The Role National Drug Observatories in Monitoring & Evaluating Programmes & Policies

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Purpose of M&E

- Determine the worth of a programmes and policies
- Use evidence to undertake improvement/adjustments in an objective manner
- Generate knowledge about programme success that may lead to scale-up/replication/funding/sustainability

Planning for Evaluation

- M & E should be part of our programme & policy planning process
- Very difficult to go back and set up M & E once programmes and policies have been implemented
- Gathering information about implementation and performance (in relation to objectives and targets) begins from the word "go"

Aim of NDO Programmes

- Designed to respond to specific problems or need in a selected population – mostly among youth, families etc.
- Intended recipients or target population
- Intended implementation plan
- Intended outcomes
- Desired impacts
- Designed to respond to intended stakeholders with differing priorities

- How will we know if we are accomplishing all or some of the above?

National School-Based Drug Prevention Programs

Country	Yes (9)	No (3)
Antigua & Barbuda	X	
Bahamas	X	
Belize	X	
Dominica	X	
Grenada	X	
Jamaica	X	
St. Kitts & Nevis	X	
Suriname	X	
Trinidad & Tobago	X	
Barbados		X
Haiti		X
St. Lucia		X

Features of Prevention Programs

Features	Countries
Health and Family life (11)	All except Haiti
Original prevention programs developed in country (7 - 28)	Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago
Prevention programs adapted from other countries (5 - 7)	Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, St. Kitts, Trinidad & Tobago

Content of Prevention Programs

Features	Countries
Health and Family life (11)	All – except Haiti
Universal prevention (11)	All – except Haiti
Selective prevention (5)	Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago
Indicated prevention (5)	Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago
Life-skills component (11)	All – except Haiti
Incorporates community (7)	Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago
Incorporates parenting (6)	Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, Trinidad

Coverage of National School-Based Drug Prevention Programs

Country	All or most schools (7)	Mainly schools that request (4)
Antigua & Barbuda		X
Jamaica		X
Suriname		X
St. Lucia		X
Bahamas	X	
Barbados	X	
Belize	X	
Dominica	X	
Grenada	X	
St. Kitts & Nevis	X	
Trinidad & Tobago	X	

Approach to Implementation

Country	Days or Weeks, Move on	Months, Move on
Bahamas	X	
Barbados	X	
Belize	X	
Grenada	X	
St. Kitts & Nevis	X	
Suriname	X	
St. Lucia	X	
Trinidad & Tobago	X	
Antigua & Barbuda		X
Dominica		X
Jamaica		X
Antigua & Barbuda		X

NCDA's M&E Journey

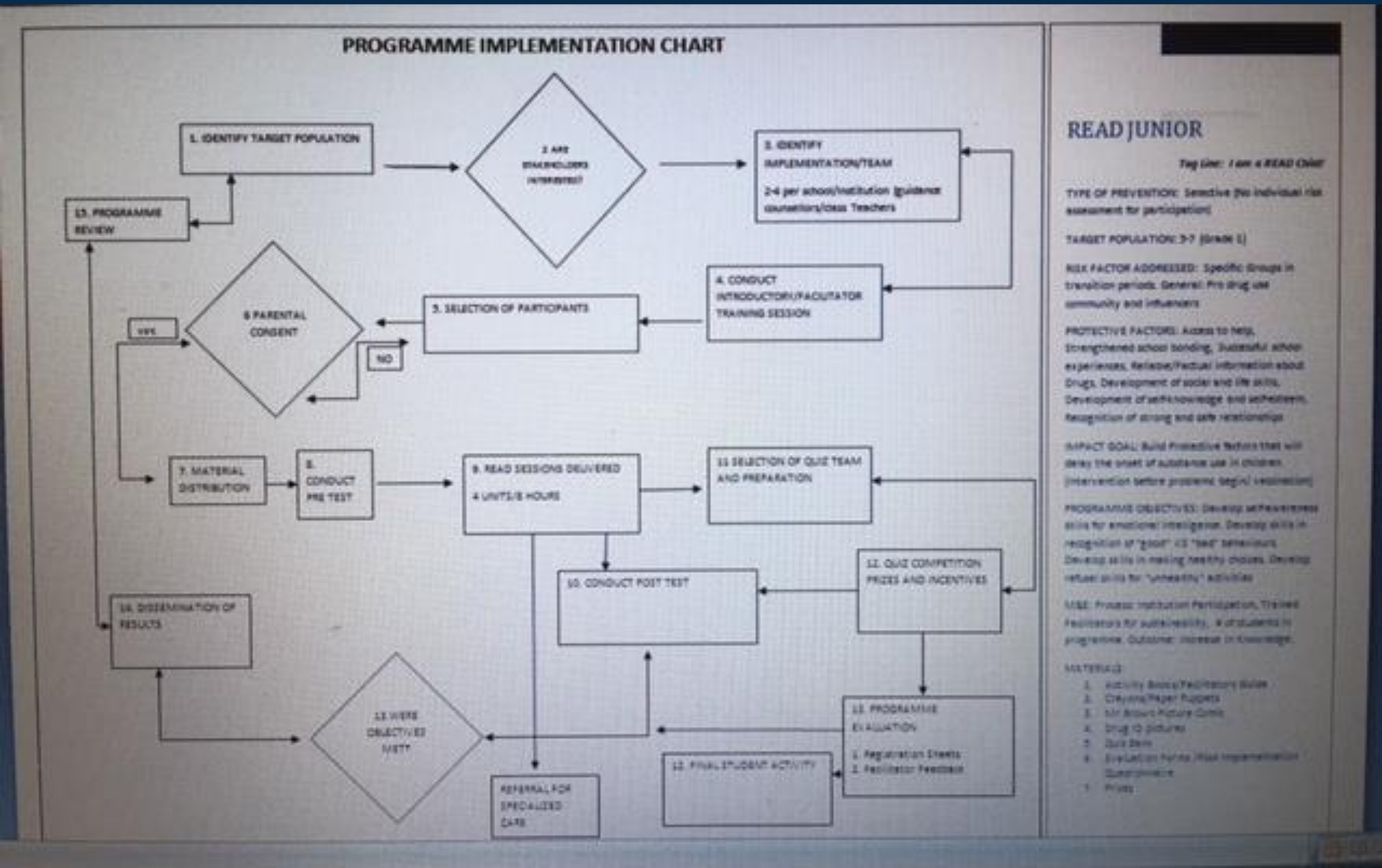
- Intense effort to change a culture to value the usefulness of evidence
- Capacity building – multiple M&E sessions & development of programme implementation charts
- Standardize everything – presentations, programmes, tools for measurement (pre and post tests, programme implementation maps)
- Apply M&E to performance appraisals

NCDA's M&E Journey - Issues

- Work in progress that took years to implement/change the culture – evidence…..evidence……evidence

- No M&E data collection
- Haphazard M&E data collection
- Regular M&E submissions - with errors
- Consistent M&E submissions – timing
- Analysis of data to inform changes
- Making changes based on evidence

Programme Implementation Chart



READ JUNIOR

Tag Line: I am a READ Child

TYPE OF PREVENTION: Selective (No individual risk assessment for participation)

TARGET POPULATION: 3-7 (Grade 1)

RISK FACTOR ADDRESSED: Specific Groups in transition periods. General: Pro drug use community and influencers

PROTECTIVE FACTORS: Access to help, Strengthened school bonding, Successful school experiences, Reliable/Factual information about Drugs, Development of social and life skills, Development of self-knowledge and self-esteem, Recognition of strong and safe relationships

IMPACT GOAL: Build Protective factors that will delay the onset of substance use in children. (Intervention before problems begin/ prevention)

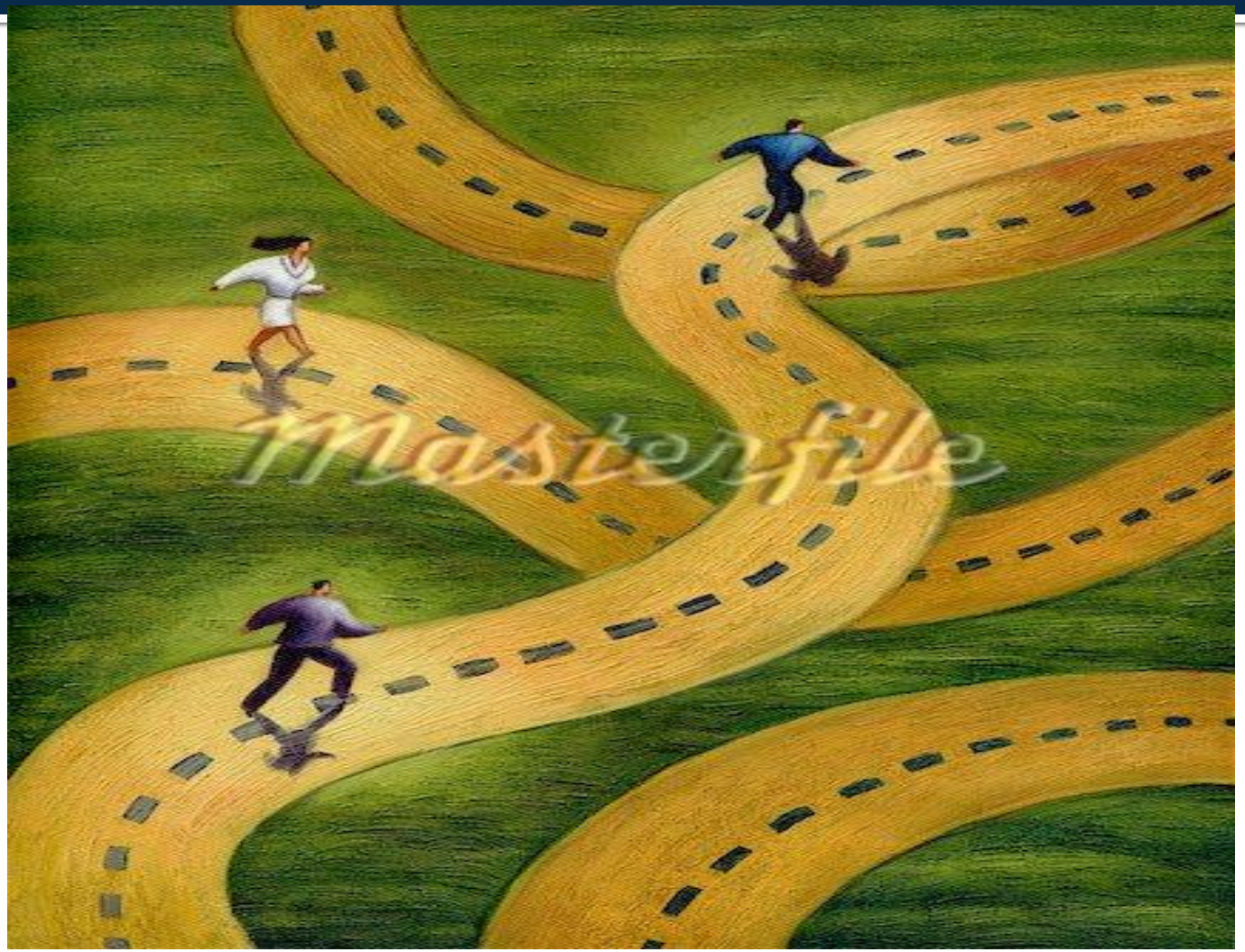
PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES: Develop self-awareness skills for emotional intelligence. Develop skills in recognition of "good" vs "bad" behaviours. Develop skills in making healthy choices. Develop refusal skills for "unhealthy" activities

M&E: Process: Institution Participation, Trained Facilitators for sustainability, # of students in programme. Outcome: Increase in knowledge

MATERIALS:

1. Activity Books/Facilitators Guide
2. Crayons/Paper Puppets
3. Mr Brown Picture Cards
4. Drug ID pictures
5. Quiz Items
6. Evaluation forms (Post implementation Questionnaire)
7. Prizes

How We Were Operating



How we are Operating Efficiency, Effectiveness, Impact

What does Monitoring Involve?

- Establishing indicators of efficiency, effectiveness and impact
- Setting up systems to collect information relating to these indicators
- Collecting and recording the information
- Analysing the information
- Using the information to inform day-to-day management
- Monitoring is an internal function in programmes & policies

Monitoring Answers These Questions

1. Is the programme/policy achieving its goals?
2. Is the programme/policy being implemented as intended?
3. What factors are facilitating/hindering success?
4. What are the lessons learnt up to this point?
5. Are stakeholders' priorities being addressed?

What does Evaluation Involve?

- Looking at what the progamme/policy intended to achieve – what difference did it want to make? What impact did it want to make?
- Assessing its progress towards what it wanted to achieve, its impact targets
- Looking at the strategy of the programme/policy- Did it have a strategy? Was it effective in following its strategy? Did the strategy work? If not, why not?

Why Evaluate

- Determine project effectiveness in achieving intended outcomes
- Strengthen financial responses and accountability
- Promote a culture of learning focused on service improvement through evidenced based practices

Applying M&E

- If we don't assess how well we are doing against targets and indicators, we may go on using resources to no useful end, without changing the situation we have identified as problems

- Monitoring and evaluation enable us to make that assessment and change

Taking Action

Once we have findings, conclusions and recommendations from the monitoring and evaluation process:

- Report to stakeholders
- Learn from the overall process
- Make effective decisions about how to move forward

Useful M&E Tools for Programmes

- Pre and post tests – teaching content for increase in knowledge
- Checklists for Skill demonstration – teaching skills for behaviour change
- Post evaluation tools – training evaluation, focus groups, interviews, surveys
- Pictures
- Logs/Registers – number of participants
- Number of posts, views, likes, shares (social media

Thank you