**Module 1 Questions:**

**Q1: Explain in about 350 words why M&E informs good programming practice. (10 marks)**

Monitoring and Evaluation is very necessary in a project because it helps to access that your project is achieving set targets. It helps track implementation and outputs systematically and measure the effectiveness of programs therefore improving performance and achievement of results. It also helps to determine if the program is on track and whether changes are needed.

Monitoring and Evaluation is required to provide stakeholders with early detailed information on the progress or delay of the ongoing assessed activities for them to be able to determine if the inputs, outputs, deliveries and planned schedule have been reached so that action can be taken to correct deficiencies. It provides them with enough information on whether there is need to change the strategy or not as a result enhances the effectiveness of development programs and projects.

Monitoring and Evaluation also help us learn from the past successes and challenges and inform decision making so that the current and future initiatives are better planned. It helps in identifying Dos and Donts in project implementation to achieve better results.

**Q2**: **Describe the fundamental similarities and differences between Monitoring and Evaluation. (10 marks)**

Monitoring is continuous collection and analysis of information to track the progress of set targets. It focuses on day to day activities, outputs, indicators of progress and change. It is mainly implemented through regular meetings, interviews, monthly and quarterly reviews by project staff or project users and outputs reported regularly to project users, management and donors. On the other hand, evaluation is a systematic and objective assessment of planned, ongoing or completed project or program to ascertain its design, implementation and results. Its timing is periodic at point in project process and focuses on overall delivery of outputs and progress a set target. Evaluation is mainly done by external evaluators or sometimes project users, staff and donors. The process includes extraordinary meetings and/or additional data collection exercises that will culminate in a written report with recommendations for changes to projects. The similarity between the two is that both can take place at the project, program, sector or policy level and information sourcing can be the same through stakeholder meetings and field visits.

**Q3:** **Describe the difference between formative and summative evaluation process and explain the time of each process in the life of a project.10mrks)**

Formative evaluation is conducted during the planning or implementation stages of a program to review progress, predict a project’s likely impact and highlight any necessary adjustments in project design.

Summative evaluation is carried out at the end or after the completion of a project to asses project performance and overall impact. It looks at what a project has accomplished in terms of its stated goals and identify the possible need for follow up activities. It assess whether the project made a difference for the target groups and extract lessons learned for future planning.

**Q4: With brief explanations, outline the key questions both formative and summative evaluations seek to answer. (10mrks)**

Formative evaluation determines to what extend activities and strategies correspond with those presented in the plan, whether the project is following the timeline presented in the plan, whether the project actual costs are in line with the initial budget allocation, whether there are obstacles or barriers in the implementation of the project, whether activities are carried out by the right personnel, and which activities or strategies are more effective in moving toward achieving the goals and objectives.

Summative evaluation determines if the project met its overall goals and objectives, what impact did the project have on the lives of beneficiaries, what components of the project were more effective, whether the project was equally effective for all beneficiaries, whether there were unintended impact and the project is sustainable and replicable.

**Q5: Explain the main limitations of the pretest-post-test model of evaluation**

**(10mrks)**

The main limitation is that the model lacks scientific vigor as it has many biases that might take place between pretest and the posttest that could affect the results thus weakening the direct link between project interventions and project outcomes or impact. Changes in the situation before and after project implementation might be attributed to other external factors and not the intervention alone.