

Program development and change through evaluation – the potential of communities

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## Purpose of today

- To present an idea
  - Research in Evaluation Methodology
- Discussion I welcome your thoughts!

### Overview

- The Background/context of the idea
  - Developing community-based programs:
     Observations & learnings from projects
     conducted
  - What is known in the literature
- 2. The idea
- 3. Methods
- 4. Discussion questions





# Evaluation Observations & Learning



- Program focussed at empowering communities and developing capacity and capability (train the trainer notion)
- Sustainability
- Volunteer /transient workforce = health committees, youth committees, champions, leaders
- Program operated in semi-structured space - churches



# Evaluation Observations & Learning

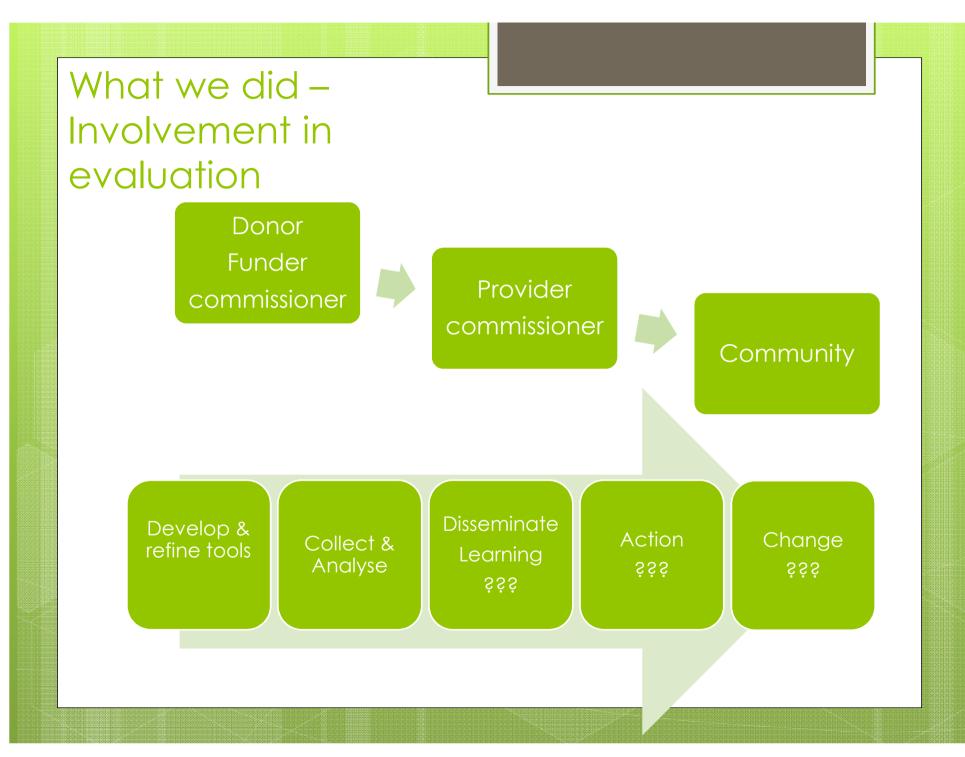




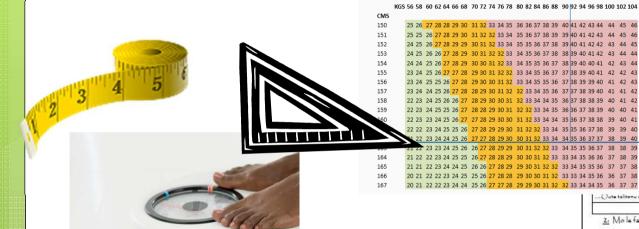
- Pacific a diverse community of varying cultural practices
- Varying level of readiness, development
- Funder, donors, providers requiring evaluations to parallel program activities, processes etc which often include capacity building and empowerment activities that were sustainable.

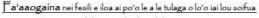
## Evaluation Observations & Learning

- The challenge designing an evaluation that aligned to this context while maintaining integrity, rigour and utility.
- Contractual and ethical responsibility forced us to be creative









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Timoci	O'Connor	Adult	Male	Kiribati / Fijian	1	х		х	х	х
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Faith	Mahony	Adult	Female	European			х		х	
Amanda	Dunlop-Hill	Adult	Female	Samoan	1	x	х	х		

# Lets get Active! Low Risk Medium Risk (0.9 - 1.0) High Risk (> 1.0)

BM assessments



WESTFONO HEALTH TRUST

ENUA OLA

#### ENUA OLA

"E sili le puipuia nai lo le togafitia"

Physical Activity Card



## Reflections from evaluations conducted

- Community based workforce often are volunteers and transient
- Meaningful engagement (involvement in data) is costly in time and money
- Infrastructure (leadership, governance) enabled success of embedding evaluation
- Community have varying levels of engagement & readiness for evaluation
- Communities understanding evaluation (they have done this for long time (eg: village gatherings) – evaluation is a part of everyone life (capitalise on this)

## Reflections from evaluations conducted

- Data collected and analysed is typically utilised commissioner level (donor, funder, provider) and rarely at community level but often not interpreted or actioned!
- Continuous regular feedback on data collected/analysed/interpreted (real time if possible) is vital for change
- Embedding evaluation into program (part of the intervention/program) and utilisation focused evaluation (focussed at community) appears to impact on program outcomes
- Bottom up approach = sustainable change
- Collecting authentic (what you can see) data is valuable for community, but must also be valuable to providers/funders

# Literature - True impact of Evaluation

Evaluation Readiness Adaptation Sustainability

Outcomes

# Literature - The world is pushing us to data

- Using data to promote action
- Data to knowledge
  - What do we need?
  - What are we doing?
  - How are well doing it?
  - What next?

### The world is pushing us to data

- System to promote
  - o evidence base
  - equitable access to data
  - strengthening approach
  - capacity
  - sustainability
  - leadership and develop
  - adaptation and change
- Authentic evaluative information

#### Data teams

- Data teams from the leadership and Learning Centre
- Data teams are a model for continuous collaborative action
- Teams are developed to examine formative assessment to drive instruction and professional practice
- Data teams have scheduled, collaborative, structured meetings that concentrate on the effectiveness of teaching and learning

#### Literature - Data teams

1. Examine the expectations.

Look at the state standards or frameworks, district power or priority standards, "unwrapped" standards.

10. Return to step 1.

Begin the process again with the next critical expectation based on the pacing guide.

9. Meet as a team to determine if the goal was met.

Determine next step for students who did not reach proficiency on the assessment.

8. Score the assessment and submit the data to the Data Team leader.

7. Administer the common formative assessment (post-instruction).

2. Develop a curriculum map.

Create a year-long pacing chart/calendar.

3. Develop a common post-assessment.
What must students master as a result of your teaching?

4. Administer the short-cycle, common formative assessment (pre-instruction).

You need to know where students are in their learning before instruction occurs. What data tell you that the lessons you are preparing are the lessons students need?

5. Follow the Data Teams Process for Results.

- 1—Collect and chart data
- 2-Analyze data and prioritize needs
- 3-Set, review, and revise incremental SMART goals
- 4-Select common instructional strategies
- 5-Determine results indicators
- 6-Monitor and evaluate results

6. Teach students using common instructional strategies.

#### Literature - Data teams

1. Collect and chart data. Data Teams gather and display data from formative assessment results. Through the disaggregation in this step, 6. MONITOR AND EVALUATE teams will be able to plan for the acceleration of learning RESULTS. for all students. 5. Determine results 2. Analyze data and indicators. Data Teams create prioritize needs. Data Teams descriptors of successful strategy identify the strengths and needs implementation as well as Data of student performance and then improvements to be seen in form inferences based on the Teams ongoing student work that would data. Data Teams also prioritize Process by focusing on the most urgent indicate the effectiveness of the needs of the learners. selected strategies. 3. Set, review, and revise 4. Select common incremental SMART goals. instructional strategies. Teams collaboratively set Teams collaboratively identify incremental goals. These research-based instructional short-term goals are reviewed strategies. The determination is and revised throughout the based on the analysis in step 2. data cycle.

#### **Evaluation in Action Teams**

Application to community settings and program development

#### **CRITICAL ENABLERS**

Leadership

Structure

Organization

Communication

#### **PROCESS**

- Work with project team
- 2. Identify evaluation team
- Evaluator leads and trains by modelling
- 4. Team establishes structure
- Uses cyclic approach to team work
- 6. Identifyes a leader
- 7. Identify team roles
- Establishes a system of communication
- 9. Plans for
- 10. Monitoring
- 11. Celebration
- Work on toolkit appropriate for context
- Gradual withdrawal of evaluator



#### The idea

- Test the efficacy of the 'Evaluation into Action framework' in community-based settings
- Tools & Resources
  - Aim The Evaluation into Action framework to improve program's
    - adaptation
    - o outcomes,
    - sustainability
    - o rigorous authentic evaluation data

# Method – how we are going to do this?

- Test the efficacy of the model at different sites of varying levels of readiness & development
  - Northern Territory community school
  - Cook Island Go Local, village
  - New Zealand Pacific church-based programs
  - Comparison group (CPE projects)

### Discussion

- We know this works and applicable to some settings eg: Education, Pacific communities
- However:
  - We haven't actually gone in embedded this approach during the initial stages of program development
  - We haven't gone in where existing structures were coordinated
- What are your thoughts?
- Will this be applicable to various communities, sectors?