

3rd Expert Roundtable



Challenges and Opportunities in Parliamentary Monitoring and Evaluation

*Why is it important for parliaments to monitor their
performance?*

By
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Bio of Presenter



- ◆ Head, Monitoring and Evaluation Division-Parliament of Uganda
- ◆ Thirteen (13) years working experience in parliament in areas of monitoring and evaluation.
- ◆ Board Member and Convener of the Government Evaluation ITIG-International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS), Advisory Committee Member-Africa Center for Evidence (ACE), University of Johannesburg and Vice President-Uganda Evaluation Association (UEA)
- ◆ A doctoral candidate at the University of Cape Town researching on evidence use in the Parliaments of Uganda and South Africa. A triple masters' degree holder: Monitoring and Evaluation; Business Administration; and Social Sector Planning and Management.
- ◆ Trainer, Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga Institute of Parliamentary Studies (RAKIPS)
- ◆ Awardee, most promising evaluator from developing countries by the American Evaluation Association, 2015.

Key Points

- 1 Introduction to Monitoring
- 2 Why monitor?
- 3 What does it involve?
- 4 Background to parliamentary monitoring?
- 5 Why monitor parliament?
- 6 The power of measuring results



*What is
Monitoring*



Monitoring is..



1. Designed to ascertain whether or not the scheduled goals of a programme/Policy/Project are going to be achieved within the agreed period and whether or not the destination is being approached in the way that was planned.

1. **Checking parliamentary progress against plans**

Why Monitor?

- ◆ To learn from experiences to improve practices and activities in the future;
- ◆ To have internal and external accountability of the resources used and the results obtained;
- ◆ To take informed decisions on the future of the policy/project or programme;
- ◆ To promote empowerment of beneficiaries of the initiative.

Monitoring involves..

- ◆ Establishing performance indicators;
- ◆ Setting up systems to collect information relating to these indicators;
- ◆ Collecting and recording the information;
- ◆ Analyzing the information;
- ◆ Using the information to inform day-to-day management and later evaluations as need arise.

Background of parliamentary monitoring

- ◆ With international focus on improving governance institutions and country systems, many Parliaments today are seeking to improve their performance
 - ◆ – among other things, to become more open, independent, accountable, and responsive.
- ◆ Parliaments globally are seeking to assert their independence from the executive for better performance of their critical functions.
- ◆ It is increasingly important that legislatures must now play a vibrant role in ensuring that elected MPs respond to evolving citizen expectations informed by data.

Colombo Declaration on Parliament and Evaluation-5

- + More than 200 delegates gathered in Colombo (Sri Lanka) from September 17 to 19, 2018, in the context of [EvalColombo 2018](#), a conference entitled “Responsible Parliaments: Embracing Evaluation for Agenda 2030”. The event was organized by the [Global Parliamentarian Forum for Evaluation](#), one of the [EvalPartners](#) networks.
- + 110 of the delegates were parliamentarians from 70 countries
- + **Declaration:** We acknowledge that parliaments must evaluate their own institutional performance to build coherence and capture synergies for achieving SDGs while national policies are developed.

A call from SDGs

16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



Provide peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all

TARGET 16-3



PROMOTE THE RULE OF LAW AND ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE

TARGET 16-6



DEVELOP EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT INSTITUTIONS

TARGET 16-7



ENSURE RESPONSIVE, INCLUSIVE AND REPRESENTATIVE DECISION-MAKING

The growing importance of this agenda is tied to the emerging body of evidence linking parliamentary performance with effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions and more peaceful and inclusive societies.

Conclusively...

- + Parliaments, are keen to be more open, responsive, independent, and accountable.
- + Parliaments are adopting reform measures for enhanced strategic planning and more modern approaches to corporate management. Through monitoring baseline indicators against which they can judge their own reforms.
- + These two separate developments-
 - + increasing focus on parliamentary strengthening within the international community and
 - + adoption of reform programs by many parliaments—are resulting in a common demand for parliamentary performance indicators and benchmarks.
- + International development assistance organizations need to demonstrate to the governments that fund them (and, ultimately, to the taxpayers) that their legislative assistance programs are yielding positive results.

Why monitor parliament?

- + To establish effectiveness and efficiency of parliaments
- + To ascertain the autonomy of parliament against the operational context of legal and institutional frameworks.
- + To help prepare the parliamentary budget and strategic plan-accountability and learning
- + To stimulate a parliamentary reform and strengthening process
- + To promote gender sensitivity in Parliament
- + To enable new members of Parliament to gain insight into the workings of parliament and areas for more attention.
- + To validate the findings of a needs-assessment mission
- + Corroborate or demystify reports from external bodies.

The Power of Measuring Results

- + *If you do not measure results, you cannot tell success from failure
 - + *If you cannot see success, you cannot reward it**
- + *If you cannot reward success, you are probably rewarding failure
 - + *If you cannot see success, you cannot learn from it*
 - + *If you cannot recognize failure, you cannot correct it**
- + *If you can demonstrate results, you can win public support.*

Thank You



*For God and my
Country*