



# Communicating, Disseminating, and Utilizing IE Study

Translating Evidence to Policy

••••••

**Criss Anne Mallari** 

Policy and Project Development Associate

IPA Philippines



#### Outline

- 1. Uses of evaluation findings
- 2. Co-creating evidence
- Effectively communicating evaluation study
- 4. Creating evidence-to-policy plans

#### Section 1

Uses of Evaluation Findings



**Inform decision-making:** Help us make informed decisions on whether to adapt and scale up, or refine a program or policy.



**Inform decision-making:** Help us make informed decisions on whether to adapt and scale up, or refine a program or policy.

**Provide learning:** Understand whether the program or policy works or not. Why the program did *not* work? What made the program work? Are there more effective/cost-effective way to deliver the program?



**Inform decision-making:** Help us make informed decisions on whether to adapt and scale up, or refine a program or policy.

**Provide learning:** Understand whether the program or policy works or not. Why the program did *not* work? What made the program work? Are there more effective/cost-effective way to deliver the program?

**Ensure accountability:** Ensure that stakeholders are aware of the progress of the program, and that resources are allocated and utilized appropriately



**Inform decision-making:** Help us make informed decisions on whether to adapt and scale up, or refine a program or policy.

**Provide learning:** Understand whether the program or policy works or not. Why the program did *not* work? What made the program work? Are there more effective/cost-effective way to deliver the program?

**Ensure accountability:** Ensure that stakeholders are aware of the progress of the program, and that resources are allocated and utilized appropriately

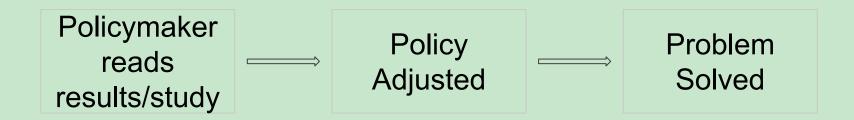
**Engage stakeholders:** Involve stakeholders during the process and build relationships for future initiatives



#### Section 2

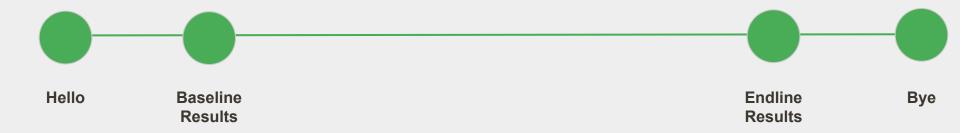
Co-creating Evidence

#### In an *ideal* world...





#### How **Not** To Think.





### Framework: Evidence Co-Creation

Engaging an ecosystem of decision-makers, researchers, and educators

Research
questions that
address
decision-makers'
felt needs

Maintaining stakeholder engagement throughout a research project Building capacity
over time and
empowering
decision-makers to
use evidence,
beyond
dissemination

### Engaging an Ecosystem of Decision-Makers

**Academics** 

Committed to addressing decision-makers policy questions

Service Providers

Willing to evaluate, open to accepting and using findings

Committed to using evidence to inform policy decisions, resource allocation

Government

Committed to using findings to support future funding decisions

**Funders** 



# What makes a partnership good?

#### Aligned Interests

Is our objective also their objective? If not, are they similar or different? Do our interests compete or collide?

#### Locally embedded

Do they understand the local context and constraints? If not, do they want to / have plans to?

#### Demand Driven

Do they want to solve a problem? Are they willing to change their policies based on results?

#### Flexible

Are they willing to pivot with us? How will they deal with unforeseen issues? What are their red-lines?

#### Understanding

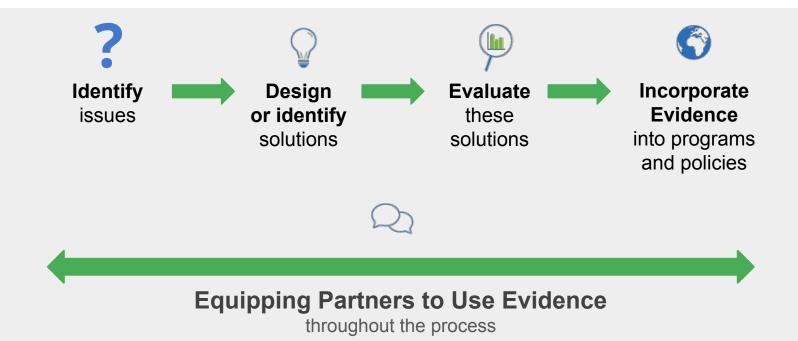
Do they understand our approach and methodology? If not, do they want to?

#### • Has funding

Do they have funding available for evidence generation and use? Can they support in raising funds?



# IPA's approach



ipa

#### **Section 3**

**Communicating Evaluation Study** 



# Effectively communicating evaluation study



**WHO** do you need to convince about your idea? who do you need to bring on board to take action?



**WHAT** do they need to know? What key message about your study/program/policy should you highlight?



**HOW** should you communicate with them?



# Effectively communicating evaluation study



**WHO** do you need to convince about your idea? who do you need to bring on board to take action?



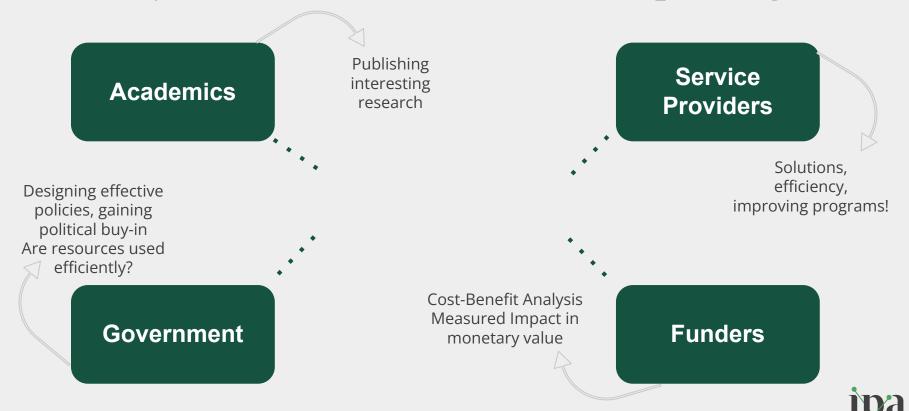
WHAT do they need to know? What key message about your study/program/policy should you highlight?



**HOW** should you communicate with them?



### Know your Audience: Who are You Speaking to?



# Effectively communicating evaluation study



**WHO** do you need to convince about your idea? who do you need to bring on board to take action?



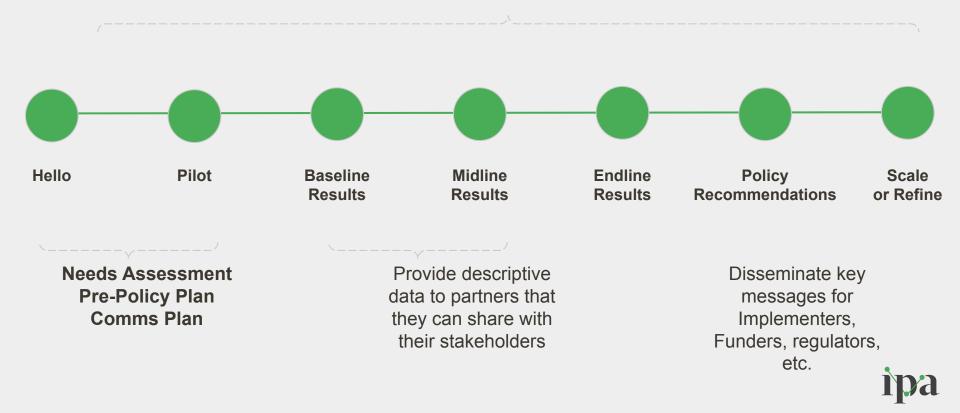
**WHAT** do they need to know? What key message about your study/program/policy should you highlight?



**HOW** should you communicate with them?



#### Regular meetings: weekly, monthly, quarterly?



# Effectively communicating evaluation study



WHO do you need to convince about your idea? who do you need to bring on board to take action?



WHAT do they need to know? What key message about your study/program/policy should you highlight?



**HOW** should you communicate with them?



#### Address the need before the study.

#### Have scale-up in mind right from the start

- Design intervention tools via a wide, participatory process
- Work as much as possible through existing structures, rather than creating new ones

Base your research goals with policy needs

Government priorities, described in the language of national documentation





#### **Start with a Research Question**

Work together with partners at the forefront of this sector and find out what their barriers are.

# Policy Relevant Research Questions



#### Use their Language

Use the right language in understanding the challenges they face, avoiding fancy economic jargon.



#### Research is a Tool

Emphasize that research should equip decision-makers with the information needed to improve policies and programs.



#### **Respond to their priorities**

Ensure that researchers will align with and respond to the country priorities and capabilities.



### **Section 4**

Creating evidence-to-policy plans

# Pre- Policy Plan

Research questions	Potential answers/ learnings from the research	Possible policy actions to take in response to research	Who would need to take this action? Are they already involved in the project [Y/N]?



# Pre- Policy Plan

Analysis: How likely are partners to take this action? What would be the path to influence to get this action taken? What are the primary barriers to achieving this impact?	Implications of analysis for research design	Implications of analysis for policy engagement, influence, and planning

ipa

## Exercise 1: Thinking through policy response

Prepare a pre-policy plans using your research study/proposal (30 minutes)



#### Communications Plan

	Activity	Stakeholders [Who are the main people we want to reach?]	What steps do we need to take? [Suggested steps]	Timeline [When are we planning to do this? Add a reminder in your calendar]
Before the beginning of the study				
After baseline/midline				
After final results				



### Exercise 2: Engaging stakeholders

Prepare communications plan using your research study/proposal (30 minutes)



### Writing a Policy Brief

- 1. Summary
- 2. Policy Issue
- 3. Intervention
- 4. Evaluation
- 5. Key Results
- 6. Policy Recommendations



# Key takeaways

- 1. Communicating IE results effectively ≠ simply sharing the results
- 2. Engage with decision-makers throughout project cycle
- 3. Know your audience and their objectives
- 4. Tailor your message to the audience
- 5. Keep it simple and action-based







# Contact Us

www.poverty-action.org

cmallari@poverty-action.org