PARTICIPATORY M&E, COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT COURSE

Introduction

This practical programme focuses on approaches that actively involve communities, beneficiaries, programme participants and other stakeholders in monitoring, evaluation and accountability processes. It equips professionals with the knowledge and practical skills required to design participatory approaches that ensure programmes are informed by the experiences, priorities, feedback and perspectives of the people they are intended to serve. Participants examine how meaningful participation can be integrated throughout the programme cycle, from programme planning and indicator development through monitoring, data collection, evaluation, feedback, accountability and learning. The course explores practical methods for engaging stakeholders in identifying results, assessing programme performance and generating evidence that reflects both quantitative results and lived experiences. Key areas include participatory monitoring, community feedback, stakeholder mapping and engagement, community scorecards, beneficiary assessments, citizen-generated evidence, focus group discussions, community consultations and participatory evaluation. Participants learn how to select and apply appropriate participatory tools while ensuring that engagement processes are inclusive, ethical and responsive. The programme also addresses the development and management of feedback, complaints and response mechanisms, enabling organisations to establish effective channels through which communities and programme participants can raise concerns, provide suggestions and influence programme improvements. Particular attention is given to accountability, inclusion and community ownership. Participants examine how organisations can strengthen transparency, responsiveness and trust by involving stakeholders in the assessment of programme performance and creating opportunities for communities to contribute to decisions that affect them. The course also considers challenges associated with participatory M&E, including stakeholder

representation, power imbalances, participation fatigue, accessibility, confidentiality, bias and managing conflicting perspectives. Participants learn practical approaches for addressing these challenges while maintaining the credibility and usefulness of participatory evidence.

Course Objectives

- Apply participatory M&E approaches.

Course Modules

> Module 1: Participatory M&E

- Participatory principles
- Participation levels
- Stakeholder roles
- Participation ethics