

Example of Guidelines on Making Projections PRISMA

Projections in the Intervention Steering Documents (ISD) are made based on a combination of inputs. These include:

1. Experience and knowledge of the staff
2. Data from primary research, such as field trials, case studies and opinions of stakeholders
3. Data from secondary research, such as commodity studies, sub-sector studies, market surveys and case studies

The projections should be made for a few select key quantitative indicators; they should say how much the value of the indicator is expected to change due to the intervention.

Calculations for projections should be realistic, and in case of doubt, should be conservative. Many assumptions will be made and these should be recorded next to the cell with the projected value. The source of information should also be referenced. Projections are recorded in the “projections and results” worksheet of the ISD.

This (detailed) projection is used to track the intervention during implementation. As part of the quarterly review, the projections should be compared to the actuals and teams should discuss why projections vary from actuals. This can then help the teams understand what this means for the sub-sector and the portfolio.

The development of projections is led by the Sector Coordinator, supported by the Intervention Coordinator and the RM Coordinator. Changes in projections and actual numbers should always be approved by the RM Coordinator.

Tips:

- Work bottom up, box by box
- Use actual numbers, not percentages
- Use additional attributable changes, not total changes
- Make sure that the cumulative results are recorded
- Be conservative:
 - Don't assume all service providers will provide all services, or that all farmers will apply the service correctly: adjust the 'ideal' change with a conservative estimation.
 - Don't assume all farmers will increase their yields in the way it was done during a demonstration or pilot; some will not apply inputs properly and get a lower than possible yield.
 - Do the projections before you make the measurement plan. It helps you to think through the intervention logic and plan. If it is difficult to make the projections, it might be that you don't know enough yet, or that indicators are missing or need to be adjusted. It also helps you to make the measurement plan.

Source: PRISMA Results Measurement Manual, February 2015 (p. 16-17)