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Conceptual Brief

Creating impactful policies and programmes - Bridging the M&E gap in a post-COVID world

The panel discussion will bring together national experts and M&E professionals who will discuss the gaps in current M&E system, capacity constraints, challenges confronted during COVID19, and ways to put M&E back in the center, by creating a culture of decision-making driven by data.

There is an understanding of the regional and national gaps in M&E. Commitment to Agenda 2030 or having great implementation plans is just not enough if there is any monitoring or accountability at output and outcome levels. There are noticeable shortfalls in M&E capacities as well as practices e.g. needs for evaluations with prompt turnaround. This panel discussion brings together academicians, policy-makers, program managers working with M&E together, to share their challenges and gaps, but more importantly, to visualize the M&E systems post-COVID19, possibilities of collaboration and other innovative ideas to centralize M&E and bring about a paradigm shift in the institutional cultures. The audience will learn about the M&E ecosystem, practices and gaps in Pakistan, good practices and lessons from the region, and proposed solutions for more impactful policies, resulting in visible and measurable public well-being.

The discussion will feature a senior policy maker from the Government of Pakistan with rich experience in monitoring public sector development programs, an academician with years of experience in building M&E

capacities, a senior M&E lead at a leading animal welfare organization and an early career M&E professional.

Panel Discussion Outline

2nd June 2021

4:00 pm to 4:10 pm Introduction & Context Setting	**Dr Roomi Aziz** Technical Lead Health Data & Communication, P2impact
4:10 pm to 4:15 pm Integrating a culture of accountability in national governance	**Dr Shabnum Sarfraz,** Member Social Sector & Devolution, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Government of Pakistan
4:15 pm to 4:20 pm Adapting good M&E practices & learnings in COVID19	**Dr Gulshad Khan,** General Manager Monitoring and Evaluation, Brooke Pakistan
4:20 pm to 4:25 pm Running evidence-driven programmes	**Ms. Maha Rehman** Analytics Specialist, Director Policy Mahbub Ul Haque Research Center; & Adjunct Faculty, Lahore University of Management Sciences
4:25 pm to 4:30 pm Preparedness of Pakistan for evidence-backed policy design	**Mr. Ammar A Malik** Senior Research Scientist at AidData, College of William & Mary Senior Research Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School
4:30 pm to 5:20 pm How do we make our policies and programmes impactful? And move beyond the yardstick of 100 percent burn rate to LFA lens?	**Panelists Discussion**
5:20 pm to 5:30 pm	**Wrapping up and Concluding**