

The Global Delivery Initiative (GDI)

What does it take to produce transformational impacts on people's quality of life, every time in every country?

1. What is the Global Delivery Initiative?

The Global Delivery Initiative (GDI) is a collaboration across the international development community. The objective of the GDI is to improve the results and impacts of development efforts worldwide based on a more systematic understanding of what works in international development, why and most importantly, *how*. The program and value of the GDI is fivefold: it collects practical experiences; provides access to a cumulative and systematically organized body of knowledge; connects experts and teams to help shape development interventions; co-creates the analytical basis for addressing common delivery challenges; and collaborates with partners to bring the best available operational know-how to support practitioners in making better-informed decisions.

2. What is the Science of Delivery?

How can we ensure that development interventions work every time, in every country? The Science of Delivery (SoD) is the collective and cumulative knowledge base of delivery know-how that helps practitioners make more informed decisions and produce consistent results on the ground. It aims to develop a more systematic understanding not just of *what* to deliver, but also of *how* to deliver, including delivery at scale and through the identification of innovations in delivery, in order to achieve transformational change.

3. What does the GDI do?

The Initiative supports the co-creation of a Science of Delivery for development - by bringing together fragmented delivery know-how and experiences, as well as data from across sectors and regions. The GDI works toward this goal through multiple interlinked work streams: the Global Delivery Library, the Capacity for Improving Delivery program, and the Delivery Challenges Work Stream. It links practitioners to resources and know-how to help solve specific delivery challenges. The GDI has developed guidelines and capacity modules to support partners in engaging with the Science of Delivery, applying SoD methodology, and crafting delivery case studies. Case studies and other publications in the Global Delivery Library provide insights into implementation successes and failures. They explore interventions in their contexts, and describe what was done, why, how, and with what results.

The GDI is also creating DeCODE (Delivery Challenges in Operations for Development Effectiveness). DeCODE is a dashboard that will work with real-time data from frontline staff. This data helps predict the likelihood that a particular delivery challenge will occur in a specific sector and country.

4. Who are potential GDI partners?

GDI partners include development agencies and multilateral development banks, government agencies and non-governmental implementers, private sector practitioners, foundations, grassroots organizations, and the research community. There are no formal requirements for membership; rather, the contributions of each member vary, and may include: a) Contributing case studies that adhere to the co-created common guidelines of the GDI; b) Hosting and organizing a GDI event or case writer training; and/or c) Providing financial or in-kind support.

5. What are the next steps?

On 11-12 December 2014 the GDI met for the first time at an event co-hosted by GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the World Bank Group in Berlin, Germany. At this event, GDI partners discussed case study methodology and committed to building a global delivery library. Since this event, momentum has increased, and partners continue to join the initiative. The GDI was formally launched on April 17, 2015, at the Spring Meetings in Washington, DC. The launch event included a presentation on the Global Library, while a variety of partners and potential partners – including GIZ, the Government of Korea, the Government of China, the IDB, and UNDP – discussed the value of collaboration for doing development differently. On June 29th, 2015, the GDI in collaboration with Results for Development and IMAGO Global Grassroots hosted a workshop with grassroots organizations and social entrepreneurs from around the world to discuss their insights and explore their participation in the Initiative. On January 11-13, 2016, GDI partners met at CEPAL for a workshop co-hosted with the Chilean Ministry of Finance on the theme of "Learning, Iterating and Adapting to Achieve Change." The next major GDI event will take place in 2016 in Chongqing, China.