**350+**
Evaluations
Delivering
Actionable
Insights

ASK

TRAINING AND LEARNING

# EVALUATION

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# INTRODUCTION

ASK Training & Learning (ASK T&L hereafter) is a development consulting organization that provides consulting and strategic advisory services in form of needs assessments, formative and summative researches, monitoring and evaluation of development projects and programs, Capacity building and long term accompaniment in organization development and project cycle management to strengthen programs.

Evaluation is one of the core competencies of ASK T&L. We have been conducting independent assessments of various aspects of development projects and programs to enhance learning and support positive, sustainable changes. We have successfully completed more than 350 evaluations and assessments, covering over 534 organizations across nine countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Micronesia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka), supported by 122 funding agencies and corporate foundations.

Over the years, high-quality, professional evaluations have become increasingly important in the development sector. Both donor agencies and project-implementing organizations now recognize their value in assessing program effectiveness, improving accountability, and informing decision-making.

# OUR
# APPROACH

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**1** **Encouraging Open Dialogue with Objective Analysis**

- Facilitative and Inclusive Evaluations: ASK T&L fosters a non-threatening atmosphere that encourages participatory, culturally sensitive evaluations without compromising on objectivity.

- Independent and Unbiased Analysis: Evaluators are empowered to challenge perceptions and decisions within the organization to ensure evaluations remain independent, unbiased, and effective.

**2** **Focused on Enabling, Not Finding Faults**

- Solution-Oriented Evaluations: Evaluations are conducted with a focus on problem-solving and identifying solutions, highlighting both strengths and areas for improvement.

- Timely Feedback: Findings are shared with stakeholders immediately after the evaluation to ensure transparency and prompt action.

- Stakeholder Ownership: Emphasis is placed on fostering ownership among stakeholders for the findings and recommendations, encouraging accountability and engagement in follow-up actions.

**3** **Participatory in Nature**

- Continuous Engagement: ASK T&L prioritizes ongoing engagement throughout the evaluation process to maintain active involvement from all stakeholders.

- Encouraging Reflection and Open Dialogue: Reflections and open discussions are encouraged to uncover critical, relevant insights.

- Capacity Building for Stakeholders: This participatory approach not only enriches the evaluation but also strengthens the skills and understanding of all stakeholders involved.

## 4 Recognizing Organizational Efforts Through Evaluation

- Acknowledging Contributions: ASK T&L evaluations focus on recognizing the organization's efforts and understanding the inputs that lead to its achievements.

- Highlighting Strengths for Future Replication: Emphasis is placed on identifying strengths and exploring how successful elements of the project could be replicated in other contexts in the future.

## 5 Empathetic Yet Objective Evaluation Approach

- Empathy in Facilitation: Evaluations are conducted with empathy for the implementing organization and its staff, acknowledging their unique situations, challenges, and constraints.

- Maintaining Objectivity: While understanding and respecting these factors, ASK T&L ensures that objectivity remains central to the evaluation process.

## 6 Community-Centered Evaluation Approach

- Assessing Community Impact: A key objective of the evaluation is to determine if the intervention serves the community's best interests or if it conflicts with them.

- Contextual Analysis: The community's needs, challenges, and realities are central to ASK T&L's evaluation process, guiding the analysis and insights.

# OUR EXPERTISE

## Use-Focused Evaluations

We conduct evaluations that help organizations reflect on, analyze, and improve their interventions, boosting efficiency, accountability, and knowledge in the development sector. Our evaluations focus on enhancing the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability of programs, ultimately improving implementation quality.

We use a "realistic" approach, analyzing outcomes, context, and mechanisms to understand what worked, for whom, and in what circumstances

## Impact Assessment

Impact assessments play a crucial role in our evaluation process by examining the long-term effects of development programs on target communities. These assessments not only highlight the outcomes but also identify the underlying factors that contributed to the success or limitations of the impacts.

By analyzing these factors, we help development sector actors learn valuable lessons, enabling them to replicate best practices or adjust strategies for greater effectiveness in future initiatives.

## Organizational Assessment

We conduct comprehensive assessments of all aspects of an organization to support informed decisions for future growth and development.

The assessment involves a thorough analysis of the organization's governance, management systems, programs, policies, and overall capacity, offering recommendations to improve strategies and enhance organizational effectiveness and synergy.

# Outcome Harvesting Assessment

We undertake outcome harvesting to understand, map, and document the various outcomes achieved through the implementation of projects and programs on the lives of target beneficiaries.

This process focuses on objectively collecting evidence of all the changes that occur during or at the end of a program in the communities and the lives of the people. We analyze the contribution of a particular program in achieving these outcomes and map other factors or contributors involved in the process of change.

# Feasibility Assessment

We conduct feasibility assessments for NGOs at the request of donor organizations or corporates to evaluate their suitability for implementing programs, projects, and CSR initiatives. A comprehensive assessment is carried out to identify the current status, capacity, and future needs of a program, evaluating its feasibility and applicability before implementation.

This involves a thorough analysis of contextual realities, needs, strengths, concerns, opportunities, challenges, and the appropriateness of proposed plans, budgets, human resources, and sustainability strategies to recommend an appropriate implementation plan.

# Monitoring

We conduct periodic assessments of the level of implementation of defined activities and the attainment of corresponding outputs/results for ongoing projects or programs.

We critically examine the processes of implementation—activities and accomplishments—to generate a detailed assessment of the progress made. Monitoring results are effective in ensuring that projects remain on track and help highlight internal issues and external challenges that may affect project performance, enabling the development and timely implementation of remedial measures.

# SECTORS COVERED

We have carried out evaluations of organizations, programs, and projects of varying scales and types over the last decade.

Some of the sectors in which we have conducted evaluations and assessments include:

- Access to Government Schemes
- Agricultural Development and Organic Farming
- Capacity Building and Strengthening of programs for Civil Society Organizations
- Child Protection
- Social Justice for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
- Disability Support
- Disaster Management, Preparedness, Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation
- Early Childhood Care and Development
- Education and Skill Development
- Elderly Care and Support
- Food Security Programs
- Healthcare and Community Well-being
- HIV and AIDS Prevention Programs

- Human Resource Capacity Assessmen
- Human Trafficking Prevention and Abolition of Modern Slavery
- Livelihoods program
- Micro credit and Small Financing
- Inter-State Migration
- Natural Resource Management
- Peace and Development
- Maternal and Child Health
- Rural Infrastructure
- Development of Self Help Groups & Federations
- Urban Slum Development
- Violence Against Women & Girls
- Vocational Training on WASH Programs
- Gender Mainstreaming and Social Justice
- Community Development and Empowerment
- Good Governance Initiatives

# OUR CLIENTS

## Funding Agencies

ANDHERI HILFE
Mit den Ärmsten in Indien und Bangladesch

BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

BMZ — Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

ARISA

Caritas

Hanns Seidel Foundation

breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

ChildFund
Because we need each other.

OXFAM
Deutschland

DCA
actalliance

ADB

WORLD BANK GROUP

ecpat International

END
CHILD PROSTITUTION CHILD PORNOGRAPHY & TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN FOR SEXUAL PURPOSES

FIAN INTERNATIONAL
FOR THE RIGHT TO FOOD & NUTRITION

Manos Unidas

IJM

UnitingWorld
connecting communities for life

Room to Read

MISEREOR
IHR HILFSWERK

Transform Aid
INTERNATIONAL
For a world without poverty

TEAR AUSTRALIA
Transform. Empower. Advocate. Restore.

Geneva Global

## Corporate Foundations

ADITYA BIRLA GROUP

Dabur

Ambuja Cement FOUNDATION
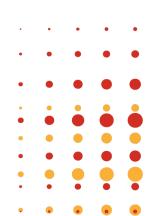
HAVELLS

DLF

MARUTI SUZUKI

# Civil Society Organizations

- ACT International Alliance Indonesia
- Afghanistan Civil Society Forum Organization
- All India Disaster Mitigation Institute
- Baptist Aid: Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship (BA-BBCF)
- Barasat Unnyan Prostuti
- Bihar Dalit Vikas Samiti
- Bihar Voluntary Health Association
- Bosco Reach Out
- Caritas (India, Bangladesh, Cambodia)
- Child Fund India
- Child in Need Institute
- Child Voice
- Child Rights and You
- Churches Auxiliary for Social Action(CASA)
- CMDRR Forum Bangladesh
- Concern Universal Bangladesh (CUB)
- Department of Leprosy Control, Indonesia
- Development Focus
- DAM (Dhaka Ahsania Mission)
- Educate Girls
- Etasha Society
- FIAN India
- Friendship Bangladesh
- Help a Child of India
- HelpAge India
- Hope Foundation Delhi
- Indo Global Social Service Society
- International Justice Mission (Tamil Nadu)
- Kalvi Kendra
- Keystone Foundation
- Lodi Multipurpose Social Service Society
- Manjari Sansthan
- Methodist Church of Sri Lanka
- MSSRF (M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation)
- Nepal Red Cross Society
- Nepal Water for Health
- PARI Development Trust
- Praajak
- Room to Read India
- Save the Children India
- SARDA (Social Action for Rural Development)
- SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association)
- SNEHA (Society for Nutrition, Education and Health Action)
- Symbiosis International
- Swedish Committee for Afghanistan
- WOTR Watershed Organization Trust
- Yuva Mitra

# GET
# IN TOUCH

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