

# Implementation Science and Evaluation #07: **NEEDS ANALYSIS (I)**

## WHAT is a Needs Analysis?

A **systematic process** that provides information about the **root causes of identified problem(s)** within a population (i.e. the population's true needs) and prioritises issues for action.



A data driven process to help:

- **Allocate or redistribute** resources
- **Design** programmes, policies and services



**Needs analysis can support evaluation:**

- Data collected can be considered as baseline data for subsequent evaluation or impact analysis.



## WHY should you do a Needs Analysis?



### WITHOUT systematic Needs Analysis



Programmes may be reactive, fragmented, and not address the true needs of the population



Allocation of resources is subjected to political pressures, personal preferences, what has always been done and the intuition of staff



Failure to identify the root cause of the problem or the true needs

Is a destitute person unable to secure a job because they do not have a place of residence?



OR do they not have a place of residence because they are unable to secure a job? What is the root cause of homelessness? Or are there other factors involved?



VS



### WITH systematic Needs Analysis



Helps in identifying the needs accurately



Ensures that programmes are cohesive, equitable and informed by multiple forms of evidence, making them truly responsive to the population's needs.

Three forms of evidence that are understood as making up an **Evidence-Informed Approach**:



## WHEN should you do a Needs Analysis?

should you do a Needs Analysis?

### Planning phase of a new programme:

To determine what should be delivered within a particular population



### After implementation:

To assess whether the current programme is still relevant and adequate

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