

Logic Model

This issue of *Research Bites* looks at **Logic Model**. A Logic Model is useful in planning and evaluating programs, committee work and other collaborative projects.

A logic model contains six components with Inputs-Outputs-Outcomes being central to the built in response to the model:

- **Situation:** The context and need that gives rise to a program or initiative; logic models are built in response to an existing situation.
- **Inputs:** The resources, contributions, and investments that are made in response to the situation. Inputs are combined to produce Outputs.
- **Outputs:** The activities, products, methods, and services that reach people and users. Outputs are intended and achieve outcomes.
- **Outcomes:** The results and benefits for individuals, groups, agencies, communities and/or systems.
- **Environment:** The surrounding environment in which the program exists and which influences the implementation and success of the initiative, including politics, climate, socio-economic factors, and market forces.
- **Assumptions:** The beliefs we have about the program, the participants and the way we expect the program to operate; the principles that guide our work.

Next issue: Evaluation in Logic Model

Useful resources

- *W.K. Kellogg Foundation Logic Model Development Guide*
<http://www.wkcf.org/Pubs/Tools/Evaluation/Pub3669.pdf>
- University of Wisconsin-Extension (UWEX)
<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/pdande/Evaluation/logicmodels.htm>
- *BJA Evaluation website:* <http://www.bja.evaluationwebsite.org>

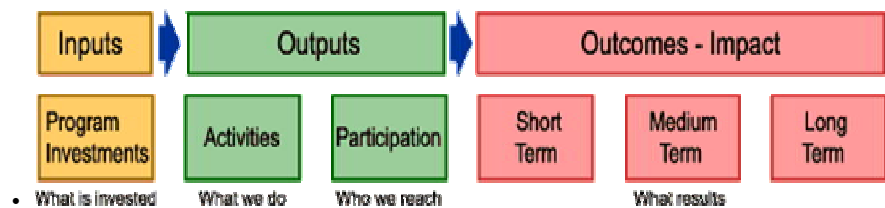
Logic Model Two Phases/Uses

Planning:

- What do you want? Goals (Outcomes) -
- For whom? Participants (Outputs)
- How? (Activities)
- With What Resources? (Inputs)

Evaluation:

- Who (Inputs)
- Did What (Activities)
- To Whom (Outputs)
- Why (Outcomes)



Simple Logic Model

Why use Logic Model?

A logic model helps us to:

- evaluate programs
- standardize reporting
- write proposals
- plan future programming
- look at the whole picture
- utilize a common language
- think clearly about our goals and outcomes

Key Questions

Situation: What's the problem or need?

Inputs: What we invest?

Outputs: What we do and who we reach

Outcomes: Changes or Results

Environment: Influential Factors

Assumptions: Principles that guide us

Outcomes: Changes or Results

Environment: Influential Factors

Assumptions: Principles that guide us

A Logic Model **links** outcomes (both short- and long-term) with program activities/processes and the theoretical assumptions / principles of the program

Logic models can come in all shapes and sizes: boxes with connecting lines that are read from left to right (or top to bottom); circular loops with arrows going in or out; or other visual metaphors and devices. What these schemata have in common are they attempt to show the links in a chain of reasoning about "what causes what," in relationship to the desired outcome or goal. The desired outcome or goal is usually shown as the last link in the model.

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