



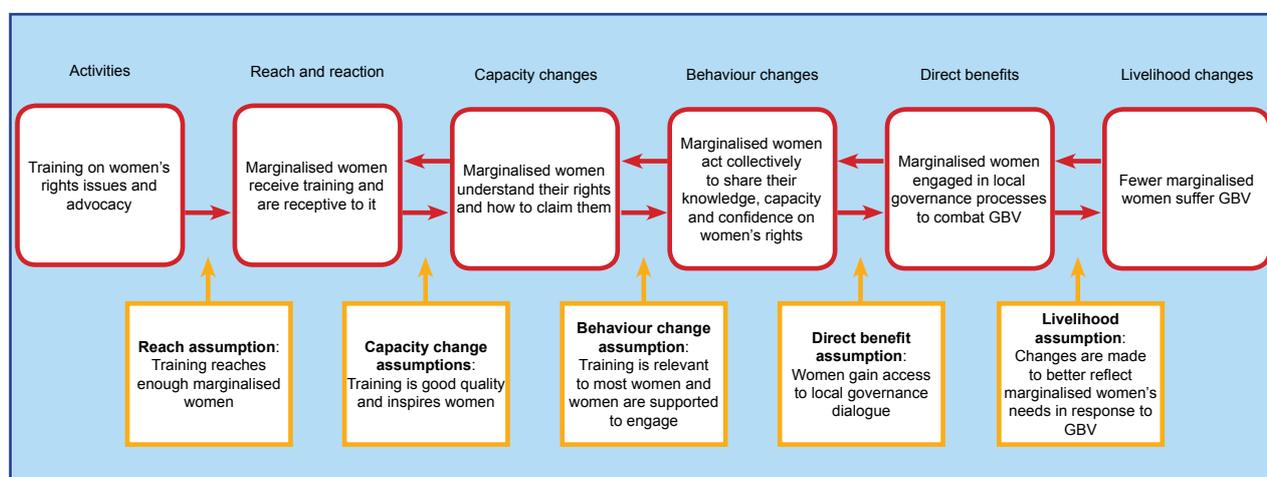
South Africa

Women's Empowerment

2015/16

Raising Her Voice Project

The Raising Her Voice – South Africa (RHV-SA) project has been part of the global Raising Her Voice (RHV) portfolio since 2008. The project operates in three municipalities, including the City of Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni district and Sebokeng district. One of Oxfam's long-standing partners, People Opposing Women's Abuse (POWA) has been the main implementing partner for the project since its inception. POWA identified the need to work at the intersection of gender-based violence (GBV), poverty, and HIV and AIDS, and designed the RHV-SA project to address specific challenges related to women's rights and participation in governance processes in South Africa. At the same time, the project aimed to contribute to a regional initiative to support the Pan-African Solidarity for African Women's Rights coalition (SOAWR) in its work to ensure the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, better known as the Maputo Protocol. Supporting the effective implementation of the Maputo Protocol was deemed necessary in order to strengthen the normative framework for the protection of women's rights, to facilitate the use of the Protocol's provisions by civil society, and to ensure that government bodies in South Africa worked to apply the Protocol to South Africa's particular issues.



This theory of change presents how the project operated and expected to achieve change, and the various intermediate outcomes the project hoped to bring about.

Project date: 2008 - ongoing

Evaluation: January 2016

Publication: March 2017

Evaluation Design

The evaluation aimed to assess confidence in the project's claim that its training and support to marginalised women contributed to their newly engaging in local governance processes. Usually, evaluations under Oxfam's Women's Empowerment thematic area are evaluated using quasi-experimental impact evaluation techniques. In this case, given the characteristics of the project, a different impact evaluation technique called process tracing was used to assess the project's contribution claim. To further strengthen the findings, an application of Bayesian updating (probability) was applied to quantify confidence in the project's contribution claim. See the document 'How are effectiveness reviews carried out?' for more information on Oxfam's process tracing protocol. Full details about the specific evaluation design used in this case are contained in the full report.

Results

Project outcome	Rating	Qualitative Rubric	Commentary
Final outcome (CMA-7): More women and women's groups newly engaging in local governance processes	0.63	More confident than not	Whilst the evidence found is limited, there is more confidence than not that the project has influenced more women and women's groups to newly engage in local governance processes.
Intermediate Outcome (CMA-1): RHV training actually took place	0.96	Reasonable certainty	Whilst monitoring logs are patchy, there is reasonable certainty that project participants did receive training.
Intermediate Outcome (CMA-2): RHV training had sufficient reach	0.60	More confident than not	The available evidence did not give confidence that the training had reached sufficient numbers of women as records did not adequately capture the training events because records were often incomplete.
Intermediate Outcome (CMA-3): POWA/RHV is seen as a credible organisation/project by local partners and women engaging in the project	0.62	More confident than not	The available evidence gives more confidence than not, that the project implementing partner, and by extension, the project, is viewed as credible by project participants and external partners.
Intermediate Outcome (CMA-4): RHV project staff believe the training to be relevant and of good quality	0.83	Cautious confidence	Based on the evidence found, there is some confidence that project staff believe the training they provided to be relevant to project participants.
Intermediate Outcome (CMA-5): Women who participated in the training found it to be relevant and that it increased their knowledge of their rights and how to claim them	0.92	High confidence	Based on the evidence, there is confidence that project participants did indeed find the training they received to be relevant and that it increased their knowledge of their human rights and how to claim them. This is a clear success of the project.
Intermediate Outcome (CMA-6): An increase in women's collective action to share and disseminate knowledge following the training	0.98	Reasonable certainty	Based on the evidence observed, there is reasonably certainty that project participants have increased collective action to share and disseminate knowledge. The evidence found, such as formation of the community action groups and the action plans they have developed, when taken together, have increased confidence in this component of the mechanism.

Scoring key: Rating / Score of confidence \equiv Qualitative Rubric: 0.99+ \equiv Practical certainty; 0.95 – 0.99 \equiv Reasonable Certainty; 0.85 - 0.95 \equiv High Confidence; 0.70 - 0.85 \equiv Cautious Confidence; 0.50 - 0.70 \equiv More Confident than not; 0.50 \equiv No Information

Going forward

Learning from the evaluation will be considered to improve programme delivery and efficiency both in Oxfam and in POWA. One key learning is to conduct future programme design qualitatively, with a well developed and designed monitoring and evaluation framework that contains success indicators that focus on the change as well as tracking results. Oxfam in South Africa also recognises that entering into contractual agreements with partner organisations on an annual basis creates instability and uncertainty for partners and recommends that future projects of this design have a much longer term plan for predictability.

Photo: Zed Nelson