

Perception surveys vs community-based monitoring:

	<p>groups), subject to a consideration of Do No Harm considerations, to ensure objective and representative responses, followed by a questionnaire designed by the outfit (with input from PBF) so as to track relevant indicators from the project result framework, followed by statistical analysis and data cleaning, followed by a formal report, ideally including comparison between target and comparison zones/groups to allow comparison and more valid assessment of project contribution. Sharing and validation of the report findings will depend on each country context.</p>	<p>answered by the selected community representatives (either directly or following consultations within the community or within the identified entity e.g. youth or women's association) and that need to be passed to a CSO or the PBF Secretariat for compilation and analysis. Visits by the Secretariat or mobile communications can be used for this purpose. Emphasis is on participatory approaches at all stages (including on the actual questions and definition of success) and regular feedback loops which accompany implementation.</p>
<p>Frequency:</p>	<p>Usually happens less frequently, with a focus on the baseline and the endline, but in some cases can be done annually.</p>	<p>Needs to happen more frequently so as to provide real time trends in opinions, so can be quarterly or six monthly etc, in agreement with the community to make sure it is feasible/ not an overload.</p>
<p>Setting up/ launching the tool:</p>	<p>Research organizations typically have large pools of trained interviewers and sufficient field experience and knowledge to organize logistics. It includes preparation of the questionnaire, identification of the interviewers, training in the use of the questionnaire and any cultural/ peacebuilding issues, and doing a small pilot to test the questionnaire.</p>	<p>Set-up heavily depends on local experience and capabilities and any existing CBM r local coordination mechanisms. It can be the most expensive component of a CBM as it requires identifying the right mechanism/ participants,</p>

Possible advantages:	<p>Provides more robust and possibly representative (at some level) data, which can be quantitative and qualitative and directly linked to the project result frameworks, and can provide a good overall analysis of contribution towards results.</p> <p>Can allow for target and non-target comparison, so will help address the initiative's contribution to the result.</p> <p>Can be more objective as usually done by an outside entity, even if it can be supported by local organizations. Can provide statistically significant data and enable more methodologically sound comparisons over time.</p>	<p>also be hired to help support this work. At the same time, a number of follow-up issues can arise through CBM and ideally the organization doing the CBM should also have some resources to follow-up on such issues or at least ensure they are passed to the right entities.</p> <p>Provides more frequent/ real time data on project implementation and can be used for course correction.</p> <p>Can reach remalysis34193 201.38 cr</p>
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decision-makers to measure the kinds of and levels of attitudes and beliefs of community members as well as their perceptions of capacities and behavior of community members and/or state agents. Perception surveys are especially useful for interventions which go beyond 12 or 18 months and which expect to see a change beyond physical infrastructure. Depending on the types/ size of PBF interventions in the country, consideration should be given to whether a perception survey should be confined to a single project or should cover various PBF (and possibly non PBF) projects, especially if they intervene in same/ similar communities and if their interventions aim to affect same/similar high-level changes.

2) Who organizes/ leads and who needs to be involved

Perception surveys are complex and need to have a M&E expert to manage them. If the perception survey is deemed suitable to cover more than one project and if there is a PBF Secretariat and/or a M&E unit in the Resident Coordinator's office, then they are best placed to take the lead on organizing/ managing the perception survey and coordination between different implementing partners.

The survey mechanism needs to be designed by an expert statistician, ideally with strong experience in the thematic subject matter and post-conflict/ peacebuilding contexts. The survey needs to be conducted by local enumerators (male and female) who understand the local culture/ sensitivities and are trusted by the local communities, with some supervision from the expert (for testing the instruments, ensuring their validity and analyzing data)

4) What kind of budget/ cost

6) Methodology

Specific and detailed methodology will depend on the country and project context and will need to be developed by the expert consultant/ outfit. Below are some methodological issues to keep in mind:

- The following principles should guide the survey methodology:

- Inclusivity and participation in the survey design, involving a wide variety of stakeholders (including targeted communities) to get their inputs and ownership;

- Transparency about the purpose and use of the survey and about the survey findings (if possible, these should be made public, should be shared widely and should also be fed back in some way to the communities which participated);

- Conflict and gender sensitivity are paramount in (m)3/F1 81 168.293112 612 792 31150 1 /P AMCTJE

the survey concise to ensure shared understanding and that the survey is fully completed and completed to a good quality. This can mean compromising on the level of qualitative detail and nuance that is captured. Care should be taken with how the survey is explained to potential respondents and their informed consent should be obtained (whether in writing or verbally).

- There need to be several checks and balances to ensure that the process is conducted well methodologically and from the Do No Harm perspective, including a percent of interviews that are accompanied by a supervisor, spot-checks of certain surveys including possibly call backs to some respondents etc.
- The survey methodology needs to consider the best way of finding a varied cross-section of people in a moment that allows them to respond to a serious survey. It needs to take into account local and cultural dimensions and so might include door to door visits or meetings in public places like markets. It is important to ensure that respondents are selected with a certain degree of

role. Nonetheless, outside expertise in setting up such systems is often very useful and often CSOs with experience in community-based work are best placed to provide it. Just like for perception surveys, it is important to spend time with all the implementing agencies, Government representatives and community members/ leaders as part of setting up the system, to ensure buy-in and understanding.

3) When to set it up

Before setting up a CBM, some research should be made on existing CBMs/ coordination mechanisms in the zones, which may be in place through other implementing partners or through the UN peacekeeping operations where those exist. It is important to take stock of those and see if they can be built on, to avoid unnecessary duplication or confusion, to align them or at least to ensure a clear differentiation. Ideally, a CBM system should be included in the project design or the design of the peacebuilding strategy so that sufficient funds can be allocation to it. The actual set-up should take place relatively early in the project implementation cycle so that it can be the method of collecting project data after the conduct of the initial baselines perception survey.

4) What kind of budget/ cost

CBM cost

may be needed, it is important to ensure that other members of community (including voices of women and youth and any minorities) are included as much as possible.

- e. If necessary, proceed to contract partners that can assist in the set-up of the CBM and ensure that any existing experts are contacted in advance to make sure they are aware of the task and ready to apply. If there is only one organization capable of conducting the survey, consider entering into a grant mechanism, rather than a lengthier competitive process. If a perception survey is also being contracted, consider if the same organization can do both the perception survey and the initial set-up of CBM.
- f. Once the contracts are in place, ensure that the first step is reviewing the project objectives and how they lend themselves to CBM, and can be translated into clear, easy and relevant questions and can be tracked by communities directly (the questions do not necessarily need to be linked to specific project indicators or technical in nature).
- g. The next steps are the design of simple community surveys with no more than 5-10 questions, identification of champions, training of champions, sensitization of communities about CBM and provision of technology/ means and frequency of feeding back the data to a central place (for example, every 3 or 6 months). The central place can be the PBF Secretariat, the implementing agency itself, the CSO hired to assist or another relevant and independent M&E entity that can gather and analyze the data incoming from various community (there are pro's and con's with the various approaches).
- h. After each round of CBM data gathering is completed, it is time for analysis and reporting of the findings by the focal point selected for this purpose. A brief report needs to be prepared and shared with key stakeholders, including project managers, to make sure that the findings are acted upon. There is no standard report format but it needs to be geared towards the audience and user friendly. The same focal point should also feed back any actions/ reactions to the communities and ensure there are no expectations that cannot be met.
- i. Any methodological issues with the first survey should be noted so that necessary adjustment can be included for the second round of CBM.

6) Methodology

- The following principles should guide the CBM methodology:3aet754.91 3Qq2003 F1 11.eared8a{(f)10(o)-Q the C

System then needs to have a simple and cost efficient way for the CBM champions to record, compile and transmit that information for their community back to the M&E manager (or the supporting CSO). This can be done through mobile technology or more traditional means.

- An important aspect to be mindful about is to ensure that the mechanism designed will bring forward the voices of all strata of communities including women of different social groups, youths, refugees and any other minority groups. If the mechanism relies too much on local elite, there is a danger that the elite would control the message going back to the project, the government and the donors.
- There need to be several checks and balances to ensure that the process is conducted well, including some spot checks, extra training for the champions and possibly additional visits by the M&E manager to ensure the process is running smoothly. Potential response bias needs to be identified and considered at all stages (design/ sampling/ administration/ analysis) and considered in the interpretation of the data.
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