

The Logical Framework

(INTRAC for Civil Society, Anne Garbutt & Nigel Simister, 2017)

This short, 4-page guide summarizes the logical framework (or 'logframe') approach as the most common planning tool used in social development.

It describes the Logframe as tool with a range of potential purposes (page 1):

- A planning tool
- A tool for programme management
- The basis of an M&E framework for a project or programme
- An accountability mechanism
- A succinct summary of a piece of work
- A 'window' into the work of an organisation or complex programme
- A linear theory of change
- A mechanism for seeking funding.

It argues that one reason that logframes are so popular is that they allow unexpected events or external influences that may disrupt a project or programme plan to be detected to enable course correction.

This resource is organized into 3 key sections:

1) How it works

This section provides a useful guide on how to create and read logframe matrices. It provides:

- a. A summary of the logic behind the methodology;
- b. An example matrix template;
- c. A visual aid showing the relationships between different matrix sections.

2) Different Versions

This section illustrates some of the variation in how logframes are developed (in format and terminology in particular). Another helpful visual details in what areas some terms can become interchangeable / vary (page 2).

3) Strengths and weaknesses:

This section provides a list of strengths and weaknesses to the logframe approach and of using different logframe components depending on the organization (pages 2-3).