



## RESULTS-BASED FINANCING FOR HEALTH

# Health Results-based Financing Impact Evaluation Network

*A key element of the Norwegian Health Results-based Financing (HRBF) Grant is that each of the 8 pilot countries will incorporate a rigorous and well designed impact evaluation into the program design and implementation. These evaluations are essential for generating new knowledge that can inform and improve RBF, not only for the HRBF pilot countries, but also to help governments and partners to effectively design and use RBF mechanisms in other contexts as well.*

The HRBF Impact Evaluation Network consists of World Bank Task Team Leaders (TTLs), Country-level Principal Investigators, as well as an international multi-disciplinary team comprised of experts in health systems, health provider payment schemes, child and maternal health outcome measurement, economics and impact evaluation who will collaborate on the systematic and coordinated program of 8 country-level rigorous impact evaluations in order to identify the causal effect of these pilot programs on the welfare of the population, with a special emphasis on maternal and child health outcomes. The specific objectives of the HRBF Impact Evaluation Network include the following:

**OBJECTIVE | 1** | Conduct rigorous, prospective impact evaluations on the causal effects, costs and operational feasibility of each RBF pilot scheme on the access and quality of preventive and curative health care, health expenditures, and health outcomes. The evaluations will also analyze the distributional effects of the intervention, as well as any impact of improved health outcomes on socioeconomic outcomes. Depending on the nature of the pilot, each evaluation will look at the appropriate supply or demand side effects, as well as anticipated and unanticipated consequences of the intervention such as supply side responses. If a pilot includes both supply and demand side interventions, the goal will be to estimate the separate impact of each as well as any from the

combination of the two. Cost information will be used in estimates of cost-effectiveness of the intervention.

**OBJECTIVE | 2** | Coordinate and standardize as much as possible the evaluation methodologies across pilot sites to facilitate the comparison of alternative approaches through meta-analysis, assess the external validity of impacts, and assess the feasibility of similar interventions across different socioeconomic and cultural settings.

**OBJECTIVE | 3** | Summarize and disseminate the lessons learned in materials that are accessible and relevant to country policy makers and other stakeholders, and address both the cost-effectiveness and operational complexity of alternative RBF mechanisms.

In order to achieve Objectives 2 & 3, the HRBF Impact Evaluation Network will establish an integrated common approach to measuring program impacts, though each of the intervention sites will have unique impact evaluation requirements. The overall strategy is to standardize as much as possible the methods, measurement and data quality control across countries, while leaving sufficient flexibility for tailoring the evaluations to the unique features of the interventions, local policy interests, operational ability, and political and cultural climate. For this reason, the HRBF Impact Evaluation Network has developed the following list of resources for country team's reference:

Template/ Protocol	Explanation	Status
QUALITY ASSURANCE RECOMMENDATIONS	This document contains a number of quality assurance recommendations for the HRBF Impact Evaluation Network to consider when planning field work and data entry.	DRAFT AVAILABLE
CAFE VS CENTRALIZED DATA ENTRY	This document summarizes the key Q & A regarding CAFE vs. standard centralized data entry.	DRAFT AVAILABLE
SURVEY FIRM TOR IE COORDINATOR TOR	The HRBF Survey Firm TOR details the activities for the firm responsible for piloting, hiring field staff, training, pre-testing, field work, and data entry.  The HRBF Impact Evaluation Coordinator TOR details the activities for the individual responsible for managing day-to-day operations of the Survey Firm, under direct supervision of a C-PI.	DRAFT AVAILABLE
SURVEY FIRM BUDGET	This document is a template for the survey firm to complete for the financial proposal.	DRAFT AVAILABLE
RESEARCH PROTOCOL	The research protocol will be submitted to a third-party Institutional Review Board (IRB) by the Impact Evaluation Network, as well as country-level IRBs where applicable, in order to obtain ethical clearance of the study.	UNDER DEVELOPMENT
THIRD-PARTY IRB TOR	Although C-PIs must identify local requirements for IRB clearance and need to adapt the research protocol for their country-specific requirements, the HRBF Impact Evaluation Network will contract a third-party IRB to obtain ethical clearance of the study. The Third-Party IRB TOR details the activities of the firm responsible for reviewing the research protocol and providing ethical clearance for the study.	DRAFT AVAILABLE
FIELD SAMPLING GUIDELINES	This document details key recommendations of the Quality Assurance firm and Sampling specialist on how to conduct field sampling procedures in order to obtain a true random sample of the target population.	UNDER DEVELOPMENT
BASE HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE	The HRBF Impact Evaluation Network developed a base household questionnaire designed in collaboration with experts in health, economic and child development outcome measurement.	DRAFT AVAILABLE
BASE HEALTH FACILITY QUESTIONNAIRE	The HRBF Impact Evaluation Network developed a base health facility questionnaire designed in collaboration with experts in health, economic and child development outcome measurement.	UNDER DEVELOPMENT
INTERVIEWER MANUAL	The objective of the Interviewer Manual is to provide guidelines on team composition, data collection protocol and a standardized explanation of all base questions in the questionnaires. This manual should be used during training and as reference during field work for supervisors, interviewers and data entry agents.	UNDER DEVELOPMENT
SUPERVISOR	The objective of the Supervisor Manual is to provide guidelines to field supervisors during field work.	UNDER DEVELOPMENT

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## Synergies with Other RBF Evaluations

Despite extensive experimentation with RBF schemes in the health sector in both low- and middle-income countries, the evidence on their impact remains limited. Currently, there are two parallel clusters of impact evaluations of both demand and supply side RBF schemes being supported by the Spanish Impact Evaluation Fund (SIEF): a cluster of five impact evaluations on Performance Based Contracting for Health Services and a cluster of four impact evaluations on Conditional Cash Transfers. The existence of this body of work and the advanced stages of some of the evaluations will provide invaluable insight into the design and implementation of the HRBF pilots and evaluations. Where applicable, synergies between the two evaluation programs will be exploited by harmonizing the key research questions, survey instruments and outcome indicators of interest in order to maximize knowledge generation and cross-country learning. Information regarding the SIEF impact evaluations can be found at [www.worldbank.org/sief](http://www.worldbank.org/sief).