



**USAID | JORDAN**

Monitoring and Evaluation  
Support Project

### Some questions that will help you probe data quality issues

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### Some questions that will help you probe data validity issues:

- Are all definitions used clear?
- If the data collection method is a survey, were the samples representative?
- Is the response rate sufficient?
- Are the instruments/ instructions/questions clear?
- Are the data collectors trained?
- Were steps taken to limit potential bias?
- Is the data complete?

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### Some questions that will help you probe data integrity issues:

- Are there unreasonable time pressures to produce the data?
- Does anyone have the incentive to change the data in any way?
- What are the mechanisms in place to reduce the possibility that data could be manipulated?
- Has the data ever been independently reviewed by a person outside the data collection effort and/or of the organization collecting the data?

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**Some questions that will help you probe data precision issues:**

- Are the margins of error acceptable for program decision making?
- Are the terms/words in the indicator precisely defined?
- Would an increase in the degree of accuracy be more costly than the increased value of the information?

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**Some questions that will help you probe data reliability issues:**

- Is the same instrument used from year to year, site to site?
- Is the same data collection process used from year to year, site to site?
- Is the same data analysis methodology used year to year, site to site?
- Are data collection, computation, analysis and reporting procedures written down, and followed?
- Using the same measurement procedures, will the same results be obtained repeatedly?

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**Some questions that will help you probe data timeliness issues:**

- Are data collected frequently enough to inform management decisions?
- Are the data aggregated, analysed and reported as soon as possible after collection?
- Is the date of data collection clearly identified in reports?
- Are the data reported in the most current time frame practicably available?

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