

USAID Knowledge Management Inventory

1. Describe your knowledge sharing activity - what did you do? – how did you do it?

EvalWeb: USAID's website on evaluation community of practice

To better share information towards the goals and interests of the USAID evaluation agenda, USAID researchers and evaluation specialists created EvalWeb, USAID's website on evaluation communities of practice. Currently, EvalWeb includes sites on Poverty Reduction and International Media Assistance. The Poverty Reduction site and the International Media Assistance sites were established to keep interested individuals and organizations informed about the progress of USAID's evaluations in these two priority areas. The site makes available USAID reports and publications and seeks inputs and views on USAID's impact on poverty reduction and international media assistance.

Included in EvalWeb are special email lists to facilitate discussion and to share information on Poverty Reduction and International Media Assistance. The EvalWeb listservs are designed to keep USAID and its partners informed of developments in poverty reduction and international media assistance. The listservs are moderated by ESPA evaluation coordinators who invite contributions in the following areas: studies and "lessons learned," resources, and new projects. The mailing list is open to anyone interested in Poverty Reduction and International Media Assistance and how it relates to the Agency's program.

The Knowledge Sharing Team at USAID Development Information Services is providing strategy and web development assistance. Internet Data Services provided technical support for the Listservs.

2. Describe your motivation / value proposition / business case for the initiative – why did you do it? – for whom?

The motivation to create EvalWeb was to encourage input, discussion, and collaboration on a few of USAID's ongoing evaluation topics of high priority. EvalWeb is meant to engage researchers, scholars, policymakers, practitioners, and the community at large from throughout the world.

3. Describe the results of the effort – who and/or what was impacted and how? – what are the benefits?

EvalWeb was recently launched and have yet to see the impact. The goal is that EvalWeb provides a forum for valuable discussion.

4. Describe any future implications or issues related to the initiative, e.g., what plans are in place? What current constraints or challenges are you facing? How is the initiative being sustained / maintained? How can it be replicated or scaled up?

As with any moderated listserv, the challenge is to provide stimulating discussion without heavily populating one's e-mail box. Currently, ESPA evaluation coordinators moderate the listservs and provide quality control for the information that will be posted. This adds value to the site. But, if the discussions become overwhelming or require an extended amount of time to moderate, additional resources may be necessary to moderate so that this value is not compromised.

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Documentation / link: <http://cdie.usaid.gov/evalweb/>