



Health Partnership Symposium

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning: 1st March 2017

Aims and objectives of this session

- Identify good and bad practice in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and reflect on your own M&E approach
- Identify shortfalls in one specific area of your M&E approach and understand why this was a problem
- Understand how M&E can enable your project to continue
- Identify areas for improvement for the future



What is the value of M&E?

- Demonstrate improvement or impact
- Make decisions and inform priorities
- Informing policy makers
- Convincing potential donors



Task 1- *Ice breaker*: what do we mean by good M&E?

- In groups of two or three, sort the statements into 'good practice' and 'bad practice'.

You only have 5 minutes!

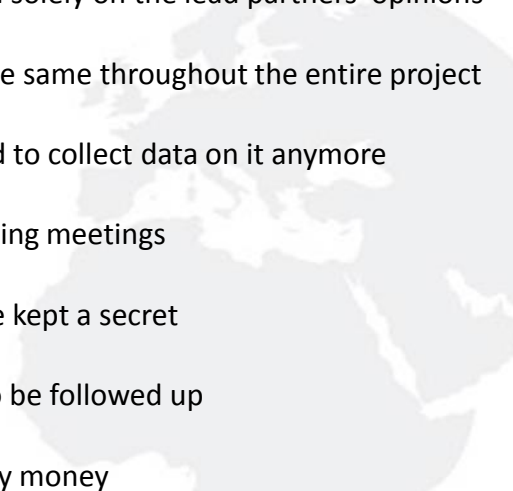


Answers

Good practice examples

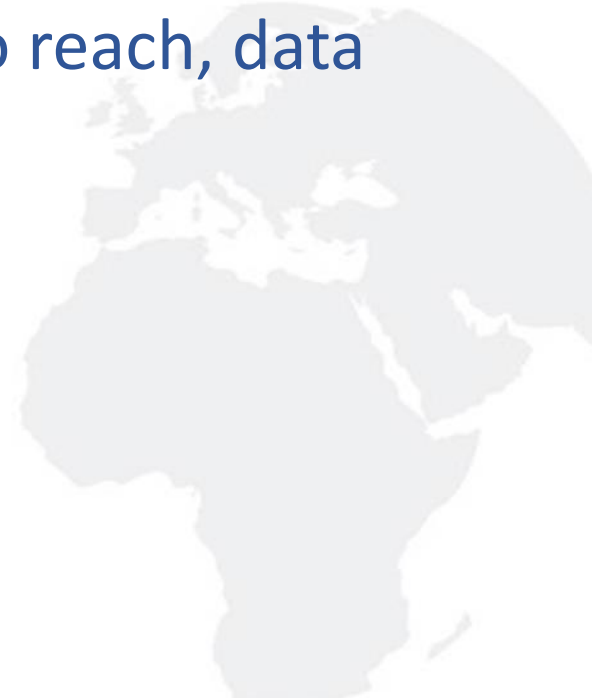
1. It is useful to check the quality of your data by collecting it from another source, and comparing the results
2. The UK and overseas partners are responsible for developing the monitoring and evaluation plan in collaboration
6. The monitoring and evaluation plan is designed before the project starts
8. Data should be analysed regularly throughout the project
9. Data is useful for the partnership because it can inform decisions or lead to changes
12. Data should be collected at regular intervals
17. Each individual's monitoring and evaluation duties and responsibilities are clearly defined from the start
18. Staff should be asked how much time they can devote to monitoring and evaluation
20. Baseline data is collected at the start of the project
21. Results should be presented in a user-friendly way, with key findings or evidence easy to pick out

Bad practice examples

3. The UK partner is solely responsible for collecting data
 4. The overseas team is solely responsible for collecting data
 5. The monitoring and evaluation approach is designed once the project has already started
 7. It is best to analyse all of the data at the end of the project
 10. Decisions or changes should be made based solely on the lead partners' opinions
 11. Once a target has been set, it should stay the same throughout the entire project
 13. If a target has been reached, you don't need to collect data on it anymore
 14. Data is not looked at during review or planning meetings
 15. Monitoring and evaluation results should be kept a secret
 16. Data is always reliable and does not need to be followed up
 19. Monitoring and evaluation does not cost any money
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Task 2- *M&E problem solving*

- Think of 1 M&E issue that affected your project
- Something you failed to demonstrate, a goal you failed to reach, data you couldn't collect, lack of capacity...



Task 2- *M&E problem solving*

Questions to consider:

- At what point did this problem come to light?
- Why was it an issue for your project?
- What did you try and do to solve the problem?
- Why didn't it work?
- What factors made this aspect a problem?
- Who or what was the problem dependant on?
- How was it resolved?
- If it wasn't, why? How could it have been resolved?

You have 25 minutes!



Task 3- *learning from the past to inform the future*

A focus on the planning stage...

- If you were to do your project again, how would you incorporate M&E into your planning, to avoid M&E problems?



Questions to consider- not all of these will be applicable!

- What could you **plan for**, or **put in place** from the start to make sure you don't run in into problems this time?
- Who would you need to **involve** to make it work?
- Who/what will you need to **collect data on**?
- How do you need to **disaggregate** your data? Which categories could help inform your work?
- Who could you get **advice** or **support** from?
- What or who do you need **access** to?
- What **resources** do you need to allocate? How much budget? Which people? How much time?
- Do you need to **present your data** or results differently?

You only have 15 minutes!



What next?

- Reflection
- Planning
- Collaborative M&E
- Resources available – www.thet.org



Thank you!

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