**Module 1 Questions:**

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

Monitoring and Evaluation is a process carried out to improve a project or program’s performance and achieve results. Monitoring provides detailed information concerning the progress of a project or program to the stakeholders.

Its purpose is finding out whether the planned outputs, deliveries and scheduled plans have been reached for an action to be taken. It’s an oversight activity of the implementation stage.

Evaluation is a systematic assessment of a program’s or project activity. Its main focus is as follows: examining the results chain, expected and achieved accomplishments so as to understand the presence or lack of an achievement. Its aim is at focusing on effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability and contribution of the intervention to the achieved results. Evaluation should give evidence based information that’s credible, reliable and useful.

Good programming practice with Monitoring and Evaluation plays a role in ensuring effectives of project or program development. Good planning focuses on the important results while Monitoring and Evaluation gives information concerning past successes and challenges and enhances decision making for better current and future initiatives plans to hence an increment on people’s lives, better and more choices. Therefore good programming practice adopts Monitoring and Evaluation as a part of its very existence.

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

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| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring** | Evaluation |
| Main participants are project staff, project users. | The participants are external evaluations/ facilitators, project users, staff, donors |
| Its continuous throughout the project | It has reviews at different points in the project program |
| Has written regular reports and updates to project users, management and donors | Has written report with recommendation for changes to project |
| Has regular meetings, interviews, monthly, quarterly reviews etc. | Has extraordinary meeting, additional data collection exercises. |
|  |  |

**Similarities**

Both are management tools

**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-** Its process oriented and involves collection of information to assist in decision making during planning or implementation stages of a program**.**

**Time;** Occurs during planning or implementation stages of a program

**Summative evaluation:** Its main focus is on accomplished goals.

**Time:** It’s carried out during ending or completion of a program**.**

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

**Formative Evaluation:** It focuses on operational activities, the questions asked include:

What are the strength and weakness of the project?

To what extent are project actual costs in line with initial budget allocations?

What barriers were identified? How and to what extent were they dealt with?

**Summative evaluation:** Focuses on what a project has accomplished according to its goals, the question asked include:

To what extent did the project meet its overall goals and objectives?

What components were the most effective?

Is the project replicable?

**Q5: Explain the main limitations of the pretest-post-test model of evaluation (10mrks)**

**Lack of scientific rigor:** Hence occurrence of many biases that weaken the direct link between project interventions and outcomes/ impact.

**Time constraints:** This is during the program or project creation

References:

M&E Module 1Course notes

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/wc135>