

# Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL)

IIRR, Yen Center, Silang  
Cavite, Philippines

December 3-4, 2026 (Webinar)

December 7-11, 2026 (Face-to-Face)



## Course Description

This **7-day course**, consisting of a blended 2 days virtual and 5 days face-to-face or onsite sessions, **examines participatory monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL)** as support to program/project management and sustainability. This course on tracking progress and impact via MEAL is a strategy that strengthens participation, enhances local capacity, and increases local people's confidence and control over accountability, development decisions and processes. In addition, the course highlights key elements that enrich the MEAL process and system drawn from a range of significant experiences. Participants will be equipped with tested participatory methods, tools and techniques that they can use in facilitating MEAL.



## Course Learning Objectives

1. A thorough understanding of the basic concepts, principles, and approaches to MEAL, and the theoretical underpinnings of participatory approaches and the elements that support the establishment and functioning of MEAL in development organizations;
2. Described strategic and effective ways of engaging communities in co-designing a monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL) framework, and demonstrating its practical application;
3. Reflected on the application of MEAL within the context of the participant's organization, program, or project, and Identified ways to improve or strengthen current MEAL practices; and
4. Formulated an action plan reflecting application of lessons learned and insights gained from the course in line with their national or community's MEAL system and in the context of their organization's development priorities.



## Course Preparation Requirements

- Participant's profile and expectations;
- Organizational vision of good development;
- Participants' sharing of MEAL experiences in development projects and work contexts; and
- Completion of a participants' confidence assessment.



## Venue

JJ Hall, Yen Center, The IIRR Headquarters  
39 Aguinaldo Highway, Biga 2, Silang,  
Cavite, Philippines



## Course Fee

US\$ 1,700 per person

## MODULE 1. Overview of MEAL and Organizational Learning



This module **presents the concepts and principles of MEAL and the theoretical underpinnings of participatory approaches.** It includes discussion of elements that support the establishment and maintenance of MEAL in the context of development organizations including examining a range of theoretical frameworks upon which to build participatory monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning practices.

**Introductory Activity:** Participants' Sharing on their Vision of Good Development and MEAL Practice

**Session 1:** Participation, Social Learning & Empowerment in the Development Process

**Session 2:** Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL)  
Concepts, Stages, Cycles

**Session 3:** MEAL and Organizational Learning

**Session 4:** Theory of Change, a Starting Point

**Session 5:** Examining Other MEAL Frameworks

## MODULE 2. Designing and Facilitating MEAL



Program/project sustainability is linked to participation and ownership of stakeholders. This module focuses on **different participatory approaches, methods, and tools that can be employed** to effectively engage communities to be active actors and learners during the project period and beyond. Participants will practice facilitating MEAL among themselves using select approaches, methods and tools.

**Session 1:** MEAL Planning Framework: Program/project

**Session 2:** Frameworks for Context Analysis

**Session 3:** Facilitating the MEAL Process using Participatory Approaches, Methods and Tools

## MODULE 3. Field Practice of MEAL



**In this module, participants apply facilitation skills using select methods & tools for designing MEAL frameworks with communities.** Local actors and participants will have a thorough discussion on the value of the MEAL process and the requirements for implementing it. The actual field practice will help participants play roles in the design stage of a monitoring, evaluation and learning, putting premium on applying not only the facilitation skills but also placing equal emphasis on the necessary attitudes/behaviors to make MEAL possible.

**Session 1:** Introduction and Group Preparations for the MEAL Field Practice

**Session 2:** Barangay/Village Management Information System (B/VMIS)

**Session 3:** Facilitating the MEAL Process in the Community

## MODULE 4. Action Planning



**The participants will analyze their own organization's program or project frameworks and activities in line with the concepts and skills learned** from the participatory MEAL course and identify areas for improvement or strengthening by applying the insights and key lessons they have learned from the sessions of the course. They are expected to develop a doable plan that they will implement upon their return to their respective organizations/programs/projects.

**Session 1:** Preparation of Action Plan

**Session 2:** Presentation of Action Plans in Plenary

**Session 3:** Revisions on Action Plans based on Feedback or Suggestions Received from the Panel of Reactors