Theory of Change & Theory of Change Online (TOCO) :
Inter-linkages and Policy Coherence

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What is Theory of Change?

Is the description and illustration of “How” and “Why” an initiative works in a specific context.
A Cognitive reversal: Rather than projecting outcomes (goals) from your activities, ToC reverses that process by focusing FIRST on what OUTCOME you are seeking (your goal).

You then consider all supporting outcomes (or preconditions) necessary and sufficient to reach this goal.

Project Interventions / Activities emerge from this analysis of outcomes framework.

Theory of Change Map or outcomes framework also identifies the form and composition of necessary partnerships.
Theory of Change: Visual language
Ultimate Outcome

Long Term Outcome
Ultimate Outcome

Long Term Outcome

Accountability Ceiling
Mapping Backwards from Goals: Building your Outcomes Framework

Ultimate Outcome

Long Term Outcome

Rationale

Rationale

Precondition (Supporting Outcome)

Precondition (Supporting Outcome)
10. Reduce inequalities

5. Gender equality

8. Decent work and economic growth

Women have equal access to and control over land ownership
Preconditions: Summary
Identifying necessary and sufficient conditions.

Women have equal access to and control over land ownership

Legal restrictions on land ownership by women are removed
Women have equal access to and control over land ownership

- Cultural restrictions on land ownership by women are removed
- Legal restrictions on land ownership by women are removed
Women have equal access to and control over land ownership

Cultural restrictions on land ownership by women are removed

Legal restrictions on land ownership by women are removed

Professional organizations understand and support women ownership
Women have equal access to and control over land ownership

- Cultural restrictions on land ownership by women are removed
  - Indigenous and faith based groups address religious restrictions
- Legal restrictions on land ownership by women are removed
  - Professional organizations understand and support women ownership
Gap Analysis:

“I think you should be more explicit here in step two.”
Outcome
Behind every Outcome...
Key elements behind Theory of Change approach:

- Fleshing out the “missing middle”: between an intervention and your outcome (goal).
- Context specific: Not a blueprint for all situations
- Constantly evolving
- Form follows function: Interventions and partnerships emerge organically from your analysis
- Testable hypothesizes that supports realistic evaluation
Welcome to TOCO - Theory of Change Online

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Thank you

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Questions?

“Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?”

"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to."

— Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland