

An Evaluation Framework for Sensing the Tides, Riding the Waves, and Rippling the Impact of IPE

Collaborating Across Borders V 2016

Abstract

Objectives

1. Describe developmental evaluation framework components used to navigate project accountabilities.
2. Discuss the complex, adaptive, and strategic learning outcomes associated with the use of a developmental evaluation framework.
3. Share project exemplars to contrast the project's intended and deliberate strategies with its unrealized, emergent, and realized strategies.

Background/Rationale

Evaluation efforts are often fraught with tensions between accountabilities associated with an intended plan and its predetermined outcomes and emergent realities. Selecting an evaluation framework congruent with fast-paced innovations within dynamic IPE/IPCP environments must tolerate uncertainty and ambiguity; account for patterns emerging from individual, group and system interactions; and support dynamic adaptations resulting from these interactions.

Methods/Methodology

The work of Henry Mintzberg (2007) and Michael Quinn Patton (2011) influenced the application and adaptation of a developmental framework to evaluate a Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation Primary Care Curriculum Implementation and Evaluation grant. This framework enhanced capacity for sensing undulating tides of rapid-cycle change while riding the exhilarating waves of its IPE/IPCP interventions and allowed the capture of small ripple actions with the resultant capacity to catalyze large reactions and impact.

Results

The juxtaposition of planned and deliberate strategy with unrealized (divergence), emergent (emergence) and realized (convergence) strategy illuminates the complex challenges of applying traditional evaluation frameworks in dynamic situations characterized by uncertainty and changing conditions, interacting systems and stakeholders.

Conclusions

An evaluation framework congruent with implementation of fast-paced innovations within dynamic IPE/IPCP environments must tolerate uncertainty and ambiguity; account for patterns emerging from individual, group and system interactions; and support dynamic adaptations resulting from these interactions. Developmental evaluation is an effective approach for capturing the world in which IPE/IPCP lives.

References

- Mintzberg, H. (2007). *Tracking strategies: Toward a general theory*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Patton, M. Q. (2011). *Developmental evaluation: Applying complexity concepts to enhance innovation and use*. New York: Guilford Press.

Primary authors

Dr. Saewert, Karen (Arizona State University | College of Nursing and Health Innovation and College of Health Solutions); Dr. Lamb, Gerri (Arizona State University); Ms. Karamehmedovic, Nina (Arizona State University)

Co-authors

Dr. Bonifas, Robin (Arizona State University); Dr. Harrell, Liz (Arizona State University; Student Health Outreach For Wellness); Dr. Hines, Lisa (University of Arizona); Dr. Kennedy, Teri (Arizona State University); Dr. Lundy, Michele (University of Arizona, College of Medicine-Phoenix); Dr. Velasquez, Donna (Arizona State University); Ms. Mangold, Kara (Arizona State University); Ms. Samples, Samantha (Arizona State University)

Presenter

Dr. Saewert, Karen (Arizona State University | College of Nursing and Health Innovation and College of Health)