Real-Time Data for Adaptive Management at USAID

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Heuristics for Digital

PRINCIPLES *for* **Digital Development**

- Design With the User
- Understand the Existing Problem
- Design For Scale
- Build For Sustainability
- Be Data Driven
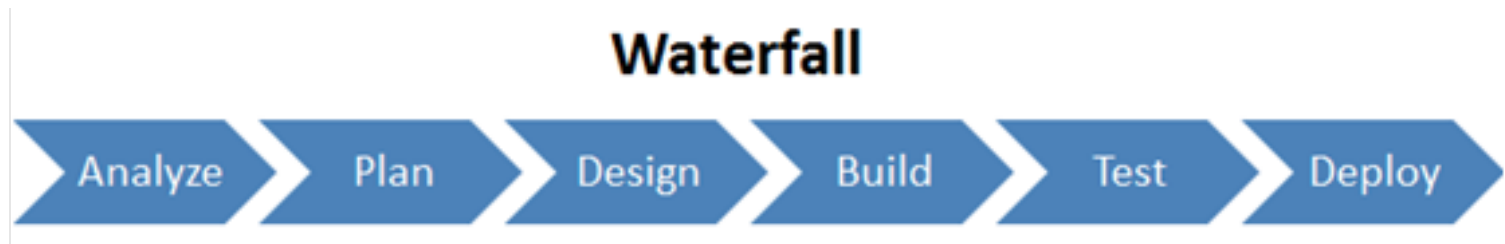- Use Open Standards, Open Data, Open Source, & Open Innovation
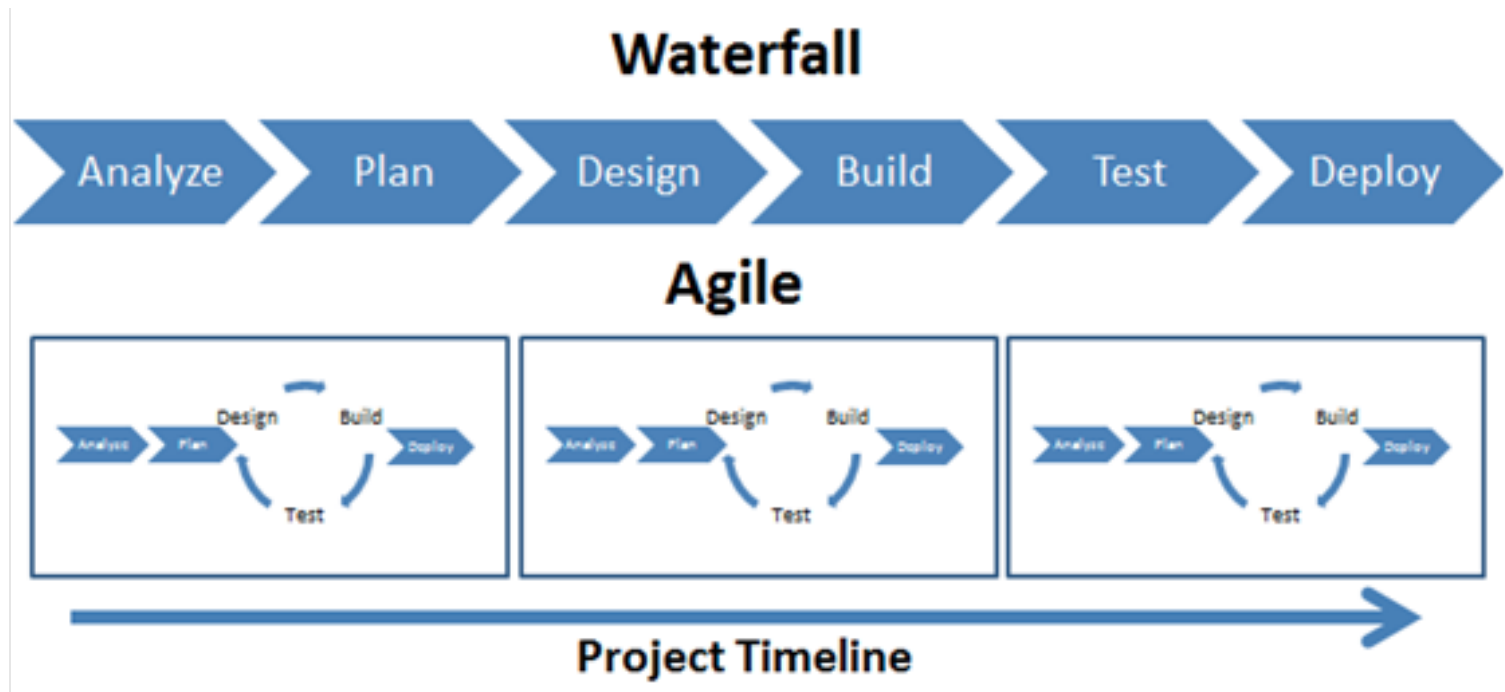- Reuse & Improve
- Address Privacy & Security
- Be Collaborative

http://www.digitalprinciples.org

Current Development Practice

Waterfall

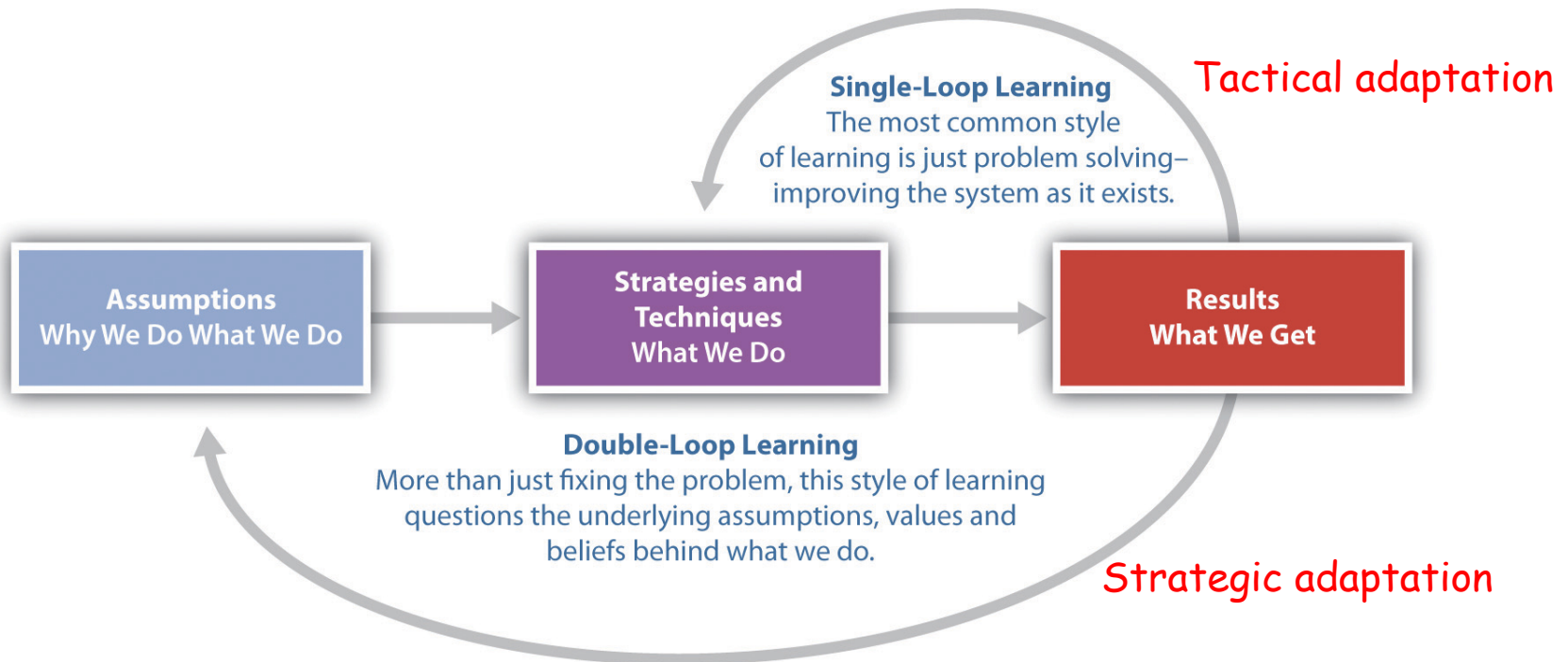Analyze → Plan → Design → Build → Test → Deploy

(adapted from Thornton, 2015)

Adaptive Development Practice

(adapted from Thornton, 2015)

Why Adaptive Management?

Double-loop Learning   / Adaptation

Single-Loop Learning
The most common style
of learning is just problem solving–
improving the system as it exists.

Tactical adaptation

Assumptions Why We Do What We Do	Strategies and Techniques What We Do	Results What We Get

Double-Loop Learning
More than just fixing the problem, this style of learning
questions the underlying assumptions, values and
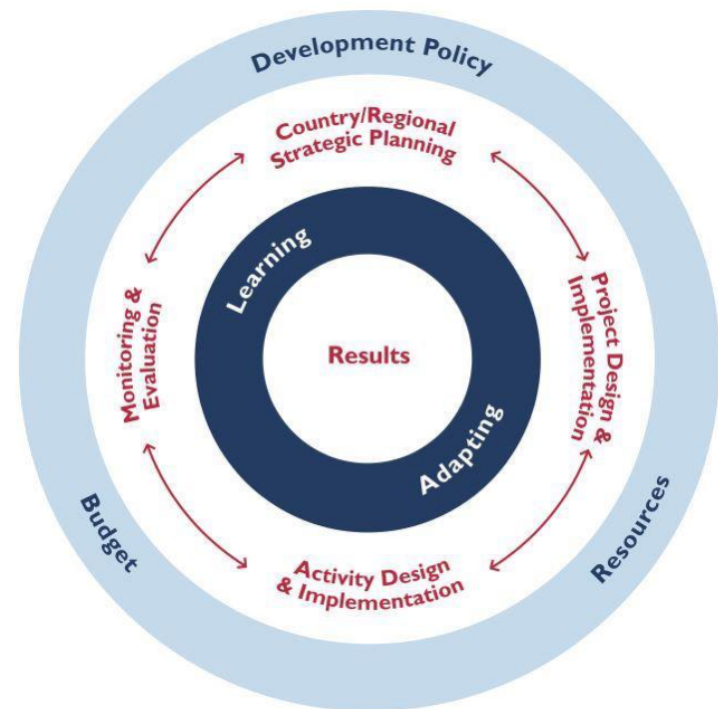beliefs behind what we do.

Strategic adaptation

(Valters, Cummings and Nixon, 2016)

USAID Operations Policy

Revision of ADS 201: governing strategic planning, design, implementation and MEL of USAID programs

- **Focus on Learning and Adaptive Management (AM) throughout USAID Programming**

- **A more principles-based approach.**

- **Smarter, more customizable processes.**

- **More strategic use of evidence.**

- **Improved coherence of Agency programming.**

Digital Development

How can digital technologies capture high frequency and *Real-Time Data (RTD)* feedback loops to improve learning, iteration, inclusivity and adaptation for improved development outcomes?

- <u>Research</u>: desk review and comparative case study empirical research of the best global cases for how real-time data can improve learning and adaptation

- <u>Experimentation</u>: development of a set of Tools for USAID programs to employ RTD and AM, as well as experiments at scale.

- <u>Policy</u>: revision of USAID Operations Policy

- <u>Culture change</u>: working on procedures and skills on how to utilize digital and develop "adaptive and agile" skills and mindsets with USAID Procurement and HR offices

Lab's Approach for Stronger Health Information Systems

LAB EBOLA RECOVERY STRATEGY FOR IMPROVED HEALTH DATA

Programming will help the West Africa region prevent, detect, and respond to future disease epidemics through four interrelated areas of focus:

1
Governance:
Institutional and human capacity of managers in HIS governance, leadership, and data-driven management improved

2
Platforms & Interoperability:
Targeted software platforms for HIS are connected to enable health information exchange

3
Technical Capacity:
HIS software engineering expertise in the region developed and sustained

4
Connected Health Workers:
Use of real-time data systems by connected health workers for health service delivery

Principles of Digital Development
*DESIGN WITH USER * ECOSYSTEM * SCALE * SUSTAINABILITY * OPEN * REUSE * PRIVACY / SECURITY * COLLABORATIVE*

Improving the quality and use of health data for disease surveillance and health service delivery in West Africa will address key issues identified during the Ebola outbreak

RTD4AM Toolbox

- Toolbox will focus on existing USAID programs with mobile/sensor data collection systems and working with USAID Program Officers, Implementers and other stakeholders

- Toolbox will be applied across sectors and geographies

- Will include additional analyses and guidance on Cost/Benefit Analysis, Cost-Effective Analysis, Feasibility Analysis and Risk Assessments

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Thanks! Questions?

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