

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Useful Resources

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1. MEL in general

Books

- The [Monitoring and Evaluation Playbook](#): a great overview of what MEL is, with different tools. It focuses on MEL for community building.
- [The Goldilocks Deep Dive](#) (9-pager)
- [The Goldilocks Challenge](#) Book
Also available as an e-book on Kindle or Google Books

Courses

- [Clear Horizon](#), different courses
- Aga Khan Foundation, [Designing M&E systems](#)- Free Course
- Uдеми, [Advanced M&E](#)- Course € 50
- [Philanthropy University](#), multiple free courses
- IDinsight [bootcamp re applied social science research](#) (emphasis is on quantitative methods/research). Content of this training program: Theory of Change, Causal Inference, Power Calculations, Sample Survey Design, Data Collection Practices, Questionnaire Design, Digital Tools, Qualitative Data Collection (shallow), Data Cleaning, Statistical Inference, Regression Analysis, Visualization - Communication

Platforms and Communities

- Anne-Murray Brown, [M&E Academy](#) (webinars, resources), € 81.50/year
- Intrac: [Overview of the MEL Universe](#)
- Intrac: [Monitoring and evaluation for small NGOs](#)
- IDinsight, e.g. [M&E Health Check](#)
- [Better Evaluation](#), frameworks, guides, directory of academic evaluation programs

Articles

- [A simple introduction to Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning](#), The Mission Motor
- [Why Anima International Suspended the Campaign to End Live Fish Sales in Poland](#)
- [Why Anima France changed their strategy](#)
- [Why Organizations Fail to Benefit from Monitoring & Evaluation](#)

2. Specific MEL Tools

Stakeholder Analysis

- [Stakeholder Analysis Toolkit](#), Ann-Murray Brown

Theory of Change

- [NPC Theory of Change in ten steps](#)
- [IdInsight online guide to ToC](#)
- [Measurably Better, Template Theory of Change](#)

Survey design

- Faunalytics: [Examples of survey questions per topic](#)
- Faunalytics: [Designing effective surveys webinar](#)
- Faunalytics: [Example Post-Event Survey](#)
- https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/stantcheva/files/How_to_run_surveys_Stan_tcheva.pdf

Focus groups

- Community Toolbox: [Conducting Focus Groups](#)
- Eliot & Associates: [Guideline for Focus Groups](#), includes templates
- Faunalytics: [Example Focus Group Discussion](#)

Outcome harvesting

- Clear Horizon, [Introduction to Impact Logs](#) (free course)

Outcome mapping

- Better evaluation, [Outcome Mapping](#) (pdf book)
- [Outcome mapping learning community](#)
 - The [OM manual](#) (155 pages long) but all the theory is explained in Chapter 1
 - Presentation by Kaia Ambrose showing [what an OM planning / monitoring tool looks like in practice](#) using an example project (Pathways to resilience in semi-arid economies)
 - Poster of a [diagnostic tool for when not to use OutM](#)

3. MEL for Specific Areas or Interventions

MEL for policy interventions

- ODI, [A guide to monitoring and evaluating policy influence](#)
- ODI, [Extensive working paper on monitoring and evaluation policy influence](#)
- Julia Coffman & Ehren Reed, [Unique methods in Advocacy Evaluation](#) (also covers public advocacy)
- Oxfam, [Influencing for Impact Guide](#) (also covers public advocacy)

MEL for (public) advocacy interventions

- UNICEF, [Monitoring and Evaluating Advocacy](#)
- Julia Coffman & Ehren Reed, [Unique methods in Advocacy Evaluation](#) (also covers policy influencing)
- Oxfam, [Influencing for Impact Guide](#) (also covers policy influencing)

4. Evaluations

4a. Evaluations in general

- What is “evaluation”: [Gullickson 2020 the whole elephant](#) (includes steps how to design an evaluation)
- How to define value: [Gargani and King 2024 - Principles and methods to advance value for money](#)
- [The Logic of Evaluation Gargani_notes_2025_03_25](#)

4b. Causal Inference / Counterfactual Impact

- [Impact Evaluation in Practice](#) - See Chapter 3: Causal Inference & Counterfactuals
- [Overview: Strategies for Causal Attribution](#)
- [An Introduction to Counterfactual Impact Evaluation](#)
- [The Rigor of Case-Based Causal Analysis](#)
- [Investigate causal attribution and contribution](#)

Proceed with the 25 accessible ones by adding them into the Notion database ('MEL Resource Bank').

Here are the direct URLs for the ones you had trouble accessing.

1. Playbook -

<https://arrow-prawn-de8.notion.site/Monitoring-Evaluation-cb13052f619e4dad83e07ac13ea7be1c>

2. Simple intro to MEL -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KVVH-h9CW9wttHmJMWH0jf3NFt-HknlWLGb415W6P8g/edit?usp=sharing>

3. Why orgs fail to benefit from MEL -

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/why-organizations-fail-fully-benefit-from-monitoring-alois-nyamazana#:~:text=Poorly%20designed%20results%20frameworks%20and,its%20objectives%20and%20set%20goals.>

4. Measurably better ToC template -

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IYDK8zFC2_-xB0QVWjXI-PX6-ZXpTUY/edit

5. Faunalytics

1. Part 1 - <https://faunalytics.org/survey-questions/>

2. Part 2 - <https://faunalytics.org/webinar-designing-effective-surveys/>

3. Part 3 -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/17tGXDe62DL8ya58Ci52HR1hoL-bF02cQ9nfW9VT4r14/edit?usp=sharing>

4. Part 4 -

<https://faunalytics.org/public-weighs-in-on-animal-welfare-and-animal-rights/>

(Original study -

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/08927936.2020.1799548?journalCode=rfa20>)

6. Eliot and Associates - the resource no longer exists publicly. Here is the link where a PDF version of it is stored on the drive

(https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GUkNQEzdf4ujK4aZHekrd0J-72m44NHx/view?usp=drive_link).

7. Gargani and King 2024 -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18L0yBTwEC5j8gEQ5azgCienGuc6daxGz/view?usp=sharing>

1. Gargani notes 2025 - Logic of Evaluation -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qFFjNACba-8lvKjGnPg8dZeAgrsskqOr/view?usp=sharing>

Hopefully you are able to access these resources with these links now.