

Concept Note

Real Time Evaluation for Learning

Webinar (Zoom)

23rd September 2020 (Wednesday) / 14.00-15.15

Background

The ARC¹ Burundi - Nyubahiriza project is in its final year (2020). It is a challenging year with focused learning, a final evaluation and closure/sustainability considerations intersecting with elections².

The prevailing political and security context makes reliable data collection extremely difficult and complicated. Both the baseline and mid-term evaluation acknowledged weak credibility of data, mainly as a result of bias and self-censorship. With this in mind, Oxfam Novib has undertaken a proactive approach to end line MEL by conducting a real time evaluation (RTE) in early 2020.

Real Time Evaluation (RTE) methodology was born out of the need to gather information quickly prior to or amidst an emergency/humanitarian response. It is therefore a shorter and less rigorous evaluation seeking to provide immediate feedback from the field followed by immediate adaptation and improvements. The audience is therefore internal with a view to "*look at today to influence next weeks programming*"³ – and thus frames data collection around an immediate need to understand what is happening at the local level. The DAC (Development Assistance Committee) evaluation criteria of relevance, impact, sustainability, efficiency and effectiveness is still commonly used.

Through this webinar, Oxfam Novib aims to share key lessons on real-time evaluation (RTE) conducted as part of its ARC program in Burundi. The webinar will outline why an RTE is a useful tool while implementing programs in volatile settings and practical steps and tips to take into consideration in the process.

The webinar is part of Addressing Root Causes (ARC) learning online series aiming to strengthen relationships among ARC grantees and create connections and linkages across ARC projects and beyond, engage with pertinent issues of learning and explore pathways for collaborative and creative action in learning for a better knowledge uptake in programming and policy.

¹ The ARC Fund is aimed at tackling the root causes of armed conflict, instability and irregular migration. The fund constitutes around 20% of the total Dutch aid spending on SRoL and is therefore a significant priority for the MFA. In total, 19 ARC partner organizations are working on 21 programs in 12 countries for a 5-year period (2016-2021). The ARC "Nyubahiriza" programme implemented in Burundi by a consortium led by Oxfam Novib, address three of the most important root causes, of the past and present insecurity and violence - in a conflict and gender-sensitive and youth-inclusive manner.

² National Elections took place in May .

³ An ALNAP guide 2009: <https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/rteguide.pdf>

Objectives

Drawing from RTE's experience of ARC Nyubahiriza program in Burundi, the webinar will:

- Discuss the usefulness of conducting real-time evaluations (when to use it and how it works);
- Highlight the challenges that come with conducting real time evaluations;
- Present the real time evaluation as a tool for learning action(and how to use it to bridge the learning gap between monitoring outcomes and the final evaluation).
- Linking the RTE to learnings from the ARC Regional Learning Symposium - Africa 2020

Speakers

Lauren Burrows, Oxfam Novib, The Netherlands

Bonaventure Njisabira, Oxfam Burundi

Q&A moderated by the KPSRL

Registration

Registration is mandatory to attend this event. Please register by e-mailing Messina Manirakiza at M.Manirakiza@kpsrl.org, or by clicking the button below.