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Data Quality Assessment Presentation to USAID

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Purpose of Conducting Data Quality Assessments (DQAs)

- To ensure that the **Data Quality Standards** are met
- Raise awareness of the **strengths & weaknesses** of the data
- Reveal extent to which data can be trusted to influence management decisions
- In order to pass a performance audit, need to apply same data quality standards to both quantitative and qualitative data
- Advise on retaining documentation of data sources
- Need to disclose any data limitations for any data reported in the Annual Performance Report to AID/W or for the Public's consumption
- **Bottom Line = Consistency and Accuracy of data**

Data Quality Standards

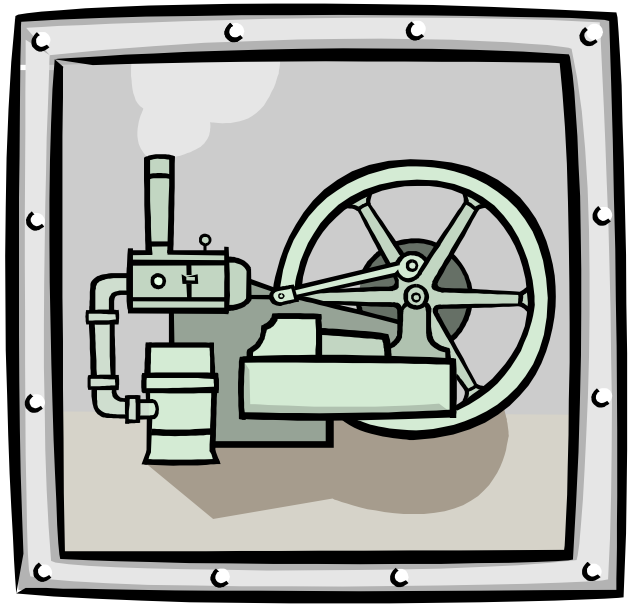
1. **Validity** = Data adequately represent the intended result
2. **Integrity** = Have established mechanisms in place
3. **Precision** = Data presents a fair picture of performance, i.e. small margin of error
4. **Reliability** = Stable & consistent data collection processes and analysis
5. **Timeliness** = Timely enough to influence management decision-making at appropriate levels.

Validity

- Data should clearly & adequately represent the intended result. While proxy data may be used, the user must consider how well the data measures the intended result. Data should not reflect interviewer, unrepresentative sampling or transcription bias.

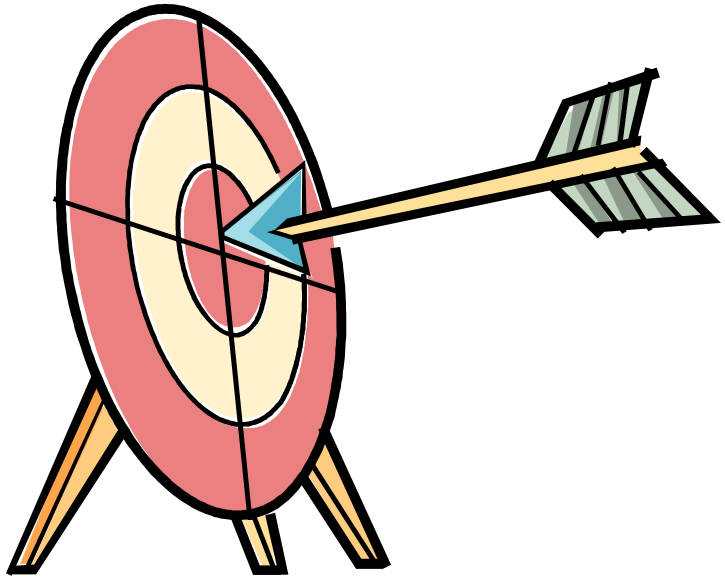
Integrity

- Data that are collected, analysed, and reported should have established data collection mechanisms in place to reduce the possibility that they are intentionally manipulated for political or personal reasons.



Precision

- Data should present a fair picture of performance and enable management decision-making at the appropriate levels.



Reliability

- Data should reflect stable & consistent data collection processes and analysis methods over time. The key issue is whether analysts and managers would come to the same conclusions if the data collection and analysis process were repeated.

Timeliness

- Data should be timely enough to influence management decision-making at the appropriate levels. The key issue is whether data are current enough when they are available.

Method of Assessing Data Quality

- **Desk Review** of data collected and instruments used to check compliance with the chosen standards
- **Field Assessment** of **the data chain** for the selected indicators used to measure the intended results to determine the following:
  - Data Sources
  - Baselines & targets
  - Unit of data collection
  - Processes used to collect the data
  - Possibility of errors or its accuracy
  - How Data is transcribed and transmitted
  - Timeliness
- **Use Tools** to assess the quality of the data for each

indicator used for reporting results.

DQA Tools

- PMP Review Tool
- Indicator Master List Per Team
- DQA Assessment Summaries
- Field Indicator DQA Tools (Output & Outcome)
- IP M&E Systems Summary
  - PMP Quality; Reporting
  - Data Quality;
  - Utilization of data
  - Audit Readiness

Steps for Conducting a DQA

- **Step 1**: Conduct PMP Desk Review using PMP Tool to establish status & quality of PMP.
- **Step 2**: Meet with Partners. Use DQA Tool No.1 to assess Outcome Indicators; and Tool No.2 for Output Indicators
- **Step 3:** Generate DQA Assessment Summaries for Outcome & Output indicators

Note: For multiple partners, use the Summary Sheet across IPs to establish overall DQA for Indicator before completing the Summary Template

- **Step 4:** For each partner, provide its Data Systems Summary

Data quality is something that can be improved:

Some Tips:

- Periodically review the validity of performance measures – and change them if they are not good measure of a project's objectives.

- Before using secondary data, investigate how it was collected – be sure the process was itself of high quality.

Tips, Continued

- Check the sampling methods and sample sizes that are being proposed for collecting data – will they produce representative and reliable answers?

- Check the completeness of data, if you need data from several offices or clinics, make sure that it has all come in before preparing a report.

- If you are collecting data for the second or third time to determine whether there is a pattern or whether change has occurred, make sure you use the same questionnaires and other procedures as you used the first time.

Improving data quality is not hard work, but it is careful work – it requires attention to detail.

Planned DQAs per Team:

1. A list of indicators has been drawn from those selected for FY12 Reporting that need DQAs done. These include 25 Indicators across all Teams
   - For EG & T: 5 Indicators
   - For ALT : 4 Indicators
   - For HAPN : 11 Indicators
   - For D & G : 5 Indicators
   - Education : None for FY 2012; 4 slated for FY 2013
2. The Respective IPs that contribute data to these indicators will be informed accordingly.

DQA Outputs

- DQA Summary Sheets:
  - PMP Review
  - By Indicator Type (Outcome & Output)
  - By IP M&E Systems Summary
- Follow-up Actions/Issues from the DQA.