

Concept and methodology of the bottom-up participatory review and appraisal of the MIPAA

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Modalities for review and appraisal of the MIPAA

- Review and appraisal exercise every five years at CSocD
- Global theme for first R+A: *Addressing the challenges and opportunities of ageing*
- Two dimensions of R+A: ageing specific policies and mainstreaming efforts concerning ageing
- Chosen format for R+A: bottom-up participatory approach to evaluate policies and programmes as well as changes in the quality of life of older persons

Definition of bottom-up approach

- **Participatory, open-ended, flexible and using mainly qualitative methods**
- **Seeks to incorporate and link local and national activities to UN regional and global processes of review and appraisal**
- **Involves all major stakeholders and facilitates their participation**
- **NGOs, academia and local and national community based organizations and older persons are essential**
- **Empowers through involvement in all stages of R&A**

Key components of bottom-up participatory approach

- **Awareness raising/advocacy**
- **Assessment of needs and setting of targets**
- **Gathering of information**
- **Distillation of the local findings into policy-relevant formats**
- **Adjustment of policies and programmes in accordance with the conclusions and recommendations of the review and appraisal**

Stakeholders in participatory review and appraisal

- **Governments**
- **Local authorities**
- **NGOs**
- **Academia**
- **Religious organizations**
- **Private sector**
- **Media**
- **Older persons and their families**

Advantages of the bottom-up participatory approach

- **To broaden the sources of information available to policy makers by complementing numerical data with qualitative information**
- **To provide governments with policy relevant information when other information does not exist**
- **To establish priorities for policies and programmes that reflect peoples' interests**
- **To monitor and evaluate the implementation of policies and programmes and reorient them if needed**
- **To provide an opportunity for people, particularly those who are excluded or marginalized, to articulate their conditions, needs and aspirations**

National action concerning R&A

- **Establishment of national mechanisms that include civil society representatives**
- **Identification of national priorities on ageing and relevant policy and programmes that were adopted → define what to review and appraise**
- **Utilization of available statistical data for a preliminary assessment of the local and national ageing situation and identification of areas for more specific participatory inquiries**
- **Identification of major partner to facilitate the participatory R&A, including gathering information, analyzing it and presenting it in a policy-relevant format**

Measures for R&A

- **Meeting regularly with contributing agencies in order to promote and facilitate R&A**
- **Publicizing of periodic evaluation reports**
- **Engaging contributing agencies in the identification and dissemination of positive and replicable practices**
- **Promoting and facilitating the monitoring process through education and training of major stakeholders**
- **Reaching out to involve various segments of civil society in review and appraisal exercises**

Quantitative methods of data collection

- **Population census**
- **Sample surveys**
- **Civil registration**

Quantitative methods should be used to identify major trends for qualitative in-depth analysis

Participatory methods of information gathering

- **Participatory observation**
- **Group discussions in focus groups**
- **Semi-structured interviews (by phone, mail, or in person)**
- **Livelihood analysis: analysis of sources of income and use of resources and expenditure**
- **Ranking and scoring: i.e., prioritizing things & events**
- **Wellbeing grouping: individuals identify how advantaged or disadvantaged they feel in relation to others**

MIPAA Indicators

- Formulated to assessing the progress in implementing the MIPAA
- Organized according to each of the 35 MIPAA objectives and on the basis of action recommendations of MIPAA
- Linked to MDG indicators and to already existing indicators
- Presented as instrumental and outcome indicators
- Suggested as both quantitative and qualitative indicators

Indicators for review and appraisal

Instrumental indicators aim at evaluating the availability, scope and coverage of programmes and policies, which governments have adopted to address issues of population ageing and improve the well-being of older persons.

Outcome indicators attempt to identify positive or negative changes in the quality of life of older persons through participatory bottom-up data collection methods.

Role of Regional Commissions in Review and Appraisal

- Serve as forum for presentation of local and national evaluation results
- Assist member countries in coordinating their efforts as well as in analyzing national findings
- Address differences regarding the content and depth of collected data as well as the overall capacity of individual countries to conduct a participatory evaluation
- Offer technical assistance based on identified deficiencies, in case governments request it
- Persuade governments that there will be no attempt to rank countries on the basis of their performance in improving the quality of life of older persons

Conclusion

Participatory review and appraisal of MIPAA is:

- More complex exercise involving a variety of actors and different levels of operation.
- To provide average citizens the opportunity to voice their opinions, instead of only seeking the views of decision-makers.
- Focused on evaluating the *results* of policy interventions from the perspective of older persons.