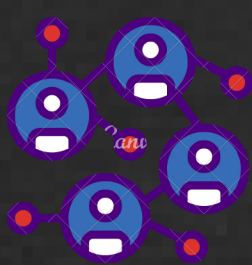


# INVESTING IN EVALUATION CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA- WHY IT MATTERS NOW MORE THAN EVER

Governments around the world face the daunting task of addressing a downward spiral of economic activity coupled with a growing health burden from the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). India is no exception; two elements can be game-changers in addressing the crisis: [the use of data and leveraging partnerships](#).

For almost a decade, CLEAR South Asia has been collaborating with state governments in India to undertake systematic and multi-pronged capacity-building efforts on data and evidence use for policy decision-making.

## THREE KEY FEATURES OF CLEAR SA'S CAPACITY-BUILDING APPROACH IN THE INDIAN STATE OF TAMIL NADU



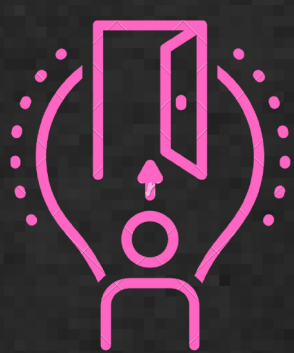
### FORGING LINKAGES

A 360-degree, deeply embedded life-cycle approach which forges linkages between research, capacity-building, and policy advisory to enable data use for decisions.



### CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT

Multiple touch-points and continued engagement have helped build trust and value, and sustain the commitment through elections, transfers of key personnel, and shifts in policy priorities.



### IDENTIFYING & RESPONDING TO OPPORTUNITIES

Being able to identify and being responsive to an opportunity whenever it emerges is key. Laying the groundwork upfront helps use policy windows when they open up using only incremental effort instead of starting from scratch.

#### Example of CLEAR SA's capacity-building efforts in Tamil Nadu:

The Department of Economics and Statistics, in collaboration with leading researchers, launched the first-ever state-wide elderly panel survey in 2016-17. CLEAR SA provided technical advisory services and training workshops to enable rigorous and efficient data collection, which led to the adoption of independent back-checks (a standard practice in research) by the department to ensure the quality of data.

Based on the survey findings, the government announced a pilot intervention of elderly daycare centers in the state. Additionally, the department adopted digital data collection for their surveys and plan to conduct a follow-up wave next year.

CLEAR SA is planning an evaluation of this pilot to inform expansion approaches. Further, via the use of phone surveys, the government and researchers can track whether the elderly covered in the survey are facing any issues during the COVID-19 lockdown.