**STRATEGIA NETHERLANDS**

**Student ‘s name**: Pierre **ANTOINE**

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ASSIGNMENT:

**1.Why is choosing the right question important in Monitoring and Evaluation?**

According to the module 1, Monitoring is a continuous or day to day assessment of project’s activities until the end of the project while evaluations are carried out at different stages of project planning and implementation. They can include many types of evaluations (needs assessments, accreditation, cost/benefit analysis, effectiveness, efficiency, formative, summative, goal based, process, outcomes, etc.).

Both monitoring and evaluation aim to verify whether the activities carried out will help reach the goal of the project or the programme. In this case, choosing the right question is very important for it lights us to what we want to learn about the project activities as both evaluators and monitors.

**2.Using Archival data has its own bottlenecks. Name five and explain how to overcome them.**

According to a definition provided by the CTB on its website, the Archival data refer to information that already exists in someone else’s files. Originally generated for reporting or research purposes, it’s often kept because of legal requirements, for reference, or as an internal record. In general, because it’s the result of completed activities, it’s not subject to change and is therefore sometimes known as fixed data.

Based on the above definition, the following bottlenecks may occur while analyzing archival data:

* The primary disadvantage is that the previous research may be unreliable, or not collected to the researcher’s standard; the researcher has no control over how the data was collected when using archived information.  The data may prove to be incomplete or possibly fail to address certain key issues.
* The disadvantages of using archival research is that the data may not directly respond to the research question,
* the data may have to be re-coded to answer a new question.
* Also, the data may not, at times, offer the richness of other forms of data collection, such as interviews.
* Another bottleneck is that the fact you have no control over how the data was collected, that means you don’t know what type of controls for extraneous variables were put in place.

Source: <https://www.enotes.com/homework-help/what-advantages-disadvantages-archival-method-332037>

**3.why is research important component in monitoring and evaluation? Give and explain four.**

Research uses the same methods as monitoring and evaluation. Matter of fact, to conduct rigorous monitoring and evaluation in a project, you should follow the same steps as a scientific research because:

* You should design a monitoring and evaluation plan from the beginning;
* You should know the population under study or have two groups of people: one that was targeted by the project and the other did not benefit from it;
* You design your survey and elaborate the types of questions you will ask to find the information needed;
* You will collect data to know the contribution of your action.

**Reference**

Kristen, L. (2019), What are the advantages and disadvantages of using the archival method? <https://www.enotes.com/homework-help/what-advantages-disadvantages-archival-method-332037>

<https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/evaluate/evaluate-community-interventions/archival-data/main>

<https://www.enotes.com/homework-help/what-advantages-disadvantages-archival-method-332037>

Module 1, (2018). Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation.