

Adaptive Management Learning Event

Friday, July 11th, 2014

9am – 4pm

Metropole Hotel, Kampala

Context

There is a fairly extensive body of literature on the theory and practice of market systems development: from papers on implications for [monitoring & evaluation](#) and [staff roles & capacities](#), to a detailed synthesis of [what it looks like in practice](#). Where thinking has been slower to evolve, however, is on the implications for project management. This is perhaps not surprising: in a recent Harvard Business Review [blog post](#) on why managers have failed to embrace complexity, Richard Straub points out that complexity conflicts with the managerial desire for control. As such, most common management tools reduce complex problems into a number of simplified variables. In the case of the development sector, tools and approaches such as Gantt charts, logical frameworks and the hierarchical, sector-focused distribution of labour have proven useful for project managers to control for limited variables, **but fall short when confronted with the challenge of dealing with the complexity of the real world.**

The Event

In order to address this knowledge gap, Engineers Without Borders Canada's Pollen Group, in collaboration with Kenya Markets Trust, are hosting a one-day learning event, to take place at the **Metropole Hotel in Kampala on Friday, July 11th, 2014.**

The event is convening a group of practitioners that will explore the concept of **adaptive management, which can be defined as a structured, iterative process of robust decision-making in the face of uncertainty, with an aim to reducing uncertainty over time via system monitoring.** Following the event, selected participants will be engaged over several months to share stories about their challenges and insights from applying the principles discussed at the event. This will feed into a larger regional learning event set to take place in November 2014.

Details

- Registration: 830am
- Food & Dining: hotel to provide morning/afternoon tea, and lunch
- Cost: Free to all participants that RSVP

Please RSVP to Ryan Bourque (rbourque@pollengroup.org) or Christine Livet (clivet@pollengroup.org) by June 25th, 2014