

Dear all,

Welcome to the March 2014 edition of the Evidence Aid news bulletin. Please share it with your friends and colleagues and ask them to let us know if they would like to receive it directly and we will add them to the distribution list.

1. New projects

Evidence Aid has worked with 3ie/GDN on a scoping study for research in humanitarian assistance. The aims of the project are to:

- Help an international consortium of donors, including DFID and USAID, to identify priority areas and evaluation questions for impact evaluations in the humanitarian sector.
- Help inform the design of a thematic call for proposals to conduct impact evaluations of humanitarian assistance responses to crises arising from sudden-onset disasters and protracted emergencies.

This project culminates in a report and a workshop (invitees only) on 21 March. After the workshop, the report will be finalised, and we will make it available through our website as soon as we can.

2. Communications and PR

As you will know, Evidence Aid was awarded the 2013 Unorthodox Prize. Related to this prize, we received a donation which was ring-fenced to improve our external communications, including the website, our Annual Report, a promotional leaflet and a 'fundere' pack'. We are now able to announce that Consilium Communications (<http://consiliumcommunications.co.uk/>) has been contracted to undertake the work and we look forward to our initial meeting with them in late March. You will, hopefully, see the result of their advice, recommendations and deliverables in due course. We may also ask some of you to comment on, or help us with, the material as it is being developed.

3. Conference participation

Upcoming conferences for 2014 include the Urban Disasters conference and Humanitarian Technology conference in May (poster and oral presentations), Campbell Colloquium in June (poster presentation), and the Cochrane Colloquium in September. If you know of other conferences at which Evidence Aid should be represented, please let us know.

4. Evidence Aid symposium

An Evidence Aid symposium will be our first meeting in India – the country that saw the birth of Evidence Aid, following the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004. The symposium has been developed with input from one of our founder Advisory Board members, Prathap Tharyan, as a pre-conference event for the Cochrane Colloquium and will take place on September 20, in Hyderabad. If you are interested in attending the Evidence Aid symposium, or wish to pass on details to your colleagues, details can be found here: <http://colloquium.cochrane.org/pre-and-post-colloquium-events>. The event is free of charge to participants and will be held at the Avasa Hotel.

4. Evidence Aid module piloted for postgraduate students at Queen's University Belfast

In February, Evidence Aid facilitated a successful piloting of a new module for postgraduate students in Public Health and Global Health at Queen's University Belfast and Trinity College Dublin, respectively. The three-day programme, coordinated by Evidence Aid founder Mike Clarke, drew together an international team of experts to cover a range of issues related to the use of evidence in the public health and humanitarian response to disasters. The new module is one of three that have been developed by Queen's as part of a proposed Masters level course in Global Health. All three will be fully

evaluated but initial feedback received was very positive and constructive, with students enthusiastic to build on the course content offered.

5. Annual Report

The finalisation of the Evidence Aid Annual Report for 2013 has been slightly delayed as we worked to find our communications partner and we hope to report progress in our next news bulletin.

6. Communications

You can follow us on Twitter (@EvidenceAid), on our Facebook page (Evidence Aid), via the new website (www.evidenceaid.org) and you can also contact Claire using LinkedIn (Claire Allen). We are investigating the use of MailChimp for our next news bulletin, so please note that our next bulletin might look different to this one!

We hope you've found this bulletin to be informative and helpful. If you would prefer not receive further bulletins, please let us know.

With best wishes,

Claire Allen
Knowledge Manager
Evidence Aid, Winner of the 2013 Unorthodox Prize (\$10,000)