

# Overview PIALA

## Participatory Impact Assessment & Learning Approach

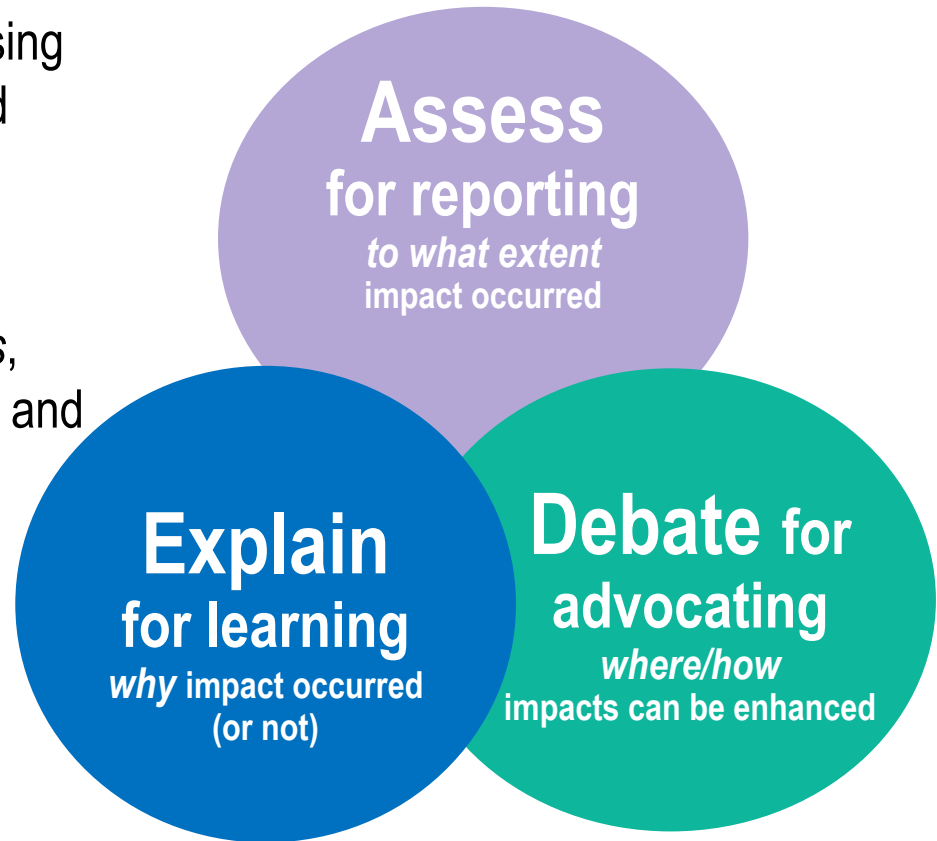


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# Participatory Impact Assessment & Learning Approach (PIALA)

- **Concept** or proposition for addressing the challenges of *utility*, *validity* and *methodology*
- **Model** for combining different methodologies to rigorously *assess*, *explain* and *debate* system change and impact:
  - 2 design principles
  - 3 quality standards
  - 5 elements
  - 10 design sliders



# 2 design principles – 3 quality standards

## RIGOUR

**Quality of thought** in methods and processes  
avoiding the “single truths” and  
ensuring consistency and responsiveness

Evaluate  
systemically

Enable meaningful  
participation

## INCLUSIVENESS

Meaningful **engagement** and  
**inclusion** of all relevant views and  
perspectives

## FEASIBILITY

Responsiveness to programme  
characteristics, “real world”  
conditions, and local contexts

# 5 methodological elements

**RIGOUR**

5 methodological elements adaptable to context

**1. Systemic Theory of Change**

**2. Multi-stage sampling of/in 'open systems'**

**3. Participatory mixed-methods**

**4. Participatory sensemaking**

**5. Configurational analysis**

Phase 1:  
Focusing & framing the evaluation

Phase 2:  
Collecting & linking the data

Phase 3:  
Analysing contributions

**INCLUSIVENESS**

**FEASIBILITY**

# When is PIALA most useful?

- o When you want to assess a complex non-linear cause-effect relationships in non-experimental settings (high 'causal density')
- o When you want to conduct without a baseline or control groups, few comparison points
- o When you want to assess a programme that influenced different systems (whatever the scale) across comparable systems
- o When you want to evaluate a programme in secure/stable contexts
- o When you need to assess the contributions of systemic or transformative impact.

# Questions?



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# Bibliography

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