

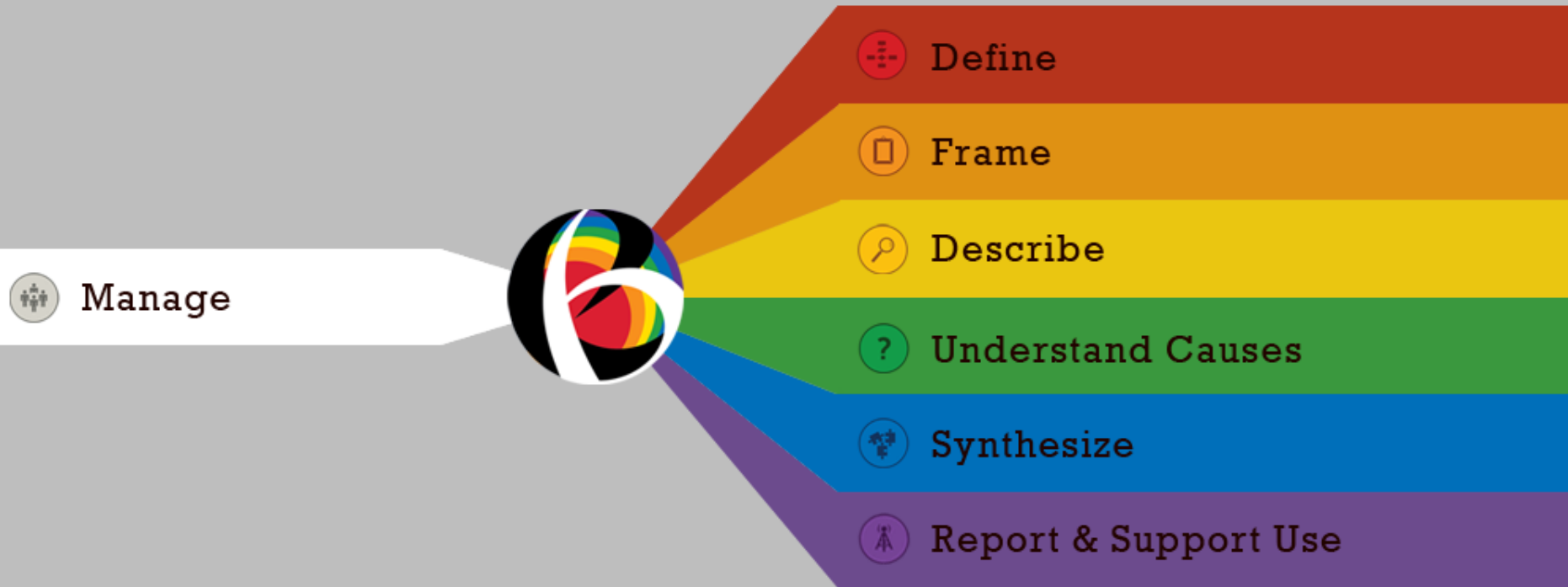
SYNTHESIZE data from one or more evaluations

*Patricia Rogers, RMIT University,
Melbourne*



Synthesize

The Rainbow Framework



Three evaluation tasks in synthesis



1 Synthesize data from a single evaluation

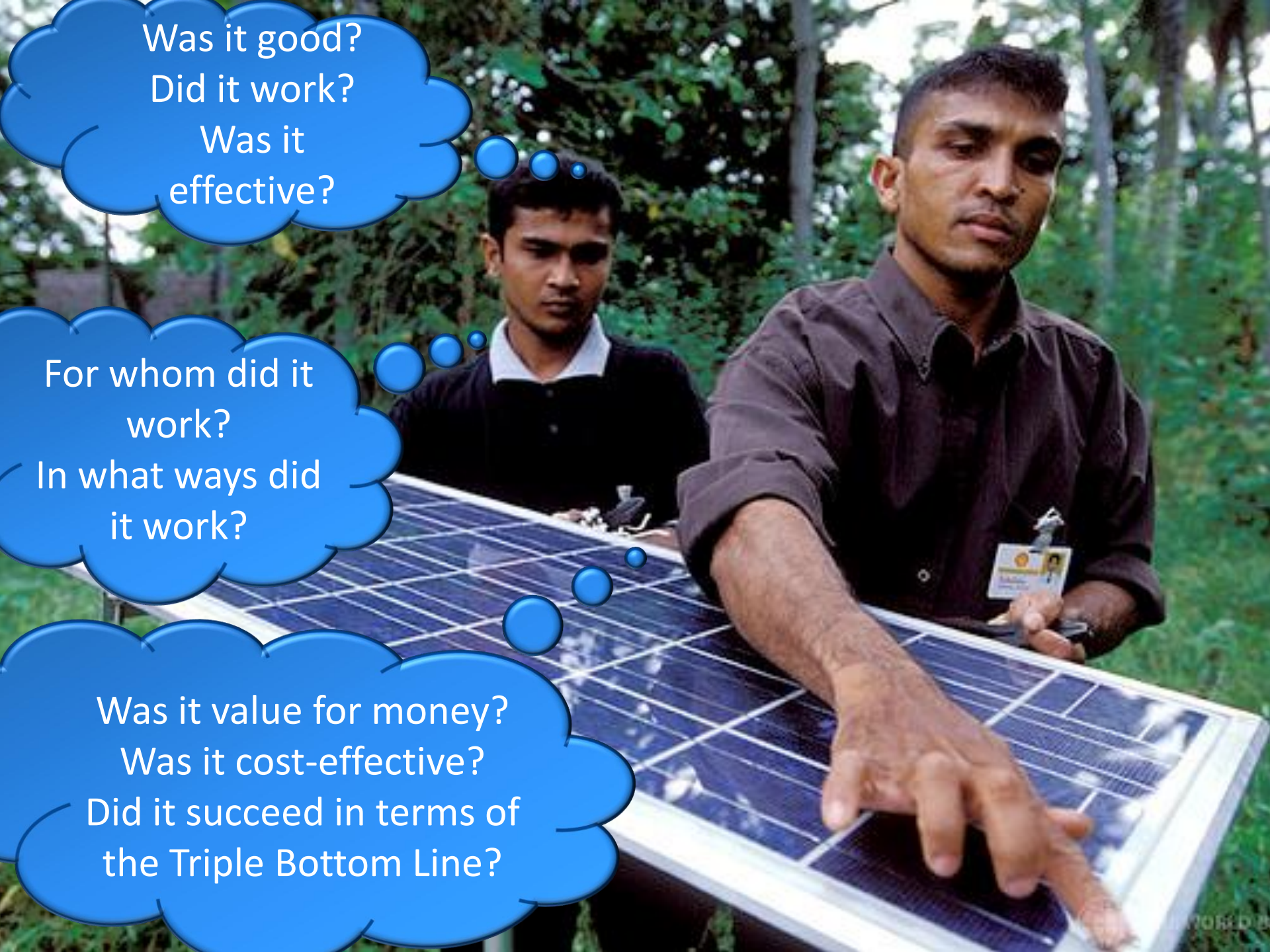
2 Synthesize data from several evaluations

3 Generalize findings

1.

Synthesize data from a single evaluation

Solar panel on used for lighting village homes. Sri Lanka. Photo: Dominic Sansoni / World Bank

A photograph of two men in a natural setting, possibly a forest or park, examining a large solar panel. The man in the foreground, wearing a dark brown shirt, is pointing at the panel with his right hand. The man in the background, wearing a dark sweater over a white collared shirt, is looking at the panel. There are three blue thought bubbles on the left side of the image, each containing a question. The background is filled with green trees and foliage.

Was it good?
Did it work?
Was it
effective?

For whom did it
work?
In what ways did
it work?

Was it value for money?
Was it cost-effective?
Did it succeed in terms of
the Triple Bottom Line?

Scenario 1	
Achieved all intended outcomes	✓
No significant negative unintended outcomes	✓
Achieved additional positive outcomes	✓
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	SUCCESS



Scenario 2	
Achieved all intended outcomes	✘
No significant negative unintended outcomes	✘
Achieved additional positive outcomes	✘
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	FAIL



Scenario 3	
Achieved some of the intended outcomes	✓
No significant negative unintended outcomes	✗
Achieved additional positive outcomes	✗
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	?



Options for synthesis of performance data

Multi-Criteria Analysis

Numeric Weighting

Qualitative Weight and Sum

Rubrics/Global Assessment Scales

Options for synthesis with cost data

Cost Benefit Analysis

Cost Effectiveness Analysis

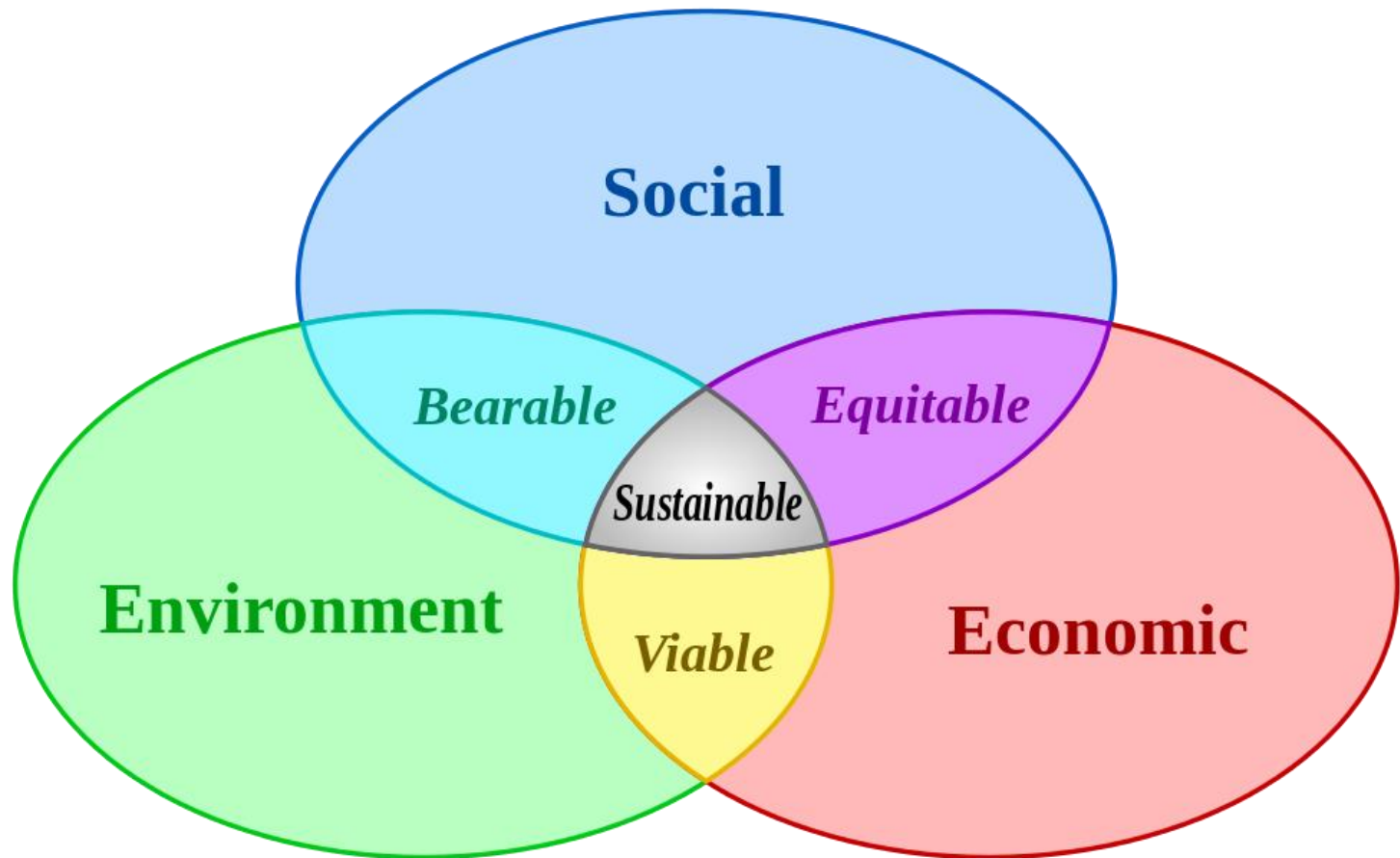
Cost Utility analysis

Triple Bottom Line

Value for Money

Approach: Social Return on Investment

Triple Bottom Line



Process options for synthesis

Consensus Conference

Expert Panel

2.



Synthesize data across
evaluations

Types of systematic review

Best Evidence Synthesis

Meta-Analysis

Meta-Ethnography

Rapid Evidence Assessment

Realist Synthesis

Other options for synthesis

Vote Counting

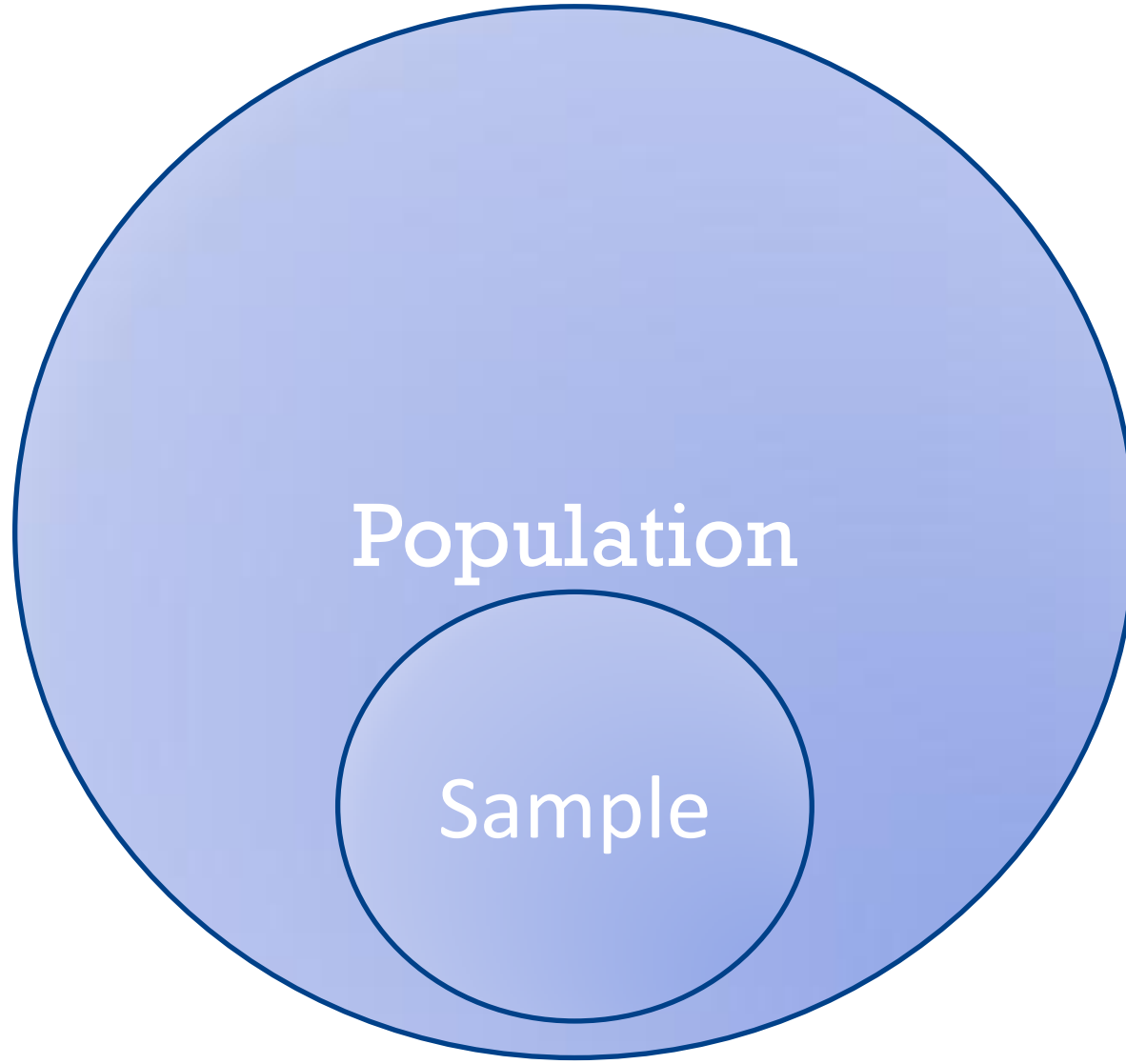
Literature review

3.

Generalize findings

Aslam Mohammad cleans the solar system. Photo: Sofie Tesson / TAIMANI FILMS / World Bank

Options for generalizing findings



Options for generalizing findings

Analytical Generalization

Statistical Generalization

Approach: Horizontal Evaluation

Approach: Positive Deviance



Manage



Define



Frame



Describe



Understand Causes



Synthesize



Report & Support Use



Define



Frame



Describe



Understand Causes



Synthesize



Report & Support Use

1. Synthesize data from a single evaluation

2. Synthesize data across evaluations

3. Generalize findings



Define



Frame



Describe



Understand Causes



Synthesize



Report & Support Use

1. Synthesize data from a single evaluation

The screenshot shows the BetterEvaluation website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like HOME, START HERE, FIND OPTIONS, APPROACHES, THEMES, FAQs, ABOUT US, and CONTACT US. Below this is a search bar and a 'Contribute Content' button. The main content area is titled 'Synthesize' and 'Synthesize data from a single evaluation'. It includes a description of the process, a list of options (Consensus Conference, Expert Panel), and a list of techniques (Cost-Benefit Analysis, Cost-Effectiveness Analysis, etc.). On the right side, there's a sidebar with a 'Share' section (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.) and a 'Resources' section with links to various evaluation-related documents and articles.

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Synthesize

Synthesize data from a single evaluation View Edit Revisions

To develop evaluative judgments, the evaluator draws data from the evaluation and systematically synthesizes and values the data. There are a range of options that can be used for synthesis and valuing.

Options

Processes

- Consensus Conference:** giving the general public the opportunity to contribute and be involved in the assessment of an issue or proposal during a formal public meeting.
- Expert Panel:** using specialized input and opinion for an evaluation.

Techniques

- Cost-Benefit Analysis:** comparing costs to benefits.
- Cost-Effectiveness Analysis:** comparing the relative costs to the outcomes (effects) of two or more courses of action.
- Cost-Utility Analysis:** comparing costs to the value of the outcomes.
- Multi-Criteria Analysis:** evaluating a project using more than just monetary terms.
- Numeric Weighting:** developing numeric scales to measure each evaluation criteria.
- Qualitative Weight and Sum:** using qualitative criteria, in combination with numeric scales, to measure each evaluation criteria.
- Rubrics:** creating a set of criteria in order to communicate a shared understanding of quality.
- Value for Money:** a term used in different ways, including as a synonym for cost-effectiveness, and as systematic approach to considering these issues throughout planning and implementation, not only in evaluation.

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Describe (21)

Understand Causes (21)

Synthesize (21)

Report And Support Use (21)

Resources

Evaluation, valuation, negotiation, some reflections towards a culture of evaluation

Evaluation rubrics: how to ensure transparent and clear assessment that respects diverse lines of evidence

Developing a Cost-Benefit Analysis Tool: Experiences and Lessons from Malawi and Mozambique

1. Synthesize data from a single evaluation

The screenshot shows the BetterEvaluation website interface. At the top, there's a logo with a colorful sunburst and the text 'BetterEvaluation Beta'. Below the logo is the tagline 'Sharing Information to Improve Evaluation'. A navigation bar includes links like HOME, START HERE, FIND OPTIONS, APPROACHES, THEMES, FAQs, ABOUT US, and CONTACT US. The main content area is titled 'Synthesize' and features a sub-header 'Synthesize data from a single evaluation'. A brief description states: 'To develop evaluative judgments, the evaluator draws data from the evaluation and systematically synthesizes and values the data. There are a range of options that can be used for synthesis and valuing.' Below this, there are sections for 'Options', 'Processes', and 'Techniques'. The 'Processes' section lists 'Consensus Conference' and 'Expert Panel'. The 'Techniques' section lists 'Cost Benefit Analysis', 'Cost Effectiveness Analysis', 'Cost Utility Analysis', 'Multi-Criteria Analysis', 'Numeric Weighting', 'Qualitative Weight and Sum', 'Rubrics', and 'Value for Money'. To the right of the main text, there are links to 'Manage Evaluation', 'Define', 'Frame', 'Describe', 'Understand Causes', 'Synthesize', and 'Report And Support Use'. At the bottom, there's a 'Resources' section with links to 'Evaluation, valuation, negotiation, some reflections towards a culture of evaluation', 'Evaluation rubrics: how to ensure transparent and clear assessment that respects diverse lines of evidence', and 'Developing a Cost-Benefit Analysis Tool: Experiences and Lessons from Malawi and Mozambique'. A 'Comments' section at the bottom indicates there are currently no comments.

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Manage Evaluation (0/1)
Define (0/1)
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Understand Causes (0/1)
Synthesize (0/1)
Report And Support Use (0/1)

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Includes options:

Processes:

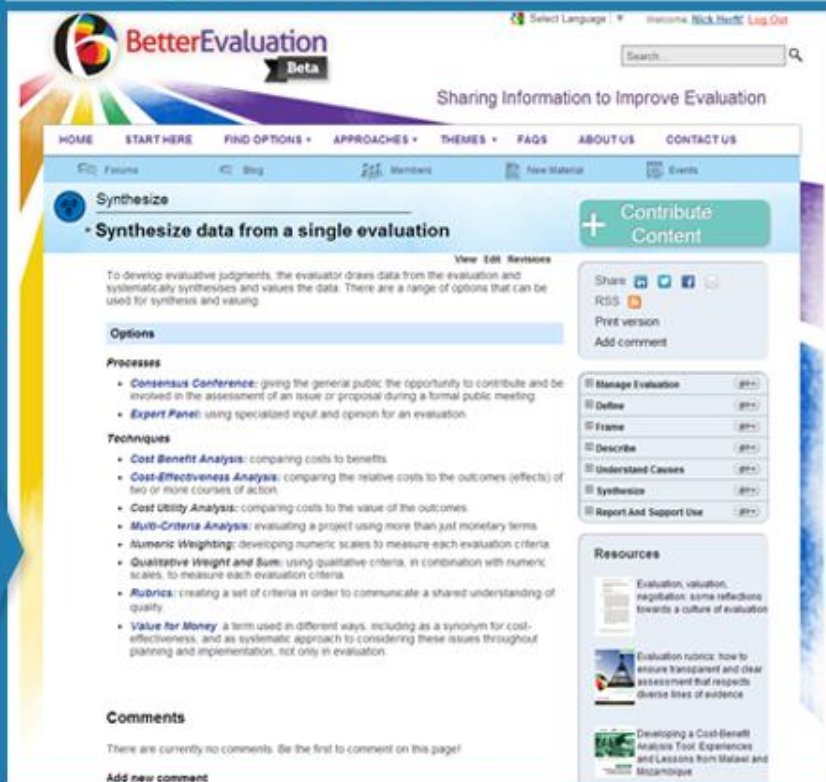
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- Cost Effectiveness Analysis
- Cost Utility Analysis
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- Qualitative Weight and Sum
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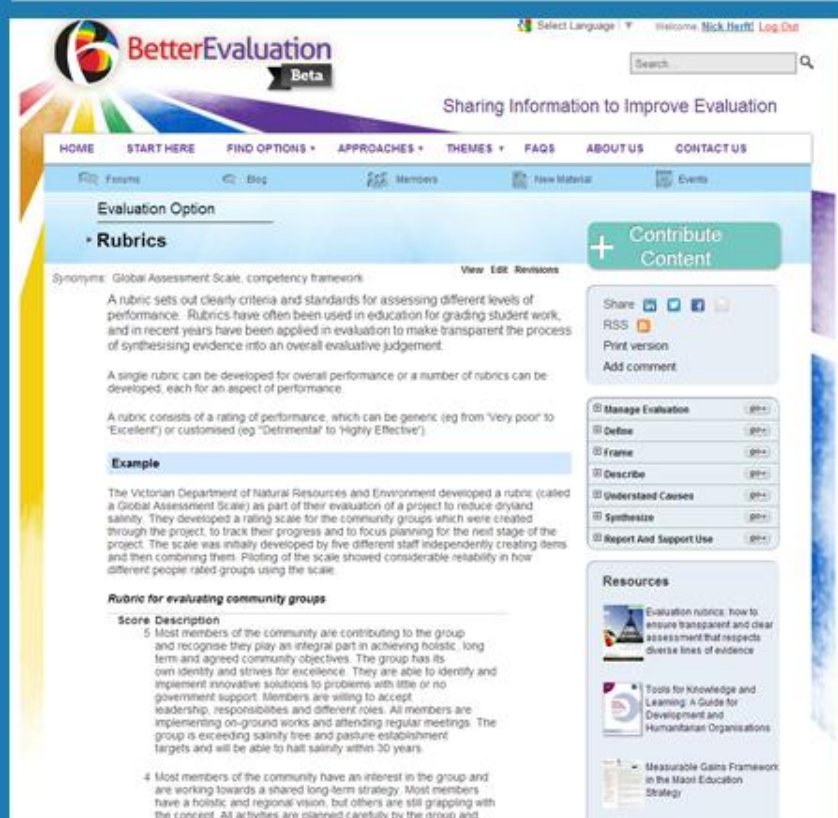
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Evaluation Option

Rubrics

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Synonyms: Global Assessment Scale, competency framework

A rubric sets out clearly criteria and standards for assessing different levels of performance. Rubrics have often been used in education for grading student work, and in recent years have been applied in evaluation to make transparent the process of synthesising evidence into an overall evaluative judgement.

A single rubric can be developed for overall performance or a number of rubrics can be developed, each for an aspect of performance.

A rubric consists of a rating of performance, which can be generic (eg from 'Very poor' to 'Excellent') or customised (eg 'Detrimental' to 'Highly Effective').

Example

The Victorian Department of Natural Resources and Environment developed a rubric (called a Global Assessment Scale) as part of their evaluation of a project to reduce dryland salinity. They developed a rating scale for the community groups which were created through the project, to track their progress and to focus planning for the next stage of the project. The scale was initially developed by five different staff independently creating items and then combining them. Piloting of the scale showed considerable reliability in how different people rated groups using the scale.

Rubric for evaluating community groups

Score Description

5 Most members of the community are contributing to the group and recognise they play an integral part in achieving holistic, long term and agreed community objectives. The group has its own identity and strives for excellence. They are able to identify and implement innovative solutions to problems with little or no government support. Members are willing to accept leadership responsibilities and different roles. All members are implementing on-ground works and attending regular meetings. The group is exceeding salinity free and pasture establishment targets and will be able to halt salinity within 30 years.

4 Most members of the community have an interest in the group and are working towards a shared long-term strategy. Most members have a holistic and regional vision, but others are still grappling with the concept. All activities are planned carefully by the group and

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Measurable Gains Framework in the Maori Education Strategy

Includes options:

- Rubrics



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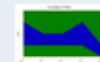
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Measurable Gains Framework in the Maori Education Strategy



The River Chart



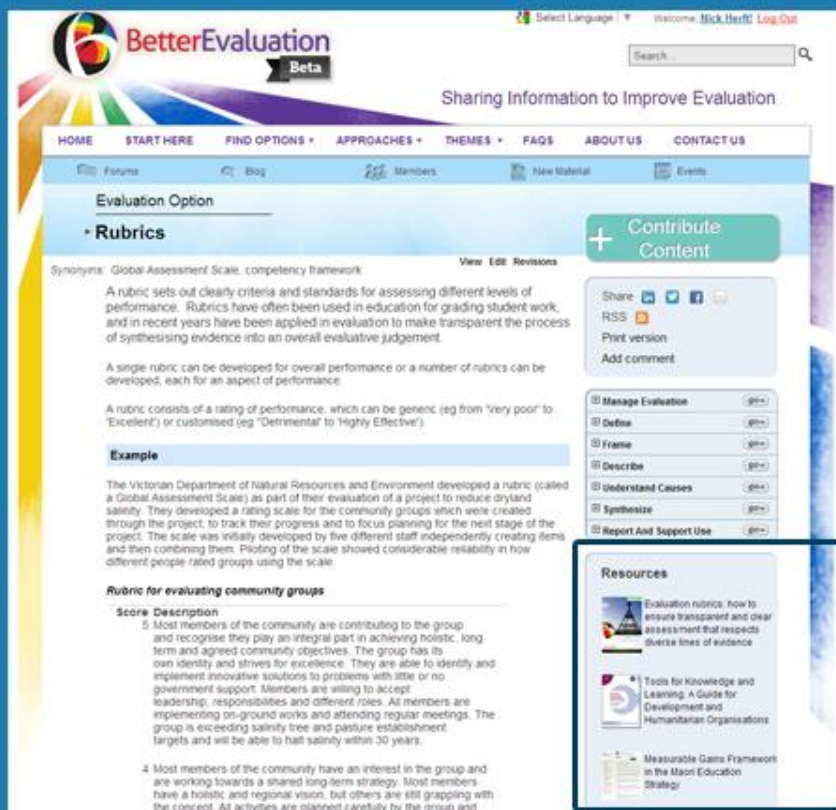
An example of the use of Rubrics in Humanitarian Evaluation

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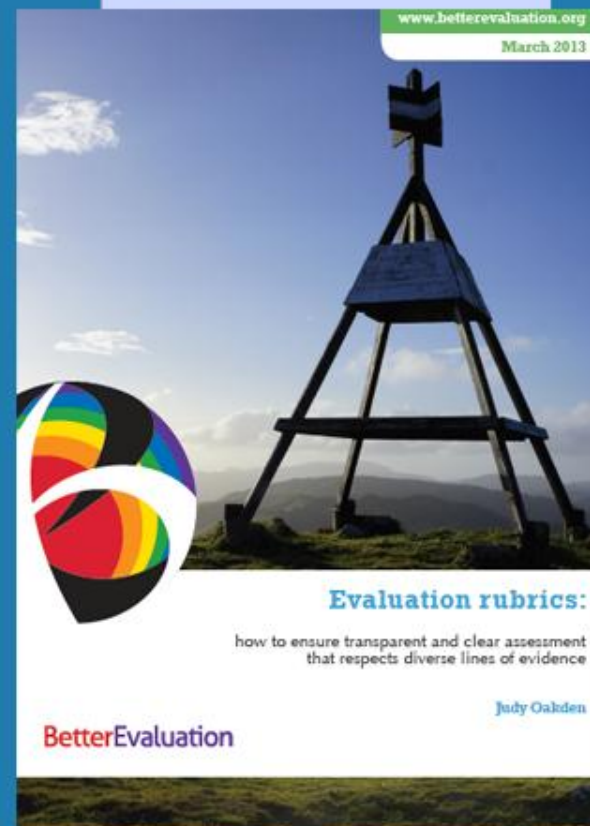
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Resources



Evaluation rubrics: how to ensure transparent and clear assessment that respects diverse lines of evidence



The graphic features a large, stylized lighthouse structure made of wooden poles, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise over a body of water. To the left of the lighthouse is a circular logo with a colorful, segmented design. The text "Evaluation rubrics: how to ensure transparent and clear assessment that respects diverse lines of evidence" is prominently displayed in the center. Below this, the name "Judy Oakden" is written. The BetterEvaluation logo is at the bottom left.

www.betterevaluation.org

March 2013

Evaluation rubrics:

how to ensure transparent and clear assessment that respects diverse lines of evidence

Judy Oakden

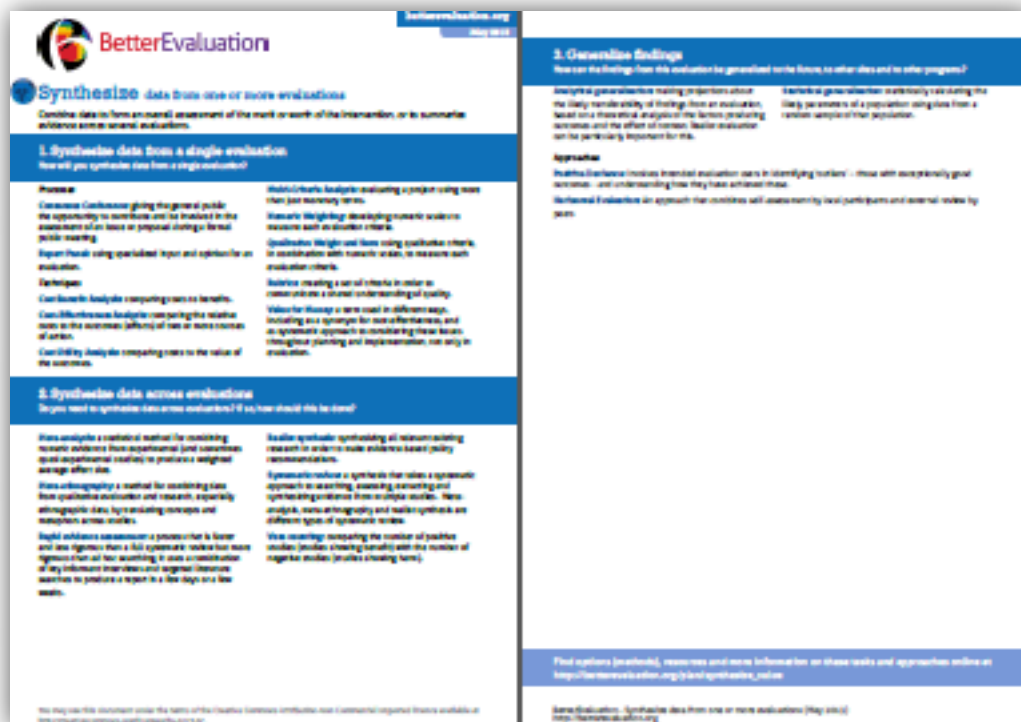
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Patricia Rogers

RMIT University

patricia.rogers@rmit.edu.au