



Program
Development
& Evaluation
Center

EVALUATION MADE EASY: CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Dr. Amy Harder, Professor, Department of
Agricultural Education & Communication



Your Options



- Option A: Write your own evaluation plan
- Option B: Hire a skilled evaluator

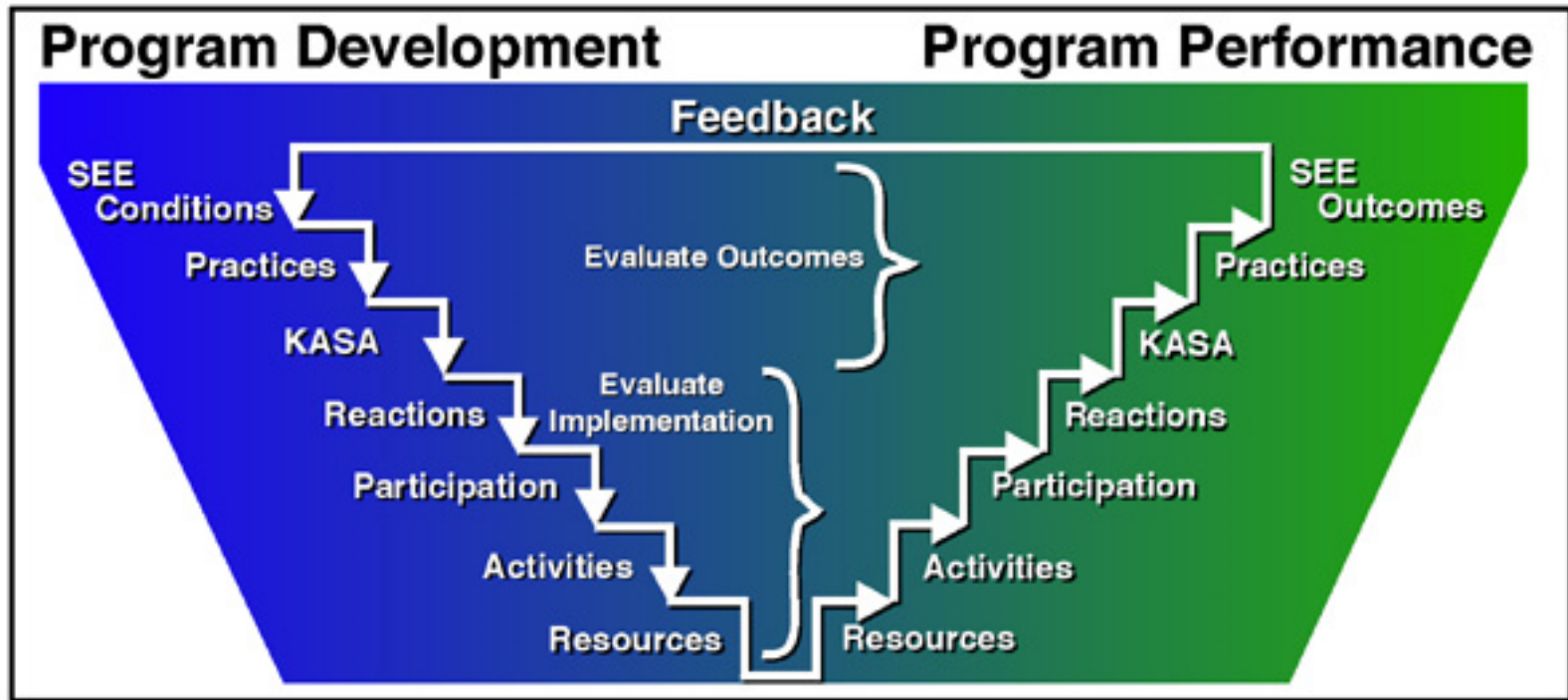


Tips for Writing Your Own Plan

1. Read the RFA/RFP very carefully, focusing on expected outputs and outcomes
2. Choose an established model for planning your evaluation (e.g. Logic or TOP model, see PDEC website for resources)
3. Fill in what's required by the funding agency while you wait for the narrative to be written
4. Add new outputs and outcomes promised by the grant team to your evaluation model
5. Ensure all objectives are measurable, and all outcomes match objectives
6. Use existing valid and reliable evaluation instruments whenever possible



Targeting Outcomes of Programs (TOP) Model





Option B: Hire a Pro

“But evaluators are expensive and that’s money I could put towards _____.”

- ❑ Professional evaluators have studied program planning and development the way bench scientists study their disciplines
- ❑ Professional evaluators often have established methods that have proven to be acceptable to funding agencies
- ❑ Professional evaluators will help you make data-driven decisions
- ❑ Data obtained through rigorous evaluation methods can be used for accountability and scholarship purposes



Where Do I Find an Evaluator?

- Current best option: Ask PDEC for help identifying potential evaluators
- Future possibilities: Virtual center for grant project evaluation





Who's an Evaluator?

- Glenn Israel (AEC)
- Sebastian Galindo (AEC)
- John Diaz (AEC)
- Laura Warner (AEC)
- Matt Bengé (AEC)
- Paul Monaghan (AEC)
- David Diehl (FYCS)
- Keith Diem (FYCS)
- Jaclyn Kropp (FRE)
- Connor Mullally (FRE)



Assessing the Risks





Questions?

- Contact information:
 - Amy Harder, amharder@ufl.edu, 352-359-2976
 - pdec.ifas.ufl.edu