Resources for Monitoring During COVID-19

May 28, 2020
AGENDA

• Introduction
• Remote Monitoring Guide
• Learning Platform
• Examples from the Field:
  – Ethiopia
  – Nepal
  – Afghanistan
• Questions & Answers
GOAL: Achieve and sustain open, secure, and inclusive digital ecosystems that contribute to development and humanitarian assistance outcomes and increase partner countries’ self-reliance.
Remote Monitoring Guide

Guide aims to help Missions and partners assess what tools are appropriate for their remote monitoring needs

- Provides a set of questions to facilitate the decision making process
- Gives an overview of types of tools available
- Directs user to further resources
MEL During COVID-19 Learning Platform

usaidlearninglab.org

For information on Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, check here.

Join a community of over 8,500 members in making development more effective. Create a Profile

e-learning module
INTRODUCTION TO CLA IN THE PROGRAM CYCLE

CLA can help you make choices that achieve better development results.
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant impact in countries around the world, and USAID and its partners are responding to the pandemic at home and abroad. Response priorities include protecting the safety and health security of the global workforce, ensuring that USAID can continue its life-saving mission across the world, and supporting partner countries in their response to COVID-19.

USAID and its partners will continue to monitor, evaluate and learn from our programs as we respond to the changing operating environment. This page provides USAID with a forum for sharing tools, approaches and lessons for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) during the global pandemic.

If you or your organization have resources to share with USAID, you can comment on the Community Contributions Page linked here or upload a resource or blog of your own. Or, you can send us an email at COVID19_PartnerResourceCenter@usaid.gov.

For general information on COVID-19 and its implications for USAID implementing partners, refer to this page. USAID implementing partners should also contact their Country Office’s Disaster Assistance (DAP)/Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Food Security Officer (FSO) or Anti-Corruption Advisor.
Implementing Community Contributions to Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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For general information on COVID-19 and implications for USAID implementing partners, refer to this page. USAID implementing partners should also contact their Contracting Officer’s Representative (COR), Reporting Officers, Program Officers, AOs and their Contracting Officers (CO) or Program Officers (PO).

Resources:
Adapting Data Collection for MEL Resources:

8 Ways to Digitize Your MERL Practices During COVID-19 Response

Data Collection Practices and Recommendations for COVID-19

Remote Survey Toolkit

Bowling in the Dark: Monitoring and Evaluation During COVID-19

Best Practices for Conducting Phone Surveys

Monitoring in the Context of COVID-19
Strengthen PSNP 4 Institutions and Resilience (SPIR) - Development Food Security Activity Ethiopia
**World Vision Ethiopia**
- **Adapted existing survey** modality and content to include COVID-19 elements
- **Early results** from surveys (see right slide of slide)
- **Process, strategies, lessons learned** and how to respect respondents time
- **Next steps** for larger survey and collaboration with other survey actors in Ethiopia

**USAID Ethiopia**
- **Coordination of surveys** across actors – opportunities and barriers
- Positive signs and **‘coordinating’ in a crisis**
- **Next steps** on measuring impacts of COVID and ‘so what?’

### Effect of COVID-19 on household wellbeing*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>A little</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>To a great extent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
<td>82.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food access</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concern about wellbeing</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>82.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All women interviewed (n=166) were aware of coronavirus
- Effects on **household income and food access** varied: 50% report no effect; 33% report large effect
- 4 out of 5 women were **concerned about COVID-19 “to a great extent”**

*Source: Ethiopia SPIR DFSA maternal depression follow-up survey, April 22-30, 2020*
Sajhedari: Support to Federalism Nepal
• Overall Objective: TA in the transition to federalism with a focus on more inclusive & effective governance;

• Specific objectives include policy formulation, governance procedure & citizen participation in 134 wards and 10 municipalities serving over 157,000 HH in two provinces in Nepal;

• Most of the areas are remote, underdevelopment and hard to reach - in distance and in connectivity.
USAID’s Sajhedari - Support to Federalism (STF)

Sajhedari COVID-19 Response Plan

1. Comparative COVID policy responses for local/municipal governments
2. Community awareness raising
3. Planning for COVID outbreak prevention and response
4. TA on tracing of returnees, quarantine, social distancing, lockdown and other policy remedies
5. Monitoring and sharing of information between central and local levels
6. Flexible rapid response, as requested

Contribute to Nepal’s COVID preparedness and response by adapting existing activities to support Nepal Government.
**USAID’s Sajhedari - Support to Federalism (STF)**

We are using web portals, interactive databases, cell phone calls, and local radio stations to monitor programs, support activities, and information dissemination.

To improve our performance during lockdown and restricted movement, we are preparing to use third party monitoring, an integrated dashboard/app, SMS/IVR and GIS.
Afghanistan Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning activity (AMELA)
AMELA Remote Monitoring Case Study: Discussion Points

Interventions monitored remotely

Remote monitoring methodology

What worked

Lessons learned: limitations and mitigation measures
Interventions Monitored and Remote Monitoring Methodology

• AMELA implemented remote monitoring protocols in April 2020 as part of its COVID-19 continuity of operations plan.

• Interventions Monitored Remotely:
  – OHA warehouse inspections conducted
  – OHA food item distribution conducted
  – OHA non-food item distribution conducted
  – Remote monitoring methods applicable to majority of interventions
  – Development activities currently monitored in-person with COVID-19 mitigation protocols

• Remote Monitoring Methodology:
  – Coordination with IP
  – Site observations
  – Key Informant Interviews (KII)
  – Beneficiary surveys
What Worked

- Video calling through WhatsApp/Skype worked well in provincial centers and all parameters of interest were observed.

- Site visit observations:
  - Facilities
  - Physical conditions of food/non-food items
  - Module contents
  - Expiration dates
  - Stock records

- Phone interviews with IP staff and beneficiaries were conducted successfully at monitoring sites.

- Photos of the parameters of interest were obtained through WhatsApp/email.
Lessons Learned: Limitations and Mitigation Measures

• Internet connection did not support video calling in remote areas.
• **Mitigation measure:** IP staff provided video recordings and photos.

• Beneficiaries could not be reached at their homes for post-distribution interviews as they did not have phones or had weak network connections.
• **Mitigation measure:** Beneficiaries were interviewed at the distribution points.

• Conducting remote focus group discussions (FGDs) is challenging.
  – Insufficient time to coordinate and conduct FGD at the distribution points.
  – Unstable internet connection.
  – Social distancing.
• **Mitigation measure:** Abbreviated remote FGDs in urban centers possible.
Questions?
Thank You!

Policy, Planning and Learning