

Logic Models

What is a logic model?

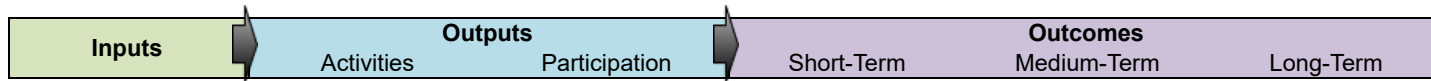
- A logic model is a graphic representation of the logical relationships among resources that are invested (inputs), the activities that take place (outputs), and the benefits or changes that result (outcomes) for a program, process, organization, or initiative.
- Logic models are sometimes called a “theory of change or action” or “program theory.”
- Logic models show how a program is supposed to work and show the underlying rationale for a program.
 - Logic models graphically describe the theory—or logic—for how a program is supposed to work.
- Logic models are a way of “systems thinking” in that developing means thinking about how all the parts of a program work together.
- Logic models can be used for planning and evaluation that needs to be reviewed and updated regularly.

What is the role of a logic model in evaluation?

- A logic model is often the first step in evaluation and helps determine what to evaluate, what data are available, and how success is defined.

What are the components of a logic model?

- In its simplest form, a logic model represents the inputs, outputs, and outcomes of a program.



- Inputs – Resources available for a program, such as funding, leadership, staff, program infrastructure, and research base.
- Outputs – Activities, services, events, and products that reach people who participate or who are targeted.
 - Activities – “What we do” or “what we offer.”
 - Participation – “Who we reach.”
- Outcomes – The results expected to be achieved by a program.
 - Short-term – Most immediate effects attributable to a program, such as changes in learning, knowledge, and attitudes.
 - Medium-term – Intermediate effects attributable to a program that reflect the changes in actions, such as behaviors and practices that are a result of the short-term outcomes.
 - Long-term – Conditions that change as a result of actions. These outcomes are more distance in time, less attributable to the program, and harder to measure.
- Other Components
 - Problem Statement – Developed out an exploration of the “situation” and is the foundation for logic model development. It states the problem or issue(s) the program is trying to address and its context.
 - Assumptions – The beliefs we have about the program and the people involved and the way we think the program will work.
 - External Factors – The environment in which the program exists.

See below for more information and for a blank template.
Contact the SSERC (sserc@ucsc.edu) for training or other help developing a logic model.

Program:

Logic Model

Problem Statement:

This is the foundation of the logic model. It states the problem or issue(s) the program is trying to address and its context. Why is this a problem/issue? For whom? Who has a stake in addressing the problem/issue(s)? What do we know about the problem/issue(s) and/or people involved? What research and/or experience do we have and what can it tell us? Be sure to recognize program/people (staff, participants, and other stakeholders) assets that can be mobilized to support your work. Avoid stating causes of the problem. Avoid defining the problem as a need for your program or service.

Inputs	Outputs		Outcomes		
	Activities	Participation	Short-Term	Medium-Term	Long-Term
What we invest	What we do	Who we reach			
<u>Examples:</u> Staff Volunteers Funding Infrastructure Research base Models of change Materials Equipment Technology Partners Support Expertise Leadership	<u>Examples:</u> Conduct workshops Convene meetings Deliver services Develop resources Train Provide counseling Assess Facilitate Partner	<u>Examples:</u> Target populations Target participation (number of students linked to resources) Number of activities Number of partnerships formed	Learning / Changes in Knowledge & Attitudes <u>Examples:</u> Awareness Knowledge Attitudes Skills Opinions Aspirations Motivations	Action / Changes in Behaviors & Practices <u>Examples:</u> Behavior Practice Policies Decisions	Impact <u>Examples:</u> Academic Social Economic Institutional

Assumptions

The beliefs, principles, and ideas about the program and the people involved. This is the “theory” of how the program will work and is validated by research and experience. For example: “people can learn and change” or “targeted population will attend.”

External Factors

The environment in which the program exists. External factors may include institutional culture, economic structure, demographic patterns, changing policy and/or priorities, the background of the participants, and more.

Program:

Logic Model

Problem Statement:

Inputs		Outputs		Outcomes		
		Activities	Participation	Short-Term	Medium-Term	Long-Term

Assumptions

External Factors

Program:

Logic Model

Problem Statement:

Inputs	Outputs		Outcomes		
	Activities	Participation	Short-Term	Medium-Term	Long-Term

Assumptions

External Factors

