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**Giving examples differentiate monitoring and evaluation**

Monitoring is the routine process of data collection and measurement of progress toward program objectives.

Evaluation is the use of specific study designs and special studies to measure the extent to which changes in desired health outcomes are attributable to a program’s interventions.

Daily, weekly or monthly we check our projects to see how we are doing. This work is called monitoring, and it gives us the power to make informed decisions. Every few months - perhaps once a quarter, once a year, or at the end of a project - we take a look at all the work we have done, compare it to the original project plan and assess how successful we’ve been. This work is called evaluation.

Monitoring data are used regularly: daily, weekly, or monthly. Monitoring data are used to answer questions such as:

* Is our project reaching its targets?
* Is our project spending money and resources efficiently?
* Have any problems come up?
* Have we noticed any successes?

Evaluation data are only used at specific times. For example, evaluation data may be used every year, halfway through the project, or at the end of the project. Evaluation data are used to answer questions like:

* Did our project achieve what it planned on achieving?
* Was our project a good use of money and resources?
* Did something happen that we didn’t plan?
* Did we learn something unexpected?

**Why is baseline survey an important part of project management?**

A baseline survey is a study that is done at the beginning of a project to get knowledge of the current status of an item of study before a project begins.

It is a descriptive cross-sectional survey that mostly provides quantitative information on the current status of a particular situation – on whatever study topic – in a given population.

It is important since it aims at quantifying the distribution of certain variables in a study population at one point in time. It is the starting point of any project since it aims at establishing priority areas for a project. This is especially true when a project has several objectives. The results of a baseline study can show some aspects of a project need more focus than other while others may only need to be given little focus.

Accordingly, along with other strategies such as use of control groups, it also helps in attributing change in the target population to the project.

**Distinguish between formative and summative evaluation methods with examples**

A formative evaluation examines the way your project is unfolding, or the “form” it is taking: what you’re doing, when you’re doing it, and how you’re doing it. And a summative evaluation (as its name implies) summarizes the impact of what you’ve done, or the results of your project.

Formative evaluation (aka process evaluation) focuses on project implementation. It describes how the project operates and what services it delivers. Like a monitoring system, it tracks whether the project is being implemented with fidelity to its original design. When operations are tweaked, formative evaluation documents reasons for the changes.

Formative evaluation usually involves qualitative measurement instrumentation such as interviews, focus groups, and observations. (Surveys can be used in both formative and summative evaluations.)

Summative evaluation seeks to discover, “What difference did the project make?” and typically uses quantitative instrumentation such as surveys, percentages, and test scores. Quantitative measures can be added, subtracted, multiplied, and divided; objectives or outcomes are usually addressed numerically. “Ten percent more project participants will pass their final exam, relative to baseline from the previous year.”

The summative evaluation is conducted at specific intervals, when data become available, and results may help determine whether the project receives continued funding.

Both forms of evaluation are important — summative to document a project’s effectiveness, and formative to boost a project’s chance of success.

**Monitoring and evaluation uses both qualitative and quantitative methods to measure the success and impact of the projects. However, economists and staticians adapt a one sided method (quantitative) to analyze the results.**

**Identify the potential dangers of a one sided monitoring system.**

Several objectives which are better assessed through various methods will not be adequately and effectively assessed through one method monitoring system.

Through the use of one method monitoring system, there is a lack of the supplementary role of both methods ie qualitative methods provide the in-depth explanations while quantitative methods provide the data needed to test hypothesis.

Using one method pose the danger of bias, which can be avoided if both methods are used to complement and counter-check each other.

**Critically analyze the quantitative method often employed by economists and staticians in monitoring and evaluating development projects**

Quantitative experiments all use a standard format, with a few minor inter-disciplinary differences, of generating a [hypothesis](https://explorable.com/research-hypothesis) to be proved or disproved. This hypothesis must be provable by mathematical and [statistical](https://explorable.com/statistics-tutorial) means, and is the basis around which the whole experiment is designed.

Randomization of any study groups is essential, and a [control group](https://explorable.com/scientific-control-group) should be included, wherever possible. A sound quantitative design should only [manipulate](https://explorable.com/independent-variable) one variable at a time, or statistical analysis becomes cumbersome and open to question.

Quantitative research design is an excellent way of finalizing results and proving or disproving a hypothesis. The structure has not changed for centuries, so is standard across many scientific fields and disciplines.

After statistical analysis of the results, a comprehensive answer is reached, and the results can be legitimately discussed and published. Quantitative experiments also filter out external factors, if properly designed, and so the results gained can be seen as real and [unbiased](https://explorable.com/research-bias).

Quantitative experiments are useful for testing the results gained by a series of qualitative experiments, leading to a final answer, and a narrowing down of possible directions for follow up research to take.

**Define Logical Framework**

The LOGFRAME is a participatory Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation tool whose power depends on the degree to which it incorporates the full range of views of intended beneficiaries and others who have a stake in the programme design. It is a tool for summarizing the key features of a programme and is best used to help programme designers and stakeholders.

**Define and Explain key components of Logical framework**

A good way to read a project summary is to start at the bottom and to read up. At the bottom, you see the inputs: the things that go into a project, like money or teaching. This part is also often labeled “activities.” As you go up the logframe, you see the effects that those inputs will have. The effects get bigger as you go up the project summary. At the very top, you see the impact: the main, long-term effect that the project is intended to have. This is called the impact. Some people also call this the goal or result.   
  
You can compare inputs to a pebble dropped in a pond. The outputs, outcomes, and impact of the project are the ripples in the water that the pebble creates. As you travel further away from the pebble, the ripples get wider and wider. In the same way, as you travel further up a project summary, the effects get larger and larger.   
  
A well-written project summary has a logical flow. Each level of a logframe causes the level above it. In other words, IF the level below happens, THEN the level above will happen as well. Let’s take a look at a simple example to see how this works.  
  
For this example, let’s pretend that, instead of solving world hunger, or helping the environment, you are designing a project to become more confident. “Confidence” is your big, long-term goal: the impact of your project.

o, you think of an input that will lead to feeling confident: exercising every day. Exercising every day is your input. You also think about the steps that will lead from your input to your impact: the outputs and outcomes.   
  
Take a moment to consider the steps of your project on the left. Does your project have a logical flow? Well, let’s consider how each level leads to the one above it. We can do this by putting pieces of our project summary together into if/then statements like these:

IF you exercise every day, THEN you will burn calories.  
IF you burn calories, THEN you will feel lose weight.  
IF you lose weight, THEN you will be more confident.

Notice how each if/then statement combines two levels of the logframe. It first states the lower level, then states the level above.   
  
These sentences make sense, so you are off to a good start. Your project summary has a logical flow. Creating if/then statements is a great way to check a project summary for logical flow.

