

# Planning for Research Utilization



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## TODAY'S PANELISTS



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# Planning for Research Utilization

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Development, Research, and Innovation - Virtual Engagements  
(DRIVE) **#DRIVEConvening**

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## PRB RTAC RESEARCH UTILIZATION ACTIVITIES

- **Visually Rich Communications Products**
- **Research-to-Action Planning**
  - **A Role for Political Economy Analysis**
  - **A Role for Stakeholder Interviews**
  - **Tailoring Communication Products**
  - **Dissemination**
  - **Targeted Activities**



## RESEARCH-TO-ACTION WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- **To guide development of a research-to-action (R2A) plan**
- **To identify R2A goals and objectives**
- **To select key stakeholders and end-users**
- **To distill key evidence-based messages**
- **To select user-friendly formats for dissemination**



## RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLANNING

- **PRB Approach**
  - **Workshop Sessions: Interactive and Built on Adult Learning Principles**
  - **Stakeholder Interviews**
  - **Research-to-Action Plan**
- **Right-fit, Right-size**
  - **Research Topic**
  - **Research Team Capabilities and Resources**
  - **Timeline and Framework for Measuring Progress**
- **Effect of Covid-19**



## Concluding Thoughts/Acknowledgements

- **Planning is an iterative process. The R2A plan does not have to be perfect the first time. It may never be perfect. It needs to be usable. The primary user is the research team.**
- **The experience has been deeply rewarding for the PRB team.**



# Assessment Results

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## RTAC's R2A Plan Technical Assistance

Oct. 7, 2021

Rachael Jackson



The R2A Plan TA Assessment had three goals:

**Determine the overall efficacy/efficiency of the R2A TA process**

**Determine the extent to which each R2A plan was implemented**

**Identify the perceived benefits/impact of the R2A Plan TA**

Between Jan-Apr 2021, we conducted 17 KIIs and reviewed progress reports for the first 4 R2A plan recipient teams

Stakeholder Type	# of Key Informants Contacted	# of Key Informants Interviewed
USAID	2	2
PRB	5	5
Research Team Members	10	8
Research Collaborators	2	1
External Stakeholders	6	1
Total	25	17

The R2A Plan TA process led to better stakeholder engagement and improved R2A

**The R2A Plan TA process was effective and efficient**

**Stakeholder engagement and effectiveness increased after the workshops**

**Team members developed better R2A attitudes and practices**

**Two teams secured stakeholder agreements to implement policy/program changes in line with their research**

The R2A Plan TA was affected by some challenges

**COVID-19 limited research teams' ability to implement the R2A plans on schedule**

**R2A plans did not adequately factor in research teams' time and resource constraints**

The assessment resulted in five major recommendations

**Better prepare teams for R2A workshops**

**Better prepare teams for R2A plan implementation**

**Continue providing TA beyond development of the R2A plan and into implementation**

**Scale up R2A TA**

**Adjust policy/program change timeline expectations and celebrate smaller milestones**

## TODAY'S DISCUSSANTS



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Q&A

# Tell us what you think:

<https://bit.ly/DRIVEOct7>

(Case-sensitive)

# Learn more about DRIVE:

<https://www.rtacheshn.org/development-research-and-innovation-virtual-engagements-drive-convening/>



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Thank you!

See you at the next DRIVE session!