Government Innovations in Evaluation: The Gambia’s Experiences and the Drive to Strengthen the National Evaluation Capacities towards the SDGs

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Presentation Outline

• Introduction
• Policy Pyramid
• M&E at Sector Level
  – Education
  – Health
  – Agriculture
• M&E at National Level
• Issues
• Way Forward
Introduction

• Population about 1.9 million (2013)
• Vision 2020
  – Strategy for Poverty Alleviation (SPA I) 1995 - 1999
  – SPA II/PRSP I 2003 - 2005
  – PRSP II 2007 - 2011
  – Programme for Accelerated Growth and Employment (PAGE) 2012 - 2015
Vision 2020: Long-term Development blueprint

PAGE (Program for Accelerated Growth and Employment): A Medium-term national development plan

Sectors’ strategies: Medium-term, rolling road map for each sector & translating Vision 2020 and PAGE into sectors’ milestones

MTEF: 3-years rolling prioritization & costing of programs

National Budget: Annualizing the costs
M&E at Sector Level: Education Sector

- Education Sector Strategic Plan
- Senior Management Team (SMT)
- Coordinating Committee Meeting (CCM)
  - Monitor both the policy and implementation of the sector programmes
- Service Level Agreements (SLA)
- Education Management Information System (EMIS)
  - Monitor the identified priority areas under the sector policy
- Student, teacher, and school related indicator
  - Collected at school, cluster, regional and national level for different programs and initiatives
  - Processed and managed in the EMIS by the Planning Directorate,
M&E at Sector Level: Health Sector

- Gambia National Health Strategic Plan (2014 – 2020)
- Cabinet and the National Assembly
- Senior Management Team (SMT)
- Directorate of Planning and Information coordinates M&E
- Health Management Information System (HMIS) – web based
  - Data collected through health centres, district hospitals, and referral services
    - Includes disease cases and deaths
- Complemented by facility surveys, household surveys etc
M&E at Sector Level: Agriculture Sector

Conceptual Framework of the AG-SECTORPM&E System Institutional Arrangements for data collection and flow - the life & pathway of a data element

**AG-SECTOR DATABASE (GANAD)**

- **PSU M&E Unit**
  - (*CCCBTBSQC*)
  - Receive, verify, validate data & approve for next level
  - By M&E Unit Officer

- **CPCU M&E Unit**
  - (*CCCBTBSQC*)

**Regional Agricultural M&E Unit:**

- Receive, verify & enter into GANAD, validate & transmit to next level
- By the Regional M&E FP & Data entry clerks

**Field or Community Level:**

- Collect data from the farmer & transmit to the Regional Agricultural M&E Unit through a mobile phone or paper forms
- By the Extension/Data collectors

**Community/household/Kafo level**

- Record data in the diaries/notebooks
- By the VCA/farmer/Kafo secretary

*CCCBTBSQC = Coordination, Consolidation, Capacity Building, Technical Backstopping & Standards & Quality Control responsibilities

Feedback is provided at all levels
M&E at National Level

- PAGE 2012 – 2015
- The HILEC: a committee of Cabinet chaired by the Vice President
- NCC consist of Permanent Secretaries sectors, representative from the private sector and the NGO community
- NIT - senior staff members across all sectors
- The Gambia Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (GIMES)
- PAGE Results Measurement Framework (RMF)
  - Weak
- APR and MTE of the NDP
- National Assembly select committees and PAC&PEC
M&E at National Level

- Institutional Arrangements

Diagram:

1. High Level Economic Committee (HILEC)
2. National Coordination Committee (NCC)
3. National Implementation Team (NIT)
4. Technical Advisory Committees (TACs)
Issues

• Central project coordination
• Leveraging on M&E expertise in projects
• Support from DPs
• Weak M&E capacity at national, sector, and decentralized levels
• Weakness in the NSS
• Weak link between M&E at different levels
• Limited involvement of National Assembly in M&E beyond
  – PAC/PEC
    • Annual activity reports and financial statements
  – Sub committees on sector
    • Monitoring of interventions
Way Forward

• Capacity building through training
• Strengthening the RMF and M&E framework and institutional arrangements in the next NDP
• Effectively mainstream the SDGs in the next NDP and its M&E framework
• Strengthen the NSS through enhancing statistical capacity at all levels
Thank you