

Socialising evidence for participatory action

SEPA: knowledge translation as dialogue and intervention

The SEPA approach

SEPA is a key feature of partnership with communities. It allows community members to reflect on their health and well being, based on accurate, timely evidence, and to share in the design of knowledge transfer and other interventions.

The same evidence is packaged to share with service providers, planners and policy makers to support planning and implementation of service improvements, with a focus on equity.

The elements of SEPA vary with the context, but the aim is always to stimulate effective actions based on evidence.



Explaining the life-cycle of the dengue mosquito to a neighbor in Nicaragua

SEPA as intervention: Nigeria

In two Nigerian states CIET is helping to establish a health information and planning system based on evidence of outcomes. The first two topics are maternal health and management of childhood illnesses.

Teams are sharing evidence intensively in selected districts, showing a video docudrama at community gatherings and making visits to households with pregnant women. The outcomes will be compared with districts that have not yet received these interventions.

SEPA at different levels

Sharing evidence with communities:

- Focus groups, community meetings
- Theatre, docudramas, events, competitions
- Working with schools, local leaders
- Participatory design of interventions.

Sharing evidence with planners, policy makers:

- Workshopping around evidence
- Summary findings: eg maps, score cards
- Link with planning and budgeting cycle
- Training in interpreting and using evidence.

Working with mass media:

- Packaging evidence
- Training of media and government, CSOs.



A local tool for sharing evidence in Sindh, Pakistan



A community group watching the docudrama, Nigeria



Participatory Research at McGill

CIET Building the community voice into planning

For more information:

<http://www.ciet.org>