Unit 32

Fieldwork debriefing in inventorying

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Lesson plan

Duration:

1.5 hours

Objective(s):

Participants should be able to identify important issues to consider when inventorying in the future, conduct a peer review of one another, identify key indicators for assessment, summarize issues raised, and suggest efficient ways relating to the field practicum or planned inventory activity.

Description:

The purpose of this unit is to discuss challenges experienced in the field and to draw lessons that can be applied to future inventorying work. This unit covers the assessment of participants’ conduct in the field and further discussion of contextual issues that may arise during field work that will possibly contribute to future additional assessment indicators.

Proposed sequence:

* Short introduction on debriefing
* Presentation of data and recordings
* Peer assessment
* Group discussion

Notes and suggestions

The facilitator should begin with a short introduction explaining what debriefing consists of and why there is a need to debrief.

Participants can then be requested to present their data and recordings, assess one another’s conduct and discuss the challenges faced. Some issues that might arise include:

* difficulty in tallying answers to the questions;
* a need for extra attentiveness during questioning and writing;
* a need for increased speed and accuracy during writing;
* difficulty in processing variation in the information given by individuals;
* difficulty in identifying representatives and resource persons for certain elements;
* permission denied for inventorying, recording or photography; and
* disagreements among community members about the nature or practise of the element, etc.

In guiding this discussion, the facilitator can help to highlight important indicators for assessment including: body language around interviewees and among participants, gender participation during the exercise, age-related behaviours, and so on.

Materials from fieldwork can also be used as exhibits (i.e. downloaded photos, mini-videos captured by the facilitator, completed questionnaires, audio excerpts) that relate to the debriefing topic(s). Participants can contribute additional assessment indicators.

This part of the workshop can be conducted as a group discussion and can be concluded by summarizing the issues raised and discussing any outstanding issues not already covered.