



Most Significant Change (MSC)

Training Opportunity in Oxford, UK:

July 9th 2013

"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted." Albert Einstein

What is the Most Significant Change Technique?

MSC is an innovative story based evaluation technique that is now a widely used form of collecting qualitative data on outcomes. However, MSC goes beyond merely capturing and documenting participants' stories of impact, to offering a means of engaging in effective dialogue about what's working for who and why. Essentially, the process involves the collection of significant change (SC) stories, and the systematic selection of the most significant of these stories by panels of designated stakeholders or staff. Each story represents the storyteller's interpretation of impact and once these changes have been captured and documented various people sit down together, read the stories and have in-depth discussions about the *value* of these reported changes. When the technique is implemented successfully, whole teams of people begin to focus their attention on project intent, impact, and ultimately future direction.

This innovative method can therefore add value to your M&E by making it more participatory and meaningful. Participatory because more project stakeholders are involved both in deciding the sorts of change to be recorded and in analysing the data; and meaningful because it provides more than just data about how busy you have been, instead it helps you to think clearly about what you are doing and what difference it is actually making to those you are targeting.

MSC has been successfully applied in a range of contexts and works particularly well for complex, participatory, social change interventions and where initiatives involve multiple partners or stakeholders.

What does this course offer?

This **ONE day** training workshop provides a sound introduction to MSC including:

- Background and origins of the technique
- Practicalities of story collection, selection and feedback
- Role in monitoring and /or evaluation

Participants will be provided with comprehensive training notes, experiential learning opportunities and examples of real applications of the technique throughout the workshop. The training will be participatory and practical.



The trainer

Tracey Delaney works as an independent consultant and has broad experience in program design, monitoring, and evaluation. In particular, Tracey has an in-depth knowledge of the 'Most Significant Change technique' (MSC). As part of her Masters thesis Tracey conducted research into 'evaluation influence' based on a case study of MSC. Her extensive experience with MSC has also included designing MSC systems, assisting with the implementation of MSC in a range of settings and providing training and mentoring on the technique. Tracey currently moderates the MSC egroup on behalf of Rick Davies.

Tracey is also a skilled facilitator and trainer with strong communication skills. She has is well versed in developing and delivering workshops and training courses for project management, government agencies, independent contractors and non-government organisations in range of cultural contexts.

Training info

Cost: £220*

Venue: The Kings Centre, Oxford

For more information and to register or express interest contact: tadelaney@bigpond.com

(*discounts available for students and multiple participants from same organization)