A very warm welcome to the first Learn MandE Newsletter. In this edition of we are pleased to bring to you an update on the 1st Pan Asia-Africa RBM&E Forum in Bangkok (Nov. 26-28,2012), as well as M&E resources and event links.

We have also included several sections about M&E developments and trends to stimulate discussions, and are delighted to confirm the first of our Forum sponsors, as well as our new Forum Group members.

For more updates see http://www.learnmande.com/.

November RBM&E Forum Update

Communications about the **1st Pan Asia-Africa RBM&E Forum** (Bangkok, Nov. 26-28, 2012) have only just begun and considerable interest is being generated. It all seems to be shaping up to be a very stimulating and very worthwhile event.

The Forum is intended to provide RBM&E practioners, consultants, academics, donors, and program managers from a variety of sectors across the Asia-Africa and other regions with a chance to share their views, experiences, and discuss this important development topic.

Forum Programme

A number of Key Note and Guest Speakers have already been confirmed, and others, including potential Special Session Speakers, are now in discussions with the Forum Program Coordinating Team. Confirmed Key Note and Guest Speakers include:

Ahmed Ali - Ali has worked for more than a decade in the development sector for a range of international organizations, including DAI, the ADB, IUCN, USAID, and the Government of Pakistan. His major areas of expertise are planning and development, research, and monitoring and evaluation. In M&E he is particularly interested in LFA, indicator development, PMP, and theoretical knowledge underpinning M&E.

Ali is an avid and broad reader, and has a good understanding of engineering, geography, international relations, urban and regional planning, and public policy issues. He currently teaches Development Studies, Research Methodology, and Environment and Development part-time at several universities in Pakistan, and is also the Founder and the Manager of the RSPN USAID Program in Pakistan.

Troy Stremler - is the founder and CEO of Newdea Inc, a Colorado-based Monitoring and Evaluation Solutions company with patented cloud software that can design, measure, learn from, and share outcomes and social impact results. In 1999 Troy began Newdea (http://www.newdea.com/) with the aim of providing non-profits with the information they needed to achieve positive social impact, and at the same time give confidence to donors. Troy will speak about his vision and mission, as well as the M&E software solutions that his company can provide.

Sanjay Saxena - is a sought-after Guest Speaker. He specializes in e-governance, ICT, PFM, and M&E, and is author of more than 100 related books that have been used in more than 12 different countries and some 100 universities. He is also a Visiting Faculty member at several leading universities in Asia. In M&E, Sanjay specializes in designing and implementing M&E Systems, and conducting reviews and assessments of programs and projects. One of his most recent of these assignments is with UNDP-UNOPS and the Government of Indonesia where he is involved in the Design and Strategy for

ICT systems for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation. (Http://www.tscpl.com/).

David Hearle - is a co-founder and organiser of the 1st Pan Asia-Africa RBM&E Forum, and Director of Impact Management International (*http://www.impactmanagementinternational/* 💬 David is a well-recognized international M&E expert, and former Director of IMA International UK. He has more than 31 years experience of monitoring and evaluation in Asia, Africa, Europe, South America, Australasia and The Middle East. David's M&E expertise and interests are in planning, and designing and implementing M&E systems.

Dr Paul Duigan, is a well-respected international evaluation expert, best known for his Do View and Visual Outcomes Model, and his strategic planning theories, models, and tools. Paul consults extensively and internationally on results-based outcomes. Paul will share his models, experiences, and ideas with delegates at the Forum. For more on his theories and 💬 ideas see http://www.outcomescentral.org/bio.html/.

We are also in the process of confirming Speakers representing a range of other sub-sectors and issues, including M&E in fragile environments, M&E and climate change, M&E and outcomes measurement in health and livelihoods programs, M&E from a donor's perspective, as well as M&E information systems and software.

Interested Speakers include M&E practioners, academics, donors, and consultants from Canada, India, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Indonesia, the UK, Thailand, and Australia. Come and join us registrations remain open until late October, 2012.

Extraordinary Workshop Sessions

Following enquiries and discussions with several confirmed Speakers the Forum will also include a series of three Extraordinary Workshop Sessions for delegates interested in collaborating to collate, write and publish RBM&E related work. (Please note that all Forum Presentations will be provided in e-format to all delegates attending the Forum.)

Forum Sponsors

Two sponsors have thus far confirmed their support for the 1st **Pan Asia-Africa RBM&E Forum**. We are pleased to have their support for what we believe will be the first of a regular annual RBM&E event. A warm welcome to -

Sea Change is a Southeast Asian community of practice dedicated to the M&E of climate change interventions (http://wwwseachangecop.org/). Sea Change is sponsoring a Forum Guest Speaker and is supporting the Forum to communicate with its members and others about the forthcoming event in Bangkok.

Impact Management International (IMI) is sponsoring a Key Note Speaker at the Forum and also assisting Learn Mande to advertise its event through its website and M&E network. IMI is an international development company that specializes in M&E consultancy, capacity-building, and program assessments. (http://www.impactmanagementinternational/).

We are currently in discussions with two other potential Forum sponsors and we hope that in the coming months we will be able to bring you more updates and good news about this situation.

Update on M&E Trends and Issues

Critical analyses and thoughts on the Logical Framework and beyond by the Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development Research Institute, International Development Research Institute (http://www.fasid.or.jp/shuppan/hokokusho/pdf/h21-3.pdf).

M&E QUOTE -
This came from Ismail of My M&E Linked In group recently

"An Indicator is like a milestone on the road which indicate a starting point of a journey, how far you have gone, how far you have to go, (and) for engine check up and fuel refill for smooth Journey.." thanks, Ismail!

International M&E Events

- Accra, Ghana, May 14-15, 2012, Innovations for Poverty Action is sponsoring a two-day Conference on Evidence-Based Education Policy Making and Reform in. For more see - https://povertyactionlab.wufoo.com/forms/ipajpal-education-conference-ghana-2012/
- Adelaide, Australia, 27-31 August, 2012, Evaluation in a Changing World, a Conference hosted by the Australasian Evaluation Society. See here for more details http://www.aes.asn.au/conferences
- Online, 5 & 12 September, 2012: Social Network Analysis for Beginners with Kimberly Fredericks. An eStudy course - courtesy of American Evaluation Association http://comm.eval.org/coffee_break_webinars/estudy/)

M&E Resource Links

- A practical 'how to' guide' for those new to monitoring and evaluation, written by Loiuse Gosling, for Bond International Development. This 2010 publication is a good starting point for introducing basic M&E concepts. Http://www.dochas.ie/Shared/Files/4/BOND_M&E_Guide.pdf/

- The Capacity Development Results Framework (CDRF) is a powerful new approach to the design, implementation, monitoring, management, and evaluation of development programs from the World Bank. It can be applied to assess the feasibility and coherence of proposed development projects, to monitor projects during implementation (with a view to taking corrective action), or to assess results, or even the design, of completed projects. http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTCDRC/Resources/CDRF_Paper.pdf/

- Evaluability Assessments - Donors are increasingly requiring programs undertake assessments to establish if they are ready for evaluation. This JJEC guide examines how to conduct one - http://www.jrsa.org/pubs/juv-ustice/evaluability-assessment.pdf

DR.BUM
Career Move

The project manager's weekly humiliation of the project progress check.

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