

Using the Social Ecological Model to Guide the Evaluation Design of the Environmental Career Worker Training Program (NIEHS)

Dr. Donna McDaniel Mitchell





Social Ecological Model (SEM)

- Offers a concrete framework to account for interaction of behavior and environment to show the effectiveness of the program as it relates to changes in behavior of program participants
- Examines the training impact on participant activity outside the classroom
- Found in a variety of disciplines in health behavior and public health.
 A comprehensive approach to understanding health behaviors and practices
- Bridges the evaluation process between two programs
 - Used on both the HWWTP and the ECWTP to examine the impact of training on work activities and on activities outside of the classroom





Public Policy

Community

(cultural values, norms)

Organizational

(environment, ethos)

Interpersonal

(social network)

Individual

(knowledge, attitude, skills)





Five Level Model assists in identifying the influence of the environmental training on participants

- Intrapersonal (Individual) Factors
- (knowledge, attitudes, values, behavior, skills, self-concept)
- Interpersonal Relationships/Primary Groups
- (formal/informal networks & social support systems family, peers, neighbors, work)
- Organizational or Institutional Factors
- (social institutions w/organizational characteristics schools, workplaces, etc.)
- Community Factors
- (relationships in organizations w/defined boundaries –CBOs, social & health services)
- Societal/Public Policy
- (local, state and national laws, legislation and policy)



EVALUATION FOCUS



Ongoing quest to improve program administration, management and effectiveness

Empower and enhance the capacity of underserved individuals in their communities

Foster economic self-sufficiency through work preparedness

Assist participants in contributing to their community's environmental improvement

Influence/impact application of safety & health training on participants, their family and broader community

Influence their role and influence in future emergency readiness





Brings together program management, staff and participants in a manner that validates all stakeholder knowledge and experience and uses it to energize and transform participants

Designed to influence improved program results & program effectiveness as a result of lessons learned and use of accepted best practices.



Evaluation Design & Methodology

Descriptive Design

Meaningful Data obtained through in-depth, contextual descriptions and personal testimony

Evaluation Methodology

Mixed method approach using *Qualitative* and *Quantitative* research methods to gather data to answer outcome-based research questions.

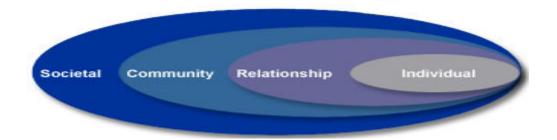




Data Collection/Procedure

Evaluation Instruments

- Gather information to answer outcome based research questions referencing previous year's evaluator recommendations
- Incorporate inquiries in all 5 ecological areas of the SEM







Qualitative/Descriptive

- Questionnaires
 - Consortium Director Questionnaire
 - Program Manager Questionnaire
- Focus Group Questions/Exercises
- Program Site Visits/Evaluator Observations
- Review of Existing Documents







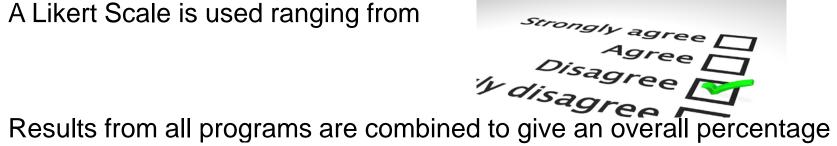




Quantitative

Participant Surveys -

- **ECWTP SEM Participant Survey**
- **ECWTP Impact of Training Outside the Classroom/Workplace**
- A Likert Scale is used ranging from









Intrapersonal Level

As a result of the training offered, I feel empowered, like an environmental ambassador, to inform my family of the health and safety information I learned







Interpersonal Level

I am interested in sharing the knowledge I learned in the program with my neighbors...friends





Organizational Level

When I find employment, I believe the training I received will have prepared me to work safely on the job (Organizational Level)







Community Level

I am interested in sharing knowledge learned with community organizations I am involved in to improve neighborhood awareness of safety and health hazards.





Policy Level

I am aware of an environmental policy at either the national, state or local level







Program Manager Questionnaire Sample Questions

Explain how you worked to Integrate the concept of Climate Change and Community Resiliency into the curriculum of your program. Be specific.

Explain **how** your program **Incorporated or Expanded Green Job Training** into Course Offerings and/or Existing Program Curriculum. Were there specific courses added or was green job training included in another course offering. Give at least one specific example.

As Program Manager, how did you assist your program in **Developing or expanding a follow up strategy to stay in contact with program graduates**?





Quantitative data collected is used to support the **Qualitative** collected to substantiate the findings; serving as a form of checks and balances to triangulate the data collected







Targeted Community Participants Increase Knowledge of a Variety of Environmental Factors that Influence a Change in Thought and Actions











Evaluation Design and Methodology



Future Emergency Readiness



Worker Preparedness

