

## What is the Health Outcomes Tool?

The Health Outcomes Tool is a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) tool to be used in health and care programmes for older people at community level. By collecting data on selected health and care indicators, the Health Outcomes Tool can be used to better understand the health status and functional ability of older women and men **as they perceive it** as well as to measure changes in health status and wellbeing over time.

## Why was the Health Outcomes Tool developed?

Before HelpAge developed this Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning tool, a review of existing and internationally used tools was conducted. Some of the tools reviewed (e.g. the World Health Organization Quality of Life (WHOQOL) tool, EQ-5D <sup>™</sup> and Easy Care) are well-known tools and several of them are already being used across the HelpAge network. In order to assess whether any existing tools could meet HelpAge International's MEL needs, a list of criteria was developed. At the top of this list was, short and agile and the ability to measure healthy ageing as operationalized by WHO, based on a framework focusing on functional ability and intrinsic capacities. However, as we couldn't find any existing tool that met these criteria – we developed the Health Outcomes Tool.

## How can The Health Outcomes tool be used?

The Health Outcomes Tool can be used to monitor and evaluate health and care programmes, monitor progress and evaluate impact on older people's health and wellbeing in and across communities, countries and regions, and aggregate the data to better understand healthy ageing and how it changes over time at regional and global levels.

Health Outcomes Tool data can also be used to inform programme, policy and advocacy work. While the data can be collected on paper, a digital data collection better facilitates the ability to feedback *real time* data into our work - to both develop and to continuously improve health interventions.