Logic Model

A Logic Model (LM) is an illustration of how a program works. It functions as a guide for the funder and is often used in writing a business plan or a grant proposal. The LM represents a program at a quick glance, and it also provides the funder with a logical view of an organization’s planning, implementing, evaluating, and communicating processes, which includes the use of tables and charts.

Typically, the LM is the result of strategic planning and should not be attempted until the writer has completely identified the resources, activities, outputs, and outcomes of his or her program. The LM can be used for a variety of reasons, but for the nonprofit sector, it is used as a way to improve programs in order to produce favorable outcomes. LMs strengthen the case for investment because the illustration depicts a flow of information that provides a logical idea of your plan and an organized approach to capturing, documenting, and disseminating program results.

1. **Logic Model Basics:***
   - A. Describes program basics
   - B. Begins with best practice information
   - C. Follows the “if -then” logical relationship
   - D. Produces an inventory of materials needed
   - E. Provides a case for how and why the program will work
   - F. Provides a method for program management and assessment
   - G. Implements effective labeling

2. **Main Components of the LM Framework:**
   - A. Inputs: Includes the resources that go into the program—both resources you have on hand and those you need, for example:
     - I. Human capital—paid or volunteer.
     - II. Financial resources—earned and contributed.
     - III. Organizational capital—computers, buildings, etc.
     - IV. Community—business, cultural, volunteer, etc.
   - B. Outputs: The activities and events that the program will implement and the participation from the targeted population.
   - C. Outcomes: The desired changes or benefits that result from the activities.
     - I. The specific changes in program participants’ behavior, knowledge, skills, status, and living functioning.
     - II. Short term should be 1-3 years and long term should be 4-6 years.
   - D. Impacts: The intended or unintended change occurring in organizations, communities, or systems as a result of program activities within 7-10 years.
Basic Form

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Inputs          Outputs          Outcomes
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More In-Depth Form

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Inputs

Program Resources

Outputs

Activities

Participation

Outcomes

Short

Medium

Long
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