



From cause and effect to logic model

Raymond Gervais

2022



Purpose

This session will offer

- ❖ More on the cause and effect relationship



Results and cause & effect

As we know:

A result (or outcome/objective) is

---a describable or measurable change resulting from a *cause-and-effect* relationship

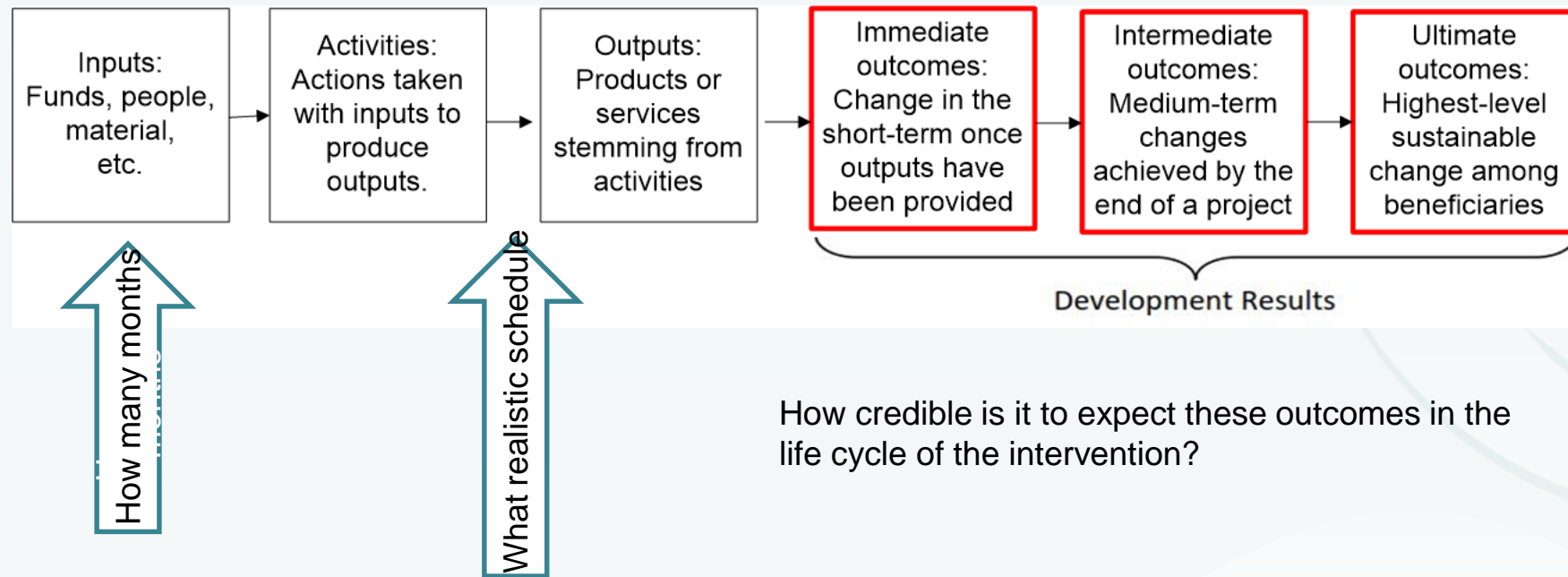
It is therefore important we dig deeper in understanding cause and effect relations.

What is a cause and effect relation?

- In planning, the cause-effect relationship is a relationship in which one intervention (the cause) produces an expected modification (the effect). One cause can have several effects. The lack of an effect is the sign of a weak relation.
- The three most important criteria of the cause and effect relation are:
 - temporal precedence: cause must precede effect;
 - covariation: cause and effect must occur together;
 - alternative explanations must be eliminated.

Planning relates to time

- To assess the strength of any planning exercise, it is important to define what is the life cycle of the intervention: one, three, five years. This sets out the credibility of the cause and effect relations in the theory of change.



Bonding cause and effect

- Covariation of the cause and effect is the process of establishing that there is a cause and effect to relationship between the actions (activities--> outputs, etc). It establishes that the program had some **measurable** effect, whatever that may be.
- Measuring or assessing the strength of the relation allows planners to validate their assumptions.
- These assumptions are expressed by “if...and...then” proposals at all levels of the model.
- **If** funds are made available (inputs), **and** the regional administration supports the intervention (assumption) **then** there is a greater chance the outputs will be achieved.
- **If** the outputs (capacity building) have been achieved, **and** herders are mobilized **then** enhanced care of camels can be expected.

Making sure the relation is solid

- The central question planners should ask is: Was the project/program truly the cause of any changes measured or assessed during its life cycle?
- Some other sub-questions could be:
 - Was the project/program the **only** intervention in the sector at that point in time?
 - Did the project/program only **contribute** to changes?
 - Can **other** explanations of changes be eliminated?

Stakeholder analysis, monitoring activities and evaluations can determine if the cause and effect in the theory of change is robust. (Topics will be presented later)

• “ **BAYARLALAA** ”





Mongolia:
Enhancing Resource
Management through
Institutional Transformation

Address: Floor 3, National Times News Tower Khudaldaanii gudamj, Khoroo 1
Chingeltei district, Ulaanbaatar-15160 Mongolia

Phone: 7610-5000