

Protecting the Vulnerable:

The Design and Implementation
of Effective Safety Nets



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Participatory Monitoring And Evaluation

Protecting The Vulnerable: Design And
Implementation Of Effective Safety Nets
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Outline Of Presentation

- What is participatory monitoring and evaluation?
- Objectives
- Key principles
- Methodologies
- How to do participatory M&E
- Common mistakes
- Examples of indicators



What Is Participatory M&E

- Key questions
 - How effective are development interventions?
 - Who should make these judgments and on what basis?
 - Whose reality counts?
- In the past outside experts have usually taken charge



What Is Participatory M&E, Cont...

- Participatory M&E is different – radical new way of assessing and learning
 - Involves local people, development agencies and policy makers together
 - Improves accountability
 - Examines assumptions on what is progress
 - Can lead to contradictions and conflict
 - But can also be empowering
 - Puts people in charge
 - Helps develop skills
 - Shows their views count



Functions Of Participatory M&E

- Impact evaluation
- Project management and planning
 - Reflect, analyze, act
- Organizational strengthening and institutional learning
- Understanding and negotiating stakeholder perspectives
- Public accountability



Comparison

Conventional

- *Who* - external experts
- *What* - predetermined indicators, to measure inputs and outputs
- *How* - questionnaire surveys, by outside evaluators, distanced from project
- *Why* - to make project and staff accountable to funding agency

Participatory M&E

- *Who* – stakeholders, including communities and project staff; outside facilitator
- *What* - indicators identified by primary beneficiary; measure process and outputs or outcomes
- *How* - simple, qualitative or quantitative methods, analyzed by beneficiaries
- *Why* - to empower stakeholders to take corrective action



Objectives

- Better understand:
 - Who benefited (targeting)
 - Poverty impact (including gender)
 - Degree of participation
 - Institutions (local capacity building and social capital)



Objectives

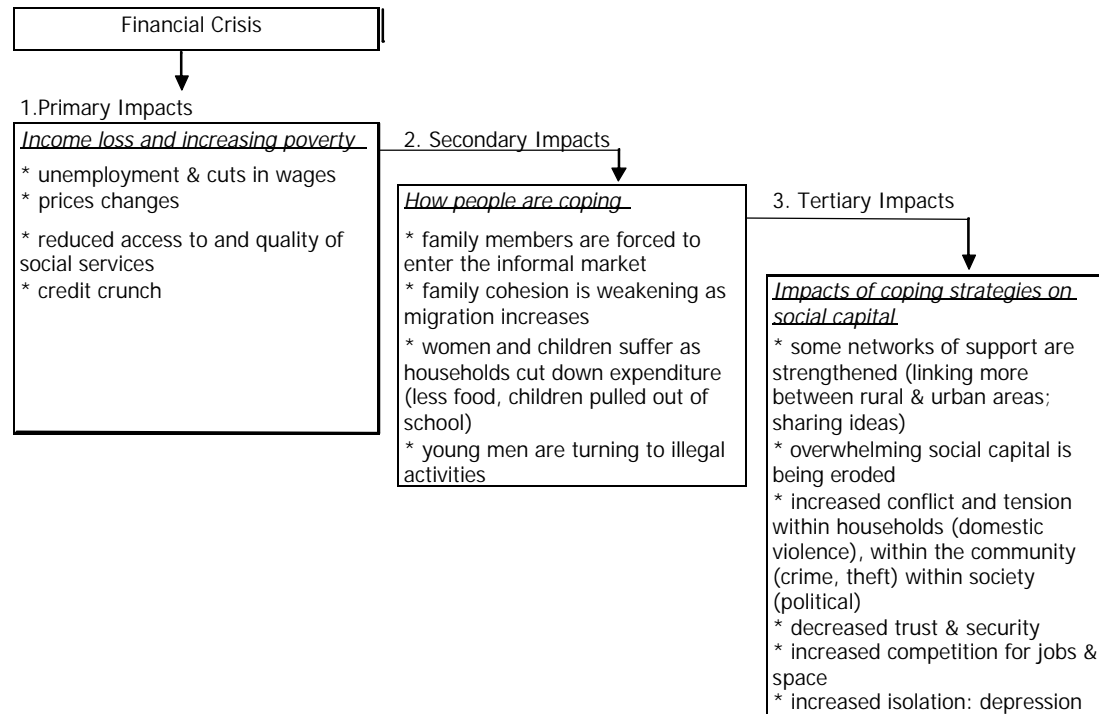
- Increase:
 - Client satisfaction – quality
 - Transparency, accountability and information flows
- Improve:
 - Procedures and policies
 - Demand driven approach – respond to community priorities
 - Sustainability



Key Principles

- Local people are active participants - not just sources of information
- Stakeholders evaluate, outsiders facilitate
- Focus on building stakeholder capacity for analysis, problem-solving and learning
- Process builds commitment to implementing recommended corrective actions
- Responds to informational needs of communities as well as organizations and institutions
- It is not just a research process – it is also a social, political and cultural one too. To be sustainable requires openness and a willingness to listen to different points of view

Social Impacts Of The East Asia Crisis





Methodologies

- Beneficiary assessments
- Participatory learning and action
(participatory rural appraisals)
- Participatory poverty assessments
- Citizens report card



How To Do Participatory M&E

- Management
- Costs – \$65,000
- Selection of agency – NGOs, consulting firms
- Who – multiple stakeholders, gender, age and institutional groups
- Timing – 6 weeks to 7 months
- Sampling – 25% of subprojects for social funds



How To Do Participatory M&E, Cont...

- Research teams – gender balance, 3 members per team
- Use of data – more integration with quantitative monitoring
- When – moving towards iterative assessments
- Dissemination



Common Mistakes

- Assuming all stakeholders want to take part
- Imposing inappropriate indicators and methods to save time and standardize
- Being unclear about how information will be used and by whom, and collecting unnecessary information
- Starting too big, too soon



Examples Of Indicators From Social Funds

- Increased community capacity to address problems
- Increased participation rates in community initiated-activities
- Improved perception of community by its residents
- Community submits other proposals to funders