M &E Frameworks

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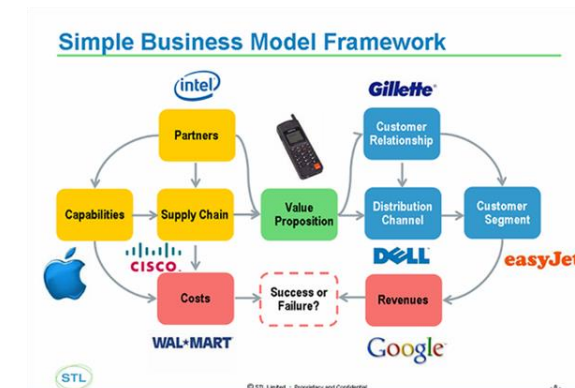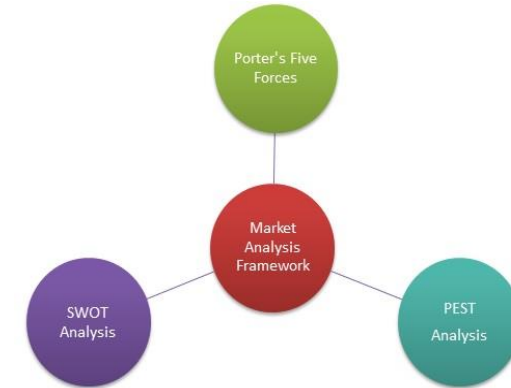
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What is a framework?

A real or conceptual structure intended to serve as a support or guide for the building of something that expands the structure into something useful.

E.g. pictures, maps, models

❖ Visualize the factors that drive an intervention

❖ Identify relationships between factors that influence program operation and the successful achievement of objectives

Simple Business Model Framework

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Definition

A M&E framework is **a tool that helps organizations plan and implement M&E activities**.

Essentially to guide monitoring and evaluation

Includes main components of a program and steps to realize the desired results.

Shows/explains how a project works.

Defines the relationship between factors.

Delineates the internal and external elements that could affect the programme's success.

A M&E framework should clarify…

o   The objectives of M&E

o   The criteria of successful interventions

o   What is to be monitored and evaluated

o   The activities needed to monitor and evaluate

o   Who is responsible for monitoring and evaluation activities

o   When monitoring and evaluation activities are planned (timing)

o   How monitoring and evaluation are carried out (methods)

o   What resources are required and where they are committed (including plans of data collection)

o   Relevant risks and assumptions when conducting M&E activities

o   Reporting tools and mechanisms to apply the results of M&E

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Importance of M & E Frameworks

A quality framework assists M&E by …..

❖ Understanding and analyzing a programme.

❖ Developing sound M & E plans as well as implementation of M & E actvities

❖ Refining and articulating programme goals, measurable short, medium and long term objectives

❖ Define relationship between inputs, activities, outputs, outcome and impact

❖ Linking between resources and activities

❖ Identifying measures and guide selection of indicators

❖ Communication and planning tool – build consensus and working relationships

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What to consider when developing M & E frameworks

1. Developing a corresponding **monitoring and evaluation** plan that acts as a monitoring tool - how information will be tracked

2. Developing the framework and plan before activities are implemented.

3. Determining which framework is best to use. **Not a one size fits all**

4. Decide which indicators you will use to measure the success of your program

   - Directly related to the output, outcome or goal listed on the problem tree or logframe
   - Something that you can measure accurately using either qualitative or quantitative methods, and your available resources

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Step in developing a M& E

1. Purpose of the M& E mechanisms and assess the information needs of each actor.

2. Ensure prevention and response interventions have clearly defined objectives, outputs and indicators;

3. Establish coordinated and common reporting tools;

4. Determine methods for obtaining information on indicators;

5. Assign responsibilities for information gathering, determine time frame and frequency of data collection, and allocate resources; and

6. Establish mechanisms for sharing information and incorporating results into prevention and response planning.
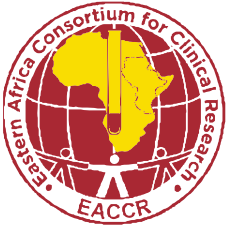
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Types of M & E

There is no ideal framework and different frameworks are used for different situation (Frankel and Gage, 2007)

1. Conceptual frameworks - theoretical or causal frameworks

2. Results frameworks – strategic frameworks

3. Logical frameworks – logical models/M& E frameworks

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Types of M & E frameworks

1. **Conceptual frameworks:** Are diagrams that identify and illustrates the relationship among relevant organizational and other factors that may influence a project or program & the successful achievement of goals and objectives
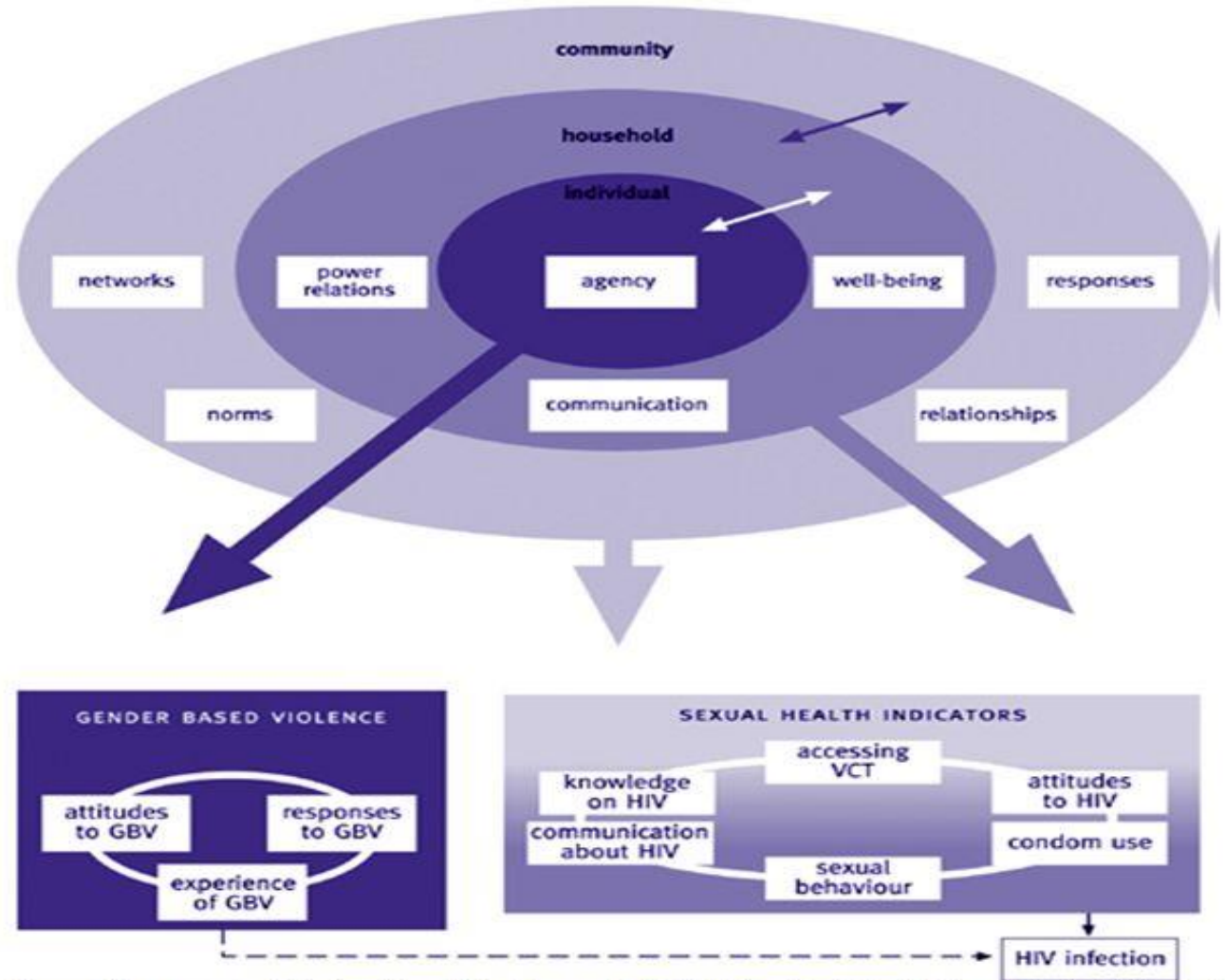
Source: Hargreaves, Atsbeha, Gear, Kim, Mzamani Makhubele, Mashaba, Morison, Motsei, Peters, Porter, Pronyk, Watts. 2002.

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Types cont...

2. Results frameworks

Are diagrams that identify steps or levels or results and illustrate the casual relationship linking all the levels of programs objectives.

They form the basis for M&E activities at the objective level

Example: A Results Framework for an Awareness-raising Campaign around Domestic Violence Legislation

Goal - Women and girls empowered to claim their rights under law.

Objectives – 1) To increase knowledge of the new domestic violence provisions among community members (men and women) in the town of Risa by 50% in 2 years and 2) To double the number of women and girls in Risa who claim they would report violence perpetrated against them in 3 years.
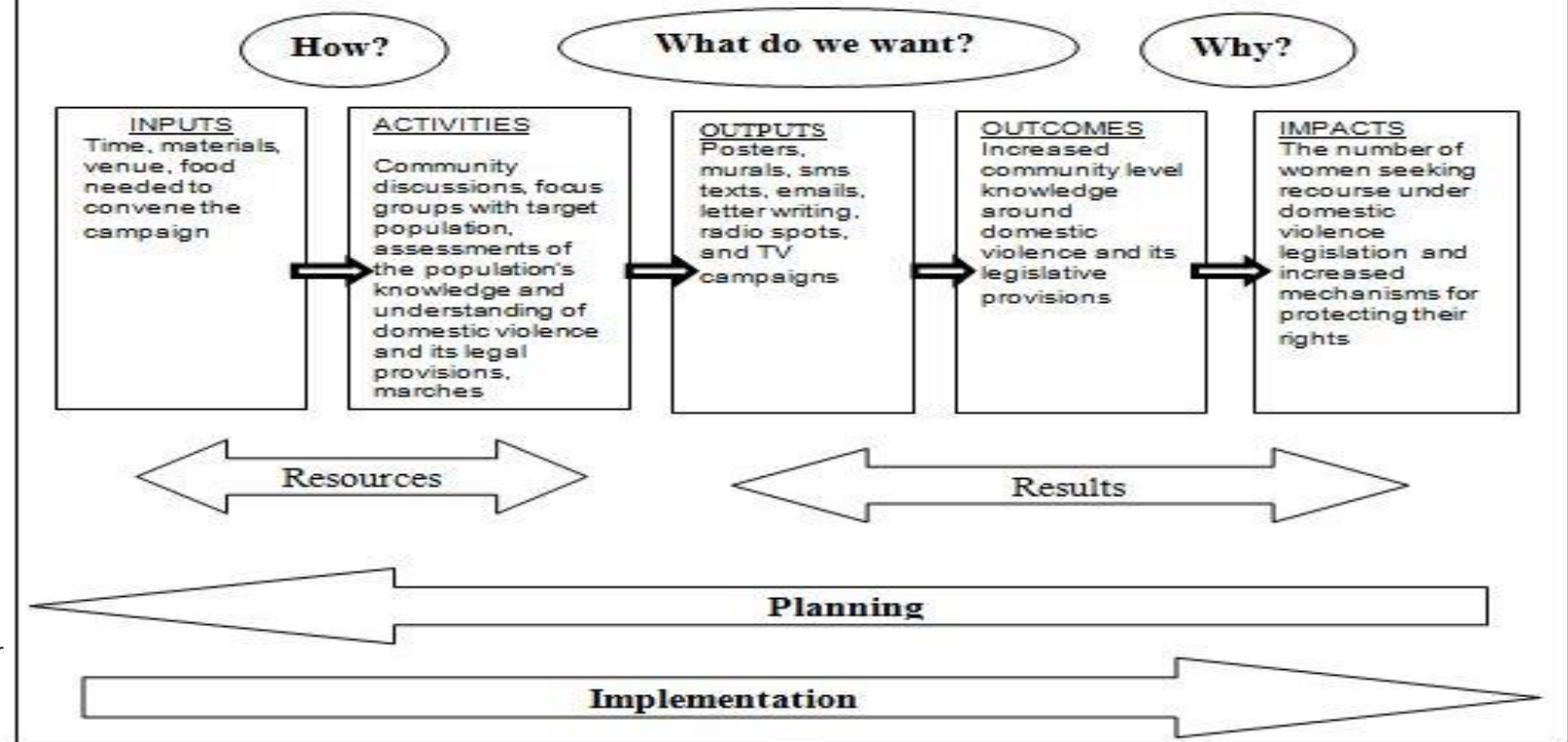
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Types cont…

3) Logical Frameworks

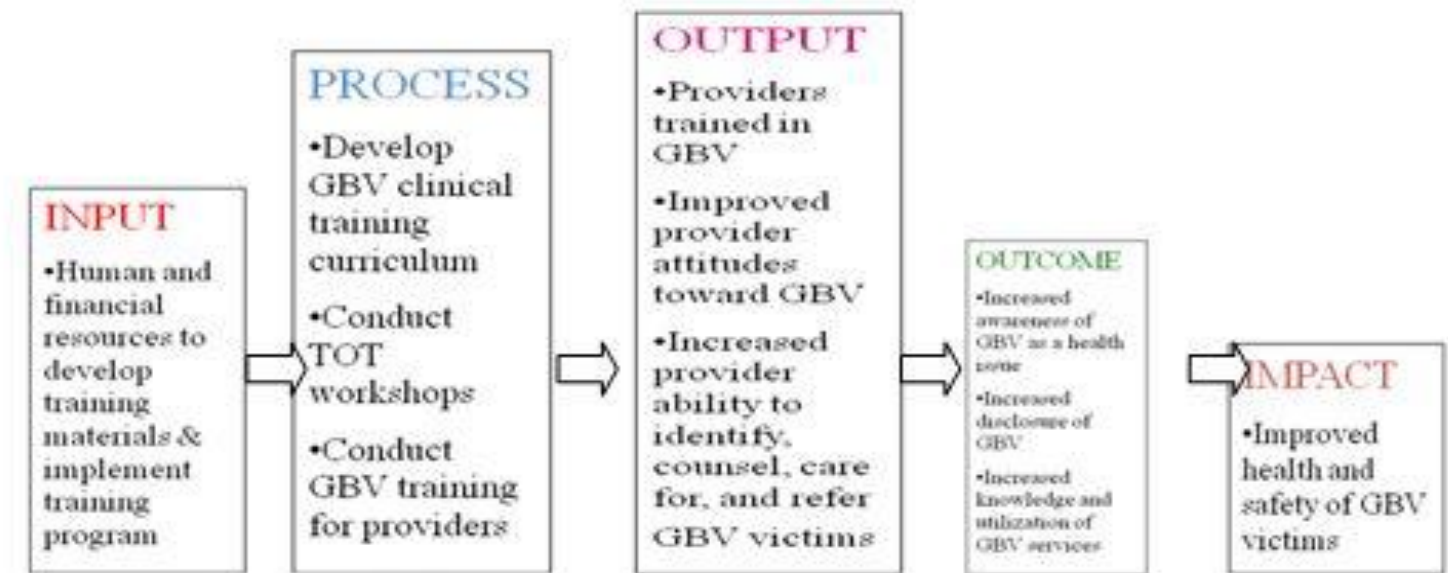Diagrams that identify and illustrate the linear relationship flowing from program inputs, process or activities which produce immediate results or outputs, ultimately leading to longer term or broader results or outcomes

A useful tool for presenting programmatic and evaluation components which also outline the critical assumptions on which a project is based

Example Logical Framework for a Health Provider Training Programme

INPUT
- Human and financial resources to develop training materials & implement training program

PROCESS
- Develop GBV clinical training curriculum
- Conduct TOT workshops
- Conduct GBV training for providers

OUTPUT
- Providers trained in GBV
- Improved provider attitudes toward GBV
- Increased provider ability to identify, counsel, care for, and refer GBV victims

OUTCOME
- Increased awareness of GBV as a health issue
- Increased disclosure of GBV
- Increased knowledge and utilization of GBV services

IMPACT
- Improved health and safety of GBV victims

[Gage and Dunn, 2009]

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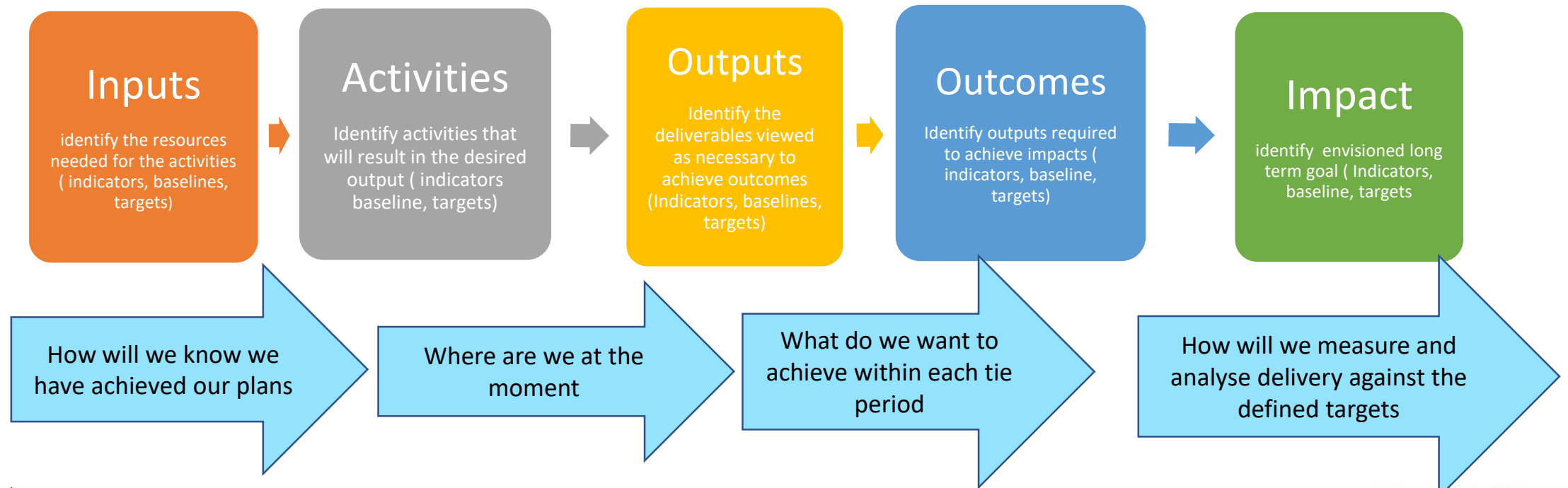Enabling research by sharing knowledge

M&E FRAMEWORK

Illustrates the relationships between program **Inputs, Processes, Outputs, and Outcomes.**

Links the program to desired **Impact**.

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact
identify the resources needed for the activities (indicators, baselines, targets)	Identify activities that will result in the desired output (indicators baseline, targets)	Identify the deliverables viewed as necessary to achieve outcomes (Indicators, baselines, targets)	Identify outputs required to achieve impacts (indicators, baseline, targets)	identify envisioned long term goal (Indicators, baseline, targets

How will we know we have achieved our plans	Where are we at the moment	What do we want to achieve within each tie period	How will we measure and analyse delivery against the defined targets

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