ACPM

**Course title**: Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation studies

**Admission number**: ACPM Dip/ 091/2018

**Assignment number**: 3

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**Date submitted**: 28th February, 2019

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

Choosing the right question helps the project team to know and better understand what they are looking for.

1Below is a summary of some reasons for choosing the right questions in M&E;

* **It helps you understand what effects different parts of your effort are having**- By framing questions carefully, you can evaluate different parts of your effort. If you add an element after the start of the program, for instance, you may be able to see its effect separate from that of the rest of the program...if you focus on examining it.
* **It makes you clearly define what it is you're trying to do**- What you decide to evaluate defines what you hope to accomplish. Choosing evaluation questions at the start of a program or effort makes clear what you're trying to change, and what you want your results to be.
* **It shows you where you need to make changes**. Carefully choosing questions and making them specific to your real objectives should tell you exactly where the program is doing well and where the program isn't having the intended effect.
* **It provides focus for the evaluation and the program**. Choosing evaluation questions carefully keeps you from becoming scattered and trying to do too many things at once, thereby diluting your effectiveness at all of them.

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

1. Archival data makes it harder to establish causal relationships.
2. Difficulty of secondary data reliance.
3. Data presented always fixed.
4. Data might not directly link with what you are looking for.
5. Finding data you are looking for can sometimes be a hustle.

One way of alleviating these problems is through the use of natural experiments, in which the researcher examines the relationship between a naturally occurring event and a comparison event (Shadish et al. 2002). Natural experiments help address causality concerns by providing built-in temporal precedence of the proposed cause in relation to its effect. Another way of overcoming this problem is to triangulate your data by relying on some other sources of data.

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

* **A tool for building knowledge and facilitating learning**. - Research allows the project stakeholders to investigate/ explore and answer questions such as why and how something is occurring or not occurring at all. Hence, through that, project stakeholders get a chance to increase their knowledge and learn more on the project there are implementing.
* **Means to understand various issues and increase public awareness**. – Research provides various methods to collect information and understand issues from various angles. And when you have evidence based information it becomes very easy to convince the public as you are quickly able to gain their trust and get your message through.
* **A way to prove lies and to support the truths. –** A research is done to test the validity and reliability of claims or those of other researchers. In Monitoring and evaluation, one way of validating the results captured is to conduct a research and find out if there is really an outcome and impact of the project rather than just relying only on activity based reports.
* **Means to find, gauge, and seize opportunities. -** Research helps people nurture their potential and achieve goals through various opportunities. These can be in the form of training grants, project funding, and budget traveling, among others.

[[1]](#endnote-1)

1. Retrieved from https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/evaluate/evaluate-community-interventions/choose-evaluation-questions/main [↑](#endnote-ref-1)