

Concurrent monitoring: Empowering progress, enhancing impact



What is monitoring?

Monitoring is continuous performance tracking against a scheduled timeframe throughout the project's lifetime. Monitoring involves systematic and purposeful collection of on ground information. It is a recurring process to assess project progress and understand delays, diversions, constraints, and effects (intended and unintended) on the stakeholders.

Monitoring helps maintain a project's physical and financial health through real-time tracking and reporting. It is an integral part of any social development project and is crucial to ensure the successful implementation of the activities. Developing a customised monitoring framework is a prerequisite for project implementation and ensuring outcomes and impact.

Common challenges

01

Cannot access the real-time data for projects. This impacts all future resource allocation and making informed decisions.

02

There is no structured process for sharing updates and insights regarding the projects between the team members and stakeholders. This often leads to misunderstandings and misalignment.

03

Time loss in co-ordination.

04

The human resources working on projects are underutilised due to a lack of clarity in KPIs. This impacts the overall efficiency of the team.

05

The budget allocation of projects is not tracked and managed regularly. This could lead to incorrect budget allocation and non-compliance later in the year.

06

Administration costs are unusually high. Due to this, the available budget for project activities and desired outcomes often gets compromised.

07

Handling multiple projects simultaneously makes it difficult to track the progress effectively.

All these and many more challenges can be addressed with **Concurrent Monitoring**

Why is monitoring essential?

01

Regular data collection:

Monitoring ensures periodic collection of data from the relevant stakeholders of any project. It helps understand on-ground project outreach and progress.

06

Stakeholder collaboration:

Streamlining the flow of communication (internal and external) to ensure transparency and effective decision-making.

02

Timely course correction:

Monitoring helps foresee any potential delays, inefficiency, or non-alignment to the project implementation schedule and to administer necessary mitigation measures.

07

Resource optimisation: Through continuous monitoring, organisations can assess resource utilisation and identify areas where resources can be optimised.

03

Fund management: Efficient allocation of resources can be ensured through concurrent monitoring. Regular financial reviews can be administered within the monitoring framework.

08

Regulatory compliance: Under the CSR Amendment Rules 2021, the responsibility of tracking the progress of CSR projects has been affixed on the Board of Directors.

04

Quality assurance: Through regular assessment of the performance of a project, organisations can identify and address any deviations from the desired quality standards.

09

Identification of risks: Vigilant and proactive monitoring allows for identifying and assessing potential risks associated with a project.

05

Quick decision-making: With up-to-date information on project progress and existing risks, decision-makers can respond promptly to challenges and steer the project in the desired direction.

10

Knowledge sharing: By analysing data and insights gathered during monitoring, organisations can derive lessons learned, best practices, and areas for innovation.

How Grant Thornton Bharat can help

About ESG

Our ESG practice consists of a dedicated team supporting efforts towards sustainable development. Our team understands the common challenges and provides tailor-made solutions leveraging our knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm. Our clients include corporates, corporate foundations, philanthropic organisations, multilateral and international agencies, and not-for-profit organisations.



Develop project understanding

- Conducting thorough discussions with implementing partners
- Reviewing the available project documents rigorously.



Develop a monitoring framework and data collection plan

- Develop a plan based on the understanding of the projects and validate the same based on project attributes and existing documents.
- Deriving project KPIs for each activity and stakeholder, determining project-wise sample sizes, and developing engagement tools



Field monitoring and reporting

- Regularly assessing project performance against established goals and objectives
- Sharing comprehensive reports on the project's status for better implementation and efficient resource utilisation.

Our expertise and experience

We have experience in developing and deploying comprehensive monitoring frameworks across various thematic areas, ensuring efficient budget utilisation. These include education, environment, healthcare, nutrition, skill development, women empowerment, WASH, rural development, agriculture and livelihood, disability, and disaster relief. Our framework is tailored to the project context, availability of data and documentation, and the on-ground realities. Additionally, we facilitate effective communication between all project stakeholders to ensure alignment and informed decisions.

Over the years, we have supported 30+ clients (corporates, corporate foundations, and NGOs) in monitoring over 200+ projects. We have covered about 20+ states across the country. With our presence across the country, our team's expertise in various thematic areas, and our vast experience in monitoring social interventions, we were able to ensure progress tracking, which enables risk management and better impact for our clients. We focus on high-quality standards to ensure adherence to industry best practices and quality benchmarks.

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