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# Key Elements of Evaluation at MCC

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# Coverage

- Some form of credible evaluation of impact for every activity
  
- Strategic investment of Impact Evaluation funds
  - As part of program design
  - Where opportunities to learn are greatest
  
- Lessons:
  - Resources – funds, time, people, guidance – need to be made available
  - Always easy to let evaluations slip – institutional commitment to evaluation is essential



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# Objective Framework

- Quantitative projection of impact before funding decision
  - Explicit framework linking investments to measurable impact
  - MCC measures dollars, but every sector needs metric
  
- Quantitative framework → attribution and rigor
  - 50% of MCC activities subjected to rigorous IE
  - Others will have “next best” evaluation compared to output and outcome estimates in pre-investment projections
  
- Lessons:
  - Pre-decision estimate of impact creates framework for M&E
  - Single measurable metric should guide decisions
  - Need a sense of best, better, and acceptable methods



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# Independence of Analysis

- All Evaluations will be conducted by credible private evaluators with specialized skills and experience
- MCC retains the right to comment on drafts, but evaluators have final editorial control and dissemination rights
- Lessons:
  - Use of external evaluators establishes independence directly
  - Internal evaluators possible, but
    - Should not be implementers – not fair, not credible
    - Need evaluation to be primary function



# Transparency

- MCC documenting all evaluation work on website
  - Sector strategies and institutional portfolio
  - External evaluators, their workplans and timelines
  - Final reports and all supporting data
  
- Lessons:
  - Transparency helps “protect” evaluation work
  - Accountability and learning intertwined



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Thank You!