



Inclusive Futures

Promoting disability inclusion



Sightsavers



Developmental evaluation

**Inclusive eye health project
Nigeria**

Gillian Mackay (MEL manager)

Sightsavers

- Sightsavers is an international non-governmental organisation that protects sight, prevents disease and campaigns for disability rights
- Based in United Kingdom
- Operate in over 30 countries globally
- Low- and middle-income countries
- Large office in Nigeria



Inclusive eye health project, Kogi State, Nigeria

2.5 year project led by Sightsavers funded through UK Aid

Located in Kogi State, Nigeria

Goal: Improve access and quality of eye health services to people with disabilities

Why? Women and men with disabilities in Kogi face similar barriers experienced by people with disabilities in the rest of Nigeria and other developing countries, including limited access to education, employment and health services, and are exposed to worse health outcomes compared to the rest of the population



Lokoja, Kogi State

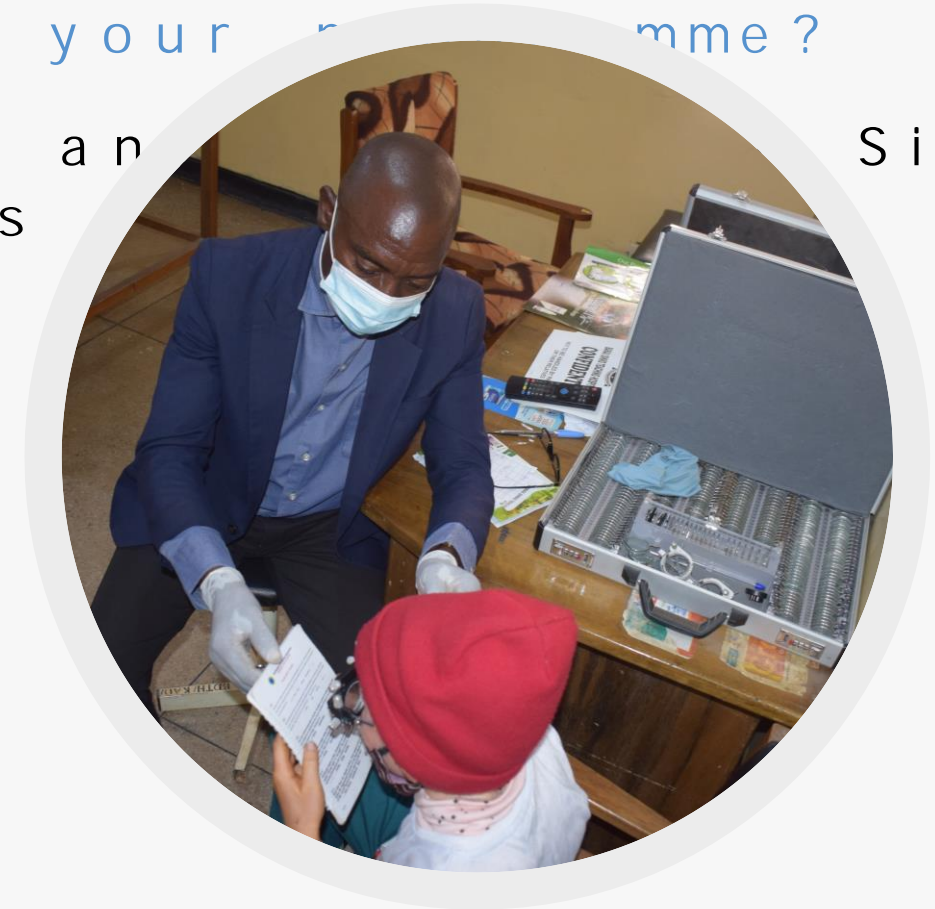
Developmental evaluation for the inclusive eye health project, Kogi State, Nigeria

What is “being developed” in your programme?

Innovation: adaptation, application and implementation of an inclusive health model in the context of the Kogi State MoH’s eye care programme

Model comprises health worker training, social and behavioural change, accessibility improvements, inclusive protocols, inclusive governance, advocacy

Will also identify what components can be scaled up – across Nigeria or elsewhere within the health system



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The main reason we have selected developmental evaluation

To support adaptive management and innovation on a complex project

What are your expectations, what can be achieved through DE that "traditional

Real time feedback

Critical friend providing support to project team, focusing on achievement of outcomes

Support collaborative learning



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Introducing developmental evaluation

MEL identified approach > Project team buy in > Build our own capacity / understanding of DE > Held sessions with project team on DE to build their understanding > Embedded evaluator into project team

Testing approach of DE and building capacity to undertake DE internally

Different to traditional evaluation

In most situations we appoint an external evaluator (time and volume) and independence. A lot of time international expert who may use an in-country team for data collection but generally international. Very standardised templates, proven methodology based on simple / complicated projects

Already develop ToCs and learning questions and rigorous MEL plan

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Well	Challenges
Supportive donor, contracting mechanism and project team – also acceptance that there is a role for evaluator (learning, ToC reviews)	In-country evaluator (experience and find, scoping exercise couldn't international technical expert (guide and mentor) and in-country consultant
Appetite to trial a new approach (DE) and want to learn about innovations in real time	Adapting activities uncomfortable
General acceptance of evaluator in project team – helped that they were recognised as an expert and had worked with us before and good softer skills	Some confusion over roles and responsibilities between SBC, MEL team etc and DE
	Involvement of broader stakeholders
	Timing – longer and more focus on building capacity to undertake DE (also cost)
	Contracting - adaptive

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How has DE made a contribution to your programme (if at all)? What have you gained that you could not have gained from traditional evaluation?

Lot more expensive and time consuming so it depends on your needs

Too early for contribution to programme – definitely helped incorporate learning discussions, helped understand design of the project what is adaptive and when can we adapt and what is probably not going to adapt – set expectations of team. Also surfaced further areas of learning.

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What are preconditions for using DE successfully? For which kinds of programmes, people, institutions, circumstances would you recommend it?

Buy in from project team – want it

If can find a skilled DE

Money, time

Simple reporting and contracting mechanism

People – comfortable with change and improvement mindset

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What are limitations for using DE? For which kinds of programmes, people, circumstances would you recommend it?

Focus scope – longer duration but cannot evaluate everything

Thank you



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