



Department  
for International  
Development



**DFID**  
**Ethical Standards**  
**Rapid Literature Review**  
**and Guidance**  
*for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation*





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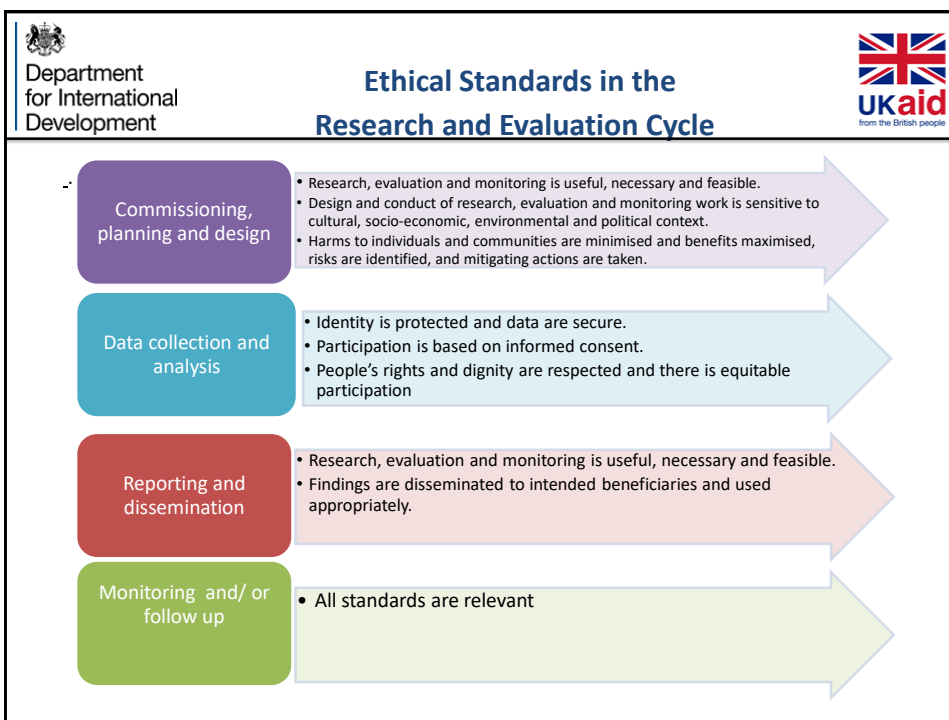
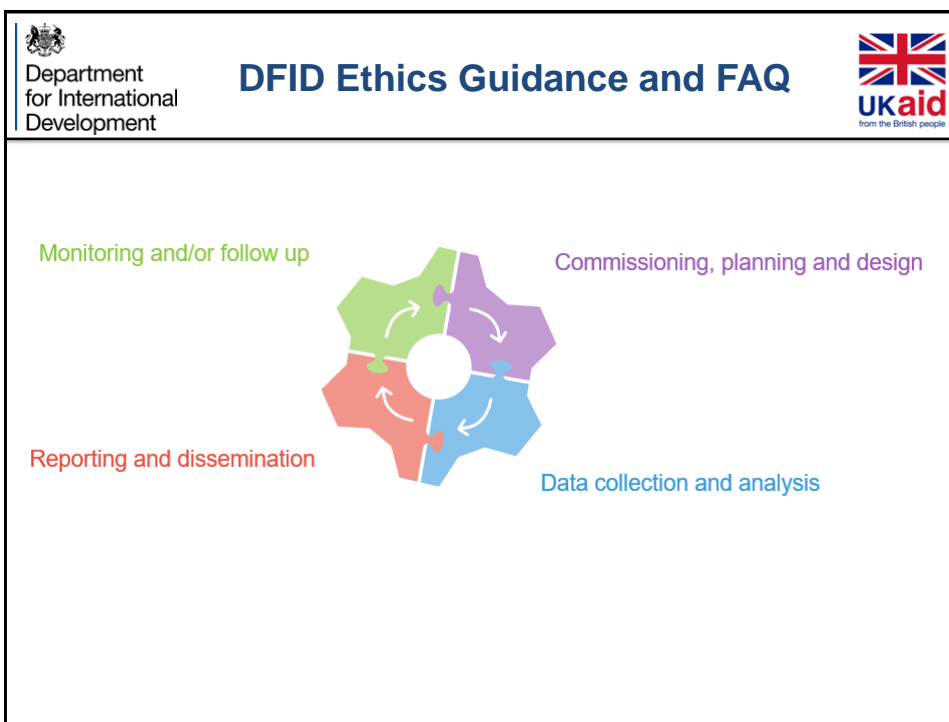
**DFID Ethics Principles**




- Seek to maximise benefit and minimise harm
- Respect people's rights and dignity
- Act with honesty, competence and accountability
- Deliver work of integrity and merit

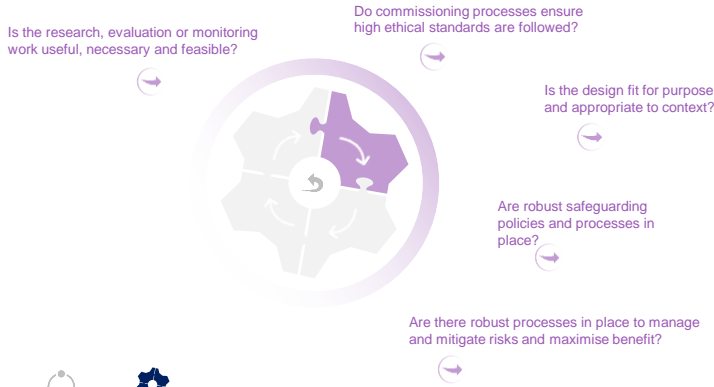
 <p>Department for International Development</p>	<h2>DFID Ethics Standards</h2>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research, evaluation and monitoring is useful, necessary and feasible.</li> <li>• Design and conduct of research, evaluation and monitoring work is sensitive to cultural, socio-economic, environmental and political context.</li> <li>• Harms to individuals and communities are minimised and benefits maximised, risks are identified, and mitigating actions are taken.</li> <li>• Identity is protected and data are secure.</li> <li>• Participation is based on informed consent.</li> <li>• People's rights and dignity are respected and there is equitable participation</li> <li>• Findings are disseminated to intended beneficiaries and used appropriately.</li> </ul>		

 <p>Department for International Development</p>	<h2>DFID's expectations</h2>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and any other forms of data collection and analysis conducted on DFID funded projects to be guided by these ethical principles and standards</li> <li>• For research studies, alignment with these principles and standards to be assured by submission to Institutional Review Board (IRB)/Research Ethics Committee (REC) and relevant regulatory authority in the country where the research is to be completed.</li> <li>• For evaluations, monitoring and other activities where submission to an IRB/REC is not generally required, planning of data collection and analysis to reflect active consideration of these principles.</li> <li>• Consideration of ethical issues at each stage of the project cycle.</li> </ul>		



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## Commissioning, planning and design







Is the research, evaluation or monitoring work useful, necessary and feasible?


Do commissioning processes ensure high ethical standards are followed?

Is the design fit for purpose and appropriate to context?


Are robust safeguarding policies and processes in place?

Are there robust processes in place to manage and mitigate risks and maximise benefit?

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## Data collection and analysis







Are identity and data protected and secure?

Is participation based on informed consent?

Does the method and implementation respect people's rights and dignity?

Is participation supported by a two-way feedback process?

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## Reporting, dissemination and use of evidence

Is the utilisation of learning and evidence products maximised?



Does the evidence and learning have integrity and merit?

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## Monitoring, follow up and data use

Is the use of research and evaluation data collected ethical?



Is ongoing monitoring governed by DFID's ethical principles and standards?

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