STDF Technical Working Group Meeting on SPS Indicators

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1 July 2010

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SPS system development

- Needs to be linked to national development strategies and processes;

- Cross cutting issue linking domestic objectives and the international trade arena;

- Variable causal links between actions, outcomes and impacts;

- Requires a positive enabling environment;

- Operating in a changing aid and development effectiveness environment.

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Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness

- Reforming the delivery and management of aid

- 56 commitments that fall under 5 principles
  - **Ownership**
  - **Harmonisation**
  - **Alignment**
  - **Managing for Results**
  - **Mutual Accountability**

- Countries make commitments, Donors make commitments, Countries & Donors make joint commitments

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Accra Agenda for Action (Sep 2008)

- Accelerate and deepen the implementation of the Paris Declaration

- 3 principles:
  - Country Ownership is key
  - Building more effective and inclusive partnerships
  - Achieving development results – and openly accounting for them – must be at the heart of all we do

Investments need results!

- To maximise results there is a need to understand how inputs (people, funding, time etc) can create **CHANGE** leading to **DESIRED RESULTS**.

- **CHANGES** need **MONITORING** against **BASELINES** and **EVALUATION** of progress

- **CLARITY** about key processes as well as **EFFECTIVE DATA** (qualitative and quantitative).

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Results Based Management (RBM)

A **management strategy** focusing on performance and achievement of outputs, outcomes and impacts.

(OECD-DAC Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results Based Management)

What are the pathways to results?

- In some areas **direct and simple causal links** e.g. building a bridge will reduce transport times instead of relying on ferry crossings.

- Some areas are **complicated but known** e.g. mechanisms for development of investment finance mechanisms for Micro/Small/Medium enterprises.

- Some areas are **complex i.e. outcomes can be unpredictable** e.g. investments in agriculture and impact on poverty depends on the smallholders assets as well as access to markets for inputs and outputs.

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What is a logical framework?

- **Logframes** are an analytical tool to plan, monitor, manage and evaluate projects.
  - **NOTE: There are many logframe formats!! AND a country may have a preferred approach linked to NATIONAL M&E systems.**
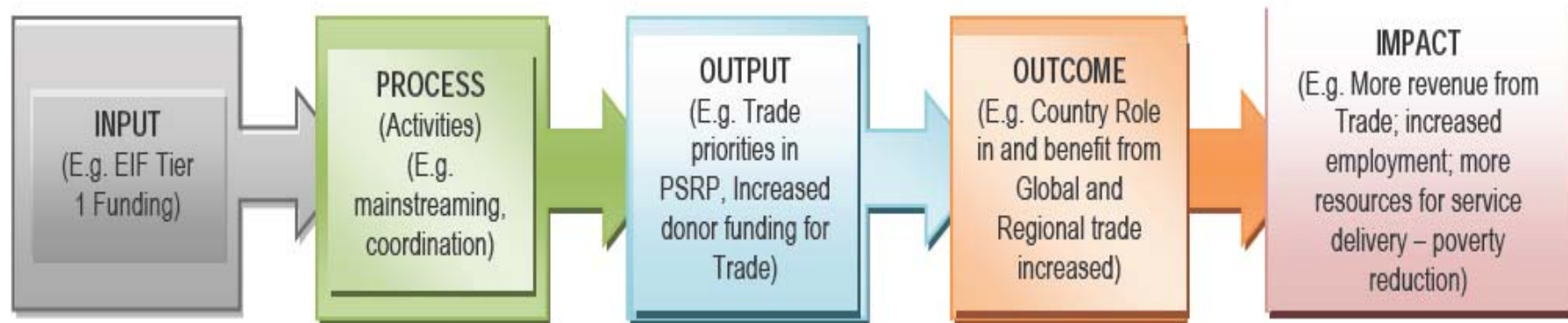
Why use logframes?

- Logframes help to:
  - Ensure logical thinking in the design of a project or programme;
  - Set a framework for targets and results
  - monitoring progress towards targets and results
  - Assess the direct and indirect benefits of a project

A tool for management

- Logframes are a tool and as such can be adjusted;
- Targets can be reviewed as contexts change;
- Indicators may be adjusted to reflect situation
- They can be used to re-assign priorities and resources;
- To have evidence to allow changes to be explained
- Allow risks and assumptions to be articulated

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Indicators: baselines and targets

- For the logframe to be used effectively for monitoring project progress need to have a coherent **BASELINE**.

- Similarly need to have clear **TARGETS** with, for a multi-year project, **MILESTONES** identified.

- Baseline, target and milestone data should, ideally, use same data source.

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Indicators

Quantitative or qualitative factor or variable that provides a simple and reliable means to measure achievement, to reflect the changes connected to an intervention, or to help assess the performance of a development actor.

- What is to be measured
- Neutral
- Verifiable i.e. sources of information reliable and available as required?
- Balance of quantitative and qualitative?
- Monitor process and product?
- Do they reflect project from different stakeholders perspectives?

Focus: Managing for Results

Need to establish **robust, but simple** M&E systems which are focused on **joint** responsibility and accountability for programme **results:**

- **evidence** must be drawn from **existing** country systems;
- strongly **aligned** with existing / developing national systems,
- employ national institutional structures, staff and reporting mechanisms where feasible,
- require minimal additional resources for ongoing maintenance

Summary

Results Based Management and use of logical framework as a tool for monitoring and evaluation is **not about compliance and control**, **but** <u>good management practice</u>.

Success breeds success – demonstrate progress, attract support.

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