

#### Thus far, you have learned about...

- **4.1 Implementation Frameworks** introduced you to the Implementation Canvas and Results-Based Framework and how to use both when implementing new projects or initiatives;
- **4.2 Integration and Interoperability** introduced you to concepts on and integration in digital government and values of interoperability;
- **4.3 Implementation at Local Level** introduced you to frameworks to apply for implementation at local level.

# In this section you will learn...

#### What is M&E?

- Definition of M&E
- Difference between monitoring and evaluation
- Importance of M&E

#### What are M&E frameworks?

- What should M&E frameworks include?
- What is the role of M&E frameworks?

#### How to conduct M&E?

- M&E life cycle
- Ten steps to build M&E system

#### DIGIT4SD/Module 5/Submodule 5.1



#### **Objective**

By the end of this submodule, you will be able to:

- ✓ Learn about the definition and significance of M&E
- ✓ Understand the importance of M&E frameworks
- ✓ Create your own M&E system

#### **Completion time**

• In total there are around 32 pages for this submodule. It will take approximately 60 to 90 minutes for each user to complete. This is an indication and can differ per user.

• Feel free to skip some parts of this submodule if you are already familiar with the content.

#### **Other Information**

• You can read along (PDF) as well as listen to the content (audio) while taking this course;



#### Definition of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

A holistic view

# Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is...

- The process of collecting and analyzing data for program planning and project management
- An integral part of programming
- A continuous process



## **Definition of M&E-Monitoring**



# When conducting monitoring...

#### Seek answers for these questions when conducting monitoring...

Are the preidentified outputs being produced as planned and efficiently?

What are the issues, risks and challenges?

What decisions need to be made concerning changes to the already planned work?

Will the outputs continue to be relevant for the achievement of the envisioned outcomes?

Are the outcomes remaining relevant and effective for achieving goals?

What are we learning?

Source: UNDP 2009

#### **Definition of M&E-Evaluation**

#### Evaluation...



Is a systematic, rigorous and impartial assessment

Determines the extent of achievements regarding objectives

Provides credible and evidence-based information, findings, recommendations, and lessons to help with decision-making

10

Hopes to promote accountability and learning

Source: UN Women 2010; UNEG 2016

#### **Definition of M&E**

#### What are the differences between monitoring and evaluation?



Monitoring provides real-time information, while evaluation provides more indepth assessment

Monitoring
establishes the
foundation for
evaluation, but it is
not enough.

Evaluation is more independent and impartial.

Evaluation identifies unintended results, which may not be obvious in regular monitoring.

Source: UNDP 2009

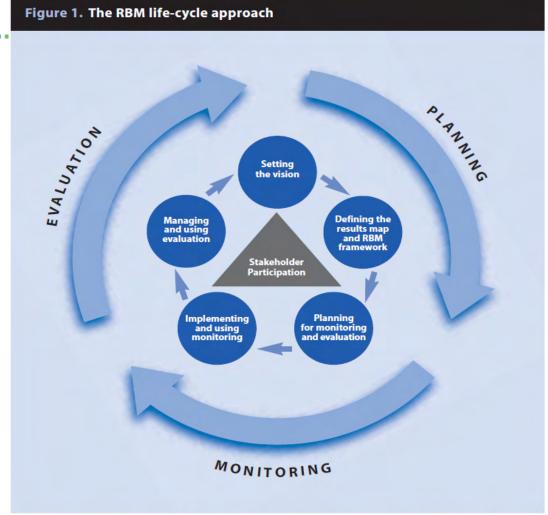
#### **M&E Implementation**

M&E should be planned at the design stage of a program.

- Monitoring should be conducted at every stage of the program.
- Evaluations are usually planned at the start and conducted at the end of programs.

Results-Based Management is one way to conduct good M&E:

- It is an ongoing process of doing, learning and improving
- The results of monitoring are used to guide actions, and evaluation analyses improvements and informs new programs planning.



**Note:** Planning, monitoring and evaluation should not necessarily be approached in a sequential manner. The conduct of an evaluation does not always take place at the end of the cycle. Evaluations can take place at any point in time during the programming cycle. This figure aims to illustrate the inter-connected nature of planning, monitoring and evaluation to support MfDR. Planning for monitoring and evaluation must take place at the planning stage (see Chapter 3).

Source: UNDP 2009; Frankel and Gage 2016

12

## Case study: Systematic M&E in Turkey

National M&E model of "National e-Government Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2019)"

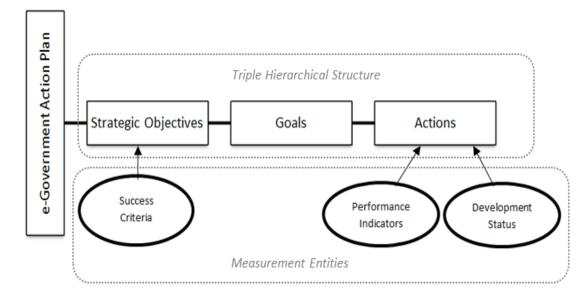
- M&E process
- Measurement entities
- Measurement method
- Periodic reporting activities

Systematic and institutional support for M&E

- Data Entry via SEPSIS
- Verification and Measurement
- Periodical M&F



Main stages of M&E model development (Figure is modified for learning purposes)



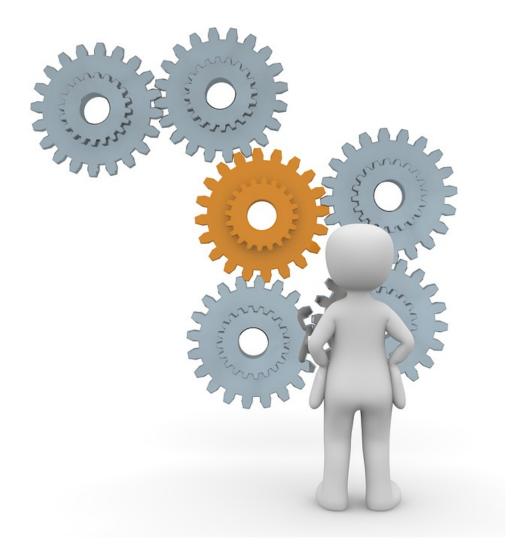
Source: Nuriye, Bayram, and Uzun 2017

13

#### Importance of M&E

- Keep programs on track.
- Ensure the most effective and efficient use of resources.

Benefit communication within institutions and with stakeholders.



Source: Frankel and Gage 2016

# Importance of M&E For SDGs



# A phase toward SDGs

- M&E is an essential phase when pursuing SDGs
- Planning-Improvement-Completion

# Integrate experiences

 M&E makes it possible to integrate global resources and experiences from the past and prepare for the future

# Development goals

 The focus on development goals of M&E is necessary for SDGs

Source: United Nations 2015

#### Case study: Importance of M&E for SDGs(Bangladesh)

#### National M&E Framework for SDGs (Cont)



1. 1 = if data is Readily Available now; 2 = if data is partially available at present; 3 = if data is not presently 2. Baseline data should not be before 2010, closer to 2015 is preferable Whether the indicator is not relevant to
 Bangladesh; whether the metadata is not
 available; if disaggregated data is not available
 to Bangladesh as required by the indicator itself.

Emphasizes M&E related SDGs

National M&E framework for SDGs

Preparing for M&E:

Data report

Workshops and consultation

Identify challenges and seek data support to SDGs

Source: Alam n.d.

## M&E in digital government

- Helps to ensure and increase e-government uptake.
- Improves the sustainability of e-government system.
- Makes the e-government actions in accordance with national strategies.



#### **M&E** tool for E-Government

# Measurement and Evaluation Tool for E-Government Readiness (METER)...

- Is an online, interactive tool to assist in developing, monitoring, refining and improving e-government.
- Helps to determine and monitor a country' s current state of affairs
- Guides policy makers and government officials in their e-government development initiatives



Source: UNDESA 2009

#### **M&E tool for E-Government**









Statements of Commitment 1
-Access to training resources

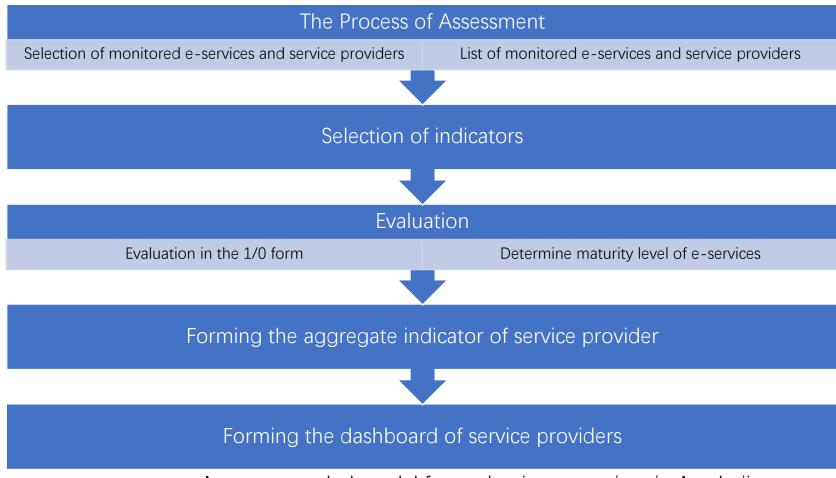


Five pillars of METER

| C1.1  | ICT training is available in learning institutions.                                  |
|-------|--|
| C1.2  | ICT training in available in government offices.                                     |
| C1.3  | ICT training is affordable for citizens.   |
| C1.4  | ICT training is affordable for government.   |
| C1.5  | ICT training is affordable for businesses.   |
| C1.6  | Public initiatives for online learning are effective.                                |
| C1.7  | Government provides adequate financial support for ICT training for citizens.        |
| C1.8  | Government provides adequate financial support for ICT training for civil servants.  |
| C1.9  | Government websites provide information to citizens on ICT training resources.       |
| C1.10 | Government websites provide information to civil servants on ICT training resources. |
| C1.11 | Government ICT training programmes for staff are adequate.                           |
| C1.12 | Civil servants have received ICT training deployed by the government.                |

Source: UNDESA 2009

#### M&E and digital government-Case Azerbaijan



A recommended model for evaluating e-services in Azerbaijan

#### Challenges

- Do you have appropriate frameworks?
- How to determine specific criteria of contributions to results?
- Do you have adequate available data and information?
- How to interpret data?
- Have you applied rigorous statistical methods?
- What success means or looks like with specific interventions?



#### **M&E Frameworks**

#### A M&E framework...

Includes main components of a program and steps to realize the desired results.

Delineate the internal and external elements

#### A M&E framework should clarify...

- The objectives of M&E
- The criteria of successful interventions
- What is to be monitored and evaluated
- The activities needed to monitor and evaluate
- Who is responsible for monitoring and evaluation activities
- When monitoring and evaluation activities are planned (timing)
- How monitoring and evaluation are carried out (methods)
- What resources are required and where they are committed (including plans of data collection)
- Relevant risks and assumptions when conducting M&E activities
- Reporting tools and mechanisms to apply the results 22 of M&E

#### Importance of M&E Frameworks

A quality framework assists M&E by...

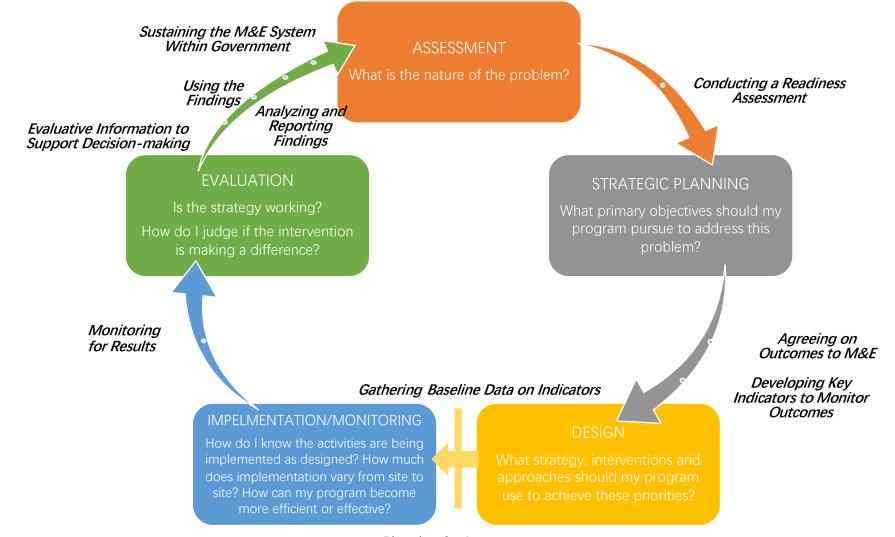
Understanding, refining, and articulating goals

Defining utilization of resources and select activities

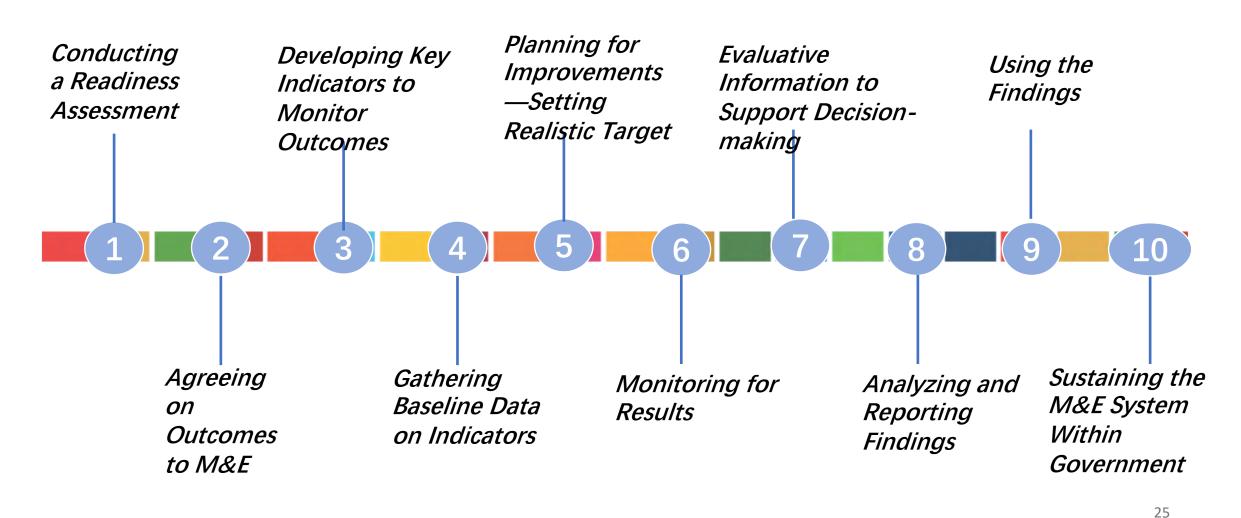
Identifying measures and indicators

Building consensus and working relationship

#### Steps to M&E



#### Ten steps to a Result-Based M&E System



#### **Assessment & Strategic Planning**



What is the nature of the problem?

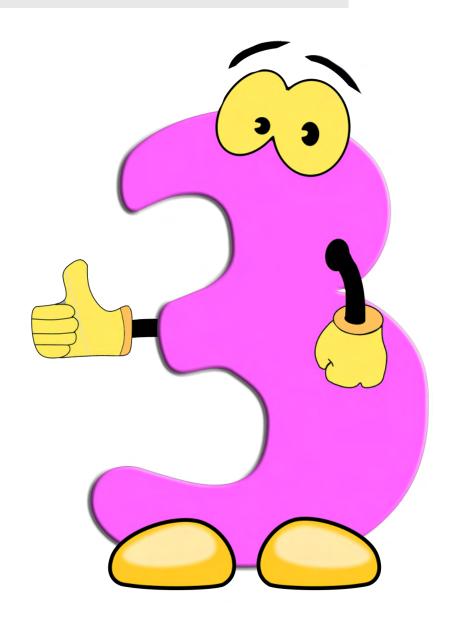
- Conducting a Readiness Assessment
  - Barriers?
  - Owner?
  - Resistance?

What primary objectives should the program pursue to address the problem

- 2 Agreeing on Outcomes to M&E
- 3 Developing Key Indicators to Monitor Outcomes
  - Indicator development drives all subsequent data collection, analysis, and reporting !



#### DIGIT4SD/Module 5/Submodule 5.1



# Design

What strategy, interventions and approaches should my program use?

- Gathering Baseline Data on Indicators
  Where are we today?
- 5 Planning for Improvements—Setting Realistic Target

# Implementation/ Monitoring

- How do I know the activities are being implemented as designed?
- How can the program become more efficient or effective?



# 6

#### Monitoring for Results

- Administrative and institutional task
- Assign responsibility
- Quality control
- Timeline and costs
- Guideline on transparency
- Etc....

# **Evaluation**

How do I know the strategy is working?

*Evaluative Information to Support Decision-making* 

#### Evaluation on:

- Process
- Outcome
- Impact
- 8 Analyzing and Reporting Findings



We will talk more about Reporting and examples in submodule 5.2

9 Using the Findings

Sustaining the M&E
System Within
Government

#### Conclusion

- Monitoring and evaluation is an integral and essential part of a program
- Making a clear M&E framework is the start point for M&E implementation
- Building a M&E life cycle with assessment, planning, designing, monitoring and evaluation is the key to a successful program.



# Congratulations!

You have reached the end of submodule 5.1 on the M&E Frameworks.

Thank you for joining us in this exciting journey.

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Under this submodule, you:

- ✓ were introduced to the definition and importance of M&E
- ✓ knew about types of M&E frameworks
- ✓ learnt about how to build a Result-Based M&E System

You may proceed to the next submodule 5.2 on M&E Reporting: Dashboards & Trackers



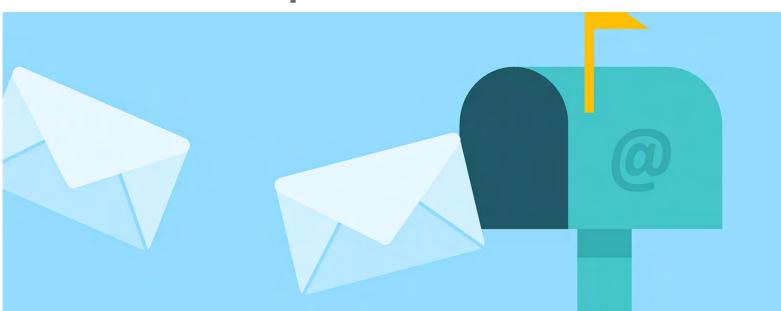
Sources & Recommended Reading

Please check the PDF in the folder

# Contact us for inquiries or questions

DPIDG@un.org
Or post your questions/comments in the forum!

Please note that this is a beta version. We appreciate your feedback so we can further improve our toolkit





#### **Acknowledgement**

The toolkit DiGIT4SD (beta version) was developed under the general guidance of Juwang Zhu and Vincenzo Aquaro. The conceptual framework and overall content development of the toolkit was guided and facilitated by Wai Min Kwok and Olivia Lin. This submodule was developed by Yihan Li and reviewed by Wai Min Kwok. Substantive contributions were made by Weiyu Wang. External peer review was conducted by  $\Pi$ 

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