

Monitoring and evaluation in HIA

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Monitoring and evaluation: What is it?

There are three main types of monitoring and evaluation in HIA:

- **Process evaluation**
- **Impact or effectiveness evaluation**
- **Outcome evaluation**



Process evaluation: what is it?

**Assessing the process of an individual
HIA**

Process evaluation: why do it?

To learn from undertaking individual HIAs in order:

- **to improve overall conduct of future and subsequent HIAs;**
- **to identify skills needs.**

Process evaluation: when is it done?

After the HIA report has been submitted to primary decision-makers

Process evaluation: who does it?

“Ideal” situation:

- Officers who have not been involved in the HIA, that is, they are unbiased

What usually happens:

- HIA Assessor or HIA Assessment Team, with support from the Steering Group

Process evaluation: how is it done?

The process of an individual HIA is judged against an agreed set of criteria, for example:

- Did the HIA meet the aims and objectives in the scope?
- What was the level of stakeholder involvement?

Criteria should be agreed at scoping

Impact evaluation: what is it?

Assessing whether the outputs from the HIA influenced decision-making about the proposal

Impact evaluation: why do it?

To identify the “impact” or effectiveness of the HIA

Impact evaluation: how is it done?

Impact evaluation includes two steps:

- monitoring which suggestions from the HIA were *accepted*;
- monitoring which suggestions from the HIA were *implemented*.

Impact evaluation: who does it?

- Monitoring which suggestions are *accepted* requires liaison between the primary decision-makers about the proposal and the Steering Group for the HIA, but may be done by the HIA Assessor or the HIA Assessment Team
- Monitoring which suggestions are *implemented* requires liaison between the officers responsible for implementation and the HIA Assessor, HIA Assessment Team or HIA Implementation Group

Impact evaluation: when is it done?

*For monitoring
which suggestions
are accepted:*

- After decision-making about the proposal

*For monitoring
which suggestions
are implemented:*

- During implementation of the proposal

Outcome evaluation: what is it?



Assessing over time the trends in health determinants and health outcomes after the implementation of the proposal

Outcome evaluation: why do it?

To help identify the actual effects on health and well-being of the proposal as implemented

There may be difficulties with attribution

Outcome evaluation can also help to show the impact or effectiveness of HIA

Outcome evaluation: who does it?

- **Monitoring trends in the determinants of health (indicators) and health outcomes will be done by information officers**
- **Interpreting and using the information will probably be the responsibility of the officers with overall responsibility for HIA**



Outcome evaluation: when is it done?



**At intervals of months and years after
proposal implementation**

Advantages of monitoring and evaluation

Process evaluation

- **It enables the municipality to improve the way HIA is conducted in the city by attending to particular aspects of the process**
- **It can help to build capacity for HIA in the city**

Advantages of monitoring and evaluation

Impact evaluation

It provides:

- information about the way HIA has contributed to supporting decision-making about a proposal;
- part of the baseline for outcome evaluation, which enables an assessment to be made of the contribution of HIA to protecting and improving the health of the community

Advantages of monitoring and evaluation

Outcome evaluation

- **A comparison can be made of what could have happened if the proposal had been implemented without HIA and what has happened as a result using HIA to change the proposal**
- **It can provide information about the contribution of HIA to protecting and improving the health of the community**

Monitoring and evaluation: what actually happens?

- Process evaluation is most frequently conducted in HIA, BUT it is rarely done by personnel who are independent
- Impact evaluation as a formal process is done occasionally
- Outcome evaluation is done rarely

WHO Healthy Cities

- Development of a set of criteria for process evaluation of HIA in the WHO Healthy Cities Network
- An objective for Phase IV is for formal impact evaluation to be conducted on HIA case-studies in the WHO Healthy Cities Network
- Potential to undertake outcome evaluation