Mapping an Analytic Framework to Advance Evaluation

Activity Worksheets

2018 NCCEP/GEAR UP
Capacity Building Workshop

Activity 1
What is your question?

What is a question you have around service delivery and efficiency?

- Think about the questions you would like answers to and how data, evaluation, and analytics can help provide answers to those questions.

Who should be involved in this project?

- Make sure you consider who needs to assist in collecting the data and who will be using the results of the analysis.

What will you do with the answer to the question?

- Start thinking about the end at the beginning and start to consider what action will or could be taken once you get an answer to the question.

What obstacles might you face?

- Consider difficulty in getting accurate information, logistics of collecting data, and resistance to using the results.

Activity 2
Turn your question into an analytic model

Using a table, list, or figure:

- Identify the outcome(s) for the problem
- What are the drivers (i.e., factors or variables) that influence the outcome?
- What are the relationships between the drivers and outcomes?

Provide rationale for your model (i.e., why do you have those relationships between the drivers and outcomes?)

Activity 3
Do you have the data?

For the model created in the activity 2:

- Do you have the data (e.g., measured or operational variables) for the drivers and outcomes in your model?
    - If you do not have the data, how will you get it?
        - What barriers might there be to collecting that data or information?

- How is or will your data be stored?
    - Can you link the driver data to individual students, schools, or districts?
    - Can outcomes be linked to individual students?

- How much to you trust the data that you have or that you are going to collect?
    - That is, what is the data quality?
    - Why do you or don't you trust the data?

Activity 4
What am I missing?

For the model created in the activity 2:

- Reexamine the relationships between the inputs and outcomes
- Determine if there any extraneous (e.g., unmeasured, third, common cause, or confounding) variables that could change the nature of those relationships