

USAID RDMA Evaluation Exchange 2015: Setting the stage

Stephen Mills, Asia-Pacific Regional Technical Director,
Health, Population, and Nutrition, FHI 360

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Setting the stage

- Failure!
- Transferring evaluation findings into programs, policies
- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

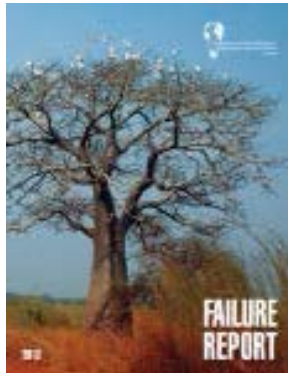
Failure: the forgotten twin of “Success” in evaluation

- Private sector
 - 75% of new restaurants fail
 - 50% of new small business enterprises fail within 5 years
 - 9 out of 10 ideas supported by venture capitalists don't get off the ground
- Public sector
 - Are we any better?
 - How do we discuss failure?



Failure: the forgotten twin of “Success” in evaluation (continued)

- Example: Engineers Without Borders
- Annual Report and an Annual Failure Report



A screenshot of a TED talk page. The title is "What happens when an NGO admits failure" by David Damberger. The video has 194,260 views. The description states: "International aid groups make the same mistakes over and over again. David Damberger uses his own engineering failure in India to call for the development sector to publicly admit, analyze, and learn from their missteps. (Filmed at TEDxYYC.)" The page includes a play button, a share button, and a "Related playlists" section with three options: "The global power shift", "South America", and "The big picture".

Failure: the forgotten twin of “Success” in evaluation (continued)

- Development organizations are starting to talk about failure



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Failure Happens. We help your organization learn, innovate and build resilience.

A banner for Consulting Services. On the left, there are three circular images: the top one shows a group of people in a meeting, the middle one shows a woman smiling, and the bottom one shows a person working at a desk. To the right of these images is the heading "Consulting Services" in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the heading is a list of services, each preceded by a right-pointing arrowhead. At the bottom right of the banner is a white button with red text that says "Browse services offered by Fail Forward »".

Consulting Services

- ▶ Blameless post mortems
- ▶ Evaluations for learning
- ▶ Fail Faires and Conferences
- ▶ Fail Forward Workshops
- ▶ Failure Reporting
- ▶ Inter-Organizational Dialogues
- ▶ Organizational Diagnostic
- ▶ Speaking Engagements
- ▶ Tools and processes for Learning and Innovation

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What kind of organization are you?

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Fail Forward for Businesses



Fail Forward for Funders



Fail Forward for Non-Profits

Transferring evaluation findings into programs

- We are good at doing evaluations
- We are far less good at transferring findings to programs, policies
- Need for more collaboration with our research utilization, advocacy, quality improvement colleagues

REVIEW



The answer is 17 years, what is the question: understanding time lags in translational research

Zoë Slote Morris¹ • Steven Wooding² • Jonathan Grant²

¹Institute of Public Health, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 0SR, UK

²RAND Europe, Cambridge CB4 1YG, UK

Correspondence to: Jonathan Grant. Email: jgrant@rand.org

The Sustainable Development Goals



It can get complicated

WHO HIV Vision, goals, and targets

