



Why does development need to be smarter?

Too often, development interventions fall short of their goals. Resources are invested, but the impact remains uncertain. *Are these initiatives truly making a difference? Are they reaching the people who need them most?* Without a clear, **evidence-based approach**, development efforts risk inefficiency and miss opportunities for meaningful change.

At the Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED), we believe in the power of data to transform development. Our mission is simple: to ensure that every effort put into development is relevant, effective, efficient, and inclusive. We aim to bridge the gap between good intentions and real impact — because development should not just be about action, but about results that matter.

How do we make development smarter?

C4ED is a non-profit research center that emerged out of the University of Mannheim in 2015. It improves development outcomes through **rigorous impact evaluations for evidence-based policymaking**. We work with governments, NGOs, businesses, and the private sector to understand **what works and why**.

Our team delivers actionable insights by collecting **quantitative and qualitative data** from the ground, and combining our expertise in data analytics with our vast experience in areas such as agriculture, health, labor, and climate change.

OUR SERVICES

Impact Evaluations

We assess whether an intervention caused an impact on its intended outcomes.

Effectiveness and Monitoring

We design and implement robust M&E frameworks to track progress against set targets, timelines and milestones and help assess effectiveness and progress through customized systems.

Efficiency Analysis

We measure the efficiency of an intervention, using cost-benefit or cost-effectiveness analysis methods.

Qualitative Evaluations

We provide qualitative evidence on the relevance, coherence, and sustainability of interventions by diving into the lived experiences of stakeholders, beneficiaries and other informants.

Evidence Synthesis

We synthesize existing research through systematic reviews, synthesis reviews, rapid evidence reviews and scoping reviews, to provide a comprehensive understanding of a given topic and support informed policy and program decisions.

Data Collection

We conduct large-scale surveys in hard-to-reach areas to collect high quality and reliable data.

Capacity Building and Training

We empower teams and individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to conduct high-quality evaluations, analysis, and evidence synthesis through tailored training programs.

Quality Assurance

We review and assess evaluation reports to ensure standardized and high-quality reporting.

MISSION

To support policymakers and practitioners in improving development initiatives through evidence-based solutions and recommendations.

VISION

A world where evidence-based, transparent, and accountable development solutions ensure sustainability and deliver meaningful, inclusive impact for all.



OUR PROJECTS



Our projects span across various countries throughout **Africa, Asia, South America** and **the Middle East**.

OUR AREAS OF EXPERTISE



Poverty Alleviation & Economic Development

Livelihoods

We evaluate interventions aiming at breaking the cycle of poverty and improving livelihoods, especially for marginalized communities.

Labor and Entrepreneurship

We assess interventions that promote job creation, vocational training, and inclusive entrepreneurship to support sustainable economic growth.

Finance

We evaluate financial inclusion programs that improve access to credit, savings, and insurance, fostering economic empowerment and resilience.

Agriculture

We assess agricultural programs that boost productivity, support rural development, and promote sustainable practices in farming communities.



Well-being & Social Equity

Health and Nutrition

We evaluate programs that combat malnutrition, expand healthcare access, and promote healthier lifestyles, with a focus on gender equity and child development.

Social Protection

We evaluate social safety nets like cash transfers and social insurance in reducing poverty and enhancing economic security.

Education

We evaluate education programs that improve school access, teaching quality, and inclusive learning environments.

Gender Equality

We assess initiatives that address gender-based inequalities, promoting equal rights, safety, and empowerment for all genders.



Global Challenges & Sustainability

Migration

We evaluate interventions that support migrant and displaced populations in improving their livelihoods, access to services, and foster their social inclusion.

Climate Change

We assess climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives that build resilience, reduce climate/related risks, and support long-term environmental sustainability.



Dr. Asmus Zoch-Gordon (a.zochec4ed.org);
Prof. Dr. Markus Frölich (m.froelich@c4ed.org)



Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED)
07, 3 | 68161 Mannheim | Germany



c4ed.org

From Evidence to Action,
From Action to Impact.