Thoughts on Developing an O Engendered *MORE* System

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SWEETPOTATO FOR PROFIT AND HEALTH INITIATIVE (SPHI)

Monitoring

- Monitoring is the process of:
  - Collecting, analyzing, reporting and using information about a project's progress and success.
- It provides those managing the project with information on which to base sound decisions
- Helps project managers to be accountable to the donors

Evaluation

- Evaluation is an assessment of an ongoing or completed project, its design, implementation and results

- An evaluation should provide information that is credible and useful, so that lessons learned can be clearly identified for future project planning

- An evaluation timetable should be determined in the operational plan

- All projects should have a baseline & endline. Ideal is to have a control group.

Operations Research (OR)

- Short-to-medium term studies undertaken to provide diagnostic information to feed into the design of intervention or research protocols, to assess whether on-going interventions or research is on-track and to address any emergent problems that need new research or require more detailed information than provided in the normal monitoring system.

- Examples:
  - Situation analysis: rapid assessments; formative research
  - Willingness-to-pay studies
  - Controlling mole rats
  - Exploring whether vines can be generated from roots

Engendering

"Gender" refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviors, activities, and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women. The specializations of women and men in smallholder agricultural enterprises depend principally on the customs of their society or ethnic group, combined with each one's access to and control over assets including financial and agro-ecological and human resources. The typical roles of women and men are mitigated by various factors, however, the bottom line is that women are farmers at least as often as men are, even when their access to and control over resources is often much more limited.

Why monitor gender?

- For the same reasons we monitor other issues:
  - To assess the degree to which an activity or intervention is achieving its objectives, we can consider what has been accomplished and what can be learned and fed back into further efforts.
- If gender aspects are not evaluated, they are unlikely to receive any attention.
- *Gender-sensitive interventions are more likely to be successful*

Gender-sensitive Indicators

- sex disaggregated output/outcome goals
- measure gender related changes over time e.g., status, roles, access and control
- qualitative and quantitative

Standarization whenever possible permits comparisons

- Example: Production data for Sweetpotato

SWEETPOTATO PRODUCTION					REG ☐	DIST ☐☐	WARD ☐☐☐	VILL ☐☐☐	H

SP01	Do you grow sweet potatoes?	0. No	1. yes	☐
SP02	What is the main reason for growing sweet potato? .... 1- For food	2- For sale	3- The only food that can torrelate drought 4-For food and for s........	☐
SP03	If yes, have you grown **Orange Fleshed** Sweetpotatoes *(Show SP photos)* .... 0. No	1. yes	....	☐
SP04	Have you ever had any training of sweetpotato production and management? .... 0. No	1. Yes	....	☐
SP05	Do you grow cassava? .... 0. No	1. Yes	....	☐
SP06	If yes, was your cassava attacked by disease that rots the roots (brown streak)? .... 0. No	1. Yes	....	☐
SP07	If yes, what was the degree of severity? .... 1. Low	2. Medium 3. High	....	☐

Now we will ask you question about SP and cassava you have grown in the past

SP08	SP09	SP10	SP11	SP12	SP13	SP14	SP15
Crop name	Crop code	Who decides how much to grow of this crop? Husband –1 Wife –2 Both –3 Other –4 NIA ... 9	During the past 12 months, please tell us in which months your hh harvested large quantities of the crop or which months your household harvest minor quantities for consumption or for sale Codes 0- No harvest 1- Months of minor harvest 2- Months of major harvest	During the major harvest months of.. (list months) how much did you harvest per day?, per week?, or per month?	Each time you harvest, how much did you harvest? *(Units codes are below)*	During the minor harvest months of.. (list the months) how much did you harvest per day?, per week?, or per month?	Each time you harvest, how much did you harvest? *(Units codes are below)*

				Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apri	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Times	Unit	Qty	Units	Times	Units	Qty	Units
																	1- day 2- Week 3- Month 4- Units				1- day 2- Week 3- Month 4- Units		
OFSP																							
Other SP																							
Cassava																							

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Record detailed information on beneficiaries

- Full name, separating first+second and surname
- Complete location
  - *May also need to record head of household's name*
  - *Georeferenced whenever possible*
- Sex
- *If possible, age & education level*

➢ Permits random selection of beneficiaries for follow-up and impact assessment

Monitoring Effective Partnerships: essential for success of project

AR4D:

"…sustained multi-organizational relationship with mutually agreed objectives and an exchange or sharing of resources or knowledge for the purpose of generating research outputs…, or fostering innovation…., for practical ends."

(CIP WP # 3. Horton et.al. 2009)

Key elements for success:

- Agreed common vision
- Leadership and facilitation
- Clear roles, responsibilities & performance expectations for each partner
- Guidelines for financial management & reporting
- Communication plan
- Conflict resolution mechanism

Monitoring the "health" of our partnerships through a "check-up"

- Focus on SPHI delivery system components with multiple partners from different organisational & disciplinary cultures
  - Western Kenya PoCP
  - Tanzania: Marando Bora
  - Ethiopia: USAID funded project start-up stakeholder workshop
- Focus on review of *partnership processes* and not LoU compliance issues
- Rapid check-list developed to assess perceptions around "key elements of success"
- Invitation through email to all partners (incl. CIP) to participate, with option for confidentiality
- Results aggregated and feedback by email
- Discussion session during AWP meetings:
  - Issues brought to table in "neutral" way
  - Further discussion to clarify concerns
  - Action points identified

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Checklist questions

My organization agrees with the common vision for the SASHA project.
My organization is clear about its role in the "Marando Bora" Component.
My organization is clear about the role of other partners in the "Marando Bora" component.
My organization has provided reports on time.
My organization has received information on overall project activities for the "Marando Bora" component.
My organization has received information on overall SASHA activities.
Internal project communication among partners is going well (i.e. partners with which the project has a formal agreement).
Communication with external stakeholders is going well (i.e. stakeholders who the project wishes to influence, but where there is no formal agreement).
Project partners in the "Marando Bora" Component are able to resolve any potential conflicts related to project activities.
My organization is willing to learn from experiences and is able to modify the way we do things.
My organization supports my participation in project activities.
I am aware of my responsibilities in this project.
I feel I have enough time to spend on this project.
I clearly understand the role of the lead partner in the "Marando Bora" Component.
I feel the decision-making process in the "Marando Bora" Component is very transparent and inclusive.
I am pleased with the level of honesty and trust in this partnership.
I am satisfied to be contributing to the successful achievement of the project's vision.

Thanks for your attention