The How-To of Research Translation

Liliana Gomez Diaz, Director Colombia, Purdue International, Inc., Purdue University

Juan Posada-Burbano, Program Manager, Innovation and Practice Division, Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development

Yuehwern Yih, Academic Director, LASER PULSE
Objectives

- Review LASER’s definition of and approach to research translation
- Consider the four tenets of translation
- Identify common challenges and consider best practices
- Consider dissemination approaches for translation
How have you conducted research translation in your work?
Research Translation

A co-design process among academics, practitioners, and other stakeholders, in which research is adapted for use and intentionally applied to a development challenge.
Delivering practical, research-driven solutions to global development challenges

Research for Development Conference (R4D), October 2019, Bogota

RESEARCH TRANSLATION

Question, Research, Context, and Field Testing

DEEP COLLABORATION

Researchers

Practitioners
Policy Makers
Private Sector
Donors

Impact
Wider Application
Replication & Scale
Increased Awareness
Outline

1. Partnership
2. Process
3. Translation Product
4. Dissemination
1. Partnership
Aspects of Partnership

- Terms and Start Up
- Timelines
- Incentives and Values
- Intellectual Property
- Outcomes & Definition of Success
- Donors
- Student Engagement

In pairs, consider these aspects of partnership. Using your post it notes, identify some challenges (yellow) in these areas, as well as some potential responses to those challenges (pink).
2. Process
Integrating Research in Practitioner's Program Lifecycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>What practitioners use</th>
<th>What is available for researchers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ideation</td>
<td>Needs Assessments</td>
<td>Questions/Purpose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Frameworks</td>
<td>Resources (HR/$)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implementation</td>
<td>Handbooks/Toolkits</td>
<td>Access/Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Feedback/Reports</td>
<td>Data</td>
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</table>

Other examples of research use in the program lifecycle?
Scenario: Project process planning
3. Translation Product
Delivering practical, research-driven solutions to global development challenges

Research for Development Conference (R4D), May 2019, Uganda

Research for Development Conference (R4D), October 2019, Bogota

RESEARCH TRANSLATION

Discovery, Learning, Innovation, & Field Tested Solution

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Question, Research, Context, and Field Testing
USAID’s definition of “adapted for use”:

“...a research product or set of research results has been tailored for non-technical audiences with the intent of facilitating the application of the research. Research products translated for use include, but are not limited to: policy briefs, policy recommendations, editorials, media, infographics and blogs. Incorporation of research into a systematic review can also be considered translation for use. Workshops and workshop presentations designed for decision-makers and other non-technical audiences can also be considered a research product tailored for use.”
Scenario: Product & Target Audience

Your partnership is established and you have extensive planned on how to work together. You and your partner have discovered that the inclusion of school counseling support programming has a significant impact on learning outcomes, and particular counseling support curricula are especially effective.

In five minutes, can you identify at least two intended audiences and different translation products for these research findings?
4. Dissemination
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Conclusion & Next Steps
Create a Key Words Card

- All the implementers in the hall should create a ‘Key Words’ card that refers to their work.
- The purpose of this is to enable researchers to identify implementers whose program or sectoral focus coincides with their research experience and interests.
- In the ‘Speed-Dating’ session tomorrow at the end of the day, implementers will hang these above their chair so that researchers can quickly identify them and stop to speak with them and exchange contact details.

Example:

Common key words to search for research on child soldiers include:


You may be more specific and descriptive about your work. Following the above example, your key words might read:

“child soldiers" “vulnerable youth" “psycho-social tools" “reintegration" “prevention" “restorative justice" “gender"