

EVALUATION APPROACHES

Outcome Harvesting	
Workshop title	Outcome Harvesting —A tool for identifying and understanding results in complex circumstances
Trainers	Ricardo Wilson-Grau
Affiliation	Ricardo Wilson-Grau Consultoria em Gestão Empresarial Ltda
Target level	Intermediate
Workshop content	<p>Outcome Harvesting is the product of ten years of experience in developmental, formative and summative evaluations of three dozen innovative interventions that aimed to influence social change. These projects, programs and organizations operated, to a greater or lesser degree, in dynamic, complex circumstances in which at the time of their planning, the relationships of cause and effect between what the intervention will do and what will be the results were substantially unknown. Thus, conventional evaluation approaches to assess performance and results against planned activities and objectives were inappropriate. Outcome Harvesting is an alternative way to generate credible evidence with which to draw conclusions about the merit or worth in order to both be accountable and learn from experience. Using exercises with a simulated case study, participants will spend 60% of the workshop doing exercises in small groups as a means of working through the six Outcome Harvesting steps.</p>
Learning outcomes	<p>Upon successfully completing this course, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand what is the essence of Outcome Harvesting and be able to decide when and why Outcome Harvesting can be a useful evaluation approach for projects, programs or organizations that aim to influence change in other societal actors. • Know the importance of customizing the six steps of Outcome Harvesting. • Appreciate how unexpected outcomes achieved through unplanned activities can be as rigorously evaluated as those that are predefined.