The Logical Framework: A list of useful documents

Description

Tweet

Contents: 1. Explanations of the Logical Framework | 2. Wider discussions of Logic Models | 3. Critiques of the Logical Framework | 4. Alternative versions of the Logical Framework | 5. The Editorâ??s concerns (about uses of the Logical Framework) | 6. Online survey on views and usage of the Logical Framework

Please feel free to suggest additions or corrections to this list, by using the Comment facility at the end of this post

New section: Software

- **Logframer**, last visisted 1/2/2017
- See also M&E Software: A list, for other software with similar functions

1. Explanations of the Logical Framework

- **7 simple things you need to know about Logical Frameworks**, video by Prof. Phillip Dearden, CIDT International Development, University of Wolverhampton, June 2016
- **How to write a logframe: a beginnerâ??s guide,** Global development professionals network: How to. 2015
- **Technical Note: The Logical Framework** USAID, 2014
- **Logframes reloaded**, Steve Powell, <+2014+>
- **The logical framework approach. How To guide**. Greta Jensen, January 2012. BOND.
- **Guidance on using the revised Logical Framework.** DFID, 2011
- **Critical Study of the Logical Framework Approach in the Basque Country.** ECODE. 2011. Estudo de Cooperacion al Desarollo.
- ID How to Note. January 2011
- **Guidance on using the revised Logical Framework**. DFID How To Note. February 2009
- **Catholic Relief Servicesâ?? (CRS) Guidance for Developing Logical and Results Frameworks**. Levine, C. J. 2007. Baltimore: Catholic Relief Services.
- **Logical Framework Approach: Tool Summary**, NZAID, 2007,
- **Wikipedia entry: Logical Framework approach** (2006)
- **Logical Framework Analysis: Resources for Implementing the WWF Standards.** WWF, September 2005
- Dearden P.N. (2005), **An Introduction to Multi Agency Planning using the Logical Framework Approach.** 0-19+ Partnerships and Centre for International Development and Training, University of Wolverhampton. â??This was a serious attempt to simplify the rather alienating language of logframes for â??multi agency workers and communityâ?• usersâ?•
- **Logical Framework Approach**, as explained by IAC Wageningenn UR on their PPM&E Resource Portal. (2005)

- **The Rosetta Stone of Logical Frameworks.** It shows how different agenciesâ?? terms relate to each other. Produced by Jim Rugh of CARE (2005)
- **The newly updated AusGuidelines**. See **Section 3.3 The Logical Framework Approach** [267KB] and **Section 2.2 Using the Results Framework Approach** [135KB] (2005)
- **Logical Framework Analysis: A Planning Tool for Government Agencies, International Development Organizations, and Undergraduate Students**Andrew Middleton (2005)
- **A Project Cycle Management and Logical Framework Toolkit â?? A Practical Guide for Equal Development Partnerships** Spreckley, Freer (2005)
- **Project Cycle Management** EuropeAid 2004 EU manual on project cycle management and the logical framework approach
- **The Logical Framework Approach: A summary of the theory behind the LFA method**. SIDA. January 2004. Kariu Ortengren. The aim of this booklet is to provide practical guidance for Sida partners in project planning procedures. It contains a description of the theory of LFA, which summarises approaches and principles, the different planning steps and how they can be implemented â?? as well as the the roles of different stakeholders in a planning procedure. (2004)
- **Constructing a Logical Framework**, produced by the Knowledge and Research Programme on Disability and Healthcare Technology. July 2004
- **Logical Framework (LogFRAME) Methodology**, produced by JISC infoNet Providing Expertise in Planning and Implementing Information Systems. Undated. (2004)
- **The Logical Framework Approach** AUSAID (2003) Good and clear description on what the Logical Framework Approach is and how to do it
- **Logical Framework Analysis** BOND (2003) Introduction to the Logical Framework Analysis
- **Programme and Project Cycle Management (PPCM): Lessons from the North and South**. Philip Dearden and Bob Kowalski. Development in Practice, Volume 13, Number 5, November 2003
- **Annotated Example of a Project Logframe Matrix**, by IFAD (actually Irene Guijt and Jim Woodhil, consultants to) These two web pages â??provides an example of how to develop and improve the logframe matrix for an IFAD-supported project by giving a â??before revisionâ?• and â??after revisionâ?• comparison. The â??beforeâ?• logframe matrix is shown with comments on the problems and how these could be overcome. The â??afterâ?• logframe matrix shows the partial reworking of the original logframe matrix. The example is based on several IFAD-supported projects and so represents a fictitious project.â?• This Annex is a part of â??A Guide for M&Eâ?• whose main text also includes one section on â??**Linking Project Design, Annual Planning and M&E**â?• which has sub-sections specifically on the Logical Framework. (2003)
- **The Logical Framework: Making it Results-Oriented**, produced by CIDA (2002)
- **Tools for Development A handbook for those engaged in development activity**Performance and Effectiveness Department Department for International Development September 2002. See section 5 Logical Frameworks, 5.1 Introduction, 5.2 What is a logframe and how does it help?, 5.3 Advantages, 5.4 Limitations, 5.5 How to develop a logframe, Box 1: Key points to completing the logframe, Box 2: The If / And / Then logic that underlies the logframe approach, 5.6 Types of Indicators, Box 3: The logframe matrix, Box 4: Indicators, 5.7 Living logframes, Box 5: Logframe programme planning for primary education, Box 6: Learning logframe principles, Box 7: Checklist for Objectives column of the logframe, Box 8: Checklist for Risks and Assumptions, Box 9: Checklist for Indicators and Means of Verification, Box 10: The Logical Framework: Project Design, Box 11: The Logical Framework: Project Indicators, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reportingâ?• (Posted 2002)

- **Engendering the Logical Framework** , produced by Helen Hambly, Odame Research Officer, ISNAR August (2001)
- **BOND Guidance Notes Series 1 Beginnerâ??s Guide to Logical Framework Analysis,** 2001 These guidance notes are drawn from training on LFA conducted for BOND by Laurence Taylor , Neil Thin, John Sartain (2001)
    - The same document, in Slideshare format?: http://www.slideshare.net/rexcris/beginners-guide-to-logical-framework-approach-bond
- **The Logframe Handbook: A Logical Framework Approach to Project Cycle Management** The World Bank (2000)
- **Designing Projects and Project Evaluations Using The Logical Framework Approach**. Bill Jackson (2000)
- **Logical Framework Approach and PRA â?? mutually exclusive or complementary tools for project planning?**Jens Aune, Development in Practice, Volume 10, Issue 5, (2000) PDF here
- **The Logical Framework Approach, Handbook for objectives-oriented planning**, Fourth edition, NORAD, 1999, ISBN 82-7548-160-0.
- **Guidance on the DFID Logical Framework, as received by CARE in 1997** [includes matrix]
- **Managing for Results with a Dynamic Logical Framework Approach: from Project Design to Impact Measurement** Jean-Baptiste Sawadogoa & Kathryn Dunlopb, pages 597-612, Canadian Journal of Development Studies/Revue canadienne dâ??Ã©tudes du dÃ©veloppementVolume 18, Issue 3, 1997. Special Issue: Results-Based Performance Reviews and Evaluations
- **The third generation logical framework approach: dynamic management for agricultural research projects,** R. Sartorius (1996)
- **Steps towards the adoption of the Logical Framework Approach in the African Development Bank: some illustrations for agricultural sector projects.** David Akroyd, pages 19-30 Project Appraisal. Volume 10, Issue 1, 1995
- **The Logical Framework Approach to Project Design and Management** *American Journal of Evaluation June 1991 12: 139-147,*
- **Evaluating the effectiveness of the Logical Framework system in practice**. Basil Cracknell, pages 163-167 Project Appraisal Volume 4, Issue 3, 1989
- **Logical Framework Approach to the Monitoring and Evaluation of Agricultural and Rural Development Projects**. Coleman, G. 1987. Project Appraisal 2(4): 251-259. Now available online as a pdf (thanks, Sheldon)

2. Wider discussions of Logic Models

- **Program logic â?? an introduction**, provided by Audience Dialogue (2007)
- **Enhancing Program Performance with Logic Models** This course introduces a holistic approach to planning and evaluating education and outreach programs. Module 1 helps program practitioners use and apply logic models. Module 2 applies logic modeling to a national effort to evaluate community nutrition education. Provided by the University of Wisconsin (2007)
- **Online Logic Model training: an audiovisual presentation by Usable Knowledge, USA** Twenty minutes long, with a menu that can be used to navigate to the sections of interest (2006)
- **Network Perspectives In The Evaluation Of Development Interventions: More Than A Metaphor**. Rick Davies, for the EDAIS Conference November 24-25, 2003 New Directions in Impact Assessment for Development: Methods and Practice. â??In this paper I argue the case for

the use of a network perspective in representing and evaluating aid interventions. How we represent the intentions of aid activities has implications for how their progress and impact can be assessed. Because our representations are by necessary selective simplifications of reality they will emphasise some aspects of change and discourage attention to others. The benchmark alternative here is by default the Logical Framework, the single most commonly used device for representing what an aid project or programme is trying to do. Five main arguments are put forward in favour of a network perspective as the better alternative, along with some examples of their use. Firstly, social network analysis is about social relationships, and that is what much of development aid is about. Not abstract and disembodied processes of change. Secondly, there is wide range of methods for measuring and visualising network structures. These provide a similarly wide range of methods of describing expected outcomes of interventions in network terms. Thirdly, there is also a wide range of theories about social and other networks. They can stimulate thinking about the likely effects of development interventions. Fourthly, network representations are very scalable, from very local developments to the very global, and they can include both formal and informal structures. They are relevant to recent developments in the delivery of development aid. Fifthly, network models of change can incorporate mutual and circular processes of influence, as well as simple linear processes of change. This enables them to represent systems of relationships exhibiting varying degrees of order, complexity and chaos. Following this argument I outline some work-in-progress, including ways in which the conference participants may themselves get involved. Finally I link this paper into its own wider web of intellectual influences and history. â?• (Posted here 2003)

- **The Temporal Logic Model: A Concept Paper,** by Molly den Heyer. On the IDRC website. (2002)
- **A Bibliography for Program Logic Models/Logframe Analysis**December 18, 2001 Compiled by: Molly den Heyer Evaluation Unit, International Development Research Centre
- **W K Kellogg Foundation Logic Model Development Guide**. (2001) Using Logic Models to Bring Together Planning, Evaluation, and Action. Updated (original was published in 1998) â??The program logic model is defined as a picture of how your organization does its work â?? the theory and assumptions underlying the program.A program logic model links outcomes (both short- and long-term) with program activities/processes and the theoretical assumptions/principles of the program.â?•
- **Application of Logic Modeling Processes to Explore Theory of Change from Diverse Cultural Perspectives** Ricardo Millett, Sharon Dodson, & Cynthia Phillips American Evaluation Association November 4, 2000
- **The state of the art of Logic Modelling**. PowerPoint presentation by Gretchen Jordan (1999?)
- **The Logic Model for Program Planning and Evaluation**, Paul F McCawley, 1997, University of Idaho Extension.

3. Critiques of the Logical Framework

- **Debunking misconceptions around the Logical Framework Approach through reviewing available literature** by Munyaradzi Madziwa, August 2016
- **Critical Study Of The Logical Framework Approach In The Basque Country** (2011) by ECODE, Bilbao.
- **THE USE AND ABUSE OF THE LOGICAL FRAMEWORK APPROACH** A Review of International Development NGOsâ?? Experiences. A report for Sida. November 2005. Oliver

Bakewell and Anne Garbutt, of INTRAC. â??In this review, we have attempted to take stock of the current views of international development NGOs on the LFA and the ways in which they use it. We start in the next section by considering the different meanings and connotations of the term logical framework approach as it is used by different actors. In Section 3 we look at how LFAs are used by INGOs in both planning and project management. The next section reviews some of the debates and critiques around the LFA arising both from practice and the literature. In response to these challenges, different organisations have adapted the LFA and these variations on the LFA theme are outlined in Section 5. We conclude the paper by summarising the findings and reflecting on ways forward. â?¦This review has been commissioned by Sida as part of a larger project which aims to establish new guidelines for measuring results and impact and reporting procedures for Swedish development NGOs receiving support from Sida. â??

- **Methodological Critique and Indicator Systems**â?• MISEREOR (2005)
- **The logical framework: An easy escape, a straitjacket, or a useful planning tool?** Reidar Dale, pages 57-70Development in Practice Volume 13, Issue 1, 2003
- **Thinking about Logical Frameworks and Sustainable Livelihoods: A short critique and a possible way forward** by Kath Pasteur with ideas and input from Robert Chambers, Jethro Pettit and Patta Scott-Villiers August **22nd, (2001)**
- **Programme and Project Cycle Management (PPCM): Lessons from DFID and other organisations.** Phillip Dearden. (2001)
- **â?• Logical frameworks, Aristotle and soft systems: a note on the origins, values and uses of logical frameworks, in reply to Gasper**â??,Simon Bell, Open University, UK . Correspondence to Simon Bell, Southern Cottage, Green Lane, Wicklewood, Norfolk NR18 9ET, UK (2000).
- **LOGICAL FRAMEWORKSâ?•: PROBLEMS AND POTENTIALS**, by Des Gasper. (2000)
- **Evaluating the â??logical framework approachâ?• â?? towards learning-oriented development evaluationâ??**, Des Gasper, Public Administration and Development, 20(1), 1999, pp. 17-28. Email gasper@iss.nl Abstract: â??Abstract The logical framework approach has spread enormously, including increasingly to stages of review and evaluation. Yet it has had little systematic evaluation itself. Survey of available materials indicates several recurrent failings, some less easily countered than others. In particular: focus on achievement of intended effects by intended routes makes logframes a very limiting tool in evaluation; an assumption of consensual project objectives often becomes problematic in public and inter-organizational projects; and automatic choice of an audit form of accountability as the priority in evaluations can be at the expense of evaluation as learning. â??

4. Alternative versions of the Logical Framework

- **Beyond Logframe: Using Systems Concepts in Evaluation**, 2010, FASD (Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development)
- The **Social Framework**, an actor-oriented adaptation of the Logical Framework, developed by Rick Davies. The sequence of rows found in a Logical Framework now represent a sequence of actors, connected to each other by their relationships, and forming a specific pathway through a wider network of actors. Narrative descriptions of expected changes, indicators of those change and means of verification are still found in the columns, but these relate to actors and their relationships. Actors can be individuals, groups, organisations or type of organisations. The

assumptions column still exists, but the assumptions refers to important connections to other actors outside the specific pathway.

- **Can OM and LFA share a space?** â??OM (Outcome Mapping) and LFA may be useful at different levels, for diverse types of interventions or for information and in different contexts. Rather than pitting LFA and OM against each other, we need to understand what kinds of information and uses each has, as well as their advantages and disadvantages, and find ways for them to add value to each other.â?• See also Logical Framework Approach and Outcome Mapping: A Constructive Attempt of Synthesis. A Discussion Paper by Daniel Roduner and Walter SchlÃ¤ppi, AGRIDEA; Walter Egli, NADEL (ETH Zurich)
- **Logical Framework Approach â?? with an appreciative approach.** April 2006 SIDA Civil Society Centre. â??As a part of its effort to realise the intentions of Swedenâ??s Policy on Global Development, Sida Civil Society Center (SCSC) initiated a development project in 2005 together with PMU Interlife (the Swedish Pentecostal Missionâ??s development cooperation agency) and consultant Greger Hjelm of RÃ¶relse & Utveckling. The goal was to create a working model which combines the goal hierarchy and systematics from the Logical Framework Approach (LFA)1 with the approach used in the Appreciative Inquiry tool (AI). AI is both a working method and an approach. In analysing strengths and resources, motivation and driving forces, the focus is placed on the things which are working well, and on finding positive action alternatives for resolving a situation. LFA, which is an established planning model in the field of international development, is found by many to be an overly problem-oriented model. Using this approach, one proceeds based on a situation in which something is lacking, formulates the current situation as a â??problem treeâ?•, and thus risks failing to perceive resources which are actually present, and a failure to base oneâ??s support efforts on those resources. Working in close cooperation, we have now formulated a new working method for planning using LFA, one which is built on appreciative inquiry and an appreciative approach. The model was tested by PMU Interlifeâ??s programme officers and their cooperating partners in Niger, Nicaragua and Tanzania during the autumn of 2005. Their experiences have been encouraging, and it is our hope that more Swedish organisations and their cooperating partners will try our model and working method.(Posted 01/07/06)
- No more log frames!! **People-Focused Program Logic** Two day workshop Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th of September 2005, in **Melbourne, Australia**. â??Purpose of the workshop: â?¢ To understand what â??people-focusedâ?? program logic is and how to use it â?¢ To build a people-focused program logic for their own project Who should attend? People with monitoring and evaluation interests who are working on projects with capacity building components. Course description: In this workshop, participants will build their own â??people-focusedâ?? logic model. To do this they will analyse the key beneficiaries of their project, build their program logic model around this analysis, and consider assumptions made in the logic. The program logic will be built around a generic theory of how capacity building works, that can be modified to include elements of advocacy and working with or through partners. Participants will also learn how this logic can be used to form the spine of their monitoring, evaluation and improvement framework. As participants will be invited to develop their own program logic model, they are encouraged to bring along others from the same project team. Examples of frameworks, and a workbook will be provided to participantsâ?• For additional information: Jo Leddy of Clear Horizon Phone: 03 9783 3662 E-mail: Jo@clearhorizon.com.au Website: www.clearhorizon.com.au See rest of the flyer for more informationâ?¦(Posted 21/06/05)

- **Intertwining Participation, Rights Based Approach and Log-Frame: A way forward in Monitoring and Evaluation for Rights Based Work**. Partha Hefaz Shaikh Initial Draft â?? Circulated for discussion. â??Programme implementation through Rights Based Approach (RBA) in ActionAid Bangladesh started in 2000 and it took us quite a while to understand what it meant to implement programmes in a RBA environment. Side by side we were also grappling with issues of monitoring and evaluation of programmes implemented through a rights based approach. In order to develop a more meaningful framework that has all the elements of participation, RBA and log-frame we developed what we call â??Planning and Implementation Framework Analysis (PIFA)â?•. â?• (Posted 20/05/05)
- **A MODIFIED LOGFRAME FOR USE IN HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES.** by Bernard Broughton (I think)
- **Family Planning Logical Framework** (with two parallel processes, one feeding back into the other)
- **Build Reach into Your Logic Model**. Steve Montague February 1998 â??Analysts have frequently noted the importance of constructing logic models (a.k.a. logic charts, causal models, logical frameworks, and most recently performance frameworks â?? among other names) to explain the causal theory of a program or initiative before attempting to monitor, measure, or assess performance. â?¦A key limitation to the logic models of the 1980s, as well as many of those in current use, has been their tendency to focus predominantly on causal chains without reference to who and where the action was taking place. â??
- **Bennettâ??s Hierarchy** (or *Targetting Outcomes of Programs* (TOP)). This is not a version of the LogFrame, but it is another type of logic model with multiple steps (7 levels). It has been used widely in the evaluation of agricultural extension activities in Australia. It was originally developed by Bennett in 1975.

5. The Editorâ??s concerns (about uses of the Logical Framework)

1. Long, complex, unreadable sentences, in the narrative column of the Logical Framework
    1. Often the result of compromises between many different parties who have been negotiating the contents of the Logical Framework. Net result: an unreadable document
    2. Sometimes the result of people not knowing that the whole story does not need to be told in one sentence. The row below should say what happens before (the cause) and the row above should say what happens next (the effects)
    3. Sometimes the result of people forgetting there is a column for indicators next door, where they can provide lots of interesting detail about what is expected to happen at this stage
2. Narrative statements without people in them. E.g â??Rice productivity increasedâ?•
    1. Another reason some many Logical Frameworks are so unreadable, and so boring when they are readable, is that somehow their authors have managed to leave out *people*. Instead we have lots of abstract and disembodied processes. And then we wonder why some people have difficulty understanding Logical Frameworks
3. Means of Verification that refer to reports and surveys, but not *who* is responsible for generating and / or providing this information (and when it will be available)
    1. This problem is similar to the above, reflecting a continuing aversion to making references to real people in Logical Frameworks.
    2. One consequence is lack of clear ownership and responsibility for M&E of the changes being described at that level of the Logical Framework

4. Insistence on there being only one Purpose level statement in a Logical Framework
    1. I have recent experience of colleagues insisting on this. For reasons I have not yet established, beyond the â??it is not allowedâ?• variety. Insisting on one Purpose and One Goal really is pushing a very linear model of reality. It does not even allow for any parallel but convergent events, such as those usually come through problem tree analyses that sometimes precede the design of a Logical framework
5. Ambitous narrative statements coupled with modest indicators / Overly simple indicators used to describe complex developments.
    1. Such as â??number of meetings heldâ?• as an indicator for the functioning of stakeholderâ??s advisory committee. For an alternative, see â??Checklists as mini-theories of change
6. Lists of indicators in no apparent order
    1. â??A (unsorted) list is not a strategyâ?• A sorted list can convey relative importance (most important indicator at the top), or a sequence (starting from the bottom), or multiple alternative routes to the objective in the narrative column. If there is a list, the reader should be told what sort of list it is.
7. Broad generalisations at the Goal level
    1. Sometimes arising from confusion of a temporal hierarchy (A leads to B which leads to C which leads to D) and a nested hierarchy (A is part of B which is part of C which is part of D). The Logical Framework is supposed to be a temporal hierarchy, that tells a story. Not a pile of increasingly broad statements about the same thing
8. Confusion over the meaning of different levels in a Logical Framework. Between Activities and Outputs, Outputs and Purpose level outcomes, and outcomes at the Purpose and Goal level.
    1. Often cause by leaving people out of the picture, as above.
    2. A workable rule of thumb, for seperating levels of the Logical Framework
        1. Activities are things that â??the projectâ?• can *control*. The boundary of a project being defined by the reach of its contracts (with staff, consultants, suppliers and sub-contractors)
        2. Outputs are the activities of the project (if services), or their results (if goods), *that people and organisations outside the project can use* e.g workshops, publications, trainings, etc. Ask here: What is available to who, and in what form?
        3. Purpose level changes (outcomes), are changes in those people or organisations who have used those goods or services. Normally the project would hope to *influence* these (and learn about how it can have influence) but it would not be expected to *control* events at this level
        4. Goal level changes (outcomes), are *longer term changes* in those same people or organisations, or others they have subsequently interacted with.
9. Long lists of assumptions
    1. Apparently designed to cover peopleâ??s backsides
    2. Including many events that the project should be able to influence
        1. â?¦which therefore should be listed as one of the outputs or outcomes. I.e. brought into the central narrative of the Logical Framework
10. Things the Logical Framework cant do very well, even in the best of hands
    1. Represent multiple parallel processes, as distinct from a single process
        1. E.g. What people are doing at multiple project locations, within a single national project
            1. Representing their interactions is even more of a challenge

2. Represent the interactions between multiple events at the same level of a Logical framework.
    1. E.g. How different project outputs (manuals, training events, newsletters, websites, etc) feed into each other
    2. Or, how different health outcomes (at Purpose level) feed into each other, before finally contributing to Goal level changes e.g. reduced mortality
3. Represent the interactions between multiple outputs and the many users of those outputs
    1. E.g., the range of communications products used by a range of clients of a project . Many people will use multiple products, but their usage patterns will vary. Many products will be used by multiple users, but their user groups will vary.

All these processes can be represented by network models. See the new page on developing network models of development projects. However network models are generally too complex to provide a substitute for the Logical Framework. One proposed alternative is the Social Framework, originally described here and now updated here. The Social Framework can be used to describes a pathway through a network, in a way that capable of being monitored and evaluated. Your comments are welcome.

6. Online survey into the uses of the Logical Framework

Please consider taking part in this survey. You can access the cumulative results to date at the end of the survey form. It is not long.

thanks, rick davies

Category

1. Lists of sources re ...
2. The Logical Framework

Tags

1. Logical Framework
2. Online surveys

Date
15/09/2026
Date Created
01/01/2008
Author
admin