

Enduring Questions Survey >>>

■ About 3ie

3ie is a new organization dedicated to enhancing development outcomes through the production and use of evidence from rigorous impact evaluations. 3ie will undertake impact evaluations aimed at producing evidence to inform policy decisions that improve social and economic development programs in low- and middle-income countries. The evidence generated by impact evaluations – measurement of the net effects of particular programs or interventions – can demonstrate what outcomes are generated by which programs and, in so doing, inform public and private decisions about how best to improve social and economic development programs. 3ie’s purpose is to deliver such evidence on what works and why, focusing on questions that are relevant both now and in the long-term.

■ About this survey

3ie is currently in the process of determining its first series of evaluations. To this end, 3ie requests your input in the following questionnaire.

■ Instructions for completing the survey

You will first be asked to indicate the three themes (sub-sectors) you think are the most in need of evidence of the type provided by rigorous impact evaluations. You are given a list of evaluation questions for each theme you select, and are asked to pick the one you think to be the most important. You can also suggest your own question(s). Thank you in advance for your help with this important task.



THEME: AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

- Agricultural development
- Fair trade
- Land
- Nutrition and food security
- Rural livelihoods

Please select the top priority question for each theme. You may also suggest your own question for that theme
Agricultural development

1. Agricultural development

- Why don't more African farmers use fertilizer? How can the use of fertilizer in Africa be improved? Are 'seed and fertilizer packs' effective and sustainable?
- Which interventions will bring about sustainable, cost effective increases in productivity in agricultural production in arid areas in Africa?
- How effective have private sector investments in biofuel production (and flower production etc) been?
- How can we reduce crop losses during and after harvesting?
- What is the best way to deliver transparent information on market prices in a rural context (radio, key-informant, gsm) and what is the impact of having this information on smallholder's sales, income, etc?
- What is the optimal means of providing crop insurance and produce 'buy back' guarantees?

<http://www.3ieimpact.org/page.php?pg=medium>

- Which interventions increase the farm gate price that poor rural farmers are able to negotiate with private traders?
- What is the impact of the development of food processing and retail micro-activities on poverty reduction and on food safety (type of interventions: access to working capital, access to better machines, training, etc...)?
- Why didn't some farmers who were trained by government officials use the techniques from the training courses?
- What agricultural interventions have been successful in Africa, and why?
- What are the models of agricultural extension that work in developing countries?
- How effective have irrigation interventions been?
- Can sustainable small-scale irrigation be promoted in Africa?

Add a new question: _____

2. Fair trade

- What has been the impact of fair trade products on the poor's welfare?

Add a new question: _____

3. Land

- How effective have reforestation projects been?
- What incentives encourage sustainable land use?
- How effective have 'total land use' programmes been?
- How do different forms of improved land rights affect welfare outcomes?

Add a new question: _____

4. Nutrition and food security

- Does democratic governance reduce the risk of famine?
- Which interventions prevent child nutritional status in developing countries falling behind in the first two years' of life?
- To what extent can nutritional status be improved through changes in feeding practices using locally available foods?
- How do we improve the nutrition status of children under five?
- What are the most effective ways of delivering behavior change interventions to improve infant and young child feeding at scale?
- What should be done to increase food security in Africa?
- What is the best means to feed orphans?
- What is the optimum subsidy design to provide food to the poor?
- Can targeted food subsidies ever be a cost effective nutrition intervention?
- Which nutrition interventions have the largest impact on adult earning outcomes?

Add a new question: _____

5. Rural livelihoods

- What are the most important/effective factors and contexts for large and long-term behavior change in poor and rural areas?
- Are seasonal migration programs really a win-win?

Add a new question: _____

THEME: COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

Add a new question: _____

CDD related questions from other sub-themes

- Do financial contributions from beneficiaries lead to better project selection and implementation?
- Does local participation in decision making improve project selection and implementation?
- Are programs more effective when administered by government or by community groups?
- What decision making institutions best capture the interests of beneficiary populations?