



RESULT ORIENTATION

Background and Instruments



Swiss Programme for Research
on Global Issues for Development

Background

- Focusing on and measuring results in development is a **general international trend**
- To overcome crucial development gaps, the international donor community has formulated specific result areas and set specific targets (e.g. MDGs, Paris Declaration)
- Increasing political pressure on bilateral and multilateral aid agencies to prove their effectiveness
- **Accountability is requested from anyone dealing with development and development-related issues**

Results Orientation

Means:

- When **planning** a development-related activity, more attention needs to be paid of what should be achieved with this activity (e.g. formulating an impact hypothesis with a theory of change)
- During and after carrying out such an activity, particular focus is given to achieving the set goals and objectives and to adapt, if necessary (monitoring, reporting and evaluation)
- Bilateral and multilateral aid agencies have drafted and implemented new guidelines and instruments to support results orientation (UN, DFID, SDC)

Working with partners

- **Results orientation is not just an issue for the aid agencies but also for partners**
- **The concrete frameworks for fostering such a results orientation are usually negotiated with partners and adjusted to the specific needs and concerns of the program**
- **A results framework for the r4d Program has also been jointly developed with the SNSF**
- **The Results Framework for the r4d Program should help researchers to have a clear focus on what they want to achieve and how they will ensure that their research results will be used to improve the situation of people living in development countries.**

Key Terms

Results Framework: Program logic that explains how development-related objectives are to be achieved

Impact: Positive and negative, primary and secondary long-term effects produced by development-related activities

Outcome: Likely or achieved short-term and medium-term effects of development-related activities' outputs

Output: Products, capital, goods and services resulting from development-related activities

(based on OECD DAC definitions)

What are you supposed to do? Why?

- **Think about what you want to achieve with your research and what the best way is to do this (formulate e.g. an impact hypothesis and/or a theory of change -> *pathways to impact*).**
- **Fill in the results framework and reporting forms. This allows everybody involved to be systematically and accurately informed about what your research is/was about, which results are/have been achieved and if these results are/have been used to improve the situation in poor countries.**

Group Work

- **First have a look at the general results framework for the Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues**
- **Reflect on what you want to achieve with your research, what should it help to improve**
- **Then think about the following questions:**
 - ✿ **Which are the most important things for me/us to consider when drafting the results framework for my/our research project?**
 - ✿ **What will I/we have to know and do in order to be able to fill in the two reporting forms?**