

Logic Models & Your Theory of Change

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Logic Models – What Are They

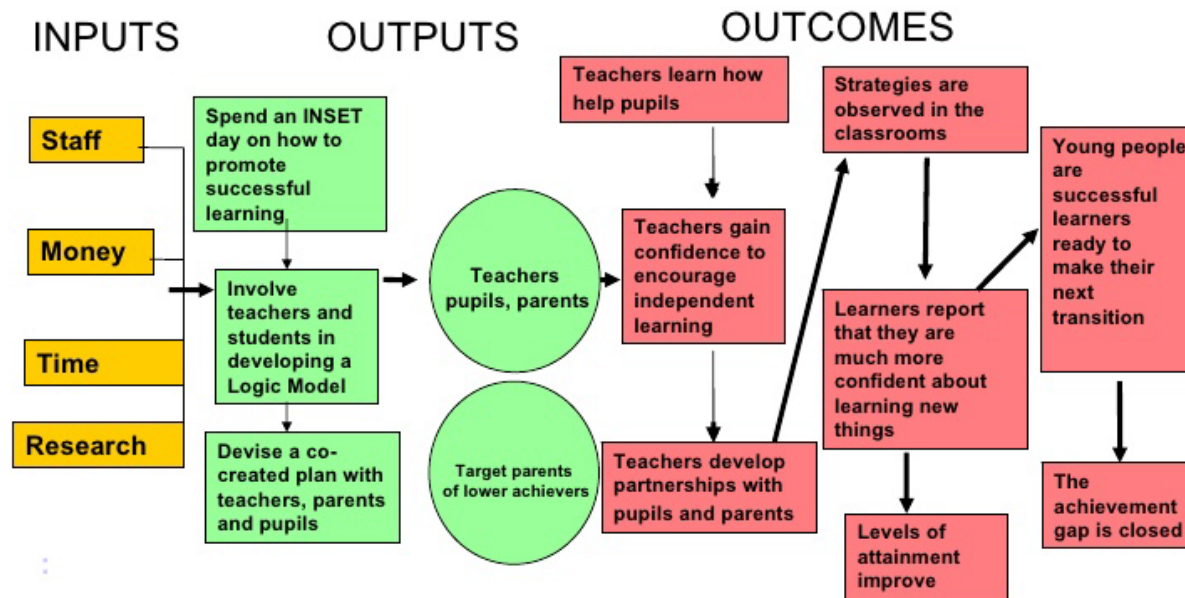
- Tools to facilitate project design
- Required or recommended proposal elements
- One page project overviews
 - Schematic depiction of the project's premise, or theory of change
 - Relatively few words
 - Position conveys information
- Aids for proposal reviewers
 - Reference while reading the rest of the narrative
 - Conveys project feasibility and likelihood of success



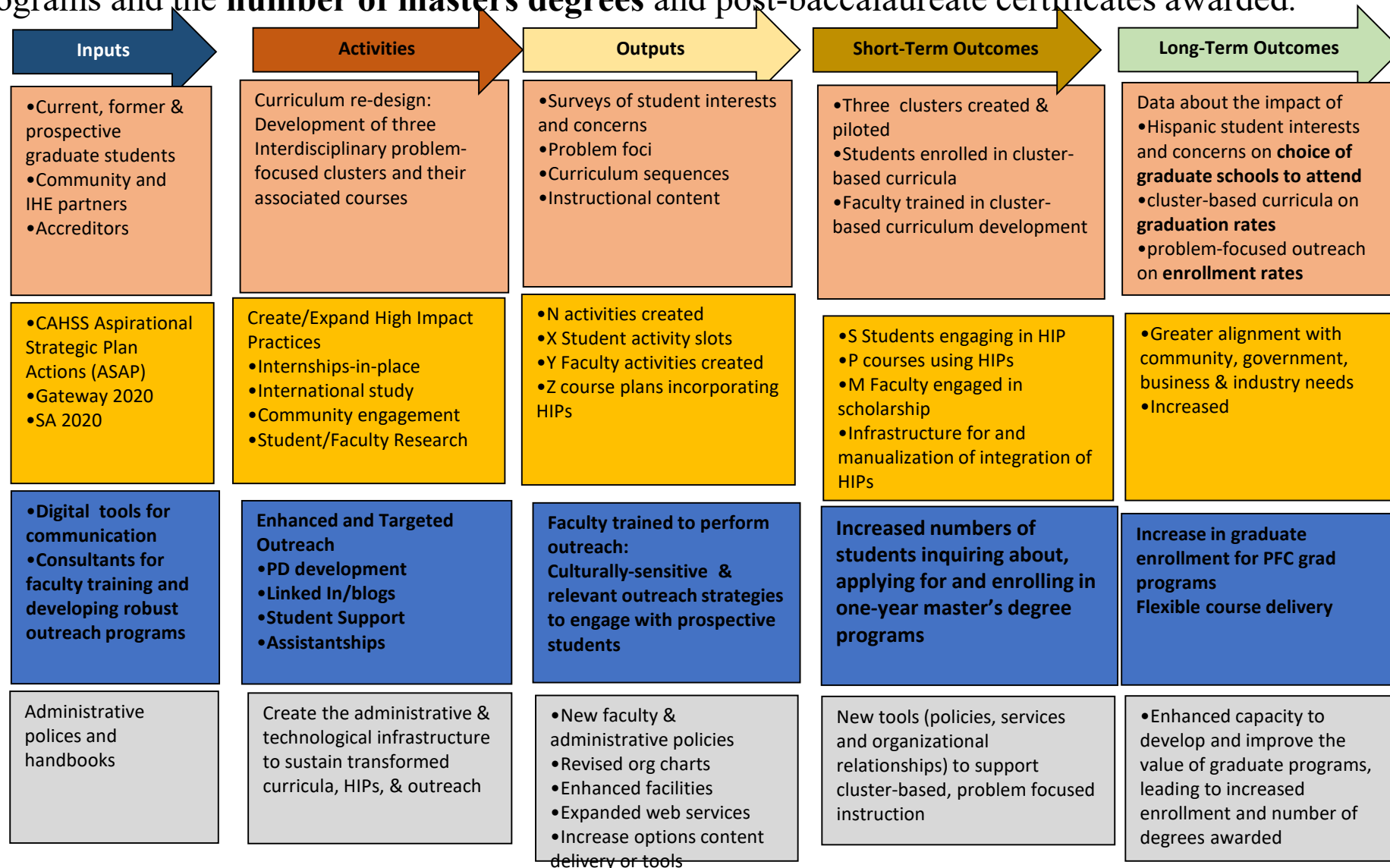
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Example: parent education and support initiative

Situation: Young people (especially the less able) do not have a range of strategies to help them be independent and successful learners



Goal: To better serve Hispanic and under-served students through curriculum redesign, the use of high-impact practices, and culturally and socially-informed outreach to increase the **enrollment** in one-year Masters Degree programs and the **number of masters degrees** and post-baccalaureate certificates awarded.



Sample Logic Model – NORDP PUI

Logic Model					
Program: Research Development					
Goal: Increase faculty & student participation in scholarly activities					
INPUTS	ACTIVITIES		OUTCOMES		
What we invest	What we do	Who we reach	Why this project: short-term results	Why this project: intermediate results	Why this project: long-term results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff • Volunteers • Time • Money • Research findings • Materials • Equipment • Technology • Partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct workshops and meetings • Train • Deliver services • Develop products, curricula, resources • Facilitate access to information • Work with media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients/Faculty • Staff • Agencies and community-based organizations (CBOs) • Decision-makers • Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness • Knowledge • Attitudes • Skills • Opinions • Aspirations • Motivations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavior • Practice • Decision-making • Policies • Social Action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health • Social • Economic • Civic • Environmental
Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs about the environment and community • Should be confirmed before beginning the program 			External Factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive and negative influences • Culture, economics, politics, demographics • Should be confirmed before beginning the program 		

Key Features of a Logic Model

- Goal(s) or objectives:
 - Typically align with funders program goals
- Outcomes
 - These can be lofty or ambitious and speak to impact
- Outputs
 - These are concrete results of the activities you undertake
- Activities
 - High level overview; clear and concise
- Inputs
 - can be existing or requested



Generic Logic Model

Logic Model					
Program: Research Development					
Goal: Increase participation in scholarly activities					
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Assumptions			External Factors		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beliefs about the environment and community • Should be confirmed before beginning the program 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive and negative influences • Culture, economics, politics, demographics • Should be confirmed before beginning the program 		

Exercise 1: What is Your Goal?

- Start a logic model for a hypothetical project. Use the sample template or draw free hand.
- What are you trying to accomplish?
- Some things to consider:
 - What is the mission of your organization (research group, discipline, department, university)?
 - What resources do you have to draw upon?
 - Who are you trying to help? Students? Faculty? The University? The discipline? The world?
 - What is the time frame you wish to affect? The period of the project? The future?



Logic Model Template

Logic Model					
Goal:					
INPUTS	ACTIVITIES		OUTCOMES		
What we invest	What we do	Who we reach	Why this project: short-term results	Why this project: intermediate results	Why this project: long-term results
Assumptions			External Factors		

Exercise 2: How Will You Achieve Your goal?

- Things to consider
 - What are your objectives? Try breaking down the goal into 2-4 main parts that each contribute to the goal.
 - Who are you trying to reach?
 - What activities are you planning?
 - What resources do you need to undertake your activities? Include those you already have and those your are requesting.
 - Remember the timeline. Choose objectives that can be achieved within the time period of the project. Longer term outcomes will appear later in the logic model.



Logic Model Template

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Goal:				
INPUTS	ACTIVITIES	OUTCOMES		
What we invest	What we do Who we reach	Short-term results	Intermediate results	Long-term results
Assumptions		External Factors		

Exercise 3: How Will You Know If You Succeed?

- What are the immediate outputs of your activities? A survey? a workshop? trained individuals? New courses?.
- What will you do with those outputs? These are intermediate outcomes.
 - Better understand something?
 - Know how well something has worked
 - Have trainers for future workshops
- Longer term outcomes
 - Who is better off now?
 - How will the results be generalized?
 - These do not have to occur within the timeframe of the project.
- Do the outcomes line up with the stated goal?



Logic Model Template

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Goal:					
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What we invest	What we do	Who we reach	Why this project: short-term results	Why this project: intermediate results	Why this project: long-term results
Assumptions			External Factors		

Develop Your Theory of Change

- Complete the following sentence based on your logic model: “In order to achieve [my goal] I will conduct [my activities], which will result in [my outcomes].”
- State your Theory of Change: “Doing [activities] will result in [Outcomes] which will bring about [Goals].”
- Future activities
 - Logic Models are developed iteratively, being revised several times before the final project design.
 - Consider the assumptions on which your theory of change is built and what external factors may affect your outcomes.
 - Revise the activities and outputs to make them more realistic.

Thanks

