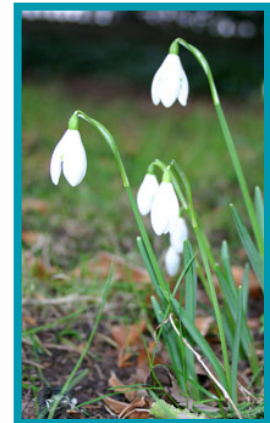


# Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation for Pacific IWRM

# Outline of Presentation

- The relevance of Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) for water resources management
- Common steps in PM&E for Pacific IWRM
- Key factors in sustaining PM&E



## Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration

- Environmental issues are best handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level.
- At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes.



# The Relevance of PM&E

- What is PM&E?

It is the assessment of change through process that involve people or groups affecting or being affected by the impacts being assessed.

- Why PM&E is important?

Through inclusion of the perceptions of the target populations, PM&E can provide more comprehensive information on efficiency, relevance, sustainability, impact, and effectiveness of work in progress (these are potential assessment criteria for projects).



## PM&E Focuses on Five Principles

- **Participation** – stakeholders participate in all aspects of choosing indicators and in collecting and analyzing data;
- **Negotiation** – stakeholders negotiate over what will and will not be monitored and evaluated, how and when data will be collected, and how findings will be presented;
- **Learning** – participation, negotiation, and collective working leads to learning, ownership and investment in those findings;
- **Flexibility** – is essential, as the purpose of PM&E is improved learning for improved results, leading to ongoing change and adaptation in approaches;
- **Stakeholder Involvement** – when multiple stakeholders work together (a key principle of IWRM) to develop indicators, they also clarify expectations and priorities, negotiate common approaches, and build ownership of outcomes.

## PM&E for IWRM

- A strong monitoring and evaluation system helps ensure that an IWRM strategy/plan meets its main objective of fostering positive changes in the utilization and availability of the water resources and in the water resources system itself.
- PM&E strengthens ownership regarding successful outcomes of planned initiatives; widens the knowledge base necessary for assessing and correcting the course of action; increases the motivation of stakeholders to contribute ideas to corrective actions; creates trust in local government policy and action; and, contributes to the learning of all involved.

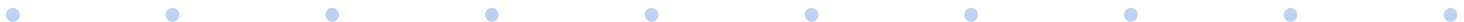


## Common Steps in PM&E

- Step 1: Planning the PM&E process and determining objectives and indicators
- Step 2: Gathering data
- Step 3: Analyzing data
- Step 4: Sharing the information and defining actions to be taken

## Steps 1: Planning for PM&E

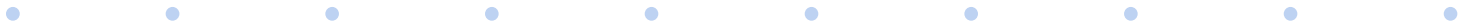
- Identify and agree on targets/inputs associated with strategy goals, objectives and actions
  - As specified in the project description of logical framework
- Define indicators for each target
  - Developed with the help of key stakeholders <those who cause or are affected, those with relevant information/expertise, those who will be responsible for implementing indicators>
- Select indicators to track human and financial resources
  - Clarity about ‘who is the end-user of the information?’ And, ‘who has used this information and for what purpose?’





## Step 1: Planning for PM&E

- Select tools and methods
  - Include technical tools and methods for the measurement of a variety of data
  - Also refer to interviews, photographic documentation of situations ‘before and after’, public hearing, etc.
  - Combinations of qualitative and quantitative
  - Key criteria for choosing a method: validity, reliability, relevance, sensitivity, cost-effectiveness, timely



## About Indicators

- An indicator is a means to help communicate complex changes to a wider audience.
- Indicators should be as specific as possible, including objectives to be achieved, characteristics to be measured, the time interval between measurements, and spatial coverage.
- Indicators must be reviewed regularly to ensure that they are providing information that is relevant and still relevant at specific time of monitoring and evaluation.

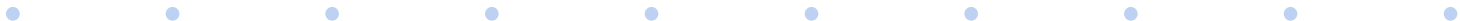


# GEF Indicators – Regional IWRM

Indicator Type	Indicator Description
<b>Process</b>	Policy and legislative reforms, capacity-building efforts, training, etc.
<b>Stress Reduction</b>	Actual physical changes at the source such as cleaner production, improved sewage treatment facilities, upgraded distribution infrastructure, etc
<b>Environmental Status</b>	Improvements in water quality, rehabilitation of downstream habitats previously threatened and under stress, etc
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>	Access to freshwater, access to sanitation, cost of water provision, household economic information, gender aggregated indicators
<b>Water Use Efficiency</b>	Actual improvements in efficiency of use, including supplies delivered, reduction in unnecessary freshwater sanitation use (which depletes precious fresh water resources), leak reduction, awareness raising approaches, economic assessments, demand management approaches
<b>Catalytic</b>	Combined interventions impact within the project, and with other projects to monitor wider development impact
<b>Governance</b>	Capability – policies existing, ability to implement, managing water finances and budget, serving societies needs; Responsiveness – feedback, providers responding to society, preferences, equal right o benefit; Accountability – scrutinising what is done, access to information,
<b>Proxy</b>	Health data and information, water related diseases, pollution levels, etc
<b>X-Cutting</b>	Will combine a number, if not all of the above indicators to provide snapshot information on progress, and which will be relevant to at least 2 sectors at the same time

## GEF Indicators – Process

- Describe progress in the development and maturity of the IWRM process
- Improvements or changes in the ‘enabling environment’ or framework
- Reforms in policy, legislation, planning and/or other institutional arrangements; e.g., creation of informal partnerships or formal apex or inter-sectoral bodies, whose existence does not in itself result in achieving the project outcomes



## GEF Indicators – Water Resources

- Demonstrate improvements in water resources status of water bodies
- improvements in associated socioeconomic conditions (i.e., monitoring of the human environment)
- Usually ‘static’ snapshots of environmental and socioeconomic conditions at a given point in time
- Usually reported against a baseline year and level to show change/improvement
- Water flows, water quality, ecosystem health
- Human health data (e.g., water borne diseases)
- Improved economic productivity (e.g., increased incomes) and savings reductions (e.g., reduced flood damage) data

## Project Management Indicators: PM&E

- Management Structure – stability with clearly defined and understood roles and responsibilities
- Governance Structure – effectiveness (engagement and inputs) of Steering Committees and other project bodies
- Internal Communications – process efficiency
- Stakeholder Involvement – consultation and participation processes
- External Communications – stakeholders have access to project information and progress

## Common Steps in PM&E

- Step 1: Planning the PM&E process and determining objectives and indicators
- **Step 2: Gathering data**
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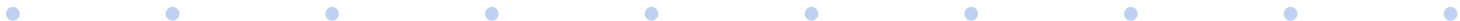
## Steps 2: Data Collection

- Sources of information

Data collection can include the use of both quantitative and qualitative methods and tools. Quantitative methods can include: community surveys; intercept interviews; and observations. Qualitative methods can include various participatory learning methods using visual, interviewing and group tools and exercises.

- Baseline data

Usually refers to data collected during the project baseline assessment.





## Steps 2: Data Collection

- Who is involved
  - Main criteria should be the level of interest or specific expertise with which stakeholders are linked to a certain project.
- Tools and methods
  - The methodologies have to match the indicators as well as the stakeholders (not too technical/highly specialized).
- Regularity
  - Monitoring can be an on-going activity or can occur according to a defined schedule of months or weeks.

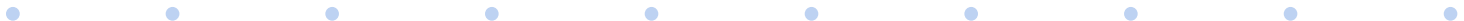


## Common Steps in PM&E

- Step 1: Planning the PM&E process and determining objectives and indicators
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## Steps 3: Data Analysis

- An opportunity to actively involve various categories of program stakeholders in the critical analysis of successes and constraints and the formulation of conclusions and lessons learned.
- **How often**  
Evaluation might follow the intervals of monitoring or use the outcomes of several monitoring activities.
- **Who is involved**  
Not only officials of the local administration and other water specialists in the narrow sense; but also stakeholders representing local water uses across the local population



## Common Steps in PM&E

- Step 1: Planning the PM&E process and determining objectives and indicators
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## Steps 4: Information Use and Sharing

- The information and knowledge gained from the PM&E process should be made available to the core group in charge of planning and implementing a particular project.
- Results of PM&E activities should also be ‘translated’ into a range of communication formats in order to make sure that the information also reaches the different groups concerned.
- Discussion of appropriate actions to be taken based on the findings is encouraged.



## PM&E Core Steps Summary

1. Identify who should be and wants to be involved
  2. Clarify participants' expectations of the process (what are their information needs) and in what way each person or group wants to contribute
  3. Define the priorities for monitoring and evaluating (on which goals/objectives/activities to focus)
  4. Identify indicators that will provide the information needed
  5. Agree on the methods, responsibilities and timing of information collection
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## PM&E Core Steps Summary

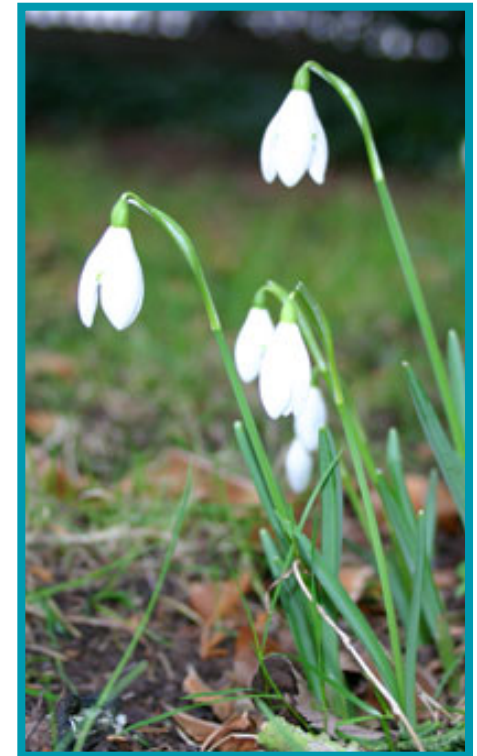
6. Collect the information
7. Adapt the data collection methodology, as needed
8. Analyze the information
9. Agree on how the findings are to be used and by whom
10. Clarify if the PM&E process needs to be sustained, and if so, how; adjust the methodology accordingly

Guijt, I. "Methodological Issues in Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation."  
In: Estrella et al. (eds.) **Learning From Change: Issues and Experiences in Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation.** (2000)

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## PM&E for Pacific IWRM

- To ensure that the implementation of demonstration projects leads to the expected outcomes, the process for PM&E will be prepared per demonstration project prior to project implementation and will be shared with IWRM APEX Bodies and other government stakeholders.
- The process for indicator development is based on the following four stages: demonstration projects; national level; Demonstration Project Group level (project twinning approach); and regional level.

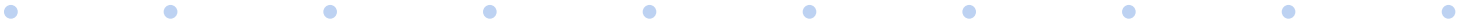




# Sustaining PM&E

- Using the lessons
  - One of the factors that will motivate those involved in PM&E is the clear and direct usefulness of collecting and analyzing information.
  - Active use of the information with stakeholders may not only improve the work, but also strengthen the groups involved – learning processes that makes collective monitoring and impact assessment so valuable.
- Keeping track of PM&E

PM&E is a new process for many organizations. Problems will arise that require continual review to see if the PM&E objectives are being met.



# Sustaining PM&E

- Institutionalizing PM&E – the challenges
  - Organizational constraints to scaling up participation
  - How can flexible and context specific PM&E processes be better integrated with more rigid and standardized project cycles and logical framework structures?
  - How can learning-driven PM&E be reconciled with M&E that is dominated by upward accountability and accountants?
  - What are the real costs of PM&E and can this investment of time and money be sustained?
  - How can capacity be built while also producing worthwhile information?
  - How can organizations deal with the tensions between rapidly changing contexts and the continuity that M&E requires in order to draw useful conclusions?

## Key Message:

Through inclusion of the perceptions of the target populations, PM&E can provide more comprehensive information on efficiency, relevance, sustainability, impact, and effectiveness of work in progress.

