



## **Most Significant Change Technique (MSC): the story behind the technique**

**Presenter:** Tracey Delaney, Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant

**Date and Time:** Wednesday 16th February, 2011 5.30 - 7.00 pm

**Venue:** VicHealth Seminar Room, Ground Floor, 15-31 Pelham Street, Carlton North

MSC is now a widely recognised tool for monitoring and evaluation, yet a number of myths and misconceptions exist regarding its purpose and use. To better understand the technique it is important to appreciate how it can add value to existing monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

While MSC has often been criticised for merely generating 'good news' stories, when used properly MSC goes beyond merely capturing and documenting participants' stories of impact, to offering a means of engaging in effective dialogue about what's working for whom and why. Each story represents the storyteller's interpretation of impact, which is then reviewed and discussed. The process offers an opportunity for a diverse range of stakeholders to enter into a dialogue about program intention, impact and ultimately future direction. This dialogue is at the very heart of the technique and where the true value in using it lies. It's not about choosing *one* story but about the discussion that happens in reaching that choice. All the stories in fact provide evidence of impact and can be used for a variety of purposes, including reporting, promotion and communication.

This seminar is intended to clarify how MSC works in practice based on the presenter's extensive experience of the technique. To aid the discussion, the core theory underpinning the technique will be presented and an experiential activity will be used to emphasise the essence of the technique and encourage a discussion on its merit and worth. The strengths and weaknesses of the technique will be identified together with an overview of how the technique can be adapted for use in either monitoring *or* evaluation.

Your participation in this seminar is warmly invited!!!

### **Presenter:**

Tracey Delaney works as an independent consultant and has extensive experience in program design, monitoring and evaluation. Tracey has an in-depth knowledge of the 'Most Significant Change technique' (MSC). As part of her Masters thesis, Tracey conducted research into 'evaluation influence' based on a case study of MSC in Laos. Her experience with MSC has also included designing MSC systems, assisting with the implementation of MSC in a range of settings and providing training and mentoring on the technique. Tracey currently moderates the MSC egroup on behalf of Rick Davies.

Please **RSVP** to Ian Patrick on [ipatrick@mira.net](mailto:ipatrick@mira.net) by 11th February 2011.