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Performance Monitoring

Session 7 Data Quality

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Session Objectives

By the end of this Session, participants should be:

- Familiar with the Data Quality Standards and how they apply to indicators and data
- Familiar with the process of conducting a DQA



Data Quality Standards (VIPRT) (ADS 203.11.1)

- **Validity:** data clearly and adequately represent the intended result
- **Integrity:** data have safeguards to minimize risk of transcription error or data manipulation
- **Precision:** data have sufficient level of detail to permit management decision-making
- **Reliability:** data reflect stable and consistent data collection processes and analysis methods over time
- **Timeliness:** data available at a useful frequency, are current, and timely enough to influence management decision-making



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Are these indicators a valid measure of the result?
Why or not?

Result

Improved health services for
mothers and children under 5
in targeted regions

Indicator

Percentage of assisted
deliveries by trained
health service providers
in targeted regions

Indicator

National Infant
Mortality Rate

Indicator

National Maternal
Mortality Rate



Is this indicator a valid measure of the result?
Why or not?

Result

Decreased level of
poverty in the
municipality

Indicator

% of houses with brick
roofs in the municipality



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Indicator Exercises

Is this indicator a valid measure of the result?
Why or why not?

Result

Increased Access
to Justice

Indicator

Total Number of
New Courts
Opened



Are these indicators a valid measure of the result?
Why or not?

Result

Improved transportation
infrastructure

Indicator

Total miles of road that have been repaired
resulting in improvement in quality



Are these indicators a valid measure of the result?
Why or not?

Result

Improved municipal responsiveness to citizen demands for better roads

Indicator

Percent of municipal residents who consider municipal infrastructure as “improved” or “very improved” since previous year

Indicator

Percent of municipal roads in good or excellent condition.



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Trained Observer Rating Scale: Street Conditions

Rating	Condition	Description
1	Good	No faults in the road, smooth
0	Needs repair	Any damage: cracks, bumps, or worse



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Photographic Rating Scale: Street Conditions





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Photographic Rating Scale: Street Conditions





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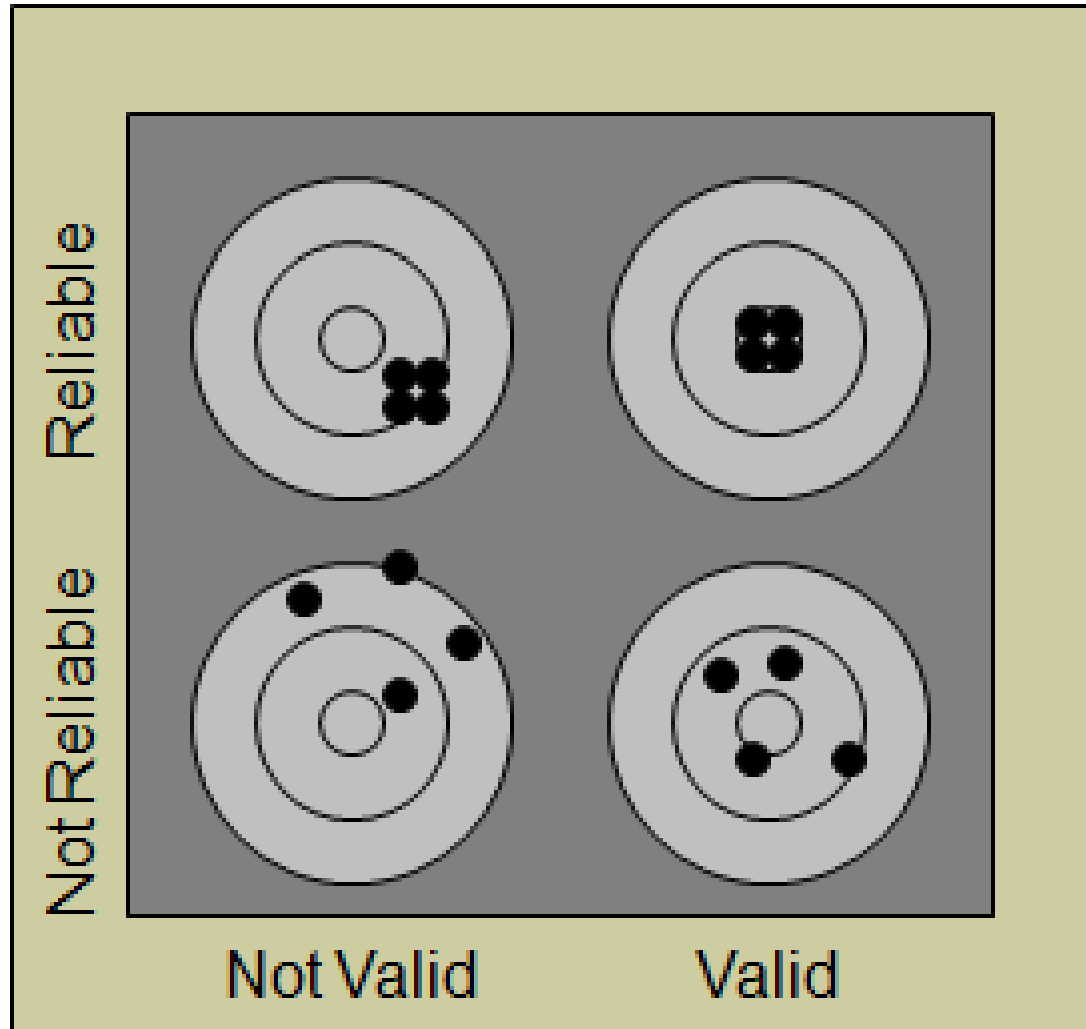
Trained Observer Rating Scale: Street Conditions

Rating	Condition	Description
1	Excellent	Recently completed work, no faults, smooth
2	Good	Recently completed work, normal wear, small cracks
3	Fair (upper)	Slight damage, minor cracks need filling or some leveling would help
4	Fair (lower)	Bumpy. Numerous minor cracks, easily visible bumps.
5	Poor	Considerably bumpy. At least one section of the street is broken. Potholes present. Needs repair.
6	Very Poor	Multiple potholes and breaks. Needs reconstruction.
7	Dangerous	Potential safety hazard or cause of severe jolt. One or more <i>large</i> potholes, or other major defects three and a half inches high or deep.



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Let's re-cap: Precision, Validity and Reliability





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High Quality is not all that Matters! (ADS 203.3.6).

1. Utility: Need to consider how useful your selected indicators are for management at the relevant level of decision making.

2. Cost: Indicator selection is always a balance between:

- a) the quantity and quality needed for management decisions, and
- b) the resources required to collect and analyze those indicators



A process to:

- Verify the quality of the data collected
- Identify strengths and weaknesses of data
- Determine extent to which data integrity can be trusted to inform management decisions

(ADS 203.3.11)

Who is responsible for conducting DQAs?

When are DQAs required?



- **Which indicators?**

- Those reported externally (i.e. PPR, initiative reporting, NOT ad hoc taskers, etc).

- **When?**

- At least once within 3 years prior to reporting
- Should be done within 6 months of defining new indicator (this mean PIRS is completed and baseline collected)



Streamlined:

- One DQA checklist for all indicators, including F indicators
- Shorter Checklist

		YES	NO	COMMENTS
VALIDITY – Data should clearly and adequately represent the intended result.				
1	Does the information collected measure what it is supposed to measure? (E.g. A valid measure of overall nutrition is healthy variation in diet; Age is not a valid measure of overall health.)			
2	Do results collected fall within a plausible range?			
RELIABILITY – Data should reflect stable and consistent data collection processes and analysis methods over time.				
1	When the same data collection method is used to measure/observe the same thing multiple times, is the same result produced each time? (E.g. A ruler used over and over always indicates the same length for an inch.)			
TIMELINESS – Data should be available at a useful frequency, should be current, and should be timely enough to influence management decision making.				
1	Are data available frequently enough to inform program management decisions?			
2	Are the data reported the most current practically available?			
PRECISION – Data have a sufficient level of detail to permit management decision making; e.g. the margin of error is less than the anticipated change.				
1	Is the margin of error less than the expected change being measured? (E.g. If a change of only 2% is expected and the margin of error in a survey used to collect the data is +/- 5%, then the tool is not precise enough to detect the change.)			
2	Has the margin of error been reported along with the data? (Only applicable to results obtained through statistical samples.)			
INTEGRITY – Data collected should have safeguards to minimize the risk of transcription error or data manipulation.				
1	Are procedures or safeguards in place to minimize data transcription errors?			
3	Is there independence in key data collection, management, and assessment procedures?			
3	Are mechanisms in place to prevent unauthorized changes to the data?			



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Exercise

20 minutes in groups

- 1) Read the scenario and fill out the Data Quality Assessment Checklist.**
- 2) After you have filled out the Checklist, discuss with your group the overall data quality status and what mitigation measures you would take.**



- Review indicator definition in PIRS
- Review data collection methodology
- Verify partners collect the data according to the methodology
- Review implementing partner's files/records against the methodology for data collection.
- **Visit the site where data is stored! Ask questions!**
- Document discrepancies and other concerns
- Summarize significant limitations in PIRS
- Prepare a plan of action to address the limitations



- Conduct site visits (per M.O.)
 - Complete site visit template
 - Conduct data verification
 - Does the partner understand the indicator and data methodology?
 - Is the partner keeping accurate and consistent records?
 - Are there any concerns that need to be examined further?
 - Are environmental mitigation measures being carried out correctly?
 - Document issues related to performance, schedule, quality, non-compliance; inform OAA, Project Manager, RLA if needed
- Discuss divergence from anticipated results with IP
- Identify new information and learning
- In collaboration with PO and DO Team, meet with other external partners to share information

- Ensure sufficient resources are dedicated to M&E
- Make approval of the Activity M&E Plan matter
- Use standardized templates for data collection and reporting
- Ensure implementing partners understand definitions and are reporting consistently across mechanisms
- Verify partner records on data collection and reporting
- Create systematic data aggregation methodology
- Engage partners to ensure sub-grantees are trained and capable in data collection methodologies
- Use DQAs to foster dialogue with partners on data quality and how to improve data quality



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...So What's Next?

Session 8:

Performance Management Plans