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## Six Simple Questions to Identify Your Complexity-Aware Monitoring Need

This worksheet is a starting point for the design of a trial of a complexity-aware monitoring approach. The questions below help you outline the purpose, scope and intended uses for the trial. The Complexity-Aware M&E Team will work with you throughout the design process.

<p><b>Description of Project</b></p> <p>Who is the project's <b>main target</b> group?</p> <p>What changes or <b>improvements</b> is the project being used to bring about for the target group?</p> <p>How is the <b>project contributing</b> to the desired changes? What activities does it use?</p>	
<p><b>What does complexity look like in your project?</b></p> <p>Check all that apply.</p> <p>For those that are checked, please provide a brief explanation.</p> <p>Continued on the next page.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Cause and effect</b> are poorly understood thereby making it difficult to identify solutions and draft detailed implementation plans in advance.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Stakeholders bring <b>diverse perspectives</b> to the situation, making consensus about the development problem and/or solution elusive or impractical.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Expected results require revision to take advantage of <b>new opportunities</b> or respond to new needs.
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Adaptive management</b> is necessary to steer effectively in a dynamic context.
	<input type="checkbox"/> The purpose of the project is to <b>influence social change</b> .

<b>What does complexity look like in your project?</b> (Continued)	<input type="checkbox"/> The purpose of the project is to create a <b>new solution</b> to either an intractable or a new problem; the solution is unknown when the project begins.
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> ways that you observe complexity in your project.

**Describe your monitoring needs:** No single monitoring approach can solve all of your project's monitoring needs. A successful trial will provide timely information to address one significant, but feasible monitoring need. You may want to consider the information needs for one main decision point and/or key decision maker.

<b>For each of the ways that complexity works in your project, please describe a monitoring need <u>not</u> met by the project's current monitoring system.</b>  The monitoring need should describe information required for decision making.	
<b>Who will use the monitoring data from the complexity-aware monitoring trial?</b>	
<b>How will they use the data?</b>	
<b>What specific questions do you need answered?</b>	

**Next Steps:** Email this form to Travis Mayo ([TMayo@USAID.gov](mailto:TMayo@USAID.gov)) and set-up a time to meet with a member from the C-AM team. Take the time to review the Complexity-Aware Monitoring webpages on USAID's Learning Lab.