RFP/BPPS/2017/003 – Policy Review of Quality Standards for Programming (Re-advertisement)

Round 2: Questions and Answers

24 April 2017

#	Question	Answer
1	What assumptions are UNDP using in requesting 4-5 Research Associates for the project team (e.g., UNDP estimated the time necessary to manually review Project QA data for each individual project selected for the sample as 1-1.5 hours for each of 450 projects)? Would UNDP be open to other, less manual though similarly accurate approaches to spot-checking Project QA data?	Spot checking the data will require looking at the evidence provided for each of the 24-26 questions in the assessment and seeing if the response is supported by the evidence provided. It will also entail looking for trends in completing the assessments that we may or may not anticipate, for example inconsistencies in responses to different questions or indications that the exercise wasn't taken seriously (for example, if the same answer was selected for every question with identical evidence supporting the answer even though the question covers different attributes.) While we will brainstorm together some different aspects the researchers will look for in the spot checking, there will be others that will only become apparent when someone goes through the data. There are also a few attributes that will require a person familiar with the issues, such as theory of change, to review the evidence provided to determine if in fact a theory of change is present in the project documentation. UNDP will provide an orientation for the research team on the quality standards and our approach to them to adequately prepare them for this work. We are open to using less manual approaches, but certain things will only become apparent to a human being. A middle ground may be a suitable approach, where some analysis is done using less manual methods, while a smaller group of researchers reviews the assessments to find issues that were not previously identified.

2	Is data entered against the design rating tool, implementation rating tool, and closure rating tool electronically through a User Interface, or is data entered manually (e.g., by hand on printed out forms OR input into electronic PDFs)? Is the data from these tools/forms in a database or stored as individual documents or scanned images?	All data is entered through an electronic platform. The full individual assessments are available in the online tool, and we have also downloaded all data into an excel file (including responses, evidence and management responses, in addition to key information on the projects.) We will provide access to both the platform and the excel files to the reviewers.