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# Measuring to Scale:

## Adapting M&E Systems to Growing Youth Enterprise Programs

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# Objectives of this Session

- To discuss the challenges and lessons learned in helping grow and expand the M&E systems for youth enterprise programs that are growing to scale
- To illustrate these challenges and lessons through two organizations' experiences
- To share and identify promising ideas for bringing M&E systems for youth programming to scale

# Today's Agenda

- Brief overall introduction
- Case study 1: Education Development Center (EDC) IDEJEN Program, Haiti
- Case study 2: Save the Children, Egypt
- Discussion and Dialogue
- Wrap-Up

# About SEEP and the PLP

- **SEEP:** An international network of nonprofits active in microenterprise and microfinance
  - Mission: To connect practitioners in a global learning community
- **The Practitioner Learning Program (PLP):** A SEEP methodology for learning and sharing innovations
  - Youth and Workforce Development: Using 100% Market-Driven Programs to Achieve 100% Employment

# Case Study 1:

## Education Development Center (EDC)

### Haitian Out-of-School Youth Livelihood Initiative (IDEJEN)



# About IDEJEN

- **Goal:** Provide education and job training for youth 15-24 with little to no formal education
- **Dates:** October 2003 – September 2010
- **Major activities:**
  - Basic Employability Training
  - Livelihood Accompaniment
  - Local Capacity-Building
  - Policy
  - HIV/AIDS Awareness and Prevention Training
- **13,000 youth** reached by 2010



# IDEJEN's M&E System

- Two main components:
  - Output and outcome tracking – 20 indicators reported to USAID
  - Special evaluation studies (impact)
- Centers/field agents collect data and store in database on their computers; fed up quarterly
- M&E system developed very organically – as new project components get added, M&E changes accordingly

# IDEJEN's M&E Indicators

- Number of persons **completing** USG-funded workforce development programs (F)
- Percentage of **program graduates** who transition to **employment, entrepreneurship or further education** (F)
- Number of **workforce development initiatives** created through USG- assisted **public-private partnerships** (F)
- Number of CBOs generating a **profit** from an IGA.
- Number of **individuals** reached through **community outreach** that promotes HIV/AIDS prevention (disaggregated by age/sex)
- Number of **community groups** trained in HIV/AIDS prevention (disaggregated by type of group)

# Current Status of IDEJEN

- 2,200 youth completed training; 5,000 in training now
- Labor market analysis tool to accurately assess sector demand in each locality
- Connecting to other USAID-funded projects and/or private sector for opportunities for youth

# Challenges for IDEJEN

- Choosing which indicators to track
- Difficulty of tracking large numbers of youth
- Tracking the accompaniment phase
- Data collection (new tools needed)

# Possible Solutions/Next Steps

- New database created by data management expert
- Trainings for IDEJEN staff and CBOs on how to use tools
- Implement our M&E system to see how it works!

# **Case Study 2:**

## **Save the Children**

### **Rural Youth Livelihoods Program**

#### **Egypt**



# About RYL

- **Goal:** Equip youth (14-18) in rural Upper Egypt to successfully navigate the transition to work and maintain a decent means of living which enhances their well-being
- **Start up:** August 2007 (design phase)
- **Results (key components):**
  - Increased availability and accessibility of youth friendly services and opportunities;
  - Improved quality of youth friendly services and opportunities;
  - Enhanced capabilities, skills and knowledge of youth;
  - Strengthened enabling environment
- **5,000 adolescents** reached by 2010

# RYL's M&E System

- Two main components:
  - Results indicators (quantitative)
  - Qualitative data gathered (case studies, interviews)
- Youth Livelihood Development Index
- Pre/Post participant tests
- Project records, attendance sheets
- Organic, staged development accompanied by stakeholder training

# Examples of Indicators

Objective/Result	Indicator
Improved Youth Livelihood Development	% of youth with increased overall youth livelihood development index scores
Increased awareness of youth livelihood development approaches and responses	# of staff from government and non-government organizations that participate in SC engagement sessions
Increase in trained youth livelihood service providers	# of service providers trained on youth livelihoods programming
Improved financial capital among youth	% of youth with increased financial capital scores on youth livelihoods development index
Increased community and parent support to youth livelihood development	% of youth with increased support scale scores from the Development Asset Profile

# Current Status of RYL Program

- Market research
- Identifying curricula for financial and market literacy
- Identification of partners
- Training of partner staff
- 440 youth participated in first pilot phase; 1,200 for next phase;
- On-going and planned activities in 2008
  - Master training for facilitators in September
  - Internal formative evaluation of pilot
  - Proposal development for additional funding
  - Design of complementary activities

# Challenges for RYL

- Identifying the best indicators to track employability (ready now for tomorrow?)
- Tracking future outcomes (e.g. employment)
- Difficulty in tracking large numbers of young people (achieving a quality – quantity balance)
- Measuring the softer skills development
- Utilizing the M&E system as part of the program for youth reflection on their own skills, knowledge etc.

# Possible Solutions/Next Steps

- Youth Livelihood Development Index refinement
- Ensuring adequate representation to achieve an evidence base/empirical knowledge
- On-going training for program implementers on the diverse uses of tools – transparency, communication and discrete ways for youth to be engaged in the M&E process and feed into it

# Dialogue and Discussion

