

## Particular Subject Areas

### Measurement of HIV Prevention Indicators: A Comparison of the PLACE Method and a Demographic Health Survey in Rwanda (wp-08-105)

The 2005 Rwandan Demographic Health Survey (DHS) found that nearly 90 percent of the general population knew about HIV and prevention methods; however, it also found that condom use was very low (only 20 percent of people used a condom with a non-cohabiting partner). To respond better to the large gap between knowledge and safe sexual behaviour, and to coordinate local efforts better in the fight against AIDS, the Commission Nationale de Lutte contre le SIDA (CNLS), with technical assistance from MEASURE Evaluation, implemented the Priorities for Local AIDS Control Efforts (PLACE) protocol in 12 provinces. The 2005 PLACE and Rwandan DHS results are useful tools for program managers wishing to focus scarce resources in effective HIV prevention. The DHS results provide information concerning the general population and provide a global picture of people's HIV knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours. The PLACE results provide information about populations that exhibit riskier sexual behaviour than the general population. Together, the survey results from PLACE and DHS can provide program managers and other stakeholders working in HIV/AIDS comprehensive information on knowledge, attitudes, and practices in both the general population and specific subgroups. The aim of this report is to compare results between the two surveys and illustrate how both surveys can be used together, giving HIV/AIDS program managers and policymakers a better picture of certain determinates of the generalized epidemic in Rwanda. Download "Measurement of HIV Prevention Indicators: A Comparison of the PLACE Method and a Demographic Health Survey in Rwanda" here. <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/publications/pdf/wp-08-105.pdf>

### M&E Officer and/or MIS Officer

Me and my colleague try to see that we need M&E officer and/or MIS officer. Some issues from the discussion are that

- project implementor can do the M&E by themselves without M&E officer

- what the role and function of M&E officer in a project
- what the important M&E officer in a project

Please, help me get the right choice.

**Prihatini**

I think M and E is an integral part of program/project and not really separated. the M/E officer plays a coordinating, supervisory and supportive role to the project team to ensure things move as planned, within budget, time and generate knowledge for timely decision making and program management. S/he coordinates others in carrying out project work that includes monitoring and evaluation.

Yes s/he should be above others to ensure objectivity and effective knowledge generation.

It also depends on the size and type of organisation.

**Jonathan Chelanga** [chelanga2005@yahoo.com](mailto:chelanga2005@yahoo.com)

It wouldn't hurt for both administrators and evaluators to be familiar with MS Project or the equivalent and an online database software (SQL). Everybody needs to monitor. In fact, the evaluation plan itself should be monitored, along with the administrative functions.

None of this should be held back from either the administrators or the evaluators (i.e., they should all have access).

**Robert Walker** [bobkwalker@gmail.com](mailto:bobkwalker@gmail.com)

M&E is not a one person job, of course project implementers should do monitoring, but they need a specialist who can provide technical feedback.

The role of ME person is to make sure that M&E plan and systems are in place, make sure that program people do understand the plan and have the skill. Draw lessons and make sure that best practices are incorporated at next design stage. An M&E person is not an outsider, we are part of the implementation group, but give support to implementers to measure results and remind them to reflect on the process. M&E person shouldn't act as an auditor or validator I think. I used to be an MIS/ME officer doing the two things, it was challenging but I really did it. If you need a job description I can provide you that.

**Emebet**

The M&E officer is outside of the implementation group and would validate/ verify what the implementation team states has been achieved. The implementer cannot do M&E because there would be no objectivity.

**Meera Sundararajan**

I do agree with all comments especially the fact that M&E is everybody's business. What in my experience can sometimes be a problem is reporting lines. Emebet's TOR says the M&E/MIS Specialist reports to the Project Coordinator. This sometimes does not allow for objectivity in reporting especially in situations where jobs are scarce and you cannot easily walk away from a job when you feel the boss is asking you to compromise your professional integrity by embellishing a report to suit him/her. I would rather report to the Project Manager's boss.

**Shecku M. Silla** [shceckus@yahoo.com](mailto:shceckus@yahoo.com)

We have just finish testing our new online live project management and monitoring system that is based on PCM and the Logical Framework. It is so easy you can be both an IT and M&E expert. It is accessible from any location in the world and any number of people can work simultaneously at the same time. It covers the entire project cycle from problem analysis and stakeholder mapping through to monitoring and evaluation in one database system.

You can access project.live at the demo site and play around with it to see how it works at:

[http://www.uk.locallivelihoods.com/Moduls/WebSite/Page/Default.aspx?Pag\\_Id=145](http://www.uk.locallivelihoods.com/Moduls/WebSite/Page/Default.aspx?Pag_Id=145)

If you would like any further information please contact me.

**Freer Spreckley** [f.spreckley@locallivelihoods.com](mailto:f.spreckley@locallivelihoods.com)

I noted a lot of healthy discussion on different issues of M&E. I would suggest initiating a discussion on the following two M&E issues:

M&E of fresh entrants from Higher Education Institutions (Engineers) to different sectors of industry as Trainees .  
Developees / Juniors

M&E of fresh entrants from intermediate Vocational Education Institutions (Technicians & Operators) to different sectors of industry as Trainees / Developees / Juniors

I would appreciate comments from different forum colleagues.

**Moustafa Wahba** [mmm\\_wahba2002@yahoo.com](mailto:mmm_wahba2002@yahoo.com)

# M & E News Summary Sheet June 2008

## Particular Subject Areas continued

### Evaluation Literacy

Are there many people who are interested in improving evaluation literacy in the general public, and among clients and potential clients?

Anyone interested in creating an Evaluation Literacy project?

For example, there are a couple of general movements toward improving statistical literacy in the general public.

International Statistical Literacy Project

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/islp/home>

Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education

<http://www.causeweb.org/>

The National Numeracy Network

<http://serc.carleton.edu/nnn/index.html>

All of these and others are intended to make statistics more accessible, acceptable and understood. Perhaps these might be good examples of how to do an evaluation literacy project.

Also, as folks know, I prepared a pamphlet

What is program evaluation: A beginners [guide](http://gsociology.icaap.org/methods/evaluationbeginnersguide.pdf) [http://](http://gsociology.icaap.org/methods/evaluationbeginnersguide.pdf)

[gsociology.icaap.org/methods/evaluationbeginnersguide.pdf](http://gsociology.icaap.org/methods/evaluationbeginnersguide.pdf)

which I hope could be used as an evaluation literacy resource.

I'm also preparing a presentation based on the pamphlet.

Any interest? A website? Another yahoo or google email group?

Gene

**Gene Shackman, Ph.D.** [gsocialchange@yahoo.com](mailto:gsocialchange@yahoo.com)

I am quite interested in such movements. I am based in Kenya working with a world-bank funded organization trying to reform agricultural research and extension. Please check out for a yahoo group called MENSAL KAPP Evaluators!. Initially, I started the group to target DSU M&E Officers in the 20 pilot districts we are working in. However, I am expanding the web discussion group. Any interested member from any yahoo group interested in Extension Evaluation, Use of technology in Evaluation, GIS and remote sensing....especially for projects in Africa is invited.

**William Saisi Mengich**

Dear Gene,

This would be a wonderful project. I am currently developing a program for improving capacity for evidence based policy advocacy (research) at the country level for UNDP, and we are planning to make evaluation training a core component of that. In addition to targeting the research institutes, we would also like to have better informed - policy makers, stakeholders and trainers. The thrust will be to develop Computer Based Training tools and materials and equip as many people as possible to become familiar with them.

**Shubh Kumar-Range** [shubhndavid@yahoo.com](mailto:shubhndavid@yahoo.com)

thanks to the folks who are willing to be involved. I'll gather a list of names, if enough people are interested, and put together a plan.

Thanks Gene, this is an excellent idea.

I'm finding that with many of our clients, we need to start with basic training in the concepts of evaluation before we can get into actually planning and implementing an evaluation. It would be great to have some kind of online resource with basic information (with links that can be followed to more detailed theory) that people who are new to evaluation can explore in their own time. This could be a great tool to use alongside face to face training. Interested to hear more.

**Jacqueline Storey** [jstorey@robertsevaluation.com.au](mailto:jstorey@robertsevaluation.com.au)

What about meta evaluation? If you like PBL (Problem Based Learning), as I do, it's a shame to put learners through training in concepts long before doing practical work, but planning and actually implementing an evaluation often isn't feasible in a short course.

In my one semester courses at both the graduate and undergraduate level, I have successfully required meta evaluations of evaluation reports (not of the whole evaluation process), using the Unicef/UNEG criteria. This could easily be done on line as well. (I find it too cumbersome to use all 50 UNEG criteria or the Joint Committee standards - which are for examining the whole process, and many of which are rather vague).

If there is to be an on line resource, why not build simulation into it?

**Robert K. Walker** [bobkwalker@gmail.com](mailto:bobkwalker@gmail.com)

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Could you provide us with more information on the Unicef/UNEG criteria? (excuse my ignorance), and any worked through examples?

**Rick Davies** [rick.davies@gmail.com](mailto:rick.davies@gmail.com)

### Training

I'm looking for any course which lead to a "Certification as a social auditor". Request members to also let me know of any good resources on Social Audit and Accountability.

Thanks

**Vardhani** [r\\_vardhani@rediffmail.com](mailto:r_vardhani@rediffmail.com)

We sometimes do training in Social Audit accredited to Level 3 (University entry level). If you want information on Social Audit go to

[http://www.uk.locallivelihoods.com/Moduls/WebSite/Page/Default.aspx?Pag\\_Id=109](http://www.uk.locallivelihoods.com/Moduls/WebSite/Page/Default.aspx?Pag_Id=109)

and you can download a free copy of the Social Audit Toolkit. If there are a number of people we can run an accredited online course in Social Audit, but we would have to charge for the time and certification.

On the same page as the Social Audit Toolkit you can also find the original publication printed in 1981 where Social Audit was first defined.

**Freer Spreckley** [f.spreckley@locallivelihoods.com](mailto:f.spreckley@locallivelihoods.com)

Mr saisi william wrote there are few evaluation training classes in Africa. Check out these free on line classes, that I believe anyone can take: <http://gsociology.icaap.org/methods/training.html>

Hope some are useful!

**Gene Shackman** [Gsocialchange@yahoo.com](mailto:Gsocialchange@yahoo.com)

### Flow Chart of Steps to Conduct a Health Facility Assessment (ms-08-28)

The flow chart is a step-by-step guide, in visual form, of key stages in the preparation and conduct of a health facility assessment (HFA). It has two parts, the first being a short presentation of the actual stages, the people involved in them, any documentation available for more details, and any special considerations. The second part is a narrative description of issues related to each stage, and information to help the reader understand how each stage is connected to the preceding and subsequent stages.

Download "Flow Chart of Steps to Conduct a Health Facility Assessment" here. <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/publications/pdf/ms-08-28.pdf>

Download these publications by visiting [www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/publications](http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/publications). If you are interested in receiving publication announcements from MEASURE Evaluation, email [measure\\_monitor@unc.edu](mailto:measure_monitor@unc.edu).

**Leah Gordon** [measureevaluation@yahoo.com](mailto:measureevaluation@yahoo.com)

A few months ago I ran into this website [www.3ieimpact.org](http://www.3ieimpact.org), where I learnt of "enduring questions" (EQ). According to the website an EQ helps development practitioners to "build knowledge about what effects a program or policy will have to improve social and economic development in developing countries". I am interested in adapting this thinking to my organisation and would like to find out if anyone has ever used this approach to challenge their work and or build a knowledge base around their interventions.

I am intending to develop a short paragraph of what an EQ is and then challenge my colleagues here for a list of these questions around the themes of our work. Among the other uses of these organisational EQs, I would like to use them to develop our research plan as well as key evaluation questions for all our interventions in each of the change themes we have. I'd happy to get your views on this subject as well as whether the plan I have is plausible enough to generate useful Impact data.

Looking forward to your thoughts

**Tito Matafeni** [tmatafeni@sightsavers.org](mailto:tmatafeni@sightsavers.org)

Send you the link for get another reference published by WB in 2004.

Zall Kusek, Jody and Rist, Ray. (2004) **Ten steps to a results based monitoring and evaluation system**. The World Bank [http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2004/08/27/000160016\\_20040827154900/Rendered/PDF/296720PAPER0100steps.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2004/08/27/000160016_20040827154900/Rendered/PDF/296720PAPER0100steps.pdf)

**David G. Matamas** [davidguzmanm@yahoo.com](mailto:davidguzmanm@yahoo.com)

### Experienced M&E Practitioner Required

Please send this to all those that may be interested and have the above qualities.

Social Surveys Africa, a leading specialist in developmental research, operating within a strategic and policy framework, throughout Africa urgently requires an experienced M&E practitioner:

Sound M & E experience in the NGO Sector, hands on experience of M & E of Development projects. willingness travel to other African Countries. ability to train/mentor M & E personnel, demonstrated experience in planning and managing research and data analysis, experience in developing/using M & E tools (LQAS, MSC, EQ, participatory M & E etc). Please send your CV to [siziwe@socialsurveys.co.za](mailto:siziwe@socialsurveys.co.za) and copy [jo-seph@socialsurveys.co.za](mailto:jo-seph@socialsurveys.co.za).

**Joseph jhayunih@yahoo.com**

## Network Analysis using Role theory

I am doing process facilitation of a multi-stakeholder process for an international center in the Philippines. The Philippine government is planning to convert this training center into an extension agency so the MSP is aimed at consulting the various stakeholders in their vision for the said center. Can I ask for suggestions how to do a network analysis in explaining the links/connectivity between the center and its stakeholders and its effects when it changes its nature (from training to extension) through the application of role theory.

Your insights and suggestions are highly welcomed.

**Fel Cadiz** [fel\\_cadiz@yahoo.com](mailto:fel_cadiz@yahoo.com)

I will pass on advising on role theory applications, but try some more general suggestions...

I think one step you would need to think about is what kinds of relationships you want to track changes in, in the transition from one kind of organisation to another. The answer is probably going to be informed by your views of what kinds of relationships are currently of most value, and which might be most vulnerable during this changeover. So, try to make explicit your "theory of change" here.

Then you might want to try doing a baseline survey before the changeover, to document the structure of these relationships. It can't be assumed that the present structure is necessarily optimal. Therefore some form of participatory assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the network might be useful. (And there are no network structures which can be described as objectively "good" or "bad" regardless of context)

Then one or more follow up survey's to track the changes in the network structure, and people's interpretations of it, would be appropriate.

Online surveys, using [www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com), might be useful. But workshops may be essential for the participatory analysis of the network structures that are periodically mapped.

PS: I hope I have not missed the point of your question!

**Rick Davies** [rick.davies@gmail.com](mailto:rick.davies@gmail.com)

In general there are two approaches to social network data collection in the field, one is to collect data about connections in a first separate step (e.g. questionnaires), asking people "are you connected to A, B, C..." and compiling this information in network format afterwards. The other approach, which (I think) makes much more sense in your context, is to draw networks together with the people involved. I think this is more appropriate because people learn while they are doing it, you develop a systemic view of the whole network by involving everyone at the same time and you can combine the network drawing with a discussion about what this means. I like to add the power/influence of actors and the goals of actors to my network drawings and use a combination of different formal and informal links in different colours, choosing the links that my participants think are important. It might be helpful for you to have a look at my blog: <http://netmap.wordpress.com> for simple instructions and case studies. Kind regards

**Eva Schiffer (PhD)** [eva-schiffer@web.de](mailto:eva-schiffer@web.de)

Summary compiled by:

**Nicky David, Administrator**

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