**ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. What are the qualities of a good indicator? Give an example

* A good indicator must be SMART i.e. specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound. Indicators must be valid, reliable, precise, cost-effective and stated independently from other levels. Indicators should make clear how the target group will benefit from the realization of outputs. Indicators should be specific in terms of:
  + Quality (what?) - Q
  + Quantity (how much?) - Q
  + Time (when, how long?) - T
  + Target Group (who?) - T
  + Place (where?) - P

**Examples:**

Indicator -Increase CSR

Add Quality -CS with IOL increased from 60% to 90%

Add Quality -CS with SICS technique

increased from 60% to 80%

Add time -CSR increased from 4000 to 6000 by 2005

Add place -in Valley road district

1. As part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Universal education is a right for all children. Different governments have implemented free primary education in order to achieve this goal. With example from your country please explain the following:
   * 1. Critically evaluate the implementation programme of free primary education for the first 2 years

One of the basic objective of the free primary education in Kenya is to increase effective education policies in early childhood. This was viewed as a mechanism to easily eliminate illiteracy among the learners. From the different groups of people starting from adults to children the education system showed tremendous rise in the increase of student's enrolment of the students in the country.

The basic criterion of true learning is thinking. The children in the country did not get enough time to spend on necessary practice to gather the knowledge which is essential for their development of their cognitive and social skills in 2005. In most of the schools it has been noticed widespread failure in imparting respect to teachers and teaching profession. The remuneration part of the teachers is controlled by the government and there is no sense of urgency in providing a reward system to the quality teachers of the schools which has made the situation worse. Along with that delays in the payment of the teachers contributed to the long-term delay of the disbursements of the funds. So, ultimately it resulted in high degree of frustration among the teachers. This has led to increase in the burdens to the parents in the payment of fees. There are certain remedies that are being adopted by the Government of Kenya to promote free education in the country in an effective manner. So let’s explore some of the remedies that are adopted to encounter these situations in a correct manner. They have increased the number of public schools in the country. Recruited more teachers and have provided them with adequate materials for learning. Ensured that there should not be any delay in the disbursements of the funds. Employment of the merits and sacking the corrupt officials. For proper financial management of the schools the principals were trained accordingly.

* + 1. Analyze the unintended outcomes of free primary education on job creation within the same period

Although enrolment had increased in government primary schools, this needs to be balanced against a much larger reported decrease in enrolment in private schools in the informal settlement—the research found 76 private schools, enrolling 12,132 students, which are not on the official list of schools. Moreover, focus groups with parents reported dissatisfaction with government schools, and satisfaction with private schools, since FPE. The findings point to an alternative route to ensuring `education for all', by embracing, rather than ignoring, the role currently played by the private sector.

a) what would the monitoring exercise in free primary education wish to achieve for the following stakeholders?

* + - Donors intended-impacts and outcomes with risk mitigation measures
    - Primary School managers-implementation of the project
    - Government- results and challenges

1. You have been contracted by UNICEF to undertake the role of a consultant in a project (joint partnership between them and the Ministry of Gender and Children) a program that gives direct funds to families staying with orphaned children, to plan a monitoring system for the same.
   1. What are the advantages of participatory evaluation methods?
2. **It gives you a better perspective on both the initial needs of the project's beneficiaries, and on its ultimate effects.** If stakeholders, including project beneficiaries, are involved from the beginning in determining what needs to be evaluated and why - not to mention what the focus of the project needs to be - you're much more likely to aim your work in the right direction, to correctly determine whether your project is effective or not, and to understand how to change it to make it moreso.
3. **It can get you information you wouldn't get otherwise**. When project direction and evaluation depend, at least in part, on information from people in the community, that information will often be more forthcoming if it's asked for by someone familiar. Community people interviewing their friends and neighbors may get information that an outside person wouldn't be offered.
4. **It tells you what worked and what didn't from the perspective of those most directly involved - beneficiaries and staff**. Those implementing the project and those who are directly affected by it are most capable of sorting out the effective from the ineffective.
5. **It can tell you why something does or doesn't work**.Beneficiaries are often able to explain exactly why they didn't respond to a particular technique or approach, thus giving you a better chance to adjust it properly.
6. **It results in a more effective project**. For the reasons just described, you're much more apt to start out in the right direction, and to know when you need to change direction if you haven't. The consequence is a project that addresses the appropriate issues in the appropriate way, and accomplishes what it sets out to do.
7. **It empowers stakeholders**. Participatory evaluation gives those who are often not consulted - line staff and beneficiaries particularly - the chance to be full partners in determining the direction and effectiveness of a project.
8. **It can provide a voice for those who are often not heard**.Project beneficiaries are often low-income people with relatively low levels of education, who seldom have - and often don't think they have a right to - the chance to speak for themselves. By involving them from the beginning in project evaluation, you assure that their voices are heard, and they learn that they have the ability and the right to speak for themselves.
9. **It teaches skills that can be used in employment and other areas of life**. In addition to the development of basic skills and specific research capabilities, participatory evaluation encourages critical thinking, collaboration, problem-solving, independent action, meeting deadlines...all skills valued by employers, and useful in family life, education, civic participation, and other areas.
10. **It bolsters self-confidence and self-esteem in those who may have little of either.** This category can include not only project beneficiaries, but also others who may, because of circumstance, have been given little reason to believe in their own competence or value to society. The opportunity to engage in a meaningful and challenging activity, and to be treated as a colleague by professionals, can make a huge difference for folks who are seldom granted respect or given a chance to prove themselves.
11. **It demonstrates to people ways in which they can take more control of their lives**. Working with professionals and others to complete a complex task with real-world consequences can show people how they can take action to influence people and events.
12. **It encourages stakeholder ownership of the project.** If those involved feel the project is theirs, rather than something imposed on them by others, they'll work hard both in implementing it, and in conducting a thorough and informative evaluation in order to improve it.
13. **It can spark creativity in everyone involved**. For those who've never been involved in anything similar, a participatory evaluation can be a revelation, opening doors to a whole new way of thinking and looking at the world. To those who have taken part in evaluation before, the opportunity to exchange ideas with people who may have new ways of looking at the familiar can lead to a fresh perspective on what may have seemed to be a settled issue.
14. **It encourages working collaboratively**. For participatory evaluation to work well, it has to be viewed by everyone involved as a collaboration, where each participant brings specific tools and skills to the effort, and everyone is valued for what she can contribute. Collaboration of this sort not only leads to many of the advantages described above, but also fosters a more collaborative spirit for the future as well, leading to other successful community projects.
15. **It fits into a larger participatory effort**. When community assessment and the planning of a project have been a collaboration among project beneficiaries, staff, and community members, it only makes sense to include evaluation in the overall plan, and to approach it in the same way as the rest of the project.  In order to conduct a good evaluation, its planning should be part of the overall planning of the project. Furthermore, participatory process generally matches well with the philosophy of community-based or grass roots groups or organizations.
    1. Formulate the steps in planning a monitoring system.

Participatory evaluation really has two stages: One comprises finding and training stakeholders to act as participant evaluators.  The second - some of which may take place before or during the first stage - encompasses the planning and implementation of the project and its evaluation, and includes six steps:

* Naming and framing the issue
* Developing a theory of practice to address it
* Deciding what questions to ask, and how to ask them to get the information you need
* Collecting information
* Analyzing the information you've collected
* Using the information to celebrate what worked, and to adjust and improve the project