



Register your study with us

3ie's Registry for International Development Impact Evaluations or RIDIE allows researchers to record information about their study plan and make essential details publicly available.

Why register?

A prospective registry can increase transparency in the performance and reporting of research, minimising concerns over several well-known types of bias in research or reporting. By creating a paper trail of the idea, it safeguards intellectual property, reduces duplication of research efforts and promotes collaboration among researchers.

Why use RIDIE?

- RIDIE allows registration of **experimental and quasi-experimental studies**, not just randomised controlled trials;
- RIDIE focuses on evaluations in **low- and middle-income countries**;
- RIDIE accepts all **counterfactual-based** evaluation methodologies;
- RIDIE accepts both **prospective and non-prospective** (registration before data analysis) registrations;
- RIDIE serves **researchers, funders, policymakers** (not just academic publishing);
- RIDIE users can choose to **keep details of their study private** until completion, safeguarding intellectual property; and
- Each registration has a **citation and a DOI** making a study easy to find.

What is registration?

Registration is the process of recording specific information about a study plan either before data are collected or before the results of the study are assessed.

Registration information can include:

- Outcomes to be measured;
- Hypothesis to be tested;
- Main and subgroup analysis;
- Specifications to be used; and
- Pre-analysis plans.

Why is registration important?

Researchers and evaluators



- Can use prospective registration of studies to enhance the transparency and credibility of their evaluations;
- Can 'lay claim' to aspects of evaluation and study design at the beginning; and
- Can defend the integrity of the research (e.g. no p-hacking).

Funders



- Can learn where research is ongoing and help avoid duplication of research efforts;
- Can ensure the quality and credibility of findings from evaluations that they support; and
- Can help ensure evaluators share information across studies in a fair and consistent way and thereby get more value and insights from the body of evidence they support.

Journal editors



- Can provide information from the registry to referees to assist them in reviewing article submissions;
- Can reference or link to the RIDIE registration in published articles to assist readers in interpreting results; and
- Can signal or ensure rigor of journal by requiring registration of eligible studies.

Practitioners, NGOs and others



- Can review details of a planned or ongoing evaluation of their program;
- Can learn about planned and ongoing evaluations in country, region, or subject area of interest; and
- Can help defend the integrity of the research and the independence of findings.

Policy analysts



- Can learn what and when new evidence will be available; and
- Can benefit from synthesised evidence.

RIDIE aims to

✓ Prevent publication bias



- When journals prefer publishing interesting or statistically significant findings.
- When referees are unable to check for publication bias.
- When synthesised data (such as systematic reviews; meta-analyses; evidence gap maps) have a publication bias.

✓ Prevent reporting bias



- When researchers only report desired or expected results.
- When researchers engage in post hoc 'data mining' (p-hacking) or specification searches to find such results.

✓ Prevent the possibility of being 'scooped'



- When ideas are used without giving due credit to the original authors.
- When publicly available pre-publication datasets are used without giving due credit to original authors.

✓ Prevent wasteful duplication of research



- Facilitate opportunities for collaboration.
- Provides research of studies currently underway.
- Addresses the 'file drawer problem' (brings insignificant findings to light).

✓ Help researchers defend their findings



- Signals the rigor of the study when design and questions are registered beforehand.
- Mitigates pressure from funders to find positive and/or significant results of funded programs.

Existing registries:

Some other registries similar to RIDIE are Experiments in Governance and Politics (EGAP), American Economic Association (AEA) RCT Registry and Open Science Framework.

RIDIE registration process

After you create an account, you will be asked to enter your study details.

Depending on the information provided, your study will be automatically assigned a category.

1

General study information:

Title, name(s), status, sector, etc.

2

Intervention

Overview, implementing agency, timeline, etc.

3

Evaluation method

Evaluation method(s), outcomes, approach, pre-analysis plan, etc.

4

Data

Description, collection status, treatment assignment, etc.

5

Study completion

Study results entered after project completion.

Prospective

Category 1: Data for measuring impacts have not been collected

Category 2: Data exist but these data have not been obtained or analysed yet by the study researchers

Category 3: Data for measuring impacts have been obtained/collected by the research team but analysis for this evaluation has not started

Non – prospective

Category 4: Data for measuring impacts have been obtained/collected by the research team and analysis for this evaluation has started

The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) is a global leader in funding, producing, assuring the quality of and synthesising rigorous evidence. We support studies and reviews that examine what works, for whom, why and at what cost in low- and middle-income countries. We are also a global advocate for the generation and use of quality evidence in development decision-making. 3ie is a membership organisation with a global network of members and key partners. We promote evidence-informed equitable, inclusive and sustainable development.

For more information, contact us at info@3ieimpact.org.

