

SCENARIO 3



Cutting Costs

During the budget hearings for the upcoming fiscal year, the Minister of Finance announces on national television that due to headwinds that have impacted on the performance of the economy, significant budget cuts of 40 percent will be made to all line Ministries. In turn, the CEO of the Ministry of Poverty Reduction issues budget proposals and calls for prudence in the allocation of resources. It is proposed that the priority budget expenditure in the proposed Ministerial budget will be on the core business i.e. social assistance schemes. In this vein, the M&E budget will be cut by 73 percent.

The situation you are faced with is one where:

- 1. You have in place a dedicated M&E unit.*
- 2. The M&E unit has not undertaken an evaluation in the last 10 years.*
- 3. With donor support the Cooperating Partners have just completed the development of an M&E framework for the Ministry.*

INSTRUCTIONS

- a) What data sources would you use to meet your objectives?
- b) Propose other M&E approaches that would ensure that the unit continues to play its vital role?