

Evaluation specialist, 3ie

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 (L&MICs). We provide guidance and support to produce, synthesize and quality assure evidence of what works, for whom, how, why and at what cost. 3ie is registered as a non-governmental organization in the United States. It has offices in New Delhi, London and Washington, DC.

We do this through evidence programs, production of public goods, professional services, and support to institutional advancement initiatives. The evidence programs include impact evaluations, implementation research, replication studies, systematic reviews, and evidence gap maps. Our work encompasses a wide range of topics, sectors and themes.

3ie is inviting applications for the post of Evaluation Specialist (ES) for systematic reviews, preferably based at the 3ie Synthesis Office located in London. However, for exceptional candidates with the right to work, we may consider a posting at our offices in Washington, DC or New Delhi, or a remote working arrangement.

2. Summary

The ES will provide technical and management leadership of and support for systematic reviews, evidence gap maps and other evidence programs. This includes supporting the preparation of proposal materials for fundraising, writing program documents, reviewing grant proposals, quality-assuring 3ie-funded studies, managing external reviewers and leading inhouse research projects.

The ES is expected to assume full day-to-day management responsibility for programs of work and to conduct research, provide technical assistance for capacity building, and write content for publications, social media, and 3ie's website. They will lead and/or participate in events, conferences, and workshops. In various capacities, the ES communicates and negotiates directly with funders and represents 3ie to policymakers and researchers. They will be working in a matrixed environment and will be expected to establish strong and collaborative relations with staff across 3ie offices, with researchers and other stakeholders in the field and with 3ie members located in L&MICs.

The successful candidate will have significant and broad-based impact evaluation and/or systematic review research experience and will have demonstrated expertise implementing research and translating research evidence for decision-makers in L&MICs. They may supervise and mentor consultants/junior staff. Situation permitting, some international and domestic travel is expected. The position will report to the Head of 3ie's London Office.

London

3. Key responsibilities

3.1 Research, review, and translation for a policy audience

- The ES will lead impact evaluations and oversee evidence programs and research
 grants across range of development sectors, which could include but not be limited to
 health, nutrition, education, agriculture, governance, climate change, microfinance,
 humanitarian interventions, social protection, agriculture, and related social sector
 programming;
- Conduct and advise on scoping studies, formative research, process evaluations, replication studies, systematic reviews and evidence gap maps;
- Assist in the management of technical assistance projects, including writing specifications for professional service contracts, recruiting consultants, standardizing products and reports and quality assuring products and services;
- Provide technical assistance to key 3ie stakeholders on topics, including but not limited to capacity-building, evaluation methods and study design, database development, research transparency initiatives, and evidence uptake and use;
- Work with consultants and stakeholders in the field, as well as with 3ie staff, to ensure documentation of 3ie's evaluation programs; and
- ES may be asked to lead on new methods and/or development of certain innovative research topics (research transparency, etc.).

3.2 Project and grant administration and management

- Provide program 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 in collaboration with 3ie staff who are managing programs that grant and contract implementation and spending are aligned with approved budgets, workplans and 3ie policies and practices;
- The ES may recruit, on-board, manage, and supervize staff and consultants, as required; and
- Mentor junior staff, as needed.

3.3 Institutional advancement and communications

- 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 programs 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 program development.



4. Qualifications, experience and skills

4.1 Education and work experience

- Master's degree in economics, public policy, public health, demography, or other relevant social science field that includes statistical training and experimental methods; a doctorate is strongly preferred;
- In-depth knowledge of experimental and quasi-experimental methods applied in impact evaluation (RCT, IV, RDD, panel data methods, propensity score matching, interrupted time series);
- Experience designing and implementing one or more of the following: impact evaluations, implementation research, process evaluations, formative research, qualitative research;
- Academic knowledge of and direct field experience with one or more sectors relevant to poverty alleviation in L&MICs, including but not limited to social protection, labor, health, nutrition, agriculture, and other social sector programming;
- Experience in L&MIC policy development and/or policy implementation at either the national or sub-national level preferred;
- Experience designing and/or quality assuring data collection through household surveys and using primary and secondary data sources (administrative, remote sensing, etc.) for impact analysis preferred;
- Project management experience preferred; and
- Experience supporting new business activities and demonstrated ability to write technical proposals across one or more development sectors preferred.

4.2 Qualifications and skills

- Ability to carry out data analysis in Stata, R and/or other statistical software packages;
- Proficiency in one or more programming languages used in data cleaning and analysis, such as R, Python, or Stata, is desirable.
- Familiarity with automation using text mining and machine learning, including the ability to develop machine learning models, is also an advantage.
- Excellent oral and written communication as well as presentation skills in English; in addition, Spanish and/or French professional proficiency preferred;
- Excellent organizational skills, attention to detail, and the flexibility and willingness to adapt to shifting weekly priorities and deadlines;
- Experience working and managing staff in a matrix environment; 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 individual, preferably with the right to work in the UK, however, we will also consider applicants who have the right to work in locations where we have offices, namely, India and the US. In exceptional cases, we will consider candidates who can work remotely from their home country.

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 opportunity to work as a consultant from another location may be considered for exceptional candidates. 3ie offers competitive remuneration based on location, experience and qualifications.

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. Please include '3ie Evaluation Specialist-SRO' 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; please also indicate in which of 3ie's offices you have legal authorization to work;
- 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); and
- Contact information for three professional references

The application deadline is **15 August 2021**. Due to the urgency to fill this role, applications will be reviewed, and shortlisted candidates interviewed on a rolling basis, and 3ie reserves the right to close this advert before the above-mentioned closing date if sufficient applications are received.



^{*}Incomplete applications will not be considered