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EVALUATION WEEK
2021

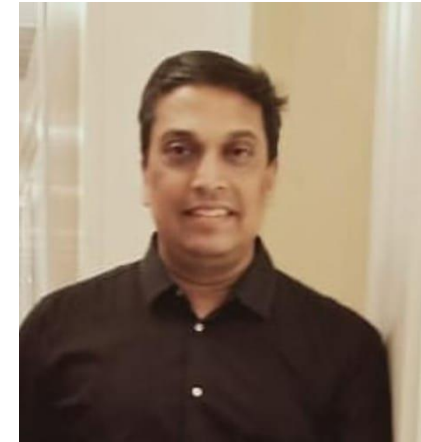
Adapting Evaluations during the COVID 19 Pandemic to Develop Forward Looking Perspective



Welcome and Opening Remarks

BISWAJIT PRADHAN

- Co-founder of EvalYouth India,
- Independent Management Consultant with Entrepreneurial experiences



House Rules

- Kindly keep your video and microphone in off mode for better quality
- Write your comments and questions in the chat box
- In case you face any problem, inform to Host or co-host separately

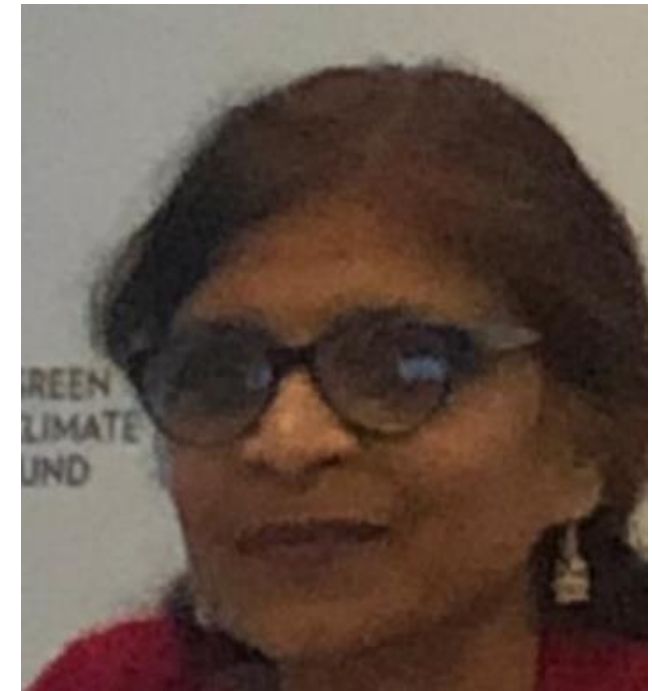
Alok Srivastava

- Director, CMS Social at CMS, a non-government research, M&E think tank.
- Trained Development Evaluator from International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET)
- Board Member, CMS-Institutional Review Board (CMS-IRB) on Ethics.
- Core Group Member of the Evaluation Community of India (ECOI)



Rashmi Agrawal

- Co-founder and co-leader of Evaluation Community of India.
- She retired from NILERD, NITI Aayog as a Director in 2016. She is an IPDET Alumni.
- She co chairs IRIPE and is also in APEA Board



Rituu B. Nanda

- MEL Expert, community development and behaviour change professional with Global Fund for Children & Institute of Social Studies Trust.
- Core group member of Evaluation Community of India and EvalGender+ Management group.
- Final semester of Masters in Evaluation with certification in public health



Rajib Nandi

- Associate Director, Institute of Social Studies Trust; Board Member and Treasurer, Community of Evaluators - South Asia;
- Co-founder and Co-leader, Evaluation Community of India
- IPDET Alumni with 23 years of experience in gender transformative research and evaluation



COVID-19 Pandemic & Evaluation

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ALOK SRIVASTAVA



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Challenges for Evaluation focus on agriculture/public health

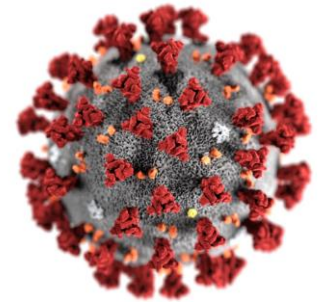
- Identifying Appropriate Evaluation design**
representative; randomness; consultative; participatory; mixed methods;
validity of findings

- Reaching the Unreached**
marginalized population; low literacy; remote habitations; spread & selection;
logistics; low technological penetration/less tech-savy

- Ethical concerns...beyond 'No harm' policy**
safety & security; voluntary participation; confidentiality; stress management

Adaptation for Evaluation focus on agriculture/public health

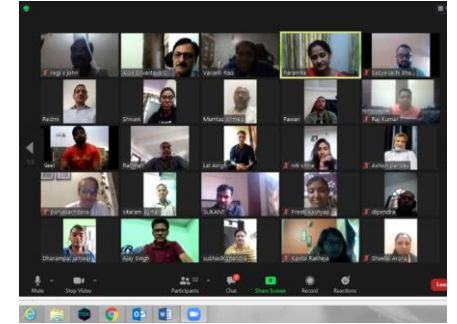
- ❑ **Need-based:** How urgent to conduct?; defer or delay will impact intervention; outweigh risks and costs
- ❑ **Evaluation type:** Real time evaluation; Formative; Meta-evaluation; Process evaluation...
- ❑ **Data collection:** Crowd sourcing; dip-stick; qualitative- *interview, observation based*; remote/virtual data collection; online (*depending upon respondent group*); connectivity issue; Snowballing; not to generalize
- ❑ **Ethical safeguards:** Voluntary participation; secured contact details; engage local volunteers/frontline workers; report should highlight limitations; help & support (*connect with relief team*)



Two examples:

❖ COVID-19 Vaccine & CAB

- Formative Evaluation
- Restricted movement- *avoid containment zones*
- Qualitative-Triads/IDIs (*statistically robust sample not required, easy to manage*)
- Adherence to COVID Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) protocols
- Virtual training of team...save travel
- Use of local volunteers/frontline workers
- App based tools/avoid paper-based survey



❖ ICT-based Agri-intervention

- Process Evaluation
- Telephonic tablet based survey among farmers using services
- Database of phone number available
- Shorter duration survey



THANK YOU!



Stay Safe...

*For more, reach at
alok@cmsindia.org*

Establishing Personal Connect in Evaluation during Pandemic

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RASHMI AGRAWAL
EVALUATION COMMUNITY OF INDIA

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Challenges in Data Collection

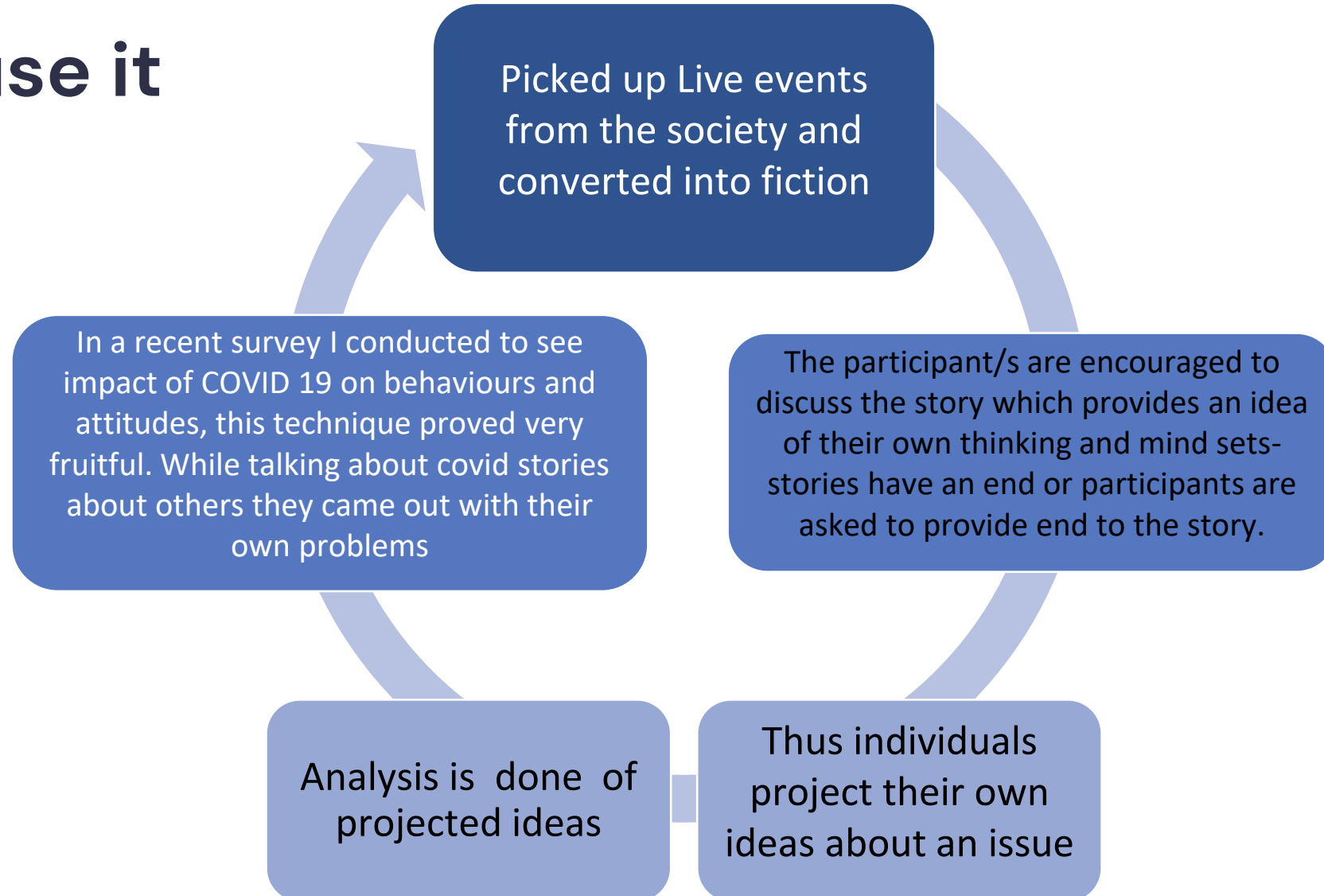
- Absence of personal touch and emotional connect in data collection due to COVID 19
- Cannot use traditional methods like personal visits/ personal interviews/FGD etc
- On line surveys or telephonic interviews have limitations
- People reluctant to come out to share their problems– Many did not even disclose their covid related problems due to stigma and fear attached to it

Influencing Indirectly using projective technique (Stories)

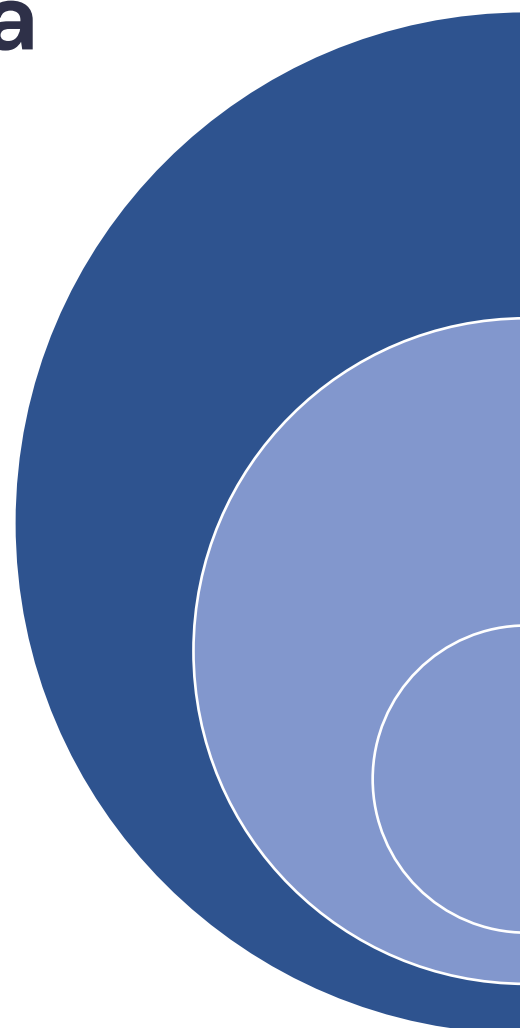
These techniques are popular in the field of psychology in which feelings and thoughts are projected through discussion and reactions to stories

Used it for several purposes in evaluation specifically for breaking the ice, discussing sensitive issues, women empowerment , assessing mind sets and change overtime

How I use it



Why it is a powerful Tool



Removes communication barriers-	Our brains are wired to respond to stories Useful with low literate/shy
Feelings get support from others	Provides a chance to express Stories give a sense of emotional connect
Leaves lasting impact	Story reading provides experience the happenings in the story and how problems are resolved

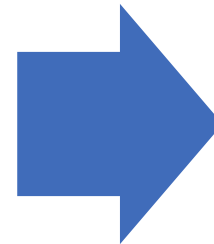


A story on environment protection



Thank you

Their Story



My Story

Learning from the Journey

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RITUU B NANDA
INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES TRUST
AND
GLOBAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

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What was the
degree of
'participation'
in
the evaluation?



Global Fund for Children's (GFC) Step Up initiative (2018-2020)

- Designed to build the long-term capacity, effectiveness, and sustainability of participating organizations
- 12 organizations spanning five regions including Brazil, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Moldova, Pakistan, Serbia, & Uganda.
- 6 organisations trained through two cohorts

Objectives of the evaluation

- Ascertain the effects of the Step Up on participating organizations
- Reflecting and learning with them
- Serve as a vehicle for GFC to increase its capacity to engage partners
- Review participants to expand their knowledge of evaluations.

Who participated? at which stage of evaluation?

Objectives	Design	Tools	Data Collection	Participatory Data analysis	Report writing	Communication
GFC project staff	GFC	GFC	GFC	GFC project staff	GFC	GFC
NGOs	NGOs	NGOs	NGOs	NGOs	Editor	NGOs
GFC other staff	GFC MEL officer		GFC staff	Funding agency		GFC communication
Funding agency				GFC other staff		

“We can talk from our own heart, our own thing, because we are part of it. Everyone talks about ownership, it is in practice.” Participant

I am not here to teach you but we are here to learn from each other



- IDIs in the form of Storytelling helped in self reflection “*a therapy session*”
- Participatory data analysis– learning platform
- Connecting different actors

How would participants use the evaluation?

1. We will use open discussion panels of different partners ; we learned the importance of engaging different stakeholders which enables learning
2. Involve communities in discussion on progress of the programmes
3. Fundraising
4. Future reference to learn and share

We need circles...

“We need circles like this more than ever, we said at the beginning of the week.

Political narratives that aim to separate.

We will resist by staying together.

By dreaming up ways to shift power.”

Learning from Gender Transformative Evaluation during the Pandemic

RAJIB NANDI
INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES TRUST

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Principles and Approach that GTE follows

- Central focus on inequalities and power structure
- Recognizes and values different ways of knowing
- GTE proposes to add value to the voices of marginalised people and to those implementing a programme.

Challenges for conducting evaluation during the Covid 19 pandemic

- Remotely designed and remotely conducted.
- Limited ways of knowing the context : limited observations and limited interactions with the communities.
 - Gap between the evaluator and the actual context
 - Visual, linguistic and behavioural indicators and observations.
 - Challenge of shaping the 'understanding' that emerges from the data collection process
 - How to capture the practice of discrimination
 - Difficulties in tackling sensitive nature of questions over phone.
 - Self selection and inclusion bias – Difficulties in including the voices of the most marginalised sections of the community

How to address the challenges for conducting evaluation during the Covid 19 pandemic

- Recognition of digital space – not as a barrier but as a facilitator
- Reorientations of evaluators and part of the community through participation.
- Enhanced role of grassroots level partners/local researchers; strengthening of partnerships; remote training
- Hybrid mode of conducting evaluation/ shifting hegemonic evaluation practices.
- clarifying and simplifying evaluation objectives and methods right from the beginning and tying them to tangible outcomes.

Future of Evaluation: Learning and Way forward

- Innovative methodologies and reflections on how evaluation is practiced.
- Learning points from the partnership with grassroots organisations : collaborations are expected to enhance shifts towards more participatory models of research and evaluation.
- More time to be spent on designing the tools and piloting them.
- Less secrecy regarding tools with more organisations making their tools available to participants in-advance.
- A community of researchers/practitioners we need to strengthen the channels of communication and advocacy with policymakers.
- Acknowledgement of the importance of located knowledge and expanding their frames of inclusion through collaborations.

Acknowledgements:

- Roundtable: ***Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Research Methodologies: Learning and Challenges***, organized by ISST on 09 April, 2021
- **ISST Research Team:** Monika, Abhishek, Ashmeet, Gurpreet, Prateek, Anweshaa, Ayesha, Mubashira

Thank You

Q&A Session with the Moderator



Q&A Session with the Participants



Summing Up

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& EVALUATION COMMUNITY OF INDIA PRESENT

3RD APEA CONFERENCE & EVALFEST 2022

21-25 FEBRUARY 2022
NEW DELHI, INDIA

We warmly invite all of you to join the conference!

For queries on registration and partnerships, email
apea.secretariat@gmail.com & evalcoil@gmail.com

PARTNERS



From Local Evaluations to Global Learning: The Role of Youth

3rd June, 2021

04:00 PM IST

Virtual

Speakers



Prof Milind Sohoni,
IIT Bombay



Prof Shyam Singh,
IRMA



Mr Yatin Diwakar,
IIT Bombay



Ms Sakhi Chaube,
Our Food Pvt. Ltd.



Mr Umesh
Jadhav, ISPP

Moderator

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