

365 days of a Pandemic: Virtual Practice Implications for Canadian partners



365 jours d'une pandémie : les implications de la pratique virtuelle pour les partenaires canadiens

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Agenda

- Welcome and preliminary remarks Jessica Ferne, CanWaCH
- Insights on virtual monitoring from Global Affairs Canada Tanya Trevors, Global Affairs Canada
- Dialogue with Metrics Working Group panelists
 - Bart Dickinson, PWRDF
 - Jakub Nemec, Salanga
 - Jenn Brenner, University of Calgary / Université de Calgary
 - Luay Basil, Canadian Red Cross / Croix Rouge canadienne
- Closing reflections Jessica Ferne, CanWaCH





As Canadian organizations respond to the impacts of COVID-19 around the world, they are reporting a crisis within a crisis. Alongside the virus, fragile health systems, incomplete data and untrustworthy information threaten to reverse critical gains made in global health and rights and the most vulnerable have become further isolated. How will we respond? How can

we do better? Here's what they told us.

What we heard...

- Avoid regression to outcome-only measures
- Inclusion beyond SADD
- Harness and resource an innovation mindset in data
- Rethink our performance measurement models & do more with less
- Improve our use of existing/secondary data
- Invest in technical (digital) guidance and literacy
- Tell purposeful stories
- Do data ethically: Do No Harm
- Strengthen virtual monitoring practices



The Project Explorer





The Project Explorer

- Most common areas of programming:
 - Infectious & Communicable disease
 - Health promotion & education
 - Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

- Other top areas
 - Law, governance, & public policy
 - Education
 - Food security & Agriculture
 - Nutrition
 - Primary Health Care
 - Health systems, Training & Infrastructure
 - Reproductive health & rights



What we've been hearing...

- Balancing 'good enough' data (collection) with potential long-term consequences
- Unreliability of large data sets
- Capturing context and nuance is a challenge
- How to talk about impact when project orientation has completely changed?
- Need for explicit notes in reporting: proxies used, sampling changes or variances, revised targets
- Data sharing and virtual collaborative approaches are a priority



What we need

- Support for capacity building and critical, creative strategies
- Resource and data sharing through our website and Project Explorer
- Facilitating ongoing conversation and networking with experts and sector leaders





CanWaCH Metrics Working Group

- Comprised of individuals currently representing 17 diverse organizations and institutions
- Meet monthly to discuss technical issues, provide feedback, and offer support and guidance
- COVID-19 context: implications for sector practice



Critical Questions

- How has COVID-19 affected the quality and reliability of HMIS or other large-scale data?
- Has COVID-19 changed how you think about and measure impact?
- What does a virtual approach to qualitative measurement look like?
- One year into the pandemic, what are some best practices, lessons learned, or cautionary tales you have to share in regards to virtual monitoring practices?





Thank you. Merci.