

CHAPTER 5

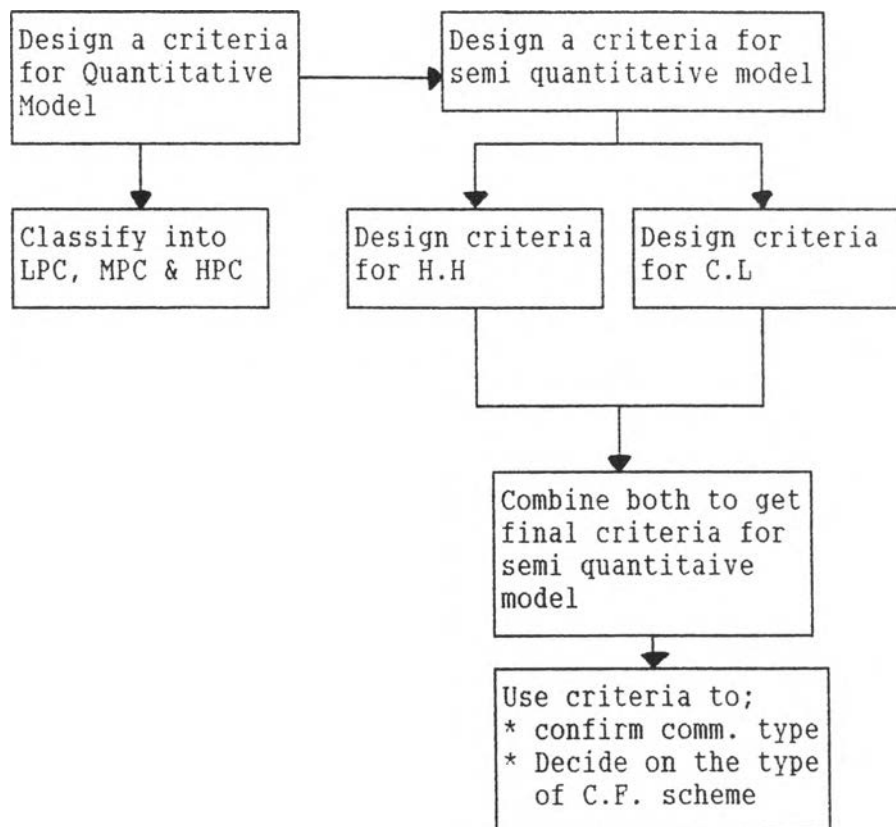
MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CRITERIA



An index to be used as the criteria for interpreting the ability and willingness values estimated, and for arriving at a definite conclusion on a community's state of preparedness to finance onchocerciasis control with ivermectin is needed.

The index will comprise of various values of ability and willingness to finance. The application of the criteria is illustrated in figure 5.1.

FIGURE 5.1 Illustration of the multi-dimensional criteria



Note: H.H. = household heads; C.L. = community leaders; comm. type = community type; and C.F. = community financing.

5.1 Criteria for the Quantitative model

It will be based on the WTF and ATF values from the households in a community.

5.1.1 Range of values for ATF and WTF

The range is between 5.00 to 20.00.

Values between 5.00 to 9.99 = low ATF/WTF (LA/LW);
 Values between 10.00 to 14.99 = middle ATF/WTF (MA/MW);
 Values between 15.00 to 20.00 = high ATF/WTF (HA/HW).

5.1.2 Range of values for percentage ATF and WTF (%ATF/WTF)

Values less than 50 % = LA/LW
 Values between 50 to 74.99% = MA/MW
 Values from 75% and above = HA/HW

5.1.3 The Criteria

1. LA + LW = LOW PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY
2. LA + MW = LOW PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY
3. LA + HW = LOW PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY
4. MA + LW = LOW PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY
5. MA + MW = MIDDLE PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY
6. MA + HA = HIGH PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY
7. HA + LW = MIDDLE PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY
8. HA + MW = HIGH PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY
9. HA + HW = HIGH PERFORMANCE COMMUNITY

5.1.4 Rationale for choosing this criteria

Rational 1 : Reasons for choosing the values

Values below 50% are definitely below the pass or half way mark, and are thus classified as low. Its also noticed that in the scale of measurement, the values for the variables whose weights are below 50% of their expected maximum values are those of below accepted average values or worth.

Values between 50 to 79.99% though pass marks are not optimum, and are thus classified as middle. From the scale of measurement, only values with average or just above average values or worth are in this range.

Values above 75.00% and above are optimum, and are thus classified as high.

Rational 2 : Reasons for classifying the communities

1. Low ability communities automatically become low performance communities. This is because no matter the level of willingness they express, their budgetary constraints will ensure that they will not be able to satisfy their perceived need.

2. Middle ability combined with low willingness in a community pushes such a community to low performance. This is because such a combination keeps the community in the borderline and it is safer to assume low performance.

3. Middle ability and middle willingness implies middle performance because of the fact that such a community generally performed above average. It therefore may sustain a community financing programme.

4. Middle ability and high willingness equals high performance. This is because middle ability is enough to comfortably sustain the programme. Thus when it is combined with a high willingness in the community, one expects high performance from such a place.

5. High ability with low willingness may imply middle performance. The low willingness may be due to inadequate knowledge and some beliefs. One is confident that if semi-quantitative and qualitative studies are undertaken to unravel the problems, coupled with health education, such a community can support and sustain the programme.

6. High ability and middle willingness, and also high ability and high willingness are very obviously in the high performance category.

5.2. Criteria for the Semi-Quantitative Model

It will be derived from the ATF and WTF values elucidated from household heads and community leaders respectively.

5.2.1 Criteria for household heads

The same basic criteria that was used in the quantitative model will also be applied here with a little modification.

A simple majority of the household heads indicating a high willingness to finance will be taken as a confirmatory evidence of the community's choice. The community must also have middle or high ability to finance. Therefore, a simple majority of households with high WTF coupled with middle or high ATF means a high performance community. Otherwise it is a low performance community. High performance means that it desires to go ahead with financing onchocerciasis control with ivermectin.

Simple majority voting is the criterion usually adopted in many community voting exercises before decisions are taken. However, Hongvivatana and Manopimoke (1991) used 70% of the households as the lower limit of accepting that a rural community can finance rural health insurance. In this case, there was no division into low, middle or high. It was a matter of either willingness or no willingness. Their

reason for using 70% was not stated in their paper.

5.2.2 Criteria for community leaders

An index of ATF and WTF values will be used. Since this exercise is just for confirmatory purposes, the results will be expressed as either negative or positive ATF and WTF.

ATF and WTF values less than 50% = negative
ATF and WTF values from 50% above = positive

What it implies is that a combination of positive values for ATF and WTF must be arrived at, before it is confirmed that a community as seen from the leaders point of view can finance the disease control.

Thus, it is only such double positive combinations of ATF and WTF will classify the communities as being positive or qualified to have a community financing scheme.

5.2.3 Final Criteria for Semi-Quantitative Model

The criteria is for arriving at a definite conclusion about the level of ATF and WTF of the community, after the interviews with household heads and community leaders.

The criteria is developed by combining different values of ATF and WTF elucidated from household heads and community leaders. Thus:

1. If the households have high performance but the community leaders have negative performance, educate the community leaders and undertake the programme.

2. If household heads have low performance while community leaders have positive performance, one should work out modalities with the community leaders on how to possibly undertake the programme. Thereafter, the programme should be undertaken.

3. If household heads have low performance and community leaders negative performance, then one should abandon plans about the programme.

4. If household heads have high performance and community leaders positive performance, then the programme should be implemented without delay.

5.3 Criteria for deciding on the type of community financing scheme to adopt.

1. If > 50% are willing to contribute, then community financing is likely to be successful with a pre-payment scheme.

2. If > 50% are willing to pay, then the community financing is likely to be successful with a fee-for-service schemes like drug funds.