



IOM • OIM



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women



MULTI-SECTOR INITIAL RAPID ASSESSMENT (MIRA) 2012 PAKISTAN



Why do we need Assessments?

In designing an initial assessment, a humanitarian actor typically will ask three basic questions:

1. What decisions need to be made?
2. What information is needed to make these decisions?
3. What methods are most suitable to obtain this information?

Assessments in emergency- Objectives

- Emergency assistance is based on most **immediate needs**
- Assessments aid in identifying
 - What **service** are needed;
 - What are the **priorities**;
 - In what **quantity**
- Supporting the decision making
 - Of immediate and appropriate action
 - To starts implementation quickly
 - To minimize loss of life, infrastructures and resources in emergency situations
 - In formulation more effective response by collecting quality information



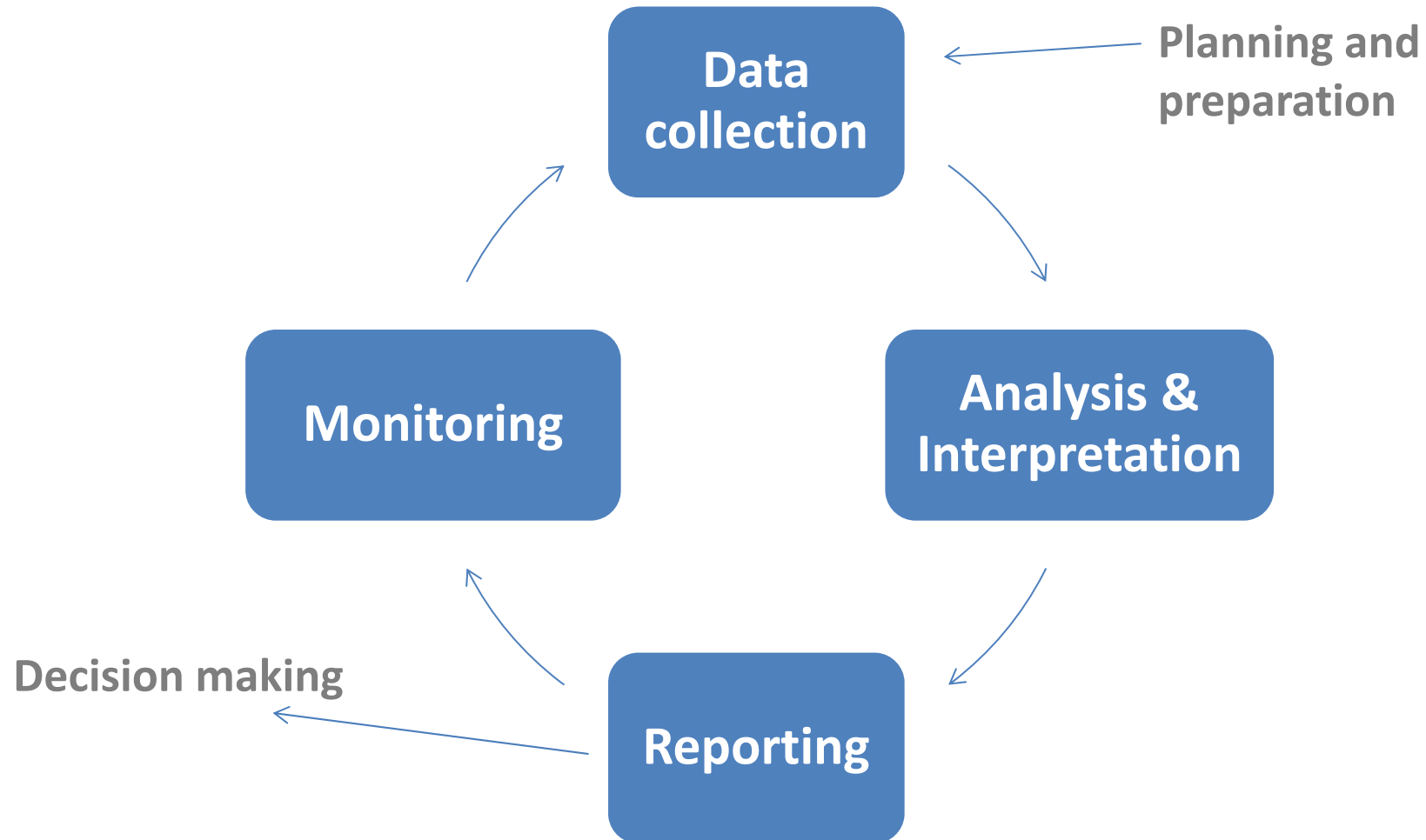
Assessment Cycle

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Type of Assessments

- Initial or Rapid Assessment for identification of
 - Impact
 - Vulnerable groups
 - Level of response
 - Urgent need and methods
 - Areas for in-depth assessment
- In-depth (detailed) assessment for identification of
 - Critical needs to be addresses for
 - Medium and longer-term relief
 - Rehabilitation assistance

Disaster Assessment Process



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Pakistan's Emergencies and Assessments - 2012

- Earthquake 2005
- Sindh, Balochistan Cyclone 2007
- KP/FATA Conflict 2008
- Floods 2010
- Floods 2011

Lessons learned from the above + global experiences

→ **Coordinated Approach**

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Coordinated Assessments

- **Coordinated assessments** range from inter and intra cluster/sector joint assessments to single agency assessments that are harmonized.
 - **Harmonized Assessment:**

Data collection processing and analysis is undertaken separately, however the **data is sufficiently comparable** (due to the use of common operational datasets, key indicators, and geographical and temporal synchronization) to be compiled into a single database, and to **serve as the subject of a shared analysis**.
 - **Joint Assessment:**

Data collection, processing and analysis from one single process among agencies within and between clusters/sectors. **This leads to a single report**. This is sometimes also referred to as a ‘common assessment’.

 - Assessment Working Group (AWG)
 - Survey of Surveys (SoS)
 - Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) and guidelines
- In contrast **uncoordinated assessments** are those in which data sets are not interoperable, and the results can not be used to inform the overall analysis.

Assessment & Monitoring Framework

- Adoption of an assessment and monitoring framework to establish a coordinated approach
 - Enabling analysis of trends over time and between geographical locations
 - Ensuring a common up-to-date situation overview on needs shared by agencies and government

MIRA
Multi-sector Initial
Rapid Assessment

72 hrs
Initial appeal

Situation
Overview
Secondary data

4-7 days
Initial appeal

Field Needs
Assessment
Multi-cluster

1-2 months
Appeal revision

Cluster
Detailed
Assessments

Agency
Assessments

> 1 months
Monitoring

Monitoring
Progress and
change of needs

Harmonized assessments

Methodology
Partly standardization

Indicators
Feeding agreed top-level
indicators

Approach
Following established
SOPs/guidelines

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Multi-sector Initial Rapid Assessment MIRA

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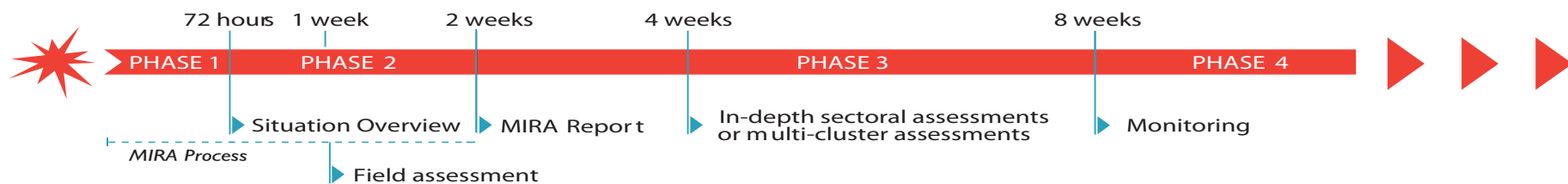
Multi-sector Initial Rapid Assessment Objectives

- Designed to identify after the disasters/complex emergencies
 - **Scale, extent** and **nature** of the disaster
 - **Priority areas**
 - **Gaps** in response and rescue
- *Support the government* on initial decision-making
- Feed-in to *funding* mechanisms- FLASH Appeal (Response Plan)

MIRA Process & Timeframe

- **Secondary Data – within 72 hours**
 - Situation overview
 - Satellite imagery –UNOSAT, SPARKO
 - District Profiles available – Govt. data
- **Primary Field Assessment – within 1 week**
 - Community level assessment
 - Identify needs
 - Priority areas (affected)
 - Vulnerable population
- **MIRA report – within 2 weeks**
 - Inter-sectoral analysis
 - Result dissemination to the decision-makers (government and non-government actors)
 - Funding mechanisms -FLASH appeal (i. e. Rapid Response Plan)

Figure 1. Assessment & Monitoring Framework including MIRA phases



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MIRA | Joint tool

- **Government driven process in any disaster**
- International humanitarian response is triggered/requested with Government's request
- MIRA Tool = Government + humanitarian community
- **ONE** common methodology and assessment tool

MIRA

Extent and scale	Priorities and needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remote sensing, i.e. analysis of satellite imageries<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land scan 2010 for population density• Verification against government data and local authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Community level</i> assessment• Sample based survey<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Statistically representative to districts• Distribution is proportionate to affected population for Tehsils/Talukas/UC

MIRA Tool and Approach

Tool	Approach
Key Informant Interviews (Gender-balanced) 1 Male 1 Female	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multi-sector coverage• Structured interview• Pre-developed questionnaire (feeding into analysis framework)
Direct Observation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pre-developed checklist• Validate KI Interviews

MIRA Data capture

Tool	Advantaged	Usage
Paper-based questionnaire	Require no knowledge of technology Easily accepted by communities	Government response Joint response in areas of sensitivity
Digital input (PDA/Smart phone technology)	Direct data (real-time) input – improve quality and effectiveness	Joint response

Joint Assessment Roster (JAR)

- Serve the humanitarian community in primary data collection
- Support any assessment carried out within and following the SOPs of the Assessment and Monitoring Framework such as MIRA
- Maintain competent, reliable and trained assessments enumerators / data collection experts
- Open for International NGOs, local NGOs and CBOs
- Volunteer-based

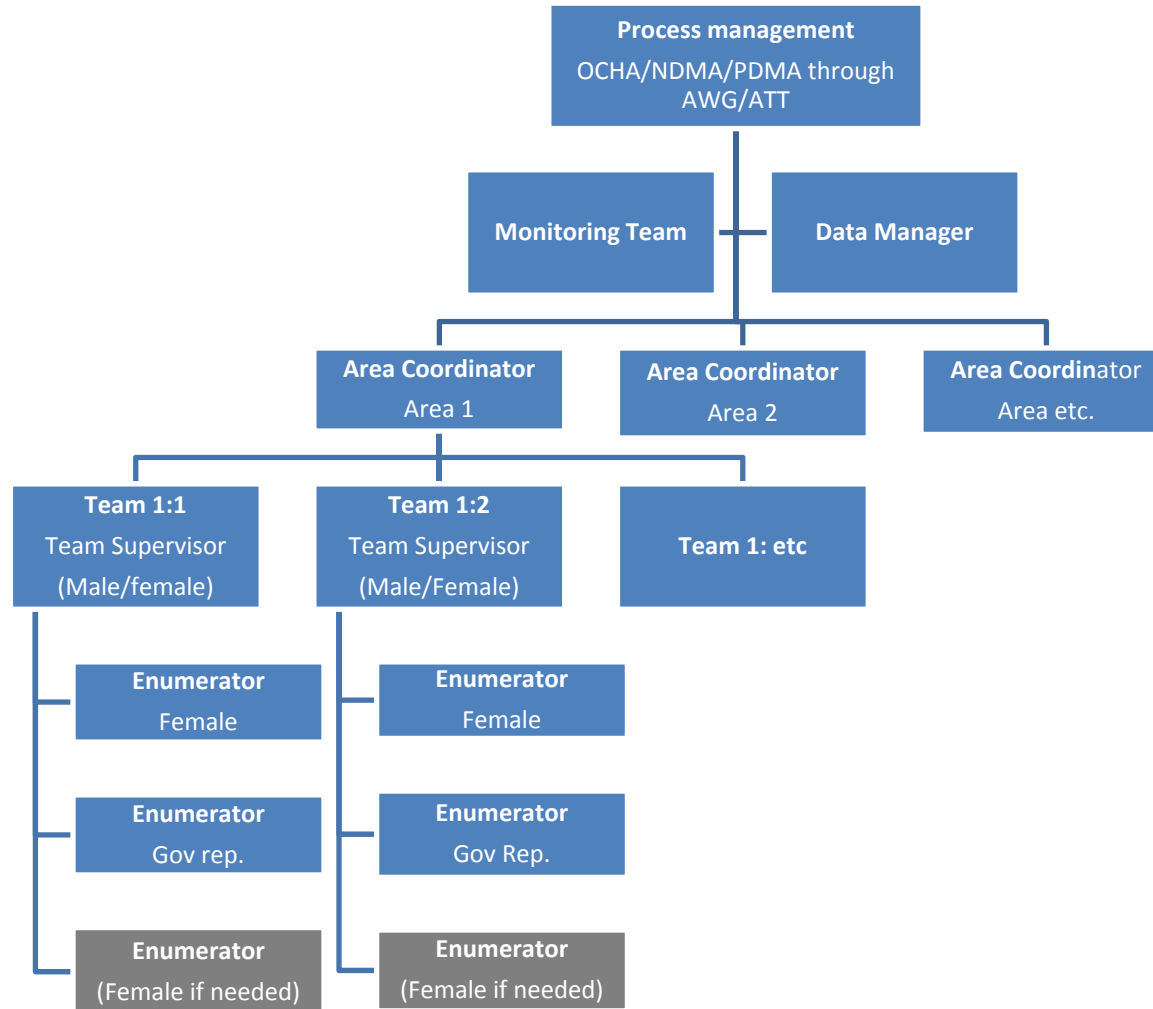
JAR | Skills required

- Understanding of local situation and community dynamics
- Ability to gather information in an objective and sensitive way
- Effectively convey information in local language/English
- Understand and interpret reactions in a culturally and gender sensitive way
- Expertise to enter, transcribe, record, maintain data
- Basic understanding of technology

JAR | Duty description

- Select appropriate Key Informants for interviews
- Conducting interviews using the assessment tools
- Handle and fill in questionnaire on paper or through digital device (PDA/Smart Phone)
- Undertake structured/semi-structured observation
- Recognize and give an account of problems in obtaining data as to support evaluation
- Report to the team supervisor and discuss developments daily.

MIRA Field Assessment Structure



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MIRA Key Informant selection

- Careful identification of Key Informants
 - The choice of Key Informants affects the result of the survey
- Selection criteria for Key Informants
 - Knowledgeable of a wide range of issues: Population profile and figures, security/access, sector information
 - Example of roles: Community leader, leader of women's group, religious leader, teacher (see methodology)
- Key Informant is representing the community including disadvantage groups
 - Minorities, extremely poor, displaced, etc.

MIRA Key Informant interviews

- The assessment relies on the Key Informant to provide an overview of priorities and needs in community
- One (1) Key informant interview form to be conducted/filled from each sample community
 - Main part from primary Key Informant
 - Second part from secondary Key Informant of OPPOSITE sex
- A Key Informant can consist of more than one person
 - **Responses recorded as consensus** of people represented
- The Key Informant should be objective and impartial, representing the needs of ALL population

Code of Conduct

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Code of Conduct Agreement Main elements

- Respect for dignity of the respondents**
- Informed consent of the respondent**
- Responsibilities with respect to use of data and confidentiality**
- Commitment to agreed Standards, including measures against Sexual Abuse /Exploitation**
 - SG Bulletin 2003 and implementation guidelines;**
 - IASC six core principles relating to sexual exploitation and abuse (2002);**
 - Specific Codes of Conduct of UN agencies and NGOs;**
 - Standard of respect and protection in CRC, Cedaw**
- Commitment to Measures in case of breach**

Code of Conduct Agreement

Why it matters for the MIRA?

For the interviewers

- Provide basic standards of interviewing (e.g. respect, obtaining INFORMED consent)
- Safeguard best interest of the respondent
- (confidentiality, respect for dignity)
- Confirm commitment to agreed standards
- Uphold humanitarian and “Do no Harm” principles

Code of Conduct Agreement

Why it matters for the MIRA?

For the respondents/key informants

- Better engagement based on TRUST
- Reliability and credibility in response through confidentiality
- Protection and safeguards against any pressure or abuse

In sum...

The Code of Conduct sets key elements for

EFFICIENT

SUCCESSFUL

TRUSTED

CREDIBLE

PRINCIPLED

MIRA PROCESS

Interview Techniques

Interview Do's

- Establish contact first by introducing yourself, team and organization.
- Describe the objectives of the interview/assessment, request consent for conducting interview.
- Hold the interview in a place that can put the respondent(s) at ease.
- Listen carefully, record proceedings properly , if with a PDA, explain what it is and how it works
- Friendly behavior, establish rapport and inspire confidence and trust

Interview Do's

- Assure the respondent of confidentiality, but if key protection risks are observed, refer them confidentially to Protection colleagues for appropriate and confidential follow up.
- Respect the local customs, behaviors and beliefs.
- Be an active, attentive listener.
- Pace yourself according to the time you have allotted for the interview
- For each interviewee, note down your own observations about the process and content of the interview
- Thank the participant for making his or her time available

Interview Don'ts

- Don't use judgmental tones so as not to influence responses.
- Show empathy with the respondent and interest in understanding his/her views.
- Avoid arguing with the respondent, let the respondent do most of the talking.

Interview don'ts

- Don't get stuck on a question
- If the KI is uncomfortable with the questions, do not insist they answer
- Don't create expectations about future humanitarian support
- Don't prevent respondents from asking you questions at the end of the interview

Cross Cutting Issues

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Cross Cutting Issues-Importance

- They are **issues that impact in more than one field\sector** .
- For example:-wealth and wellbeing in a given country/region are generally affected by a series of **interconnected factors**.
- Important for development policy individual sectors/issues – e.g. improving roads - in **isolation**, ignoring these external factors.
- Cross-cutting issues **require action in multiple fields**
 - Should be **integrated into all areas** of donor programmes
 - Should be addressed in all **political dialogue** on development.

Cross Cutting Themes

- Gender
- Age distribution
- Disability
- Protection
- Culture
- Mass Communication

Gender & Age Distribution

- Understanding the gender dynamics in disaster-struck communities is a crucial element for effective relief.
- Gender-based disaster response should not be overlooked in this disaster.
- Gender analysis &
- Collection of sex- and age-disaggregated data will
- Facilitate reporting on who in the population has been reached and whether men and women are benefiting equally from services and support.

Gender, Age & Distribution

Gender\age parameters will also help identify potentially vulnerable groups such as:

- Female-headed households
- Child-headed households
- Elderly persons, especially if without support
- Number of persons who may need documentation to become recipients of Government assistance

Gender & Age Distribution

- Specific gender considerations must be made in selecting, targeting, distributing assistance of all type
- Distribution lay out, shelter, WASH facilities, lay out of camps should consider the specific needs of women, children, elderly

Disability

- People with disabilities may face difficulties in receiving assistance and accessing specialized services and loss of mobility aids and assistive devices. Family members and community leaders may be their only support system in the absence of specialized services.
- Persons with disabilities needs to be adequately consulted in the assessment to better understand their challenges and need (inclusion)

Protection

- The overall objective of protection is to make sure that the displaced communities are enjoying a dignified living.
- For a dignified living there certain minimum things which needs to be address i.e. shelter, food, education, health
- In time of a disaster, there is a need to scale up efforts to address protection including child protection, GBV prevention and response, mental health, psycho-social support.
- Psycho-social support is crucial for children and women after a disaster hits.
- Establishment of child friendly spaces that are safe and child-friendly and are learner centred.
- Medical and Legal support to SGBV survivors
- Monitoring to detect violations and abuses

Culture

- The prevalence of conservative cultural norms (purdah, etc.) affects how women receive aid. For instance, purdah is violated if female members of communities are exposed to unfamiliar surroundings.
- Assistance delivery but also assessment should be INCLUSIVE and should consider the prevalence of certain cultural norms and overcome obstacles that may lead to exclusion (lay out, separate spaces, individual interview, confidentiality)

Mass Communication

- How many households have an active cell phone.
- Is SMS as a means of passing on information ?
- Word of mouth as a way most people receive information.
- The MIRA questionnaire seeks to assess also the main sources of primary information for the community and the most urgent information needs of the community.
- Services have been developed to reinforce the importance of communication during disasters (on essential services, processes, hazards etc.)

www.hcomms.org

Orientation of the MIRA Tool

(Key Informant Questionnaire)

Field-based assessment using mobile devices

(Near Real-time Assessment Mechanism)

Mobile devices?

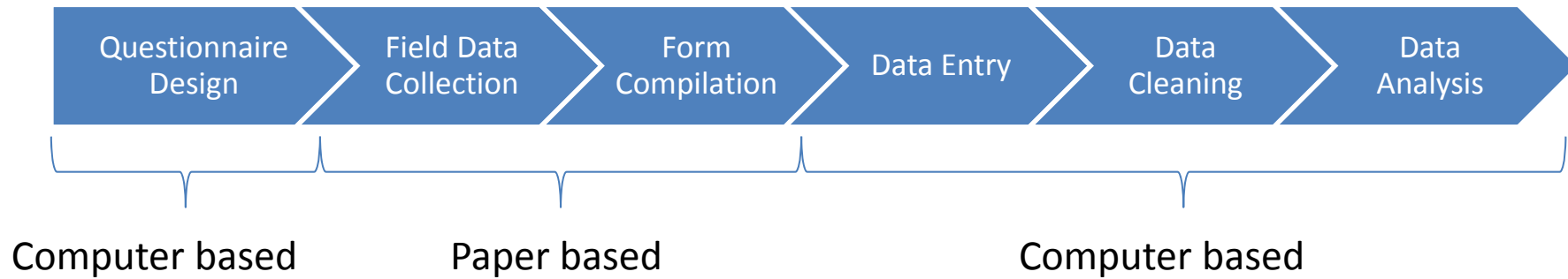
- Mobile devices are now widely being used for data collection.
- Using GPRS technology to send the data immediately as it is entered in the field.
- Data entry is easy and friendly.
- Available in different screen sizes as required.



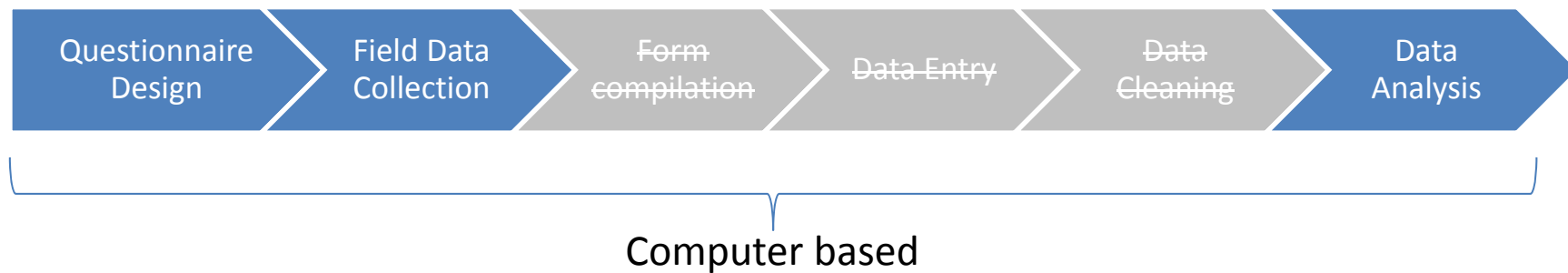
Conventional Paper Based Data collection

- Unable to start analysis until the data is entered.
- Data quality threats during the data entry.
- No quality check(Skip/constraint) function during the assessment.
- Enumeration location cannot be tracked where the data is entered.
- More chances manual errors.

Conventional System of Assessment (Paper based)



N-RAM (Using mobile devices)



Advantages of Mobile Data Collection

- Paper free assessment.
- Easy and fast to submit to information Manager for the analysis(right after finishing single form).
- Quality checks(skip/relevance and constraint) functions help to maintain data quality.
- User Friendly
- Time saving both in collection and submission to server.

Potential Application

- Rapid Assessments especially during disasters. (MIRA etc)
- Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)
- Incident reporting especially in a conflict or safety & Security Scenario.
- General/Normal Assessments

Feedback and Questions/answer session

Thank
you

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