programme development.

4. Qualifications, experience, and skills

4.1 Education and work experience for the SES position

- Either a PhD in environmental science, economics, public policy, or other relevant social science discipline with a significant quantitative analysis component with five or more years; or a Master’s with eight or more years of demonstrated experience as applied to developing countries;
- Academic knowledge of and direct field experience with the environment sector in L&MICs;
- Research experience and in-depth knowledge of experimental and quasi-experimental methods applied in impact evaluations (e.g. RCT, IV, propensity score matching, interrupted time series) with applications to climate change;
- Experience working with high-level officials in funding agencies, international organizations, private foundations and government ministries;
- Experience preparing comprehensive reports for technical and executive-level audiences that provide recommendations in complex and critical areas of climate change;
- At least three years of experience conducting research and evaluations or synthesis work on sectors relevant to climate change and commensurate publication track record; and
- Experience supporting new business activities and demonstrated ability to write technical proposals across one or more development sectors preferred.
4.2 Education and work experience for the ES position

- Either a PhD in environmental science, economics, public policy, or other relevant social science discipline with minimum 1 year of demonstrated relevant experience, or a master’s in environmental science, economics, public policy, or other relevant social science with at least four years of demonstrated experience relevant to research on climate change in developing countries;
- Academic knowledge of and direct field experience with environmental sector programming in L&MICs;
- Research experience and knowledge of experimental and quasi-experimental methods applied in impact evaluations (e.g. RCT, IV, propensity score matching, interrupted time series);
- Experience preparing comprehensive reports for technical and/or executive-level audiences that provide recommendations in complex and critical areas of policy relating to climate change;
- Experience supporting new business activities and demonstrated ability to write technical proposals across one or more development sectors preferred.

4.3 Qualifications and skills

- Familiarity with causal inference and impact evaluation, including experimental and quasi-experimental research designs, methods and the major applications and limitations of each;
- Excellent oral and written communication as well as presentation skills in English; with professional proficiency in additional languages highly preferred;
- Excellent organizational skills, attention to detail, and the flexibility and willingness to adapt to shifting priorities and deadlines;
- Experience working and managing staff; and
- Excellent cross-cultural skills and diplomacy, and a reputation for being a strategic thinker, innovator, networker, and “field person.”

5. Eligibility

We will recruit one or more individuals with the right to work in the United States, the United Kingdom, or India; in exceptional cases, remote working from locations in other countries will be considered. 3ie is an equal-opportunity employer committed to equality and diversity. We do not discriminate based on sex, age, religion, ethnicity, caste, sexual orientation or for being differently abled. We particularly encourage ethnic minorities and differently abled persons to apply.

6. Terms of Employment

Candidates should be available to start work as soon as possible. The salary range for this position is competitive and commensurate, based on qualifications and experience.

Our policies and procedures reflect our commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults from abuse. We follow a zero-tolerance policy for any form of bullying or harassment in the workplace.
7. How to Apply

Please apply by e-mail to jobs@3ieimpact.org, and include ‘3ie Evaluation Specialist, Climate Change’ or ‘3ie Senior Evaluation Specialist, Climate Change’ in the subject line. The applicant must provide, at a minimum, the following information:

- A cover letter, not exceeding one page, highlighting your qualifications and experience relevant to the terms of reference;
- Curriculum vitae (not to exceed four pages);
- Writing sample (preferably a sample of a proposal, research paper, or other technical document that you alone authored) that highlights your work relevant to climate change;
- Contact information for three professional references.
- Please indicate in your cover letter that you have legal authorization to work in the United States, the UK, or India.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and incomplete applications will not be considered. 3ie will contact the shortlisted candidates only.