

Comprehensive Impact Assessment: Defining Objectives, Selecting Methodologies, and Utilising Analytical Tools for Effective Evaluation

Julia Panzer // Impact Unit // Wissenschaft im Dialog

GEFÖRDERT VOM







Wissenschaft im Dialog

Who we are and what we do:

- > The organisation for science communication in Germany
- Goals: further developing of Science Communication and promoting a productive dialogue between science and the public
- > Target groups are citizens, scientists, science communicators, shareholders and partners



Impact Unit



Project by: Wissenschaft im Dialog

Funded by: Federal Ministry of Education and Research



Contributing to meaningful evaluation in German science communication

- Fostering evidence-based discussions about science communication activities
- Enabling a strategic, effects-oriented approach to science communication

What we offer:

Generating knowledge

for evaluation practice and for well thought-out project planning through analyses and research

Supporting self-help

through evaluation tools and our online evaluation platform

ne_W

Workshops and networking

through workshops and consulting on evaluation, impact and strategy







Intro to Evaluation

Why evaluate?



Why evaluate?

Increase of quantity and professionalisation



Increased relevance and demands for scicomm &public engagement



Need for ensuring quality



The perks and perils of evaluation



- Evaluation can address a variety of motives and needs
- Can be adapted to any budget, project and interest

• There is no perfect recipe





Setting goals and objectives

How to move from abstract visions to specific objectives



Setting goals and objectives



Abstract visions

describe what a project aims to achieve in the broader (also societal) context



Specific objectives

describe what a project aims to achieve specifically in a way that can be quantitatively or qualitatively defined

Objectives are formulated in a way that they contribute to reaching the goals





The Logic Model







Outcome



Impact

Desired changes on the societal level

Output

Direct and specific products or achievements of a project

Desired changes in the target group (participants) of the project

Input

Resources that are invested in a project



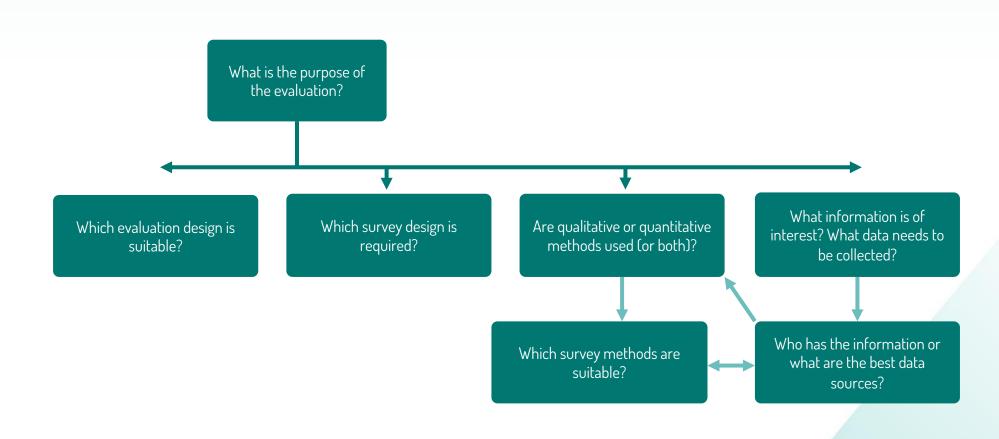




Selecting methodologies and Utilising Analytical Tools

How to evaluate science communication?





The version to read: https://impactunit.de/uebersicht-evaluationsplanung/



What is the purpose of the evaluation?

- What are the motives behind the evaluation?
- What evaluation questions arise from this?

Which evaluation design is suitable?

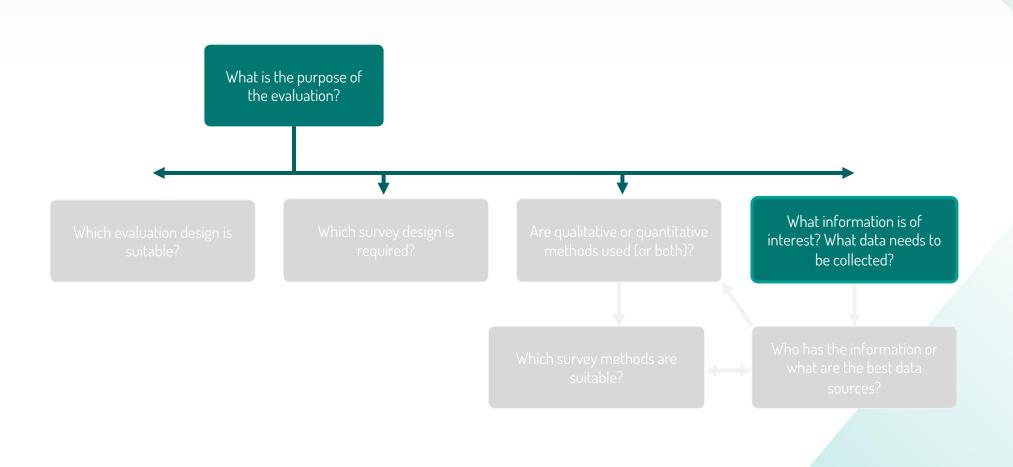
Which survey design is required? are qualitative or quantitative methods used (or both)?

What information is of interest? What data needs to be collected?

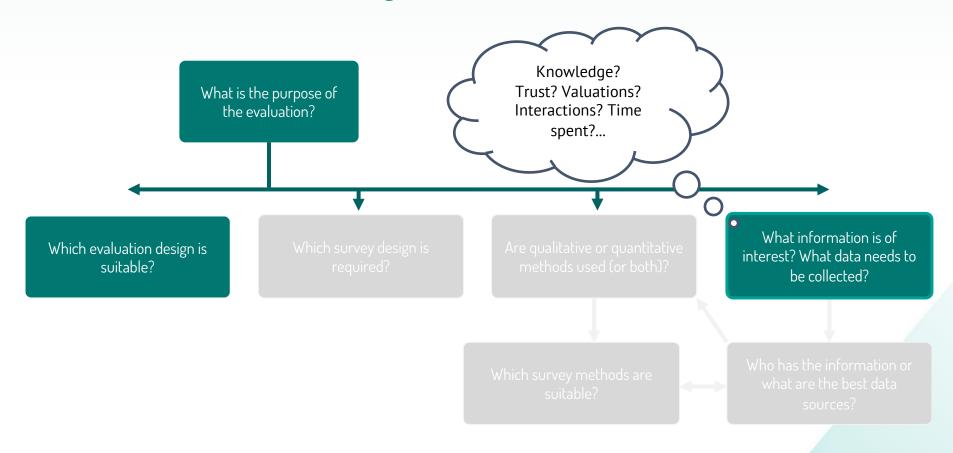
Which survey methods are suitable?

Who has the information or what are the best data sources?

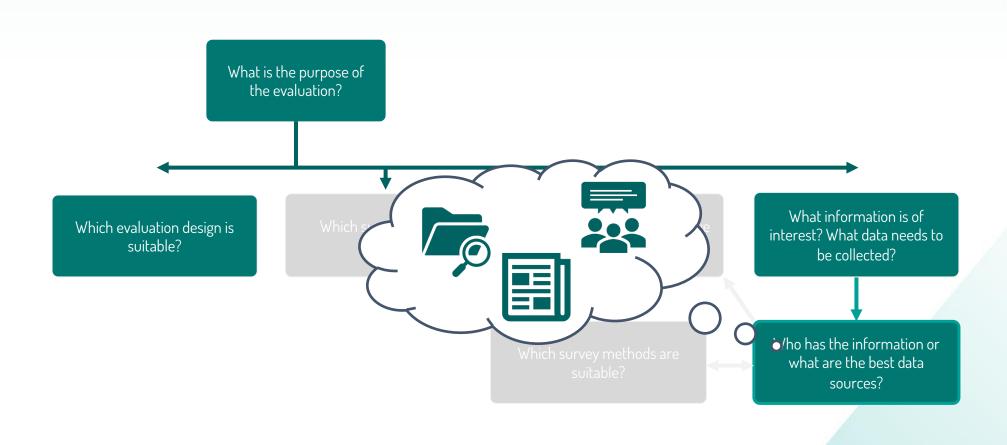




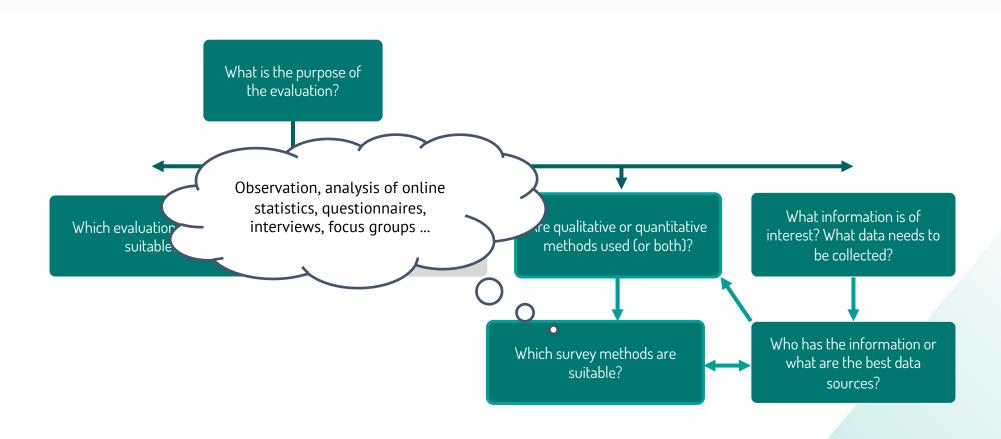




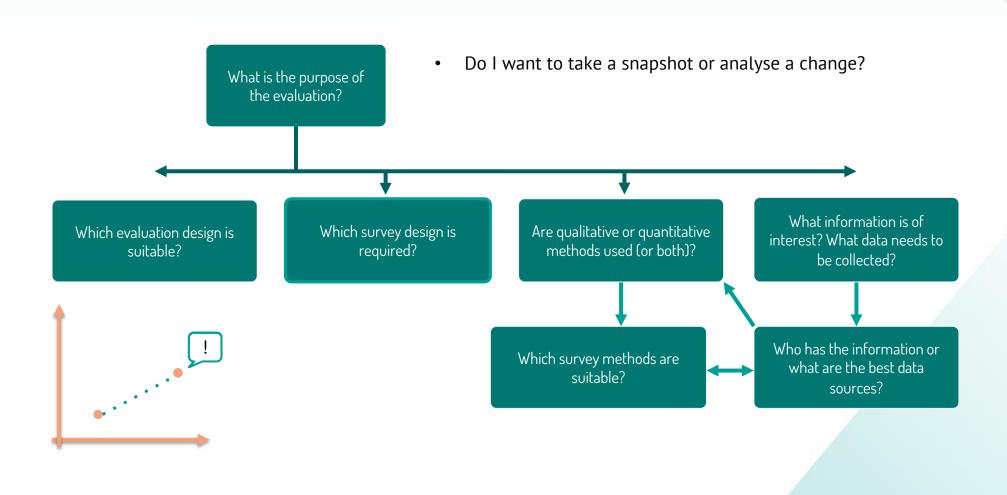




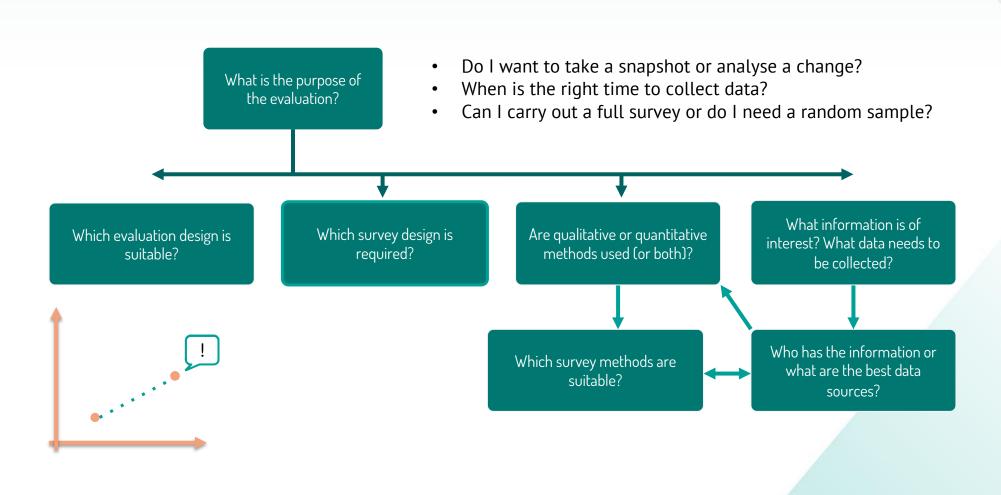




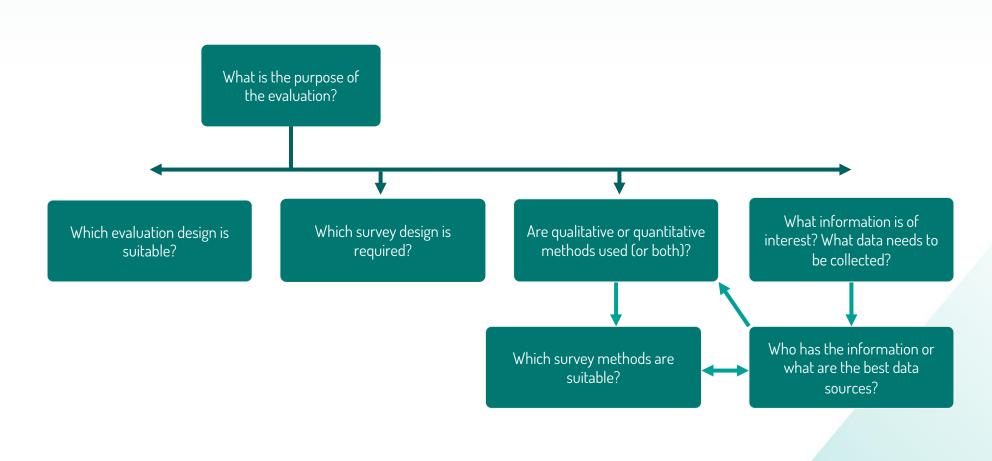












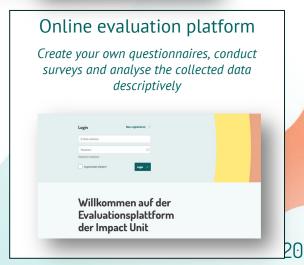


Tools & Materials











Take-Aways

- > **Setting goals** is the perfect place to start when designing an evaluation
- > The earlier you **plan your evaluation**, the better they can be integrated into the project
- > "Less is more" when it comes to data, only collect what you can analyse
- Even a relatively brief evaluation can provide valuable insights so it's
 better to complete a small evaluation than none at all