Modern Slavery Act Statement 2021

1. Purpose of this statement

This statement is the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation’s (“3ie”) voluntary modern slavery and human trafficking statement relating to section 54(1) of the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015 (“the Act”).

Consistent with 3ie’s vision to improve lives through evidence-informed action in developing countries, we are committed to a work environment and operations that are free from human trafficking, modern slavery, and all forms of exploitation. Human trafficking and modern slavery are wholly contrary to 3ie’s mission and values. We will not allow human trafficking or modern slavery to take place in any part of the organization or with any of our members, partners, commissioners, suppliers, or consultants.

2. About us

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, 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.

3ie does not have an annual turnover of £36 million or more from the provision of goods and services (as set out in the Act). We are, therefore, not required to make a ‘modern slavery and human trafficking statement’ under the Act. Nevertheless, we are voluntarily choosing to make such a statement as we believe it is incumbent upon all organizations to do what they can to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking.

3. Organization structure and supply chain

3ie has its headquarters in Washington, DC and has offices in London and New Delhi. Our organizational structure is headed by the executive director, with a team of four directors who lead offices of specialized teams. The teams include the Executive Director’s Office, Washington Office, Evaluation Office, Program, Finance, IT and Administration Office, Synthesis and Reviews Office, and Strategic Communications Office.
The work of 3ie is overseen by a board, which elects its members. The board comprises ten members representing different backgrounds, including policymakers from developing countries and leaders in evaluation and evidence-informed decision-making, who help promote 3ie.

We are committed to working towards the elimination of any possible slavery in our supply chain. Our supply chain is relatively simple. The key services we procure are auditing, financial consulting, legal consulting, IT supplies, housekeeping, insurance broking, background verification, and record keeping. We also work with firms that assist with field investigation and data collection.

4. Our policies

We have an Anti-Human Trafficking and Anti-Modern Slavery Policy (“the Policy”). In addition, we have various other policies applicable to all staff, which provide information regarding the behaviour we expect of our personnel.

5. Our actions

We have undertaken modern slavery and human trafficking risk assessment in respect of our business and supply chain. Overall, 3ie’s business and supply chain pose a low risk of involvement with modern slavery and human trafficking. However, we are not complacent. We continue to monitor and work to improve the systems in place to ensure that our business and supply chain are free from modern slavery and human trafficking. Details of the systems we have in place are summarized below.

We take a risk-based approach to our contracting processes and keep them under review. We assess whether the circumstances warrant the inclusion of specific prohibitions against the use of modern slavery and human trafficking in our contracts with third parties. Using this approach, we also assess which of our suppliers will be required to comply with our Supplier Code of Conduct, which sets out the minimum standards required to combat modern slavery and human trafficking.

We carry out appropriate due diligence checks on all of 3ie’s grantees and some of our suppliers, as required (i.e., if there is an elevated risk). As India is a high-risk jurisdiction for modern slavery and human trafficking, statutory due diligence is carried out on suppliers operating in higher-risk sectors (i.e., housekeeping) to mitigate the risk. We also carry out due diligence in respect of any suppliers that have reason to enter 3ie’s office.

We require our suppliers to hold their own suppliers to the same high standards, which we monitor through our supplier due diligence.

6. Effectiveness in combatting slavery and human trafficking

We will continue to keep our effectiveness under review and make changes to our operations and our ongoing work if they are not proving to be as effective as they ought to be.

7. Training

To ensure a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our business and supply chains, we recognize the importance of staff training. In January 2021,
a training on safeguarding and associated policies (of which the Policy is one) was conducted for all staff members and long-term consultants. The training takes place annually. We will keep this training under review, in particular, to assess whether a standalone training on modern slavery and human trafficking is required.

This voluntary modern slavery and human trafficking statement is made in connection with section 54(1) of the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015 for the financial year ending 31 December 2021. It was approved by 3ie on 18 July 2022.

Approved by: Marie Gaarder

Executive Director

On behalf of 3ie

Date: 18 July 2022