The Complementary Relationship of Knowledge Management and Monitoring & Evaluation

The Top 10 Ways KM and M&E Work Together

1. ADVANCE STARTING POINT
   KM can draw on past programming experience to build on existing learning and inform new development and approaches.

2. FORMULATE RESEARCH QUESTIONS
   KM can use existing documentation to identify unresolved questions from previous research to be addressed going forward.

3. LIGHTEN LOAD
   KM can advocate with M&E for streamlined sets of indicators that focus on how people use data.

4. STREAMLINE PROCESSES
   KM can support the design of data collection and analysis processes that are fast, efficient, and user-friendly.

5. HELP YOU STEER
   KM can help design data analysis and real-time decision making models so M&E doesn’t have to wait until final evaluation.

6. SAVE TIME
   KM can create systems that make it faster and easier to find important information such as indicators, tools, and plans.

7. PROMOTE LEARNING
   M&E can ensure that data collection feeds into KM learning agenda for reflection, dissemination, and implementation.

8. GROWING KNOWLEDGE BASE
   M&E can share key tools, reports, and findings in a timely manner, as well as promoting practice as they develop.

9. IDENTIFY LIMITATIONS
   M&E can help identify bottlenecks that hinder knowledge flow (from field to HQ, from HQ, etc.)

10. ASSESSABLE IMPACT
    M&E can help identify credible indicators to measure and evaluate the effectiveness of KM activities.

11. PRECISE MEASUREMENT
    M&E can provide guidance on how to effectively measure KM activity for increased legitimacy.

12. STRONGER DISSEMINATION
    KM can develop and structure products and publications that promote high quality results and make information action-focused.

13. BETTER CONNECTIONS
    KM can translate information across technical and functional silos to build learning networks and connections that make M&E better.

14. DRIVE DATA USE
    KM can highlight quality results and design processes and tools for ensuring replication in ongoing implementation.

15. IMPROVE IMPACT
    KM can disseminate and build upon existing organizational tools and best practices to improve the impact and success of current projects.

16. SUPPORT AN EXPANDING SECTOR
    M&E can share challenges and winning strategies in the journey toward acceptance and integration within international development.

17. ADVOCATE VALUE
    M&E can help leadership and others recognize KM’s worth and its distinct, complementary role to M&E.

18. STRENGTHEN THEORY OF CHANGE
    M&E can include KM in the planning, design, and implementation of frameworks to ensure KM considerations are present.

19. COLLABORATIVE CULTURE
    M&E can provide regular opportunities for collaboration in order to identify, document, and implement new learning.

20. KNOWLEDGE CAPTURE
    M&E can support KM to accurately develop and adapt tools, surveys, and projects, especially with a collaboration and learning focus.

Definitions adapted from Global Health eLearning Center