

19th June Wrap Up session

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Most Significant Change (MSC) Presentations

- Rick Davies highlighted two presentations:
 - Fiona's work on the impact of participating in the MSC process
 - Theo's comparison of large-scale MSC implementations
- Key points from Fiona's presentation:
 - First of its kind study on MSC participation impact
 - Focus on effects of feedback, often neglected in MSC
 - Analysis of causal pathways from MSC experience to life changes
- Key points from Theo's presentation:
 - Compared two large-scale MSC implementations
 - Detailed implementation processes, successes, and challenges
 - Practical implications for improving large-scale MSC implementations

Engaging with Complexity and Humanity

- MSC effectively engages with complexity and human aspects
- Discussion on who collects stories and how:
 - Formal approaches: evaluators interviewing professionals
 - Participatory approaches: beneficiaries gathering stories from peers
 - Individual interviews vs. group discussions
- Multiple values of MSC:
 - Evaluation methodology
 - Therapeutic benefits for participants

- Relationship and community building
- Feedback identified as a weak point in MSC implementation
- Suggestion to use video for more impactful feedback

MSC and Outcome Harvesting

- Similarities and differences discussed:
 - Both focus on identifying significant changes
 - Difference in how significance is determined (selection in MSC vs. different approach in Outcome Harvesting)
 - Varying levels of participatory voices in each method
- Proposal to follow changes significant to beneficiaries rather than donors
- Nature of outcomes in each method:
 - Outcome Harvesting: focus on behavioral changes and contribution analysis
 - MSC: wider scope, including impacts on health and other areas
- Blending of methods:
 - Examples of using Outcome Harvesting first, then MSC, or vice versa
 - Potential for simultaneous use and combining unique components

Institutionalizing MSC in Large Programs

- Discussion on using MSC in large, multi-year international programs
- Importance of replicating learning cycles at community and program management levels
- Double-loop learning:
 - Community level: adjusting behavior based on story feedback
 - Program level: adjusting theory of change and messaging approaches

- MSC becoming a core program activity for facilitating change
- Challenges and lessons learned:
 - Importance of trust-building in story collection process
 - Need for continuous innovation (e.g., using video for stories)

Inclusion and Safety in MSC

- Concern raised about hearing from reluctant or seldom-heard voices
- Importance of creating safe spaces for sharing stories
- Suggestion to actively include marginalized voices, similar to other evaluation approaches

Future Directions and Community Building

- Plans for a follow-up discussion on future directions for MSC
- Exploration of potential developments in MSC methodology
- Discussion on building a community of MSC practitioners

Feedback and Documentation

- Plans to share summaries, transcripts, and PowerPoint presentations
- Request for informal feedback from participants
- Announcement of a formal feedback survey to be sent later

Technical Aspects and Logistics

- Use of virtual conference platform with tables and chat functionality
- Plans to take a screenshot of participants for sharing on LinkedIn
- Technical issues with accessing the main conference table, resulting in moving to a different table

Overall Impressions

- Positive reception of presentations and discussions
- Appreciation for the depth and breadth of topics covered
- Interest in further exploration of MSC applications and methodological developments

This summary captures the main topics discussed during the conference presentation, including specific MSC implementations, methodological comparisons, challenges, and future directions for the MSC approach. The discussion highlighted the versatility of MSC in engaging with complex situations and its potential for integration with other evaluation methods.