

INDICATOR 9: SOCIAL CAPITAL

This indicator is a late addition to the Protocol. It was developed and tested in the field. Of all the indicator guides, this is by far the most open ended. This is because the definition of social capital may vary considerably from programme to programme (various sorts of social capital will require different documentation methods).

TEAM MEMBERS (NUMBER AND SKILLS)

1. Social Scientist. This social scientist will need a clear understanding of the concept of social capital, in addition to knowledge about local social and governmental structures. He or she must also have the ability to conduct unstructured interviews.

NECESSARY TOOLS AND SUPPORT

1. No special tools.
2. A liaison from the partner NGO and state department.

FREQUENCY OF USE

This indicator should be executed at the outset of the programme. There should be a gap of four to five years before it is used again. The delay between evaluations is quiet long because social capital takes a long time to germinate and grow.

TIME REQUIRED TO USE INDICATOR

This cannot be specified. The evaluation team should spend whatever extra time they have available to investigate the existing level of social capital in the watershed.

SEQUENCE OF USE

Research for this indicator will be executed throughout the period of the evaluation.

SAMPLING

Begin with the selected villages, and gradually attempt to cover the whole watershed.

PROCEDURES AND METHODS

1. Even before arrival in the watershed, evaluators should begin to ask about local government structures, and watershed management institutions.
2. During the course of other discussions (e.g., water resource mappings, field visits to programme activities) the evaluators will inquire about water problems that local people have recently faced. What have been the problems? How have they been dealt with? By whom?
3. Follow up carefully any potential leads. The details of complex social events can quickly get lost or change when they are retold a number of times. Locate the actual people involved and obtain the details from them.
4. Carefully note down the details of stories show evidence of local people working together to solve watershed problems.

DATA MATRIXES AND QUESTIONNAIRES

Questions must be based on the types of water-related problems that are encountered locally.

1. What problems related to water were encountered in the recent past?
2. How have people dealt with them?
3. Who were the active parties?

FINAL PRESENTATION OF DATA AND ANALYSIS

This is a qualitative variable, so there will be no tables, charts or graphs. Instead, the final report should contain detailed, descriptive accounts of the social capital uncovered in the watershed. This should comprise of general descriptions, as well as any case studies that may have been done.