
Activity 2-3

Research Design Checklist

Access the *Research Design Checklist* from the Module 2 Resources. Spend a few minutes looking over the checklist, and consider the following questions:

Understanding the *Research Design Checklist*

Spend a few minutes looking over each section of the *Research Design Checklist*. Do you see a logical flow from each section to the next?

The focus of this checklist is very much on the ‘overall’ concerns of the social research inquiry- its purpose, the research questions that will focus the inquiry, the data collection techniques that will capture data and the way that the analysis of this data will proceed and how the outcomes of the research will be formulated.

Are there further categories that need to be included within this *Research Design Checklist* to meet the requirements of your local government setting?

Using the *Research Design Checklist*

How might the *Research Design Checklist* work in conjunction with the *Program Scope and Evaluation Process* within your local government setting- can research be conducted beyond the evaluation of community engagement initiatives solely?

Points to Note...

The *Module 2-2 Video* introduced the *Research Design Checklist* as a basis for designing a social research initiative. Planning for and having a logical sequence for a research initiative is vital, with this checklist providing a sequenced mechanism for designing research.

Be sure to give consideration to where the social research initiative is to be used; is this to be used to simply gather data about community to generate broad understandings? Or is it a formal aspect of the *Project Scope and Evaluation Process*- forming the evaluation and reporting stage of the *Project Scope and Evaluation Process*?

The Task

This task requires you to consider the planning of a social research project. The *Case Example* contained in the Module 2 Resources should be referred to during the completion of this Activity to provide a sense of how the design of research fits within the larger *Program Scope and Evaluation Process*.

Social Research Toolkit:

using social research in local government
community engagement