

Did it make a difference?

Trying to unravel the mystery of impact and the contribution made by a public initiative



Impact

- The actual difference an intervention has made – not simply the change that has occurred



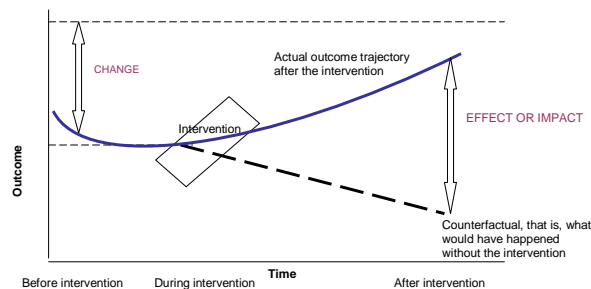
Utilization focused evaluation

- Working with the intended users to design evaluation that will be useful
- Does not prescribe models, methods or theories

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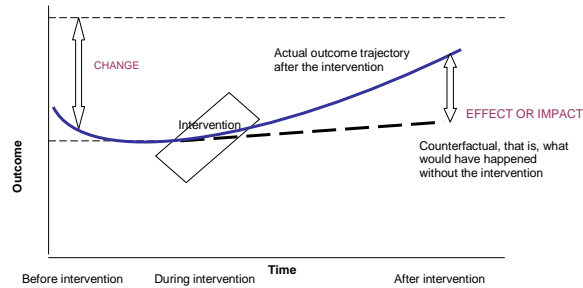
The counterfactual



Adapted from Lipsey, 2006



Another counterfactual example



Measuring impact

Growing debate:

- Estimating the counterfactual
- Using control groups and experimental designs as the GOLD standard

VS

- Other methodologies



Additionality

- Input – resources are additional to what would have been invested – not merely replace
- Outputs-outcomes – proportion that would not have been achieved without public support
- Behavioural – scale, scope, acceleration, strategic change, competencies

• Georghiou et al



How we used this

- The typology helped guide interviews and analysis
- Built up the counterfactual through discussion and used as comparison against the typology
- Used the typology to explore non-project explanations or changes and outcomes



Benefits

- Enriched their understanding of their impact
- Provided alternative way to assess the effect
- A springboard for thinking about additionality more strategically



The Unique Benefit

- Inputs
- Outcomes
- Behavioural
- Quality
- Non-financial risk mitigation
- Knowledge and innovation
- Standard setting
- Policy



A work in progress

- Does this resonate?
- What alternatives have you used?
- How might this work be further progressed?