

# CASE STUDY: PARTICIPATORY EVALUATION OF RURAL ROADS

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# Objective of the Session/Presentation

## ❑ The Session Objective

- The session discusses methodologies and techniques in evaluating economic and social outcomes, especially indirect impact

## ❑ This Presentation

- The presentation discusses the participatory evaluation which assesses economic and social impact by taking an approach that involves the stakeholders in the evaluation process
- It is on obtaining systematic information, to gauge user demand and satisfaction, and to produce recommendations

# Three Basic Tools and Triangulation

Document  
review and  
interview

Data  
collection  
and  
analysis

Triangu-  
-lation

Listen to  
people



# Rural Roads Sector II Investment Project

- Rural roads are the most important last mile to change people's lives
  - Assam state in northeast India
  - Started in 2009 and completed in 2013
  - Rehabilitated 270 road sections, total of 920 km of rural roads in Assam (the average length is 3.3 km)



# Choosing Methods and Techniques

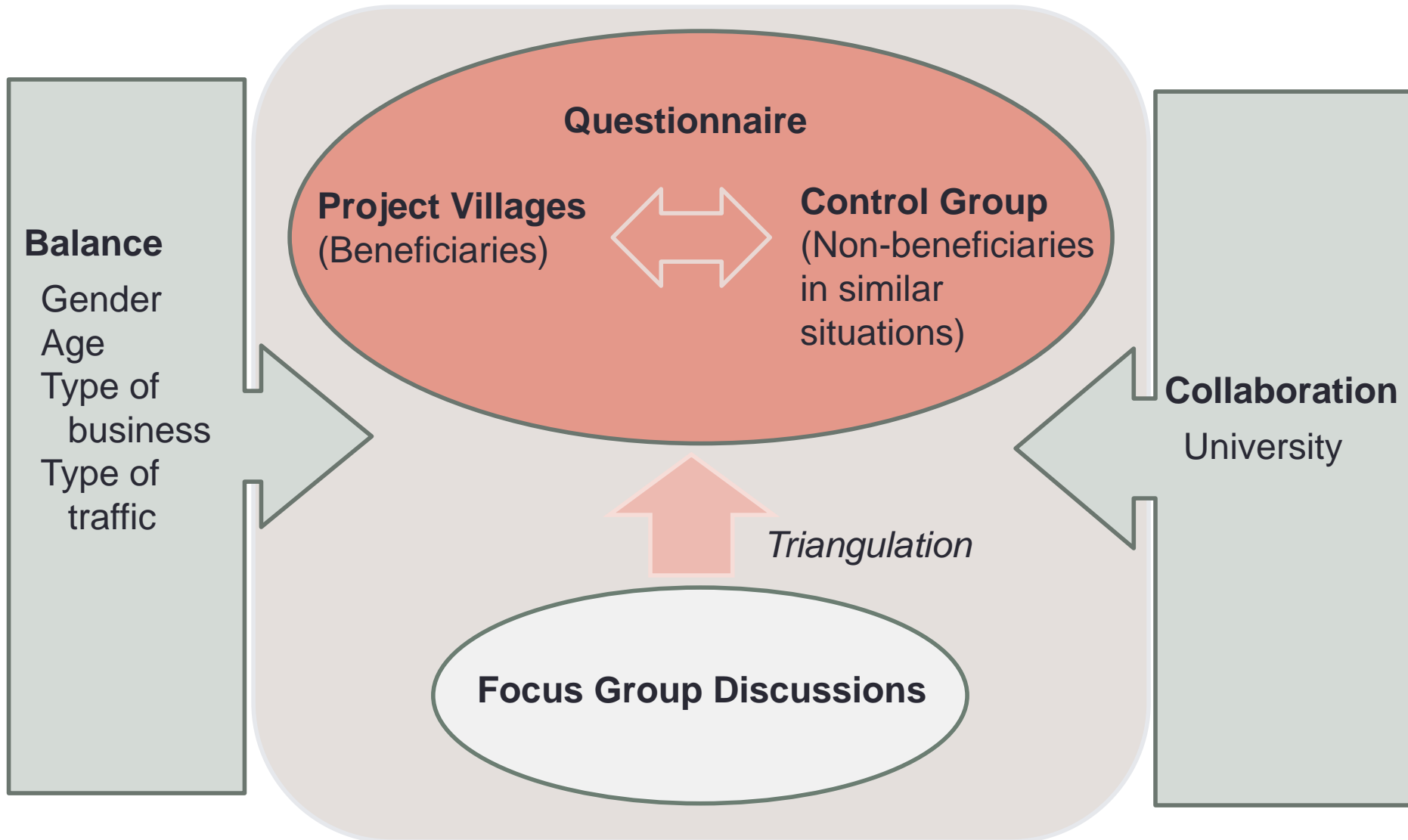
## ❑ Challenges

- No baseline data, no socioeconomic data except demographic
- No assessment on how people's lives have changed after the project
- Interpretation of people's response (e.g. local culture, language, practice)

## ❑ Methods

- Structured questionnaire
- Focus group discussions
- Difference in differences (qualitative)
  - Counter-factual scenario to estimate the net incremental benefits delivered by the project
- Collaboration with local knowledge institutions (e.g., Gauhati University)

# The Beneficiary Survey Scheme





# Questionnaire





# Focus Group Discussions

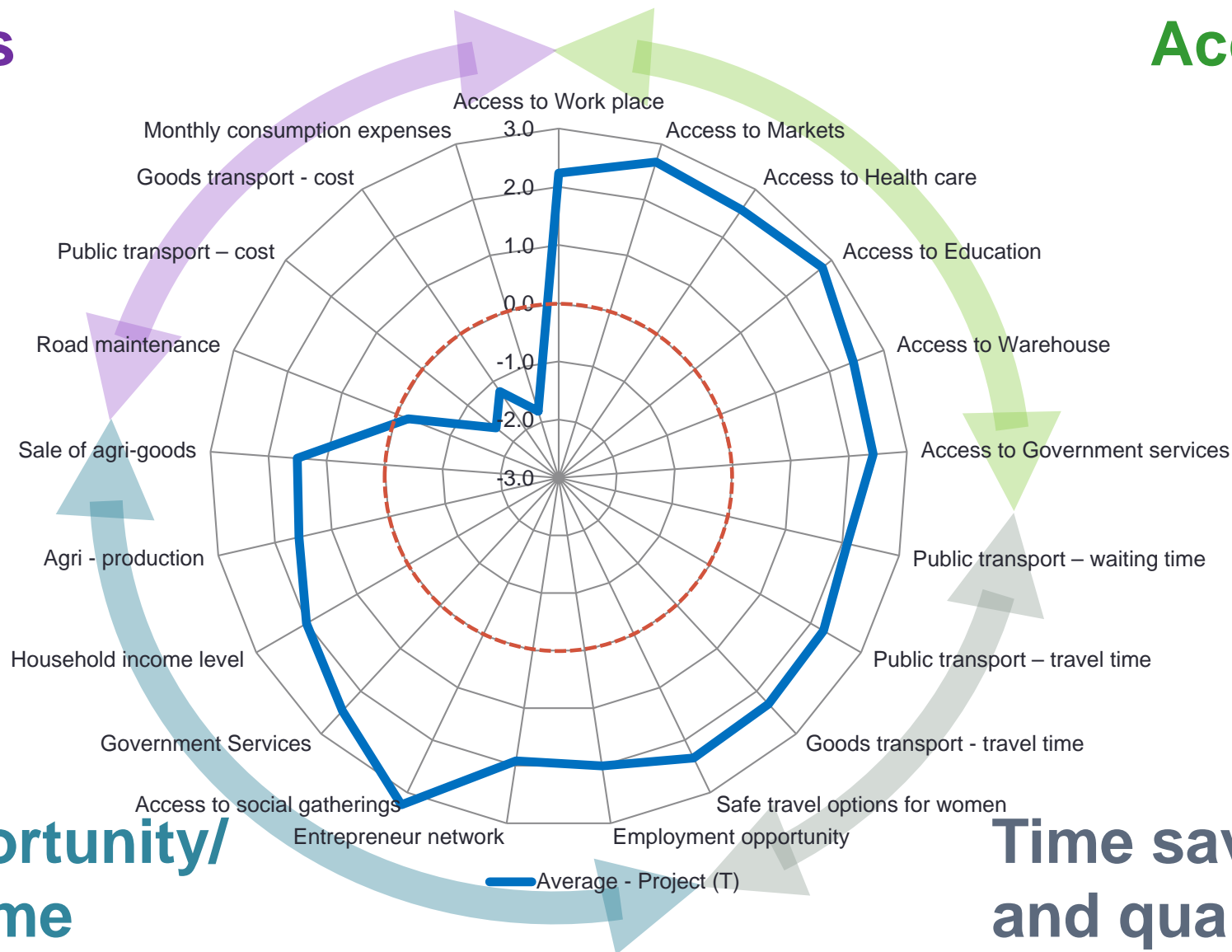




# Beneficiaries' Satisfaction

Costs

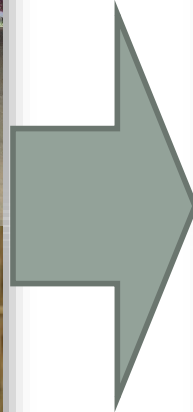
Access



Opportunity/  
income

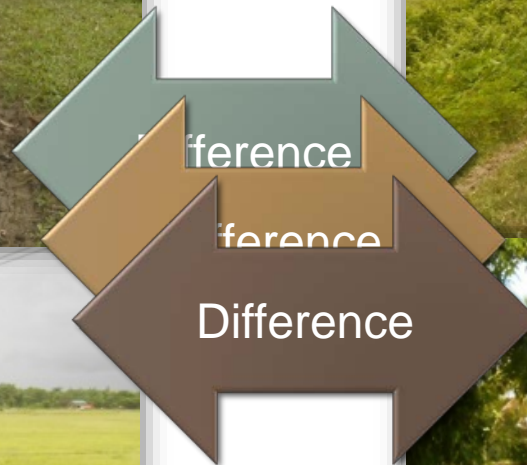
Time savings  
and quality

# From Self-Sufficiency to Market Economy





# Difference in Differences

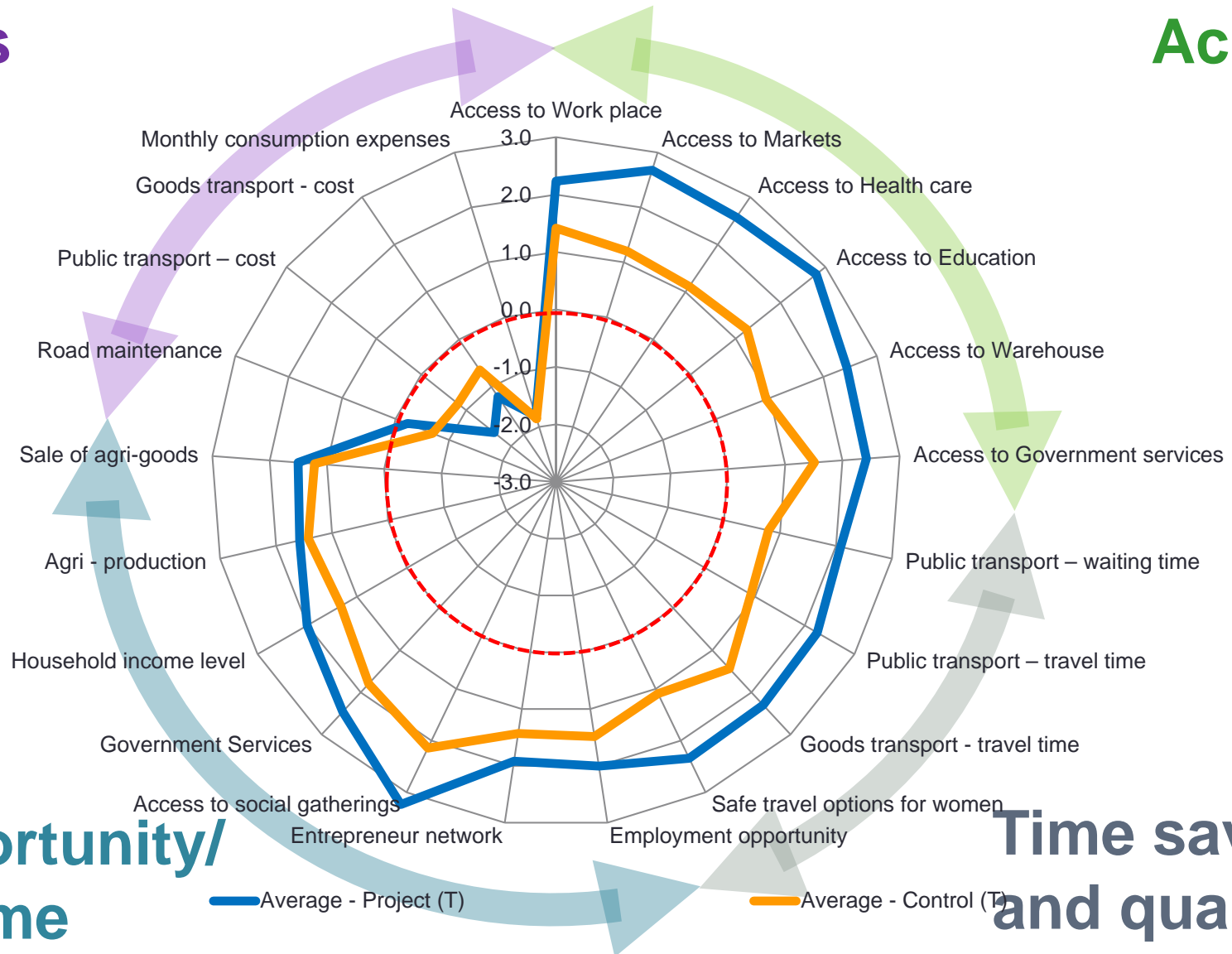




# Additionality of the Project

Costs

Access



Opportunity/  
income

Time savings  
and quality

# Case Findings

1. “Access, time savings, and opportunities” were increased
2. Diversification of economic activities were observed
3. The improvements gradually shifted households from a lifestyle based on self-sufficiency to one on market economy
4. On the other hand, the shift might result in increased costs
5. While access to hospitals and schools have improved, the quality of services remained the same and sometimes inadequate
6. A cross-sectoral approach is necessary for greater development effectiveness

# Summary

1. Participation approach is not standard in the transport sector yet, especially for evaluation
2. It is a good tool to assess economic and social impact, especially for rural projects
3. It is useful to elicit people's voice and triangulate other documents and data
4. It ensures connectivity of different sectors to inclusive economic growth
5. People's voice leverages your jobs



# Learning Together



# Thank You!



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