



The Child Marriage Project Lifecycle

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Goals for the Session

- Understand the project lifecycle, from beginning to end (and beyond)
- Learn how to take your theory of change deeper, through program development, implementation and dissemination
- Recognize the importance of M&E as critical to building the CM evidence base

VISION:

A world without child marriage where girls and women enjoy equal status with boys and men and are able to achieve their full potential in all aspects of their lives.



PROBLEM:

Every year approximately 14 million girls are married as children across countries, cultures, religions and ethnicities. Child marriage is rooted in gender inequality and in the low value accorded to girls, and is exacerbated by poverty, insecurity and conflict. It denies girls their rights, choice and participation, and undermines numerous development priorities, hindering progress towards a more equal, healthy and prosperous world.



Needs Assessments





Defining Project Objectives: Needs Assessment (aka Situation Analysis)

A needs assessment will help you:

- To identify or better understand a particular problem
- To identify or better understand potential & priority groups of beneficiary groups/audiences
- To inform the design of your project activities and plans



Where to find data for a needs assessment?

Primary data:

- Focus Group Discussions
- Key Informant Interviews
- In-depth Interviews

Secondary data:

- GNB!
- DHS
- UNICEF MICS
- Studies by NGOs & research institutions
- Other sources?



Project Design and Implementation





Translating Needs Assessment Findings Into Project Design

- Who are your intended beneficiaries/audiences?
- What are the proposed activities/action plan?
- What are the potential barriers and facilitators to beneficiaries/audiences accessing this project's activities?
- How can your project minimize these barriers and maximize these facilitators?



What does the evidence say?

- Empower girls with information, skills and support networks
- **2.** *Provide services*:
 - Economic support and incentives to girls and their families
 - Enhance girls' access to a high-quality education
- 3. Educate and mobilize parents, community members, key gatekeepers
- 4. Encourage supportive laws and policies



Activity

- 1. Identify beneficiary group/audience for your project.
- 2. Identify potential sources of information to help you better understand the problem(s) in a particular context.
- 3. Think about what strategies you will use.
- 4. List your project's key activities.

Beneficiaries/ Audience	Information Sources	Activities



Group Work





Project Monitoring and Evaluation





What is Monitoring and Evaluation?

- Monitoring:
 - Ongoing tracking of key activities, outputs and outcomes while the project is being implemented
- Evaluation:
 - Assessment of the effectiveness/ success of the project after completion of all or part of project activities



Why carry out M&E?

- To know your project
- To improve your project
- To report to donors and share information with other stakeholders
- To be able to talk about "success stories"
- To build evidence-based programming

Bottom Line:

To learn and build the evidence base



Purposes of Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring	Supports project management: How are activities being carried out? Who does the project reach?	
Process evaluation	Accountability: Were key activities planned carried out, did they reach the expected beneficiaries, how well did they work, what was the quality?	
Performance or results evaluation	Suitability of approach: Was the approach taken appropriate, did it produce the desired results?	
Impact evaluation	Did the project have a deeper impact on the lives of beneficiaries? How so?	
Rigorous impact evaluation	Can the project be shown to have produced a measurable impact compared to what might have happened if the project had not been implemented?	



Developing M&E Systems

- Should be developed at the beginning of the project; ensure adequate budget and M&E skills on team
 - Can also strategically develop monitoring system to collect priority information after project has begun, and/or secure additional funds for an evaluation
- Should be agreed on by staff who will implement M&E system
 - Need to identify key questions and indicators, data collection methods, analysis, reporting, and use
- Must be realistic and relevant given nature of project activities and resources available

Sample M&E Questions



Monitoring	Are intended beneficiaries participating in project activities and accessing project services and support? As expected? Are there obstacles that need to be addressed?
Process evaluation	Were planned activities to reach most vulnerable individuals/groups completed successfully?
Performance or results evaluation	Did the project effectively reach married girls? Were there obstacles preventing married girls from participating in/benefiting from the project? Were there any negative consequences?
Impact evaluation	Did girls and boys benefit from the project? Were there particular obstacles preventing a particular group from benefiting? Did it change roles, norms or attitudes about girls and women?
Rigorous impact evaluation	Answers results and/or impact outcomes above in a rigorous way.



Discussion

- Sharing of suggested M&E questions
- Challenges?



Next Steps: What can you do about any challenges encountered?

- Plan again. Use the information you've collected to modify project activities in order to help ensure greater effectiveness moving forward.
- Develop new partnerships/collaborations that can help to more effectively reach intended diverse audiences/target groups.



And perhaps most importantly...

• **Try. Fail!** Try again. This is a process. You learn as you go.

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"Don't tell them we failed. Tell them we decided to temporarily postpone our success."

International Center for Research on Women where insight and action connect

Future Project Design and Knowledge Sharing





Back To The Basics

- If you didn't document it:
 - How can you report on it?
 - How do you know if you've been successful (or not)?
 - How can you and others learn from it?
- Usefulness of knowledge-sharing depends on quality of information provided.



Knowledge Sharing

- Document success stories <u>and</u> gaps/areas for improvement next time.
- Create a systematic process for knowledge sharing.
 - Within your institution
 - With the outside word





Organizations and movements miss critical opportunities for learning, because of lack of institutional memory or failure to exchange information.