Using Contribution Analysis in M4P

Evaluating Samarth-NMDP

15th February 2018
Your life since graduation

The Plan

Today

Graduation

The Reality

Results in Development
How does M4P work: The Plan?

What we planned to do:
1. Find a Pvt Sector Partner(s)
2. Sign an agreement
3. Facilitate the intervention
4. Showcase M4P
5. Withdraw and allow Pvt sector to grow

End of Programme

Beginning of Programme

Results in Development
How does M4P work: The Reality?

End of Programme

Rains / seeds / inputs are late
Board cuts funds, reduces outreach
Pvt sector champion goes on holiday
Board decision eliminates 2
Visit multiple potential partners

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Beginning of Programme

Results in Development
How does M4P work: Why?

Complex, multi-dimensional working environment

Influence

Self Interest

Results in Development
M&E challenges for M4P

Context

Dynamic systems
- Timeframes
- Resources
- Demands
Multiple players
Multiple influencing streams

Evaluation aspect

Who?
What?
How?
Steps in contribution analysis

1. Set out case study research topics
2. Develop case study micro-ToCs
3. Gather evidence on the micro-ToCs
4. Assemble and assess the contribution story
5. Seek out additional evidence
6. Revise and strengthen the contribution story

Results in Development
Why use CA for M4P?

• Can’t use quasi-experimental methods

• Complexity investigated

• What worked and what did not

• Tracks the route we planned to travel

• Points out discrepancies on our planned route

• And why we think we changed course
Using CA to evaluate Samarth-NMDP

What is Samarth?

- Nepal’s first M4P programme
- Aims to generate economic growth and tackle inequality in Nepal
- Catalyse and initiate change in market systems
- Works with public and private sector partners
Introducing Samarth-NMDP

- **Focal sectors:**
  - crops
  - livestock
  - tourism
  - cross-sectoral issues
    - (crop protection, mechanisation, media)
Steps in contribution analysis

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Results in Development
Adapting contribution analysis

Phase one: sector evaluation selection and finalisation
- Sector / intervention selection
- Sector-specific EQ finalisation
- Sector ToC revision (incl assumptions & risks)

Phase two: top-down research
- Sector workshops with key informants

Phase three: stock taking
- Data analysis & conclusions
- Collation of secondary data
- Survey of market actors
- Intervention contribution story against EQs
- Phase four: bottom up research

Phase five: reflection and revision

Results in Development
Top down / bottom-up approach

TOP DOWN
- What’s going on in the sector?
- What do key informants say the programme’s contribution to change was?

BOTTOM UP
- What do market actors say the programme’s role was?

Refine ToC
Analyse
Reflect

Results in Development
Module A
Impact Evaluation

Module B
Market Systems

Module C
Programme / Environment

Programme Synthesis

Input

Results in Development
Using the approach in practice

**Strengths**
- Multiple perspectives
  - Moves towards negating contribution bias
- Multiple sources of qualitative data
- Triangulation in terms of respondent type
- Identifies implementation gaps

**Challenges**
- Where to draw the line?
- Researcher capacity
  - Broader context
  - Methodology
  - Objective of query

Results in Development
Experience to date

• Working well to date
• Uncovered more questions that we need to ask
• Need to build in flexibility and adapt evaluation instruments
• Snowball sampling
• Beware – rabbit trails!
Thank you for listening

Any Questions?