**Table 1: Five steps in developing and using an implementation strength measure in impact evaluation studies, illustrated with three case study examples**

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|  | **Health Extension Worker Programme, Ethiopia** | **Avahan, India** | **Affordable Medicines Facility – malaria, multi-country** |
| 1. Develop a Logic Model
 | See Figure 1 | See Figure 2 | See Figure 3 |
| 1. Identify aspects of implementation strength to be measured
 | Strength of health extension programme’s outreach activities | Amount of spending on Avahan HIV prevention approach | Duration of implementation, supporting intervention disbursements and coverage  |
| 1. Data collection
 | Surveys with mothers (independent of outcome assessment) | Accounting data | Document review, key informant interviews, accounting information and provider survey |
| 1. Develop measures
 | Kebele–level score developed from 4 indicators | District-level metric of cumulative amount of Avahan funding per HIV-infected person spent each year | Country-level assessments of each aspect of implementation; no attempt to combine in a single score |
| 1. Use in outcome analysis
 | Secondary analysis correlated with outcomes, adjusting for measured potential confounders | Primary analysis correlated with outcomes, adjusting for measured potential confounders | No formal association with outcomes attempted, but overall patterns of implementation and outcomes were compared across countries |