



Promoting Confidence and Accountability in State Government

Rakesh Mohan ❖ Idaho Payroll Conference ❖ September 9, 2014

Celebrating 20 years of excellence



Established in 1994
8.0 FTEs
FY 2015 Appropriation: \$785,000

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee (JLOC)



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Mortimer**



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**Sen.
Stennett**



**Sen.
Werk**



**Rep.
Ringo**



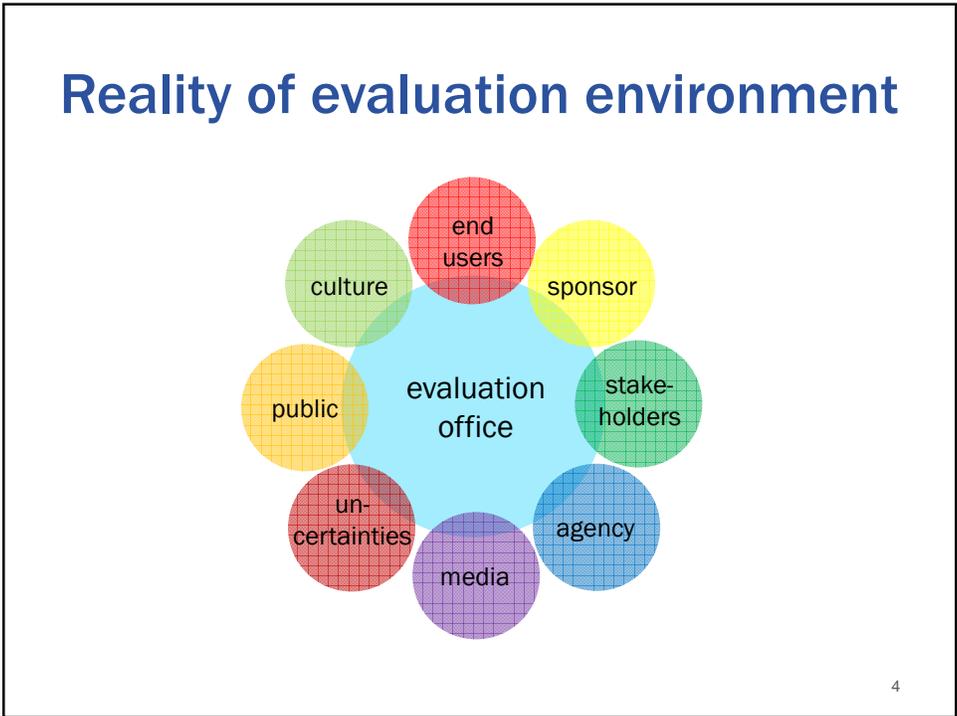
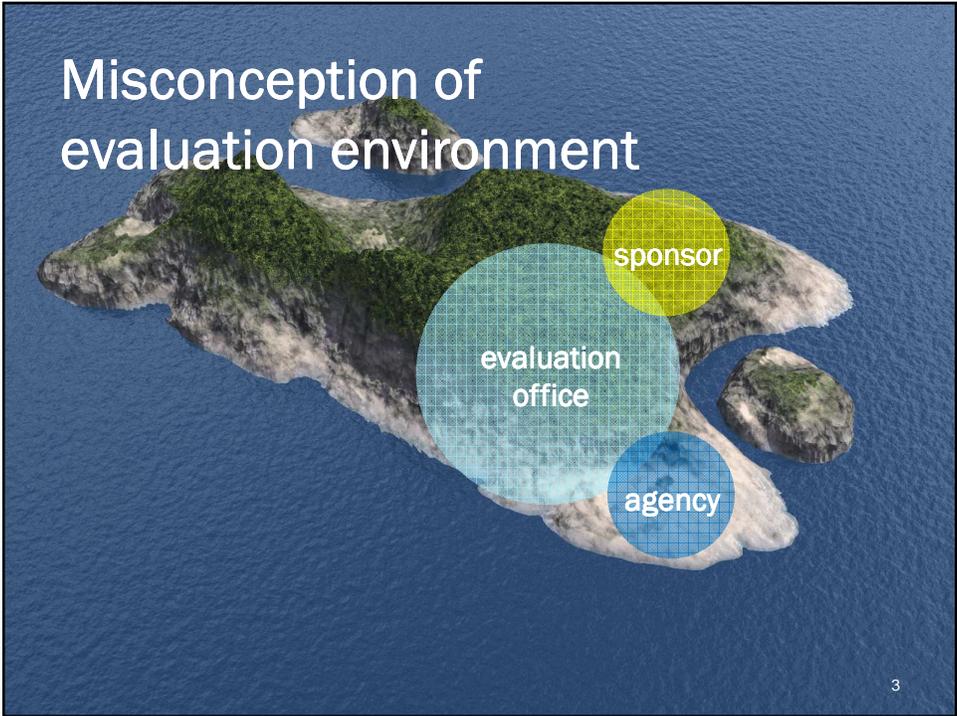
**Rep.
Bell**



**Rep.
Batt**



**Rep.
Smith**



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PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS
 IDAHO STATE LEGISLATURE
 Legislative District No. [redacted]

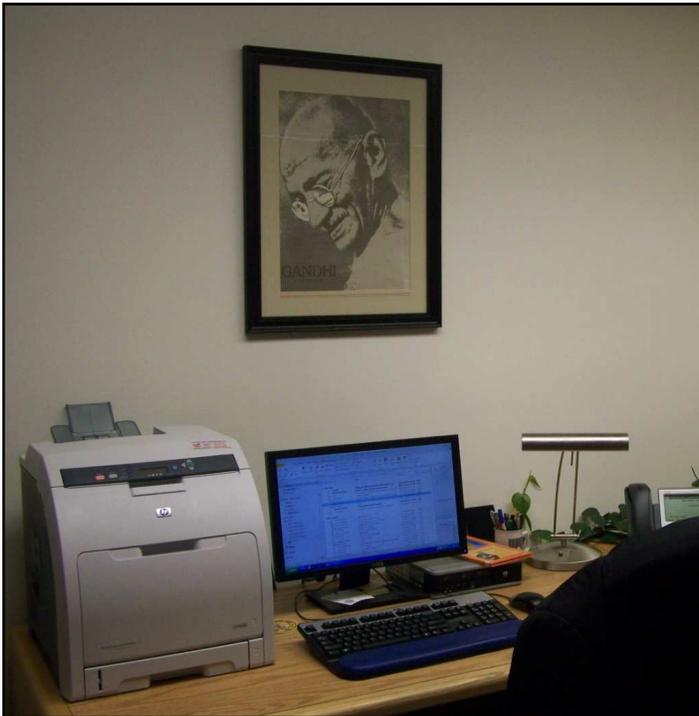
Mr. Mohan - I've been disappointed in the response of OPE. I submitted a request eight months ago and only got a negative reaction. I asked for an audit of the [redacted], we spent the Western Governor's Virtual University and what has been the outcome & have led to the state's OPE - apparently interested in this subject. [redacted]

I've been disappointed in the response of OPE.

—Former representative
 January 10, 2003

This note served as a catalyst to be responsive.

5



**Gandhi:
 A source of courage and ideas**

6

**Lessons
learned
from
Gandhi**

Understand the context

Take calculated risks

Keep the process
transparent

Work with the media

7



**Conduct my
“daily sojourns”**

**Keep legislative
leadership
involved**

**Keep
stakeholders
informed**

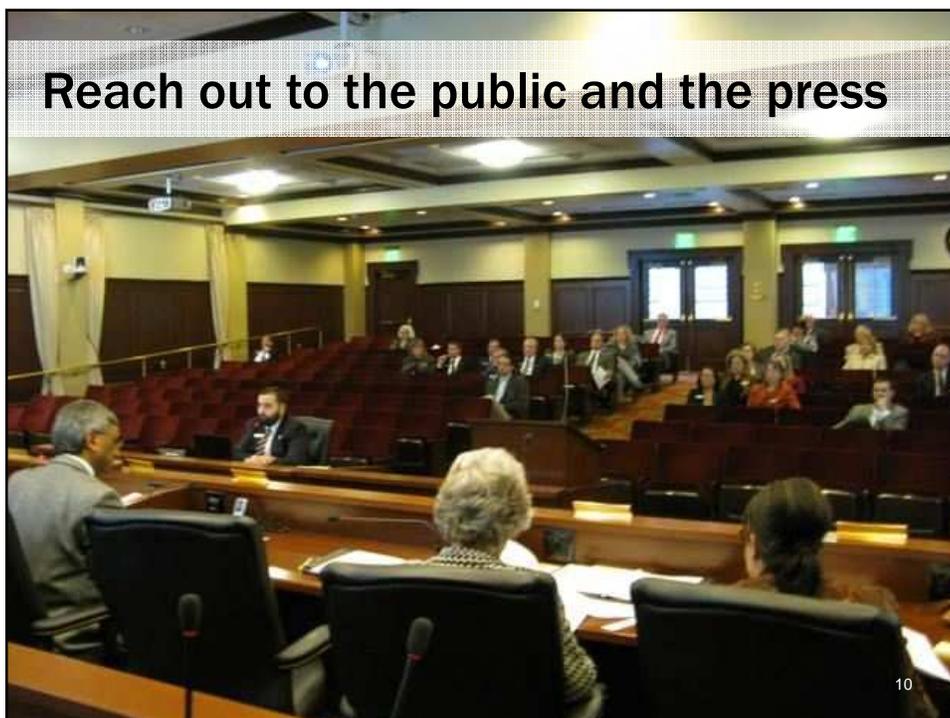
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Build relationships and establish trust



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Reach out to the public and the press



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Idaho Statesman



Idaho Politics

Home > Idaho Politics > Goo-goo alert: More kudos for Idaho Legislature's performance auditors

Goo-goo alert: More kudos for Idaho Legislature's performance auditors

Posted on April 22, 2014 by Dan Popkey

In the name of good government, the Idaho Legislature's tiny Office of Performance Evaluations continues to get notice for its work.

OPE Director Rakesh Mohan's essay on [how to make complex reports interesting and readable](#) was published this month by BetterEvaluation, an international group aimed at improving evaluation practice and theory.

In the two decades since its founding, OPE has received more than two dozen awards, most notably the 2011 Gunnar Myrdal Award from the American Evaluation Association.

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If Otter won't investigate, Legislature must

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Posted: Wednesday, June 26, 2013 12:00 am

Marty Trillhaase | **6 comments**

If the Board of Correction - and by extension, Gov. C.L. (Butch) Otter's administration - refuses to examine whether farming out prison management to profit-oriented firms is a good deal for Idahoans, then somebody else should.

Why not the Legislature?

Next year, the contract binding Idaho to Corrections Corporation of America expires and the state is free to find someone else to manage the Idaho Correctional Center outside Boise.

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COLLEGE HOOPS PRIMER: BSU OPENS LEAGUE PLAY TONIGHT IN SPORTS

Idaho Statesman



75 CENTS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2013

42° / 31° SEE A9

Still-flawed smart TVs are star of tech show

BUSINESS, B1
BUSINESS IS NOW BACK IN THE B SECTION
WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS



The food of Downton Abbey
The PBS show has revived interest in early 1900s British cuisine
PLUS 4 RECIPES INSPIRED BY THE SHOW **LIFE, L1**

Survey shows teachers' worries

Class size, wages and negative public perception weigh on educators' minds, lawmakers learn.

BY TODD DVORAK
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The findings of a survey presented Tuesday to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee tone down previous reports by state

agencies and Students Come First opponents showing that Idaho teachers are leaving the state and profession in significant numbers. The report found that 937 teachers, or 5.4 percent of certified staff,

left during the 2009-10 academic year, and 1,183, or 6 percent, during 2011-12. The Department of Education reported 1,884 teachers leaving during the 2011-12 school year. "A teacher mass exodus has not really occurred," Lance McClellan, an analyst with the Office of Performance Evaluations, told the committee. "But concerns about a

mass exodus in the future may not be totally unfounded." Education Department officials say they track turnover differently and are routinely updating data. The report, requested by HLOC a year ago, focuses on workforce issues affecting teachers, principals and superintendents at Idaho's public and charter schools,

including salaries, how well teachers are prepared and educated, and challenges that administrators face in hiring and keeping teachers on the payroll.

See TEACHERS, A4
EXPERTS OFFERED OVERHAUL IDEAS AT FORUM LOCAL NEWS, A4

Idaho Statesman



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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2013

49° / 24° SEE A15

COMING IN THE STATESMAN THIS WEEK

Workers who care for aging parents are rising in Idaho
TUESDAY IN BUSINESS INSIDER



Inside a historic Main Street Boise home
TREASURE MAGAZINE
SATURDAY FOR SUBSCRIBERS



RACE TO REGISTRATION
Sign-ups begin today for the Race to Robie Creek
SPORTS, S1

Legislature's auditor defends teacher report

The survey that found 'despair' among Idaho's educators caused a flap, but top lawmakers say they support the examiners.

BY DAN POWREY
dppowre@idahostatesman.com
© 2013 Idaho Statesman
With feelings still raw over water repeal of Students Come First, the Legislature's Office of Performance Evaluations reopened the wound for key proponents last month. Presented on Jan. 8, the second day of the session, "Workforce Is-

ssues Affecting Public School Teachers" was received skeptically by the House and Senate Education Committee chairmen, both prominent backers of Propositions 1, 2 and 3. Their complaint was about one aspect of the 74-page report, a survey of 2,800 teachers, principals and superintendents that auditors said raised red flags about the fu-

ture quantity and quality of Idaho teachers. The survey "revealed a strong undercurrent of despair among teachers who seem to perceive a climate that disparages their efforts and belittles their contributions," wrote the auditors. They added that the "vast majority" surveyed "express concern or dissatisfaction with specific aspects of their work or, more broadly, with conditions surrounding the public education environment in Idaho." Left unchecked, "the state would run the risk of declines not only in

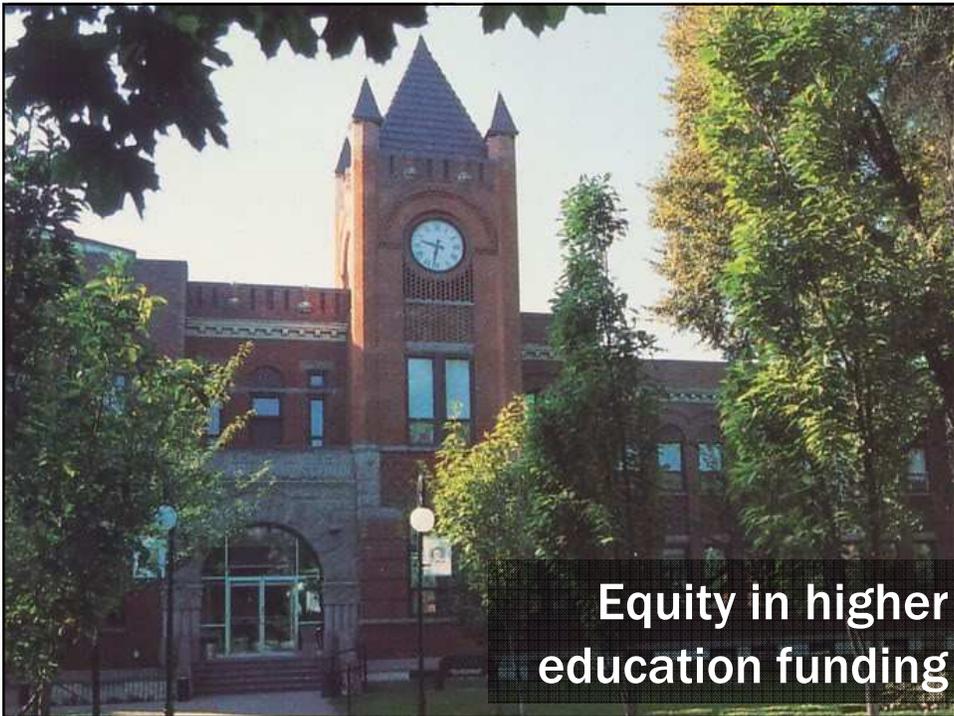
the number of people who are willing to enter or remain in the profession, but also in the quality of the pool of prospective candidates." The language troubled House Education Committee Chairman Reed DeModena, R-Eagle, and Senate Education Committee Chairman John Goettle, R-Coeur d'Alene. "Where I took issue was with the conclusion that teachers were dismal," said Goettle, the lawmaker who requested the study in

YOUR WEEK AHEAD



ENTERTAINMENT
Tuesday: The Harlem Globetrotters bounce in to CenturyLink Arena.
Wednesday: Reggae band The Wailers visit the Knitting Factory.

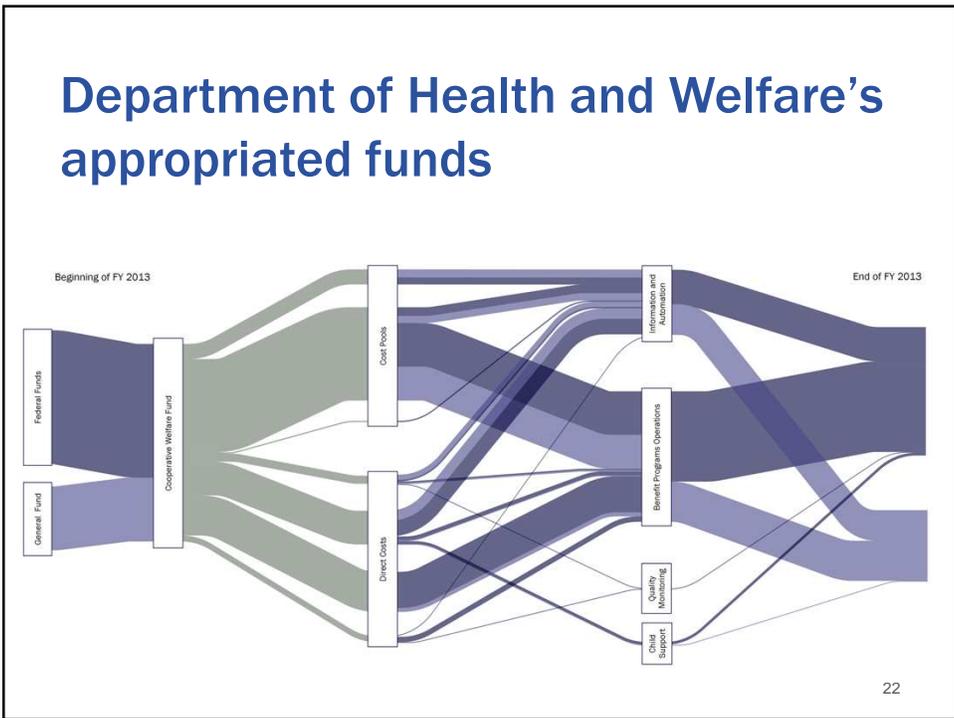
Transportation



**Equity in higher
education funding**









Current projects

- K-12 longitudinal data system**
- Contracting for legal services**
- Agency use of salary savings**

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Sharing Idaho's success with others around the globe via guest blogs

Evaluation Capacity Development Group - moving evaluation from an activity to a system





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Home » Blog » Wish I had done this 11 years ago

Wish I had done this 11 years ago

in Blog on July 28th, 2014

Editorial Comment: *ECDG's guest blogger, Rakesh Mohan, is director of the Office of Performance Evaluations, an independent and nonpartisan agency of the Idaho State Legislature. For its contributions toward improving state government policies and programs, the office received the Alva and Gunnar Myrdal Award from the American Evaluation Association (AEA) in 2011. Rakesh is a member of AEA's Evaluation Policy Task Force and is currently running for president of the association.*





Being the director of Idaho's legislative evaluation office for more than 11 years has taught me many things. One of them is the complex nature of communication with policymakers. I believe this is probably one of the most important and challenging aspects of my job. Policymakers are busy folks with many competing things on their minds. Getting their attention isn't easy. Having worked for them for so many years, I thought they knew about my office—like who we are, what we do, how we do it, and why we do it. Not quite so.

Recent Knowledgebase Additions

Proceedings Report of Int'l Parliamentarians' Eval Seminar @ MES Conf 28 Mar 14
U.S. Cooperative Extension Evaluation and ECD/ECB resources
Effectiveness Assessment Tool for High-Performance Social Change Organizations: An Overview

ECDG News

ECDG contributes to OECD/DAC Newsletter on ECD

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Wish I had done this 11 years ago
ECDG contributes to OECD/DAC Newsletter on ECD

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Guest Post – Embracing Data Visualization in Evaluation: A Management Perspective

Posted on July 17, 2014

*Friends! I'm so happy to have Rakesh Mohan guest blogging for me. He is one helluva guy. He is the Director of the Office of Performance Evaluations, an independent agency of the Idaho State Legislature. In other words, his eval clients are lawmakers. You ask me for examples of reporting in government – here you go! In addition to those huge tasks, Rakesh is running for president of the American Evaluation Association (vote!) and his office received the Alva and Gunnar Myrdal Government Evaluation Award from AEA in 2011 because their evaluation work is **that** incredible.*

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EVALUSPHERIC PERCEPTIONS

Reflections of an everyday evaluator/learner/educator exploring the evalusphere



Why Are Evaluators So Tentative about the Advocacy Aspect of Our Profession? (Guest Post by Rakesh Mohan)

07/08/2014 by Sheila B Robinson, Ed. D | 2 Comments

I've recently had the pleasure of meeting an evaluator whose work I've followed, and I invited him to write for Evaluspheric Perceptions. Rakesh Mohan has been a regular on EvalTalk, and I've admired him for putting his work out there and asking for feedback. In early 2014, his office released a report, *Confinement of Juvenile Offenders*, and I found myself curious enough to read it. Quite honestly, it wasn't the topic that interested me, but rather, it was the idea of reading a governmental evaluation report produced by someone who is a great fan of and frequent presenter at the American Evaluation Association. Needless to say, the report impressed me to no end. Rakesh put into place nearly every principle of good evaluation reporting and data visualization that I have been learning and studying myself. I'm not the only one impressed by the work coming out of his office. In

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SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES...

- Why Are Evaluators So Tentative about the Advocacy Aspect

INPUTS...



Sheila B Robinson, Ed. D
Voracious learner, career educator...

AEA365 | A Tip-a-Day by and for Evaluators

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Jun/14 24 **DVR TIG Week: Rakesh Mohan, Lance McCleve, Tony Grange, Bryon Welch, and Margaret Campbell on Sankey Diagrams: A Cool Tool for Explaining the Complex Flow of Resources in Large Organizations**

4 Comments - Posted by *Sheila Robinson* in *Data Visualization and Reporting*

We are Rakesh Mohan, Lance McCleve, Tony Grange, Bryon Welch, and Margaret Campbell of the Office of Performance Evaluations, an independent agency of the Idaho State Legislature.

Last year, the Legislature asked us to explain how funds move through the Department of Health and Welfare—the agency with the state’s largest budget. Legislators, including budget committee members, had difficulty understanding the department’s financial information. Given agency complexities and its sheer number of financial transactions (over two million in 2013), no one in recent history had brought together the separate parts of its financial records to explain how the parts function.

Communicating the flow of dollars was the trickiest piece of the study. We considered narratives, tables, and traditional flowcharts. Ultimately, we used Sankey diagrams that helped stakeholders visualize funds moving through the

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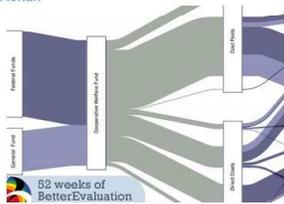
Home > Blogs > Rakesh Mohan's blog

Week 15: Fitting reporting methods to evaluation findings – and audiences

Share

11th April 2014 by **Rakesh Mohan**

A few weeks ago we responded to a question from BetterEvaluation user Rituu B. Nanda on interesting ways of presenting data in evaluation reports. The conversation continued on the American Evaluation Association LinkedIn group. This week we're sharing some ideas from Rakesh Mohan on ways of making evaluation reports more interesting. Rakesh is Director at the Office of Performance Evaluations, Idaho State Legislature. He discusses how his team presented the findings of different evaluations which were intended for both policy-makers and public audiences.



52 weeks of BetterEvaluation

The Department of Health and Welfare's Management of Appropriated Funds

As part of this evaluation, we had a difficult task of understanding and then explaining to policy-makers the movement of appropriated funds from various

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2011 Myrdal Award

Presented to
an individual or group
whose evaluation work is
highly influential in governmental
contexts and...whose work is
consistent with the
American Evaluation Association's
Guiding Principles for Evaluators



The OPE team



Amanda Bartlett



Margaret Campbell



Hannah Crumrine



Tony Grange



Ryan Langrill



Lance McCleve



Jennifer Tomlinson



Bryon Welch