A MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

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[QUANTEQ]

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SUMMARY

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SUMMARY

**5. INTRODUCTION**

5.1 Background

Our Monitoring and Evaluation System is necessary to eliminate the inefficiencies of poor data capturing mechanisms which results in poor monitoring and evaluation in organisations. The purpose of Monitoring and Evaluation is to capture appropriate information needed by organizations using organisation specific indicators, in other to inform stakeholders about the extent to which their goals are being achieved and resources are being used. Evaluation is done to access the result of monitoring to determine the importance and impact of objectives.

A key feature in monitoring and evaluation is information. Subsequently, information should be gathered in an appropriate fashion and should contain minimal errors so as to facilitate effective decision making in organizations.

Information captured, as stated by Gupta (2003) is useful when it has the following qualities:

1. Accuracy. The information garnered needs to be a replica of the situation. A true reflection of happenings is able to somewhat guarantee effective decisions by management.
2. Form. The representation of information in the required output whether graphically or in text format increases its worth.
3. Relevance. Information amassed on a project should fall within the information needs of the organization for that project and this should be refreshed regularly as is needed, for proper decisions to be made.
4. Timeliness. Time is of essence in decision making and as such information has to be available when it should be.
5. ABC nature of information. This refers to the *availability*, *cost* and *dependence* of information collected.

The information to be evaluated should be easily accessible,

The purpose of Monitoring and Evaluation is for organizations to find out whether their goals and objectives are being met and whether the actions taken are effective.

The system is basically to transact information to proper quarters for monitoring and evaluation purposes. According to Gupta (2003), a transaction processing system should incorporate the following.

* Data Entry
* Data validation
* Processing and revalidation
* Storage
* Output Generation
* Query support

**6. DEFINITIONS**

6.1 Monitoring and Evaluation

According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 2002a as stated by (Kusek J. and Rist R, 2004):

Monitoring is defined as “*a continuous function that uses the collection of data on specified indicators to provide management and main stakeholders of an ongoing development intervention with indications of the extent of progress and achievement of objectives and progress in the use of allocated funds*”

Evaluation is defined as “*the systematic and ongoing assessment of an ongoing or completed project, program or policy, including its design, implementation and results. The aim is to determine the relevance and fulfilment of objectives, development efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability. An evaluation should provide information that is credible and useful enabling the incorporation of lessons learned into the decision process of both recipients and Donors*”.

**8. THE PROPOSED SYSTEM**

Our system is one which as much as possible eliminates the use conventional file system in Monitoring and Evaluation. It is a technology based system that makes use of the four clients mentioned in chapter ; Thin, Slim and Thick and Paper Form.

The client sends data from the field based on certain observations, data is transported and authenticated through various media depending on the client and then stored in a relational database. The stored data is processed based on the organisation’s rules and then reported accordingly.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Capture | Transport | Middleware | Storage | Processing | Report |
| Thin Client | GSM(SMS) | SMS Gateway | RDBMS | Organisation Specific Business Rules | 1. Presentation  * Printed * Web browser   + Standard   + Mobile   b) Report Elements   * Charts * Graphs * Tables * Text |
| Slim Client | GSM(WAP, GPRS) | PHP Mobile Client |
| Thick Client | Database Connector | NA |
| HTTP | PHP |
| Paper Forms | Physical(Human Being) | OCR/ICR, DDE(Thick Client) |

Table 8.1 Tabular representation of the proposed system



Fig 8.1 Model for the M and E System