



THEORY OF CHANGE

TEMPLATE

DECEMBER 2025

1. What is the definition of a theory of change?

There are various definitions of a Theory of Change (ToC). For the purpose of this template, a ToC is regarded as a representation of how an organization or initiative is expected to achieve results and an identification of the underlying assumptions made (Morra-lmas and Rist, 2009). Evaluators acknowledge the importance of a program theory as the basis for formulating and prioritizing evaluation questions, designing the evaluation, and interpreting evaluation findings (Rossie et al, 2004).

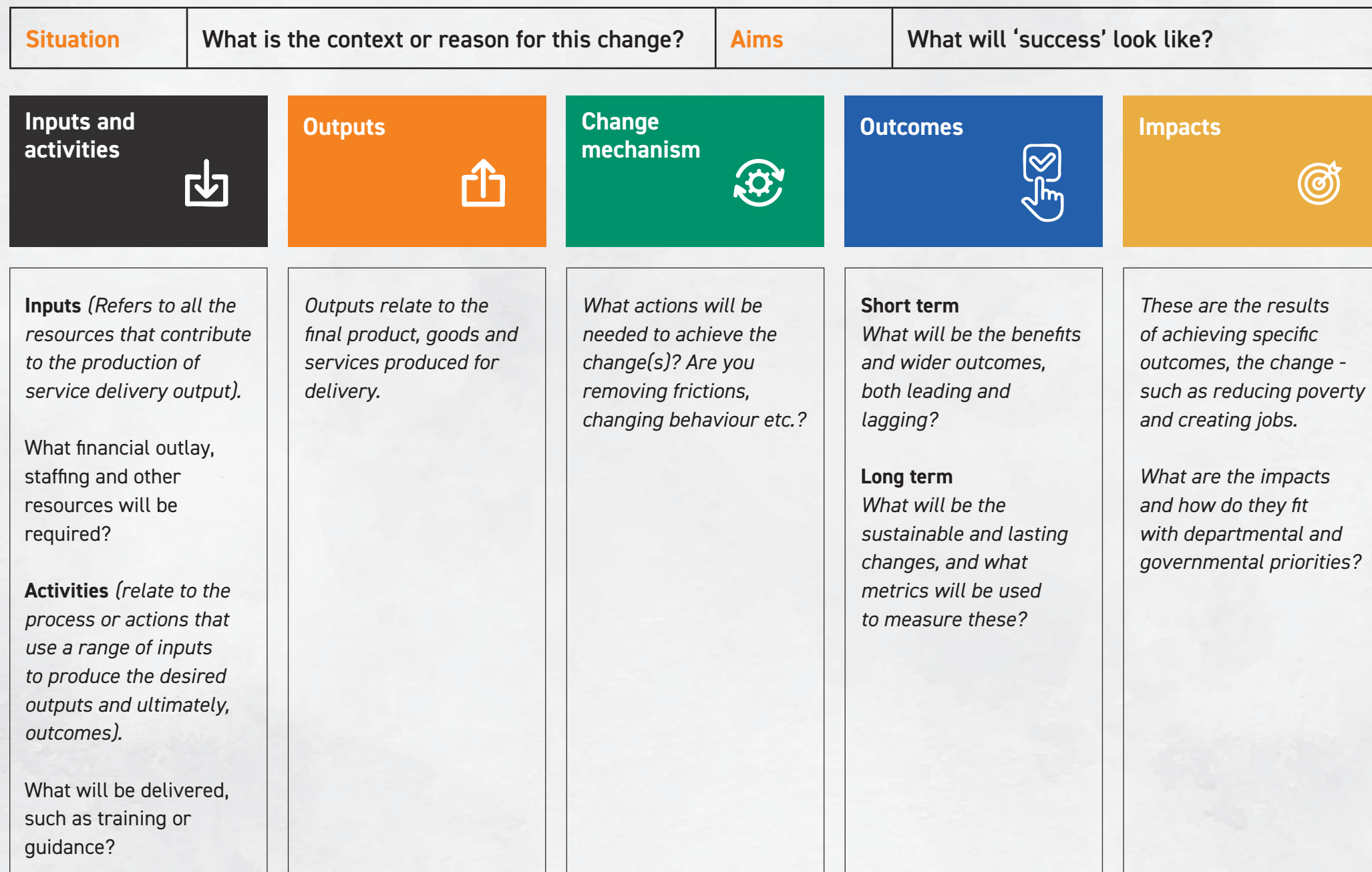


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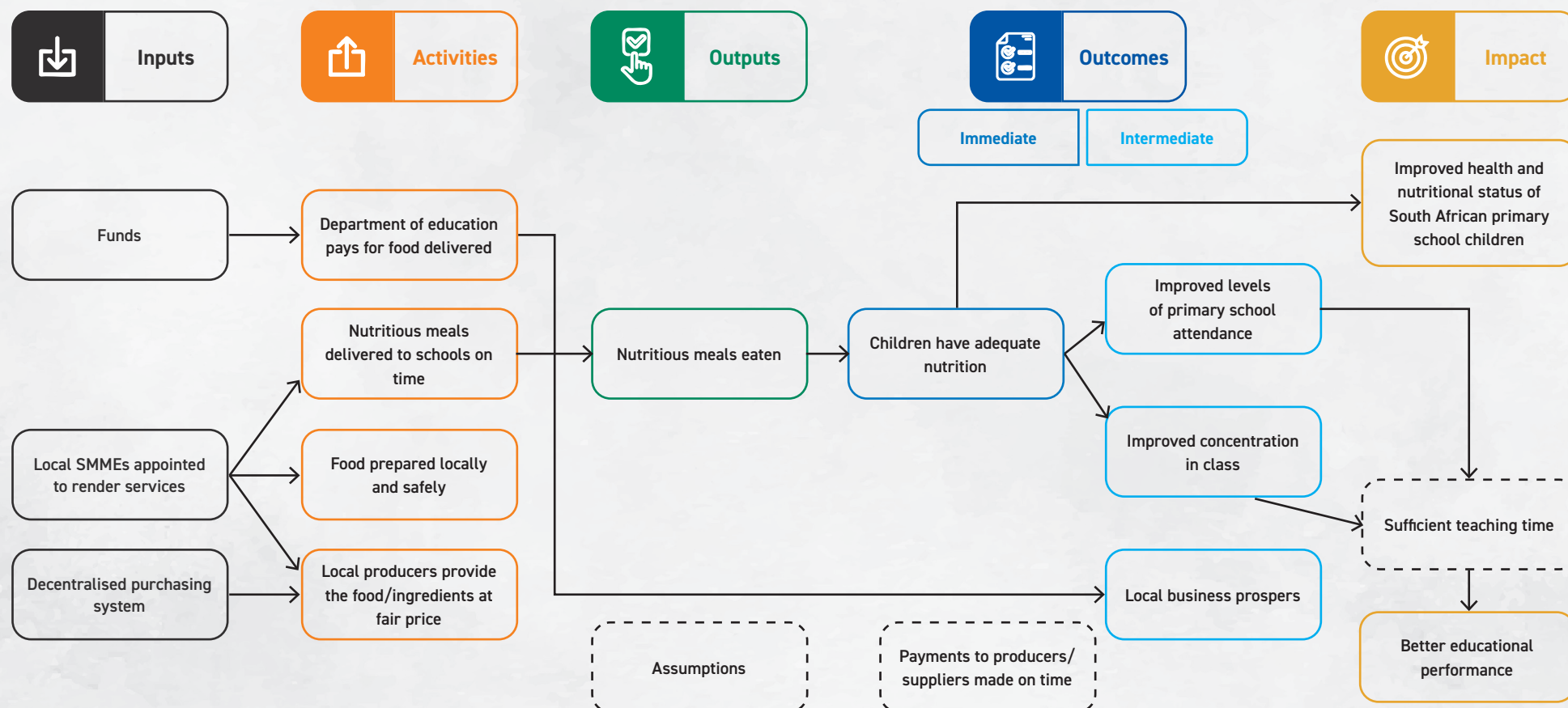
2. Elements of a theory of change



Evidence assessment	What is the strength of the existing evidence base for this change?		
Assumptions	What is being assumed as part of the plan?	Possible unintended consequences	Are there any other outcomes that might result from this project?

Figure 1: Example of a Theory of Change

National School Nutrition Programme TOC



References

Morra-Imas, L. G., and Rist R.C., 2009: The Road to Results: Designing and conducting effective development evaluations, The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank

Rossi, P.H., Lipsey, M. W., and Freeman H.E., 2004: Evaluation A Systematic Approach, CA: Sage.