

News· Development Evaluation

Highlights of the latest evaluations of development programmes from around the world and news for the evaluation community from the DAC Evaluation Network.



INTERVIEW WITH NICK YORK

Take a look at our interview with Nick York, Head of Evaluation at the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and current Chair of the DAC Evaluation Network. Nick discusses recent developments in DFID, and the growing importance of evaluation in the future of development cooperation. The video, available on YouTube, aims to generate an interest from a wider audience in evaluation.

[Watch now](#)

NEW RELEASE



Evaluation Insights #4

This brief synthesises the progress made in governance and institutional reform based on four major international studies, covering a total of 22 countries. The following areas have been selected for current relevance to policymakers: improving accountability and transparency; efforts to tackle corruption; centre of government and public financial management reforms; and results management in governance. What progress has there been so far and what still needs to be done?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more news and resources on Development Evaluation: www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation

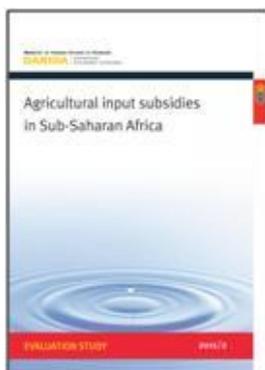
If you have not had the chance to read the **HLF4 outcome document** yet, [read it here](#)

Training course in Decentralisation, Democratisation and Development held March 2012 at The Hague. [Learn more](#)

From the Bellagio Initiative, paper on **Evaluating Development Philanthropy in a Changing World** by R. Picciotto. [Read here](#)

6th Conference of the African Evaluation Association, 9-13 January 2012, Accra, Ghana. [Learn more](#)

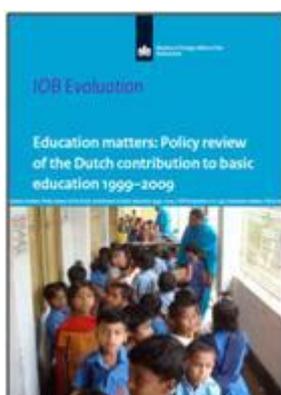
RECENT EVALUATIONS ON DEREK



Agricultural input subsidies

Danish Department for International Development (Danida)

Some economists argue that agricultural subsidies are expensive, mainly benefit the wrong people, and distort agricultural markets by encouraging overuse of the subsidised inputs. This study provides an assessment of the overall performance of agricultural input subsidy programmes in Malawi, Zambia, Ghana and Tanzania, where so-called “smart” subsidies have been introduced in an attempt to maximise effects at the lowest possible costs.



Contributing to basic education

IOB, The Netherlands

The policy review concludes that from the countries evaluated, many more children now attend school, including girls and children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Netherlands' contribution was facilitated by the long-term, substantive financial involvement. The input of experts and the support for research and innovative initiatives were also key contributing factors. Yet, there are major challenges ahead.



Effectiveness and Value for Money

Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI), UK

With a strong focus on the impact for intended beneficiaries and the robustness of delivery approaches, the report establishes a set of guiding criteria for whether aid is fit for purpose and being used to tackle the most important issues. Effectiveness and value for money are inextricably linked according to the report. Effectiveness requires a sustained impact for intended beneficiaries; and value for money is the best use of resources to deliver that impact.

COMING SOON

Evaluation Insights#5: Improving Food Security

The **DAC Quality Standards for Development Evaluation** soon available in Arabic!

The Network on Development Evaluation works to increase the effectiveness of international development programmes by supporting robust, informed and independent evaluation. The Network on Development Evaluation is a subsidiary body of the [Development Assistance Committee of the OECD](#).

Make sure to share your news and events with us at: alexandra.chevalier@oecd.org