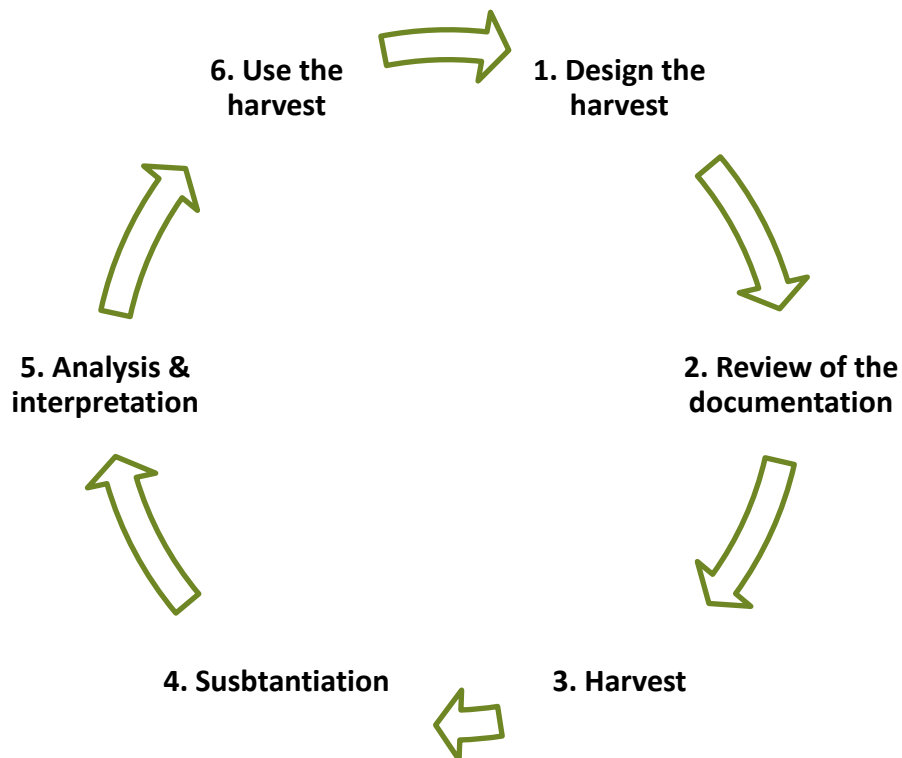


## OVERVIEW OF OUTCOME HARVESTING PROCESS AND PRINCIPLES

Outcome harvesting has six steps and must follow nine principles. It is possible to amend the six steps according to what is useful or possible for each team, but the nine principles must always be respected.

### THE 6 STEPS OF OUTCOME HARVESTING



## THE 9 PRINCIPLES OF OUTCOME HARVESTING

Facilitate usefulness

Harvest social  
change outcomes

Formulate an  
outcome as an  
observable change

Establish plausible  
influence of the  
intervention

Facilitate the  
identification and  
formulation of  
outcomes

Strive for less  
because it will be  
more useful

Nurture appropriate  
participation

Ensure credible-  
enough outcomes

Learn outcome  
harvesting  
experientially

<p><b>Facilitate usefulness throughout the evaluation</b></p>	<p>You should focus on the primary users of the outcomes and how they will use them throughout the different steps of the outcome harvest process.</p> <p>Though it is an explicit part of step 1, design, the usefulness of the outcomes should inform the decisions that are made at each step during the harvest based on the findings.</p>
<p><b>Harvest social change outcomes</b></p>	<p>A social change outcome is about a significant change in behaviour in a social actor (those that we are trying to influence). It is not about a slight improvement in behaviour.</p>
<p><b>Formulate an outcome as an observable change</b></p>	<p>For a result to qualify as an outcome, a social actor must act differently.</p> <p>The change in behaviour can be related to relationships, activities, policies or practice.</p>
<p><b>Establish plausible influence or contribution of the intervention</b></p>	<p>There has to a plausible relationship of cause-effect between what the intervention did and the outcome.</p> <p>To do this, outcome harvesting distinguishes between an intervention's outputs and its</p>

	<p>outcomes: outputs are controlled, outcomes are influenced by your intervention.</p>
<p><b>Facilitate the identification and formulation of outcomes</b></p>	<p>Harvesters support the people who are providing the information to craft concrete, verifiable descriptions of what has been achieved and how.</p> <p>This should be done by providing on-going support and feedback.</p>
<p><b>Nurture appropriate participation</b></p>	<p>Primary intended users must be consulted and involved in decision-making throughout to ensure the usefulness of the harvest.</p> <p>Field staff and other people closest to the action are the primary sources of information and should be supported in identifying and formulating outcomes.</p> <p>Substantiators also require attention because we are not assessing their knowledge but requesting that they share what they know.</p>
<p><b>Ensure credible-enough outcomes</b></p>	<p>Harvesters' application of rigorous evaluative thinking and their coaching competence is a principal means to ensure that the quality of the data and the outcome harvesting exercise is credible enough for the principal intended uses.</p>

**Strive for less because it will be more**

Fewer users, uses and monitoring questions will produce a more in-depth, useful harvest.

1-2 sentence outcome descriptions instead of 1-2 pages will mean more outcomes will be understood and learned from.

Source: Adapted from Ricardo Wilson-Grau, "Outcome Harvesting Evaluation: Practical Application of Essential Principles", Principles-Focused Evaluation - A guide, Michael Quinn Patton, Guilford 2017, Chapter 32, pages 307-321.