

Program Evaluation

Organization: River Network

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Abstract Title: The Value of Organizational Assessment

How does an organization realize its needs before there is a threat to its programs and its organizational sustainability? One way is to assess its internal operation and programmatic metrics on a regular basis. By assessing the “present” an organization will be prepared to plan for its “future” and will be in a position to react and offset a pending crisis. Using an online assessment tool, participants will learn the importance and efficiencies of tracking metrics to determine your organization’s successes and needs. This workshop will introduce participants to River Network’s new FREE diagnostic tool that assesses their organization’s operational structures as well as its progress with on-the-grounds projects. We will look at the questions asked by the survey and discuss the value of taking the time to keep track of metrics that address funding sources, Board performance, planning mechanisms. We will also cover the programmatic metrics that determine the importance and efficiency of an organization’s specific programs such as water monitoring, community organizing, restoration projects, education and outreach programs, etc. There will be time to also explore other assessment tools. Groups will be encouraged to take the online assessment and learn what is important to track for their organization.