Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland Development Evaluation Unit (EVA-11)

Evaluation Manual

Table: Examples of Quantitative and Qualitative Methods

This table contains some examples of quantitative and qualitative methods used in evaluations.

Examples of Quantitative and Qualitative Methods

Method	Sources of data		
Quantitative analyses			
Statistical analysis on population, economy, social issues, environment, etc.	 Official statistics (national, regional, district), statistical data and survey reports by international organisations Data from local NGOs and international organisations particularly in regard of children, women, persons with disability, minorities, indigenous people etc. 		
Analyses of programme- specific documentation	Monitoring/progress and previous evaluation reports		
Structured surveys	Questionnaires on specific issues to specific target groups		
Structured observations	Site visits where usage of developed systems is systematically observed using structured formats and or check-lists		
Testing	Aptitude, achievement and behavioural tests of the target groups for the developed activity		
Physical measurements	Measurement for development impacts (e.g. level of stunting among children, area of land under sustainable management)		
Qualitative analysis			
Interviews (structured, semi-structured or unstructured), thematic round table discussions and focus group discussions	 Samples of various stakeholders (final and immediate beneficiaries, administrative organs, main partners, CSOs, academia, other donors) Social and gender issues need to be taken into account when defining the samples and selecting the participants. 		
Visits to programme sites	Interviews and focus group discussions with programme beneficiaries, target groups and other local stakeholders		

	•	Observation of programme activities and use of developed systems Audio- or video-recording and photography
Case studies	•	Selected cases in the programme to be analysed in-depth Comparisons/peer reviews with related reference projects
Workshops	•	Stakeholder workshops at national and/or programme site level to discuss the issues
Content analysis of available qualitative material	•	Documents, visual material (photographs, videos), articles, materials produced by the beneficiaries
Facilitated self- evaluation	•	Self-evaluation workshop with the project team (other stakeholders may also be invited), facilitated by the evaluators