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Mind the Gap – the Role of Evaluation Frameworks in Global Education

GENE ROUNDTABLE #41

17 OCTOBER 2019, VALLETTA/MALTA

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Introduction

- 1. Perspective of evaluator
- 2. Perspective of being evaluated
- 3. Perspective of developer of evaluation policies and practices

Tasks for the Group Work

- Please introduce current evaluation policies and frameworks that guide evaluation practices in the field of GE in your country.
- Please exchange your experience: What are the main challenges for GE-evaluation in your country?
- 3. Please note on a flipchart:
 - What are common challenges?
 - What are country-specific challenges?

Structure

- Central challenges in evaluation of GE
- 2. Concepts of "effect" and "impact" in reference fields of GE
- 3. Frameworks and models guiding evaluation in GE
- 4. Challenges in using these frameworks
- Alternative approaches and their potential for planning and evaluation

1. Central Challenges in Evaluation of GE

- desired effects of GE, such as change of attitudes and behavior, have a strong normative connotation
- Agenda 2030 / SDGs and concept of transformative education reinforce focus on desired normative effects
- measurement of these effects is demanding due to long timeframes for behavioral change and complex research settings to track them
- focus on effects in reference fields of GE shape notions of effect and impact in GE
- influence of various and sometimes contradicting definitions of effect and impact in reference fields of GE

2. Concepts of Effect and Impact in Reference Fields of GE I

Public administration

- general paradigm shift towards an effect-oriented control of government-funded programs in the 1980ies
- output as central category; desired result of administrative work;
- outcome: relation of desired to realized targets

Development cooperation

- Aid-effectiveness-debate / Paris declaration (OECD, 2005)
- output as intended, delivered product or service
- outcome: effects / benefits on target groups in using the output
- impact: effects beyond targetted beneficiaries, often systemic

2. Concepts of Effect and Impact in Reference Fields of GE II

Social /welfare work

- Orientation towards revidence-based practice (Albus/Micheel 2012; Graebsch 2011; Liebig 2013)
- outcome: effects and use(fulness) for society
- impact: individually perceived effects or use of outcomes

2. Concepts of Effect and Impact in Reference Fields of GE III

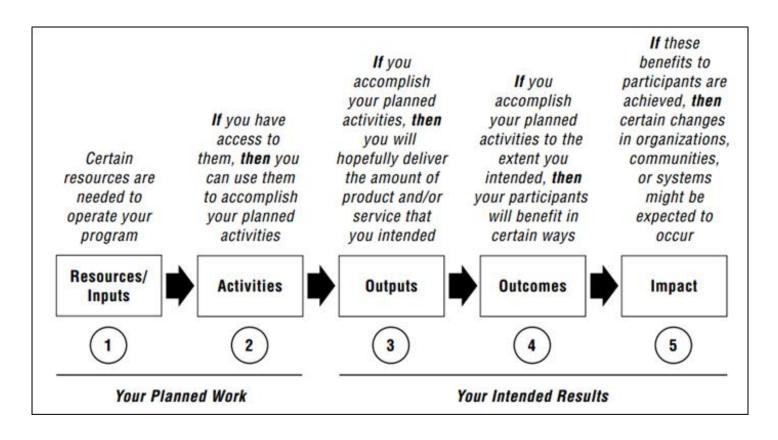
Formal and nonformal education

- focus on school effectiveness (Raidt 2010); international longitudinal studies such as TIMSS (1995 ff.) PISA (2000 ff.), IGLU (2001 ff.)
- definition of national education standards and stage-models of competencies
- output: results of learning and development of competencies
- outcome: longterm effects of output, i.e. further development of competencies
- ⇒ GE: closely linked to concept of development cooperation; in Germany: differentiation between direct effects (outcome) and indirect effects (impact)

3. Frameworks and Models Guiding Evaluation in GE I

- with growing focus on effects theories of change / programme theories evolved
- programme theories, in addition to intended results, try to catch
 - the prerequisites of a programme as well as
 - factors influencing the realisation of intended effects
- programme theories vary a lot, ranging from
 - empirically founded models (Lipsey 1993, Chen & Rossi 1981, Bickmann 1987) to
 - hypothetical models such as the logical models
 - often, programme theories are downsized to simplifying effectimpact-chains

3. Frameworks and Models Guiding Evaluation in GE II



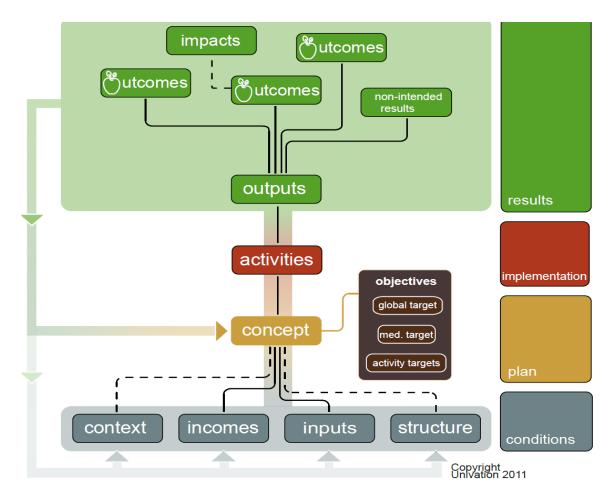
Source: W.K. Kellogg Foundation, 2004

3. Frameworks and Models Guiding Evaluation in GE III



Source: http://www.social-impact-navigator.org/planning-impact/defining-social-impact/

3. Frameworks and Models Guiding Evaluation in GE IV



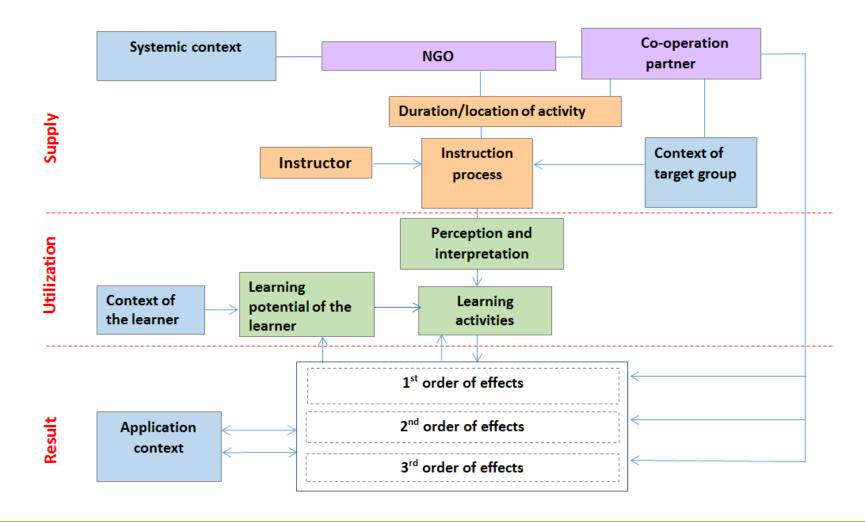
Source: Univation 2011, www.univation.org/programmbaum

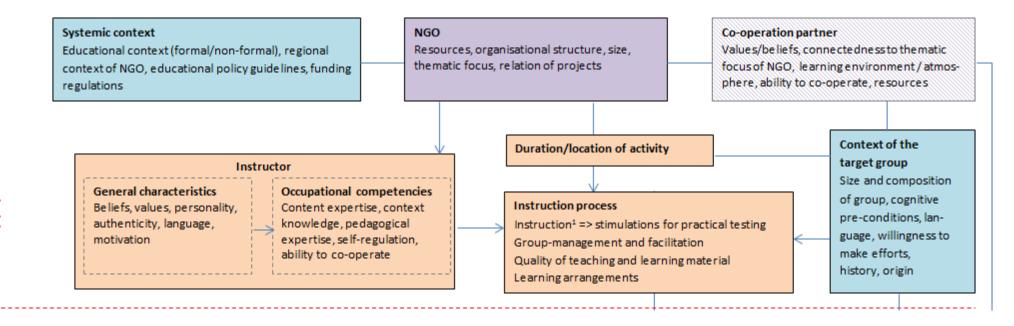
4. Challenges in Using these Frameworks

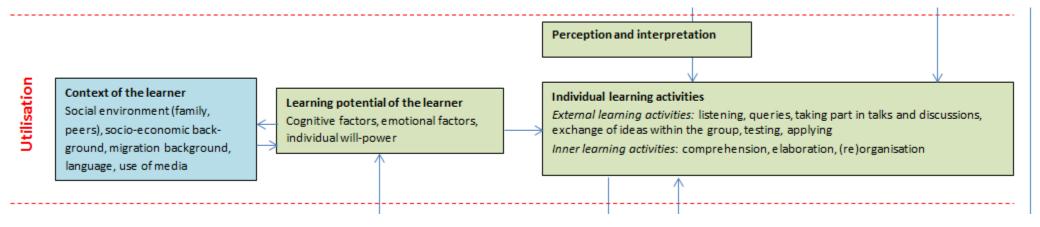
- models used for DIE / GE often stem from models in international development cooperation
- lack of systematically dealing with preconditions and external factors influencing effects in GE
- lack of taking into account the specifics of the field of GE, such as the variety of frameworks, actors, setting and activities
- programme theories mainly based on hypothetical assumptios
- lack of using empirically based-models to allow for evidencesbased concepts, planning, monitoring and evaluation
- technical understanding of learning (behavouristic approach)

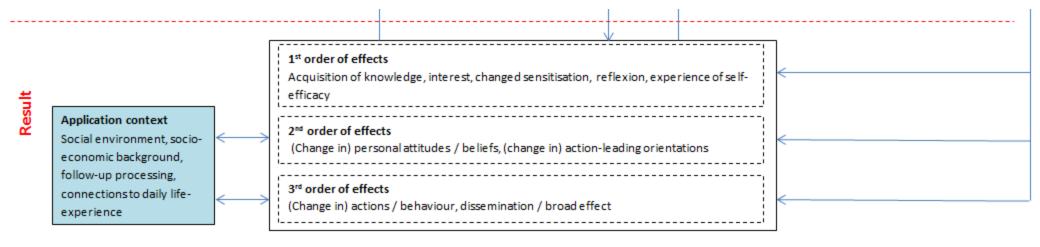
Research project "Effects and Methods of Effect Monitoring in Development Information and Education Work" (financed by BMZ)

- Effects of DEI/Global Education in the formal and non-formal context
- Focus on four typical formats of DEI-activities in Germany:
 - 1. Activities of short duration (e.g. public lectures, project days etc.)
 - 2. School campaigns
 - 3. Qualification of multipliers
 - 4. Development and use of Global Education material
- Additional desk study (n= 104 reference studies)
- Additional research on influence factors for long-term engagement in DEI work via biographic interviews in all case studies









Effects of activities of short duration (e.g. public lectures, project days/weeks)

1st order of effects

Acquisition of knowledge, gain of interest, changed sensitisation, reflection, experience of self-efficacy

2nd order of effects

(Change in) personal attitudes / beliefs / orientations

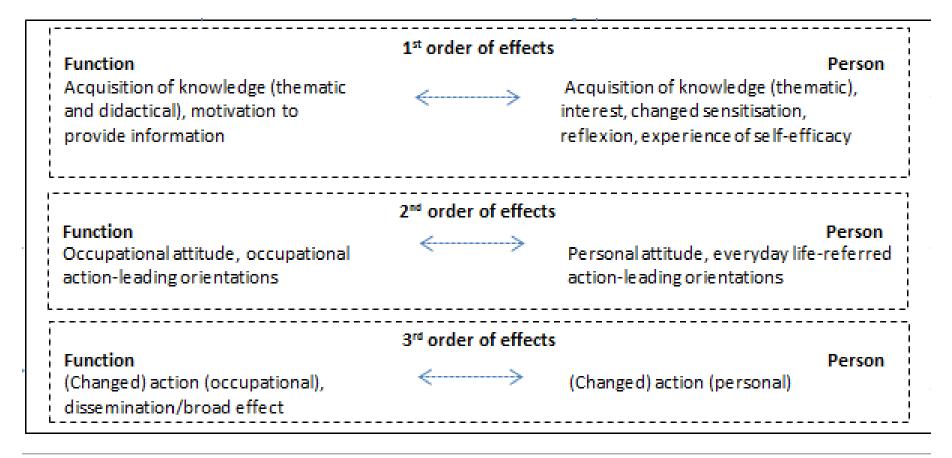
3rd order of effects

(Change in) actions / behaviour; dissemination / broad effect

Classification criteria:

- penetration
- persistence
- frequency

Effects concerning the qualification of multipliers



Effects of school campaigns

1st order of effects (individual)

Acquisition of knowledge, interest, changed sensitisation, reflexion, experience of self-efficacy

2nd order of effects (individual)

Personal and occupational attitude / belief, actionleading orientation, self-conception as multiplier, dissemination/broad effect

3rd order of effects (individual)

Changed action (personal and/or occupational)

1st order of effects (organisation)

Treatment of relevant topics in selected subjects, occasional activities within school, invitation of external campaigners, acquisition of relevant material

2nd order of effects (organisation)

Integration of relevant topics in subject curricula, recurrent activities within school, expansion and diversification of the steering group, sustained interest of the school principal(s)

3rd order of effects (organisation)

Management of new processes, change of procurement, change of didactical guide lines, activities outside the school, continued co-operation with external actors, dissemination / broad effect

Potential of models

- evidence based
- systematically outlining preconditions and external factors influencing effects in GE (supply, utilization, results)
- constructivistic understanding of learning
- sophisticated understanding of effect (=> helps dealing with normative expectations)
- providing criteria that can be operationalized in project-specific indicators (intersection of planning and evaluation)
- additionally allows the focus on concept evaluation and process evaluation

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Thank you for your attention!