

Red Xeen KiND

PMEL Vision

September 2015



3.12.1 PMEL Vision

As explained before, Red een Kind and its partners envision to be relevant, effective, efficient, contribute to impact and to be sustainable in its programs to contribute to the overall wellbeing of children within the various intervention areas. To measure and show if indeed this vision is realized in practice (accountability), and to contribute to improved decision-making (learning), a tailor-made PMEL framework is agreed upon by both partner and ReK.

Objectives of PMEL: Learning & Accountability

Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation is seen as an essential and a sequential process, meant to stimulate learning at partner level and Red een Kind level, and meant to show accountability to donors, stakeholders in the sector and beneficiaries. The latter is considered essential for transparency. However, the former is seen as the most important result; the improved decision-making which can take place after a thorough planning, collection, analysis and reflection of data.

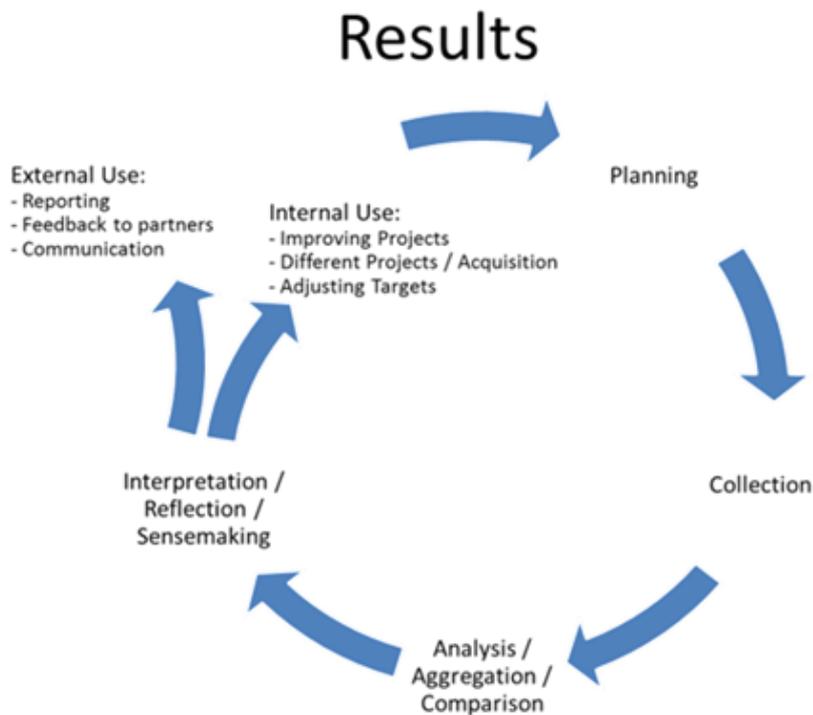


Figure 5: The Flow of PMEL

Contextualized & Tailor-made

Each of the Partner Organisations programmes supported by Red een Kind are unique in character. Additionally every context of an intervention area is unique, so all context



analysis, needs assessments, and programme designs (Theory of Changes) are different in character as well. Programmes also have their unique ways of being funded, which can be private Red een Kind funding, institutional funding, and/ or other. The unique characters of the programmes in context and funding are therefore also reflected in a tailor-made PMEL design for each programme, including all donor's requirements and of course the internal organisation's need for information to monitor and steer the programme.

Theory of Change

The whole system of PMEL as described in this section is based on Red een Kind's Theory of Change, as explained earlier in the document. All levels of Red een Kind's ToC are covered, from long-term outcomes, to outcomes and outputs. All partners, however, first develop a ToC per program and develop a Strategic Program Plan (SPP). This SPP should fit at least the minimum requirements of ReK as outlined in this manual, but mainly depends on the needs of the context and the partner's choice of intervening in this context. Based on this ToC, partners need to develop a PMEL framework including the Red een Kind requirements which are unique to their program. Therefore, we refer to a tailor-made PMEL framework for partners/per partner.

Participatory PMEL - integration with participatory toolbox

One key component of Red een Kind's ToC is creating ownership at community level, thereby contributing to empowerment and gradually to sustainability of the program. Ownership can only be achieved by active participation in the community in the program, and, since PMEL is seen as part of the program communities, must also participate in data collection, analysis and reflection. The Participatory Toolbox contains of all kinds of tools very closely related to PMEL. They are participative and contribute to empowerment of the communities. However, in the former policy period of 2011-2015, Participatory toolbox and M&E have not been integrated. In this new policy period, we want to make use of all the efforts done on participatory tools and make sure we use them for monitoring our program. At least one relevant participatory tool (besides the already non-negotiable empowerment scorecard) needs to be added to the PMEL framework of the partner. Partners are free to select which of the tools fits their context best and serves the community most. It means that the selected participatory tool needs to be conducted regularly at the various community groups and that progress on this indicator needs to be reported within the PMEL framework. See the participatory toolbox for all possible participatory tools.

The value of qualitative data/ stories

Most of the non-negotiable indicators of the Red een Kind PMEL policy are about quantitative data. However we do appreciate the strength of narratives and qualitative data and believe that they can contribute a lot towards in-depth understanding and reflection of quantitative data. Having qualitative data serves communications at partner and Red een Kind level more than only reporting numbers and it can be used very well in reports to back donors. We appreciate the strength of storytelling in communications and acknowledge the strength at our partners' staff of whom many have the talent of telling stories. Since it would be very challenging to have qualitative data collected regularly and analysed properly we only challenge partners to come up with most relevant stories, without doing any empirical analysis of them.



Red een Kind donor and other additional donors

The Red een Kind PMEL requirements form the foundation of each of the programmes' PMEL framework. Every other type of donor brings additional PMEL requirements by itself. This section describes the requirements of Red een Kind donor itself, applicable for all programmes. It also describes optional PMEL for programmes; whenever these PMEL tools developed by Red een Kind can be applicable, they can be internalized.