

CHECKLIST for assessing the quality of the Logframe Matrix of FPI interventions

INTRODUCTION

> What is a logical framework matrix?

The Logical Framework (Logframe) outlines how an intervention drives change by linking its outputs to shifts in target groups' behaviors, policies, and circumstances, ultimately contributing to broader societal impact. As a key tool for planning, managing, and monitoring projects and programmes, it is structured as a matrix, known as the Logical Framework Matrix (LFM).

> What is this checklist for?

This checklist is a practical self-assessment tool to verify whether a specific logframe is well-structured and aligned with best FPI practices. Additionally, it provides guidance on how to address any gaps or weaknesses, helping users take corrective actions when needed. This ensures that logframes are clear, logical, and useful for planning, monitoring, and evaluation.

> Structure of the LFM¹:

1 st column	2 nd column	3 rd column	4 th column	5 th column	6 th column	7 th column	8 th column
Results chain	Indicator	FNLC	Unit of measure	Baseline	Target	Source of data	Assumptions
Impact	Indicator (one indicator per row) to be phrased in a neutral way and with indication of the disaggregation	Only for financing not linked to costs (FNLC) interventions. This column should be disregarded for FPI interventions	A quantity used as a standard of measurement for each given indicator	Starting value (in the same unit of measure as for the indicator) and date	Final target value (in the same unit of measure as for the indicator) and date. Should include the baseline value ²	One source of data is per indicator except in the case of FNLC interventions	Only for outcomes and outputs
Outcome (s)							
Output (s)							

KEY CONCEPTS

> Impact, Outcomes, Outputs, Activities, Input and Assumptions

Key concepts		As per PRAG 2025 annex (e3d) for Grants	Examples
RESULTS	Impact	The impact is the long-term expected effect of the action fulfilling the overall objective to which the action contributes at country, regional or sector level, in the political, social, economic and environmental global context which will stem from interventions of all relevant actors and stakeholders.	Examples: reduction of poverty, improvement in literacy/numeracy, reduction of the under-five mortality rate, enhanced respect of human rights, reduction of corruption, reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
	Outcome (s)	The main medium-term effect of the intervention focusing on behavioural and institutional changes beneficial to the target group and resulting from the related outputs of the intervention. It is good practice to limit the number of specific objectives (often one is enough), however for large interventions, other outcomes can be included.	Examples: more children completing a school cycle, increased access to paediatric and maternity health services, increased disclosure of rights violations, implemented specific reform process, increased production of renewable energy.

1. Please check the annex e3d of the EU PRAG: https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/display/ExactExternalWiki/Annexes?preview=/152798822/152801180/e3d_logframe_en.docx

2. In most cases, indicators should be reported cumulatively, meaning that both target and current values must include the baseline. However, if an indicator is inherently annual (e.g., "Number of annual violent incidents" or "Percentage annual price increase"), the values are not reported cumulatively and do not include the baseline.

Key concepts		As per PRAG 2025 annex (e3d) for Grants	Examples
NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE RESULTS	Outputs	Outputs are the direct/tangible products (infrastructure, goods and services) delivered/generated by the intervention. They may also include changes resulting from the activities which are relevant to the achievement of outcomes. These changes relate to improved capacities, abilities, skills, systems, policies of a group of people or an organisation, generated by the funded interventions. Outputs should be linked to corresponding outcomes through clear numbering.	Examples: enhanced capacities of the teachers or health workers, increased awareness on how to access the legal system, improved policy evidence.
	Inputs	The financial, human, material (in-kind), and institutional (including technological and information) resources used for the intervention.	Examples: funding, staff, materials, equipment.
	Activities	Activities refer to the process of converting inputs into outputs. They describe what the interventions do or support, so they are not results and are not in the LFM but in the Activities Matrix.	Examples: conducting training, building a new clinic, conducting an awareness campaign, preparing a roadmap.
	Assumptions	External, necessary and positive conditions for achieving the results that are outside of its management's control. There are no assumptions at the impact level. Assumptions in the Activity Matrix are the External, necessary and positive conditions for implementing the action.	Examples: "Market prices for agricultural products remain stable, allowing farmers to sell surplus crops". "Fuel prices remain affordable for farmers to transport their produce to market". "Local authorities continue to support the project during its implementation".

> Logical connections in the Results Chain

In EC Logframes, the results chain is the short description of results, organised from bottom to top into three levels linked by a logical relationship "if (result level n-1) AND (assumption level n-1), then (result level n)".

For a good results statement, simplicity, logical coherence (no mixing of interlinked results in one statement) and clarity (unambiguous depiction of what and who changes) are the three main ingredients.

Logframe Matrix

Results chain		Indicators	Baseline values	Target values	Data sources	Assumptions
Impact	To foster an inclusive and resilient economic transformation in XX		THEN			
	1. Improved decent-job creation, livelihoods and investments in dynamic, green and competitive sectors, particularly benefiting women, youth and other persons in vulnerable situation	IF			AND	Export tariffs stability
Outcomes	1.1 Improved measures underpinning economic governance and business environment	IF			AND	Social and economic actors maintain negotiations on the reform agenda in country XX
	1.2 Improved capacities of public and private entities to promote and mobilise investments, innovation and knowledge transfer	IF			AND	
	1.3 Improved or scaled investment and entrepreneurship opportunities in targeted areas	IF			AND	

Activities Matrix

Outputs	Activities	Indicative inputs and amounts	Assumptions
1.1. Improved measures underpinning economic governance and business environment	A.1.1. Deployment of technical assistance		
1.2. Improved capacities of public and private entities to promote and mobilise investments, innovation and knowledge transfer	A.1.2.1. Trainings organised A.1.2.2. Organise study visits	IF AND	The persons trained by the Intervention remain in their positions for the duration of the intervention
1.3. Improved or scaled investment and entrepreneurship opportunities in targeted areas	A.1.3.1. Support to prospective studies A.1.3.2. Organise tenders for sub-grants schemes		

CHECKLIST FOR ASSESSING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF THE LFM

Question	Yes/ No	How to and Corrective measure
<p>Vertical Logic: Completeness and coherence of the results chain and connected assumptions (1st and 8th columns of the Logframe)</p> <p>For a good results chain, simplicity, logical coherence and clarity are the three main ingredients</p>		
1. Is the impact statement in line with the impact or the outcomes of the Action Document (AD) that the intervention contributes to?		If not, please improve the alignment between the impact of your LF and the main objectives of the AD (impact or outcomes). This is to ensure coherence between programming objectives and the results delivered by the interventions.
<p>2.a. Is the causal link between the activities and their corresponding outputs logical and complete? Will the implementation of the activities lead to the delivery of the outputs?</p> <p>2.b. Are outputs specific in time and scale?</p> <p>2.c. Are assumptions at the level of the activities (in the Activities Matrix) the necessary conditions for the delivery of the outputs?</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check if the activities + the corresponding assumptions (IF, AND links) lead to the delivery of the outputs (THEN link). • Check if the outputs are tangible deliverables as per key concepts above. • Check if there is at least one assumption for the activity level (in the Activity Matrix) defined according to key concepts. <p>If not, please reformulate the outputs until the IF + AND + THEN links are logically verified. While doing so, make sure that the outputs describe the direct results of the activities and not the activity itself: for instance, if the activity is the delivery of trainings in a technical subject, the obvious output resulting from the activity is an improved technical capacity of the training participants.</p>
<p>3.a. Is the causal link between the outputs and their corresponding outcomes logical and complete? Will the outputs lead to the delivery of the outcomes?</p> <p>3.b. Are outcomes described as changes in behaviour or circumstances of the target groups?</p> <p>3.c. Are assumptions at the level of the outputs the necessary conditions for the delivery of the outcomes?</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check if the outputs + the corresponding assumptions (IF, AND links) lead to the achievement of their outcome (THEN link). • Check if the outcomes are changes as per key concepts above. • Check if there is at least one assumption for the output level defined according to key concepts. <p>If not, please reformulate the outcomes until the IF + AND + THEN links are logically verified. While doing so, make sure that the outcomes describe the main changes in behaviours, status, policies depending on the target groups that intervention seeks to influence, even if those changes are not under the control of the implementing partner (outcomes, by definition, are not under the control of the intervention): for instance, if the output is an improved technical capacity of the training participants, a possible outcome is that the target groups become more effective or efficient in delivering their mandate.</p>

Question	Yes/ No	How to and Corrective measure
<p>4.a. Is the causal link between the outcomes and the impact logical and complete? Will the outcomes lead to the impact?</p> <p>4.b. Is the impact described as a long-term change of final beneficiaries, sectors or environments?</p> <p>4.c. Are assumptions at the level of the outcomes the necessary conditions for the delivery of the impact?</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check if the outcomes + the corresponding assumptions (IF, AND links) lead to the achievement of the impact (THEN link). • Check if the impact describes changes as per key concepts. • Check if there is at least one assumption for the outcomes level defined according to key concepts. <p>If not, please reformulate the impact until the IF + AND + THEN links are logically verified. While doing so, make sure that the impact remains in line with the programming priorities. Otherwise, you should reconsider the eligibility of the intervention.</p>
5. Are any assumptions defined at the impact level?		If yes, please eliminate.
6. Is there at least one output, one outcome and one Impact statement in the logframe?		If not, please include at least one statement for each results level and iterate the checklist questions 1 to 4.
<p>7.a. Do any of the results contain words like “through”, “in order to”, “leading to”, “by”, “via”, “with” or any other connector indicating two levels of results within the same sentence?</p> <p>7.b. Do any of the results’ statements contain too many “and” leading to a superposition of results in the same statement or even different results that are not at the same level?</p>		<p>If yes, please revise the statements and make sure that there is clarity about what is to be achieved. The inclusion of certain words may imply logical connections (and different results) within the same level, which is incorrect (i.e. to achieve X in order to reach Y OR To achieve Y via X). It may be necessary to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the result that correspond to the level where the statement is and delete all other elements from the statement: “Improved capacities (the output) though trainings (the activities)”, should be “Improved capacities of X” if you are at the output level. • Split the result into two different statements provided that these are at same level: Improved capacities though e-learning mechanisms, may become “strengthened capacities of X” and “improved e-learning mechanisms” both for outputs.
8. Are all results statements describing the direction of the change, what changes, and who is involved in the changes?		<p>If not, please revise the results statements making sure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statement starts with a description of the direction of the change (Increased, Improved, Scaled, Enhanced...). • The statement clearly and simply describes what changes and the main qualities of the change if needed (Increased use of inclusive and quality health care services). • The statement describes who is involved (Increased use of inclusive and quality health care services by underserved groups). • If needed, the statement may also describe where the change takes place (Increased use of inclusive and quality health care services by underserved groups in the targeted areas).

Question	Yes/ No	How to and Corrective measure
<p>Horizontal Logic: Completeness/quality of RACER indicators (second to seventh column of the Logframe) including their sources of data.</p> <p>Relevant: connected to the results they measure</p> <p>Accepted: by all partners</p> <p>Credible: unambiguous, well defined</p> <p>Easy to monitor: sources of data available</p> <p>Robust: no prone to manipulations, properly evidenced</p>		
9. Do all the results statements (impact, outcomes, outputs) include at least one relevant indicator?		<p>If not, please include an indicator for each statement. The indicator is the way to measure the progress in achieving the result. It is essential to define how the intervention will be monitored. All the indicators for reporting FPI results in OPSYS must come from FPI Results Framework.</p>
10. Are the relevant obligatory indicators included in the LF?		<p>The following indicators are compulsory depending on the type of intervention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For crisis response actions: Indicator 65241 (GERF 2.24) "Number of people directly benefiting from EU-supported interventions that specifically aim to support civilian post-conflict peacebuilding and/or conflict prevention, disaggregated by gender and age". • For all other interventions (non-crisis): Indicator 65205 "Number of persons directly benefiting from the intervention, disaggregated by gender and age group (Men/Women/Boys/Girls)". • For FPN-specific actions: Indicator 65226 (GERF 2.15) "Number of processes related to partner country practices on trade, investment and business, or promoting the external dimension of EU internal policies or EU interests, which have been influenced". <p>If not: Please make sure that the applicable obligatory indicator is included in the LF.</p>
11. Are there relevant GERF indicators included in the LF? Are all relevant GERF indicators properly encoded in the LF?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GERF indicators in the list of FPI RF indicators should be given priority if relevant because the EU reports annually their global (aggregated) value, and be encoded in the LF directly when possible (not as matching indicator). • Check if all GERF indicators are properly identified by their code as shown in the red font in the example: Number of processes related to partner country practices on trade, investment and business, or promoting the external dimension of EU internal policies or EU interest, which have been influenced (GERF 2.15). <p>If not: Please make sure that the relevant GERF indicators are directly encoded in the Logframe and avoid to the possible extent to match other FPI indicators with GERF indicators. Please make sure that all corporate indicators are properly referenced.</p>
12. Are the impact indicators measuring the long-term effects described in the impact statement?		<p>If not, please select another predefined indicator making sure that it is relevant to measure the expected impact.</p>

Question	Yes/ No	How to and Corrective measure
13. Are the outcome indicators measuring the change of the target groups described in the outcome statement?		If not, please select another predefined indicator making sure that it is relevant to measure the expected outcome(s).
14. Are the output indicators measuring goods/ services/ direct benefits of the intervention as described in the outputs?		If not, please select another predefined indicator making sure that it is relevant to measure the expected outputs.
15. Do all the indicators include a baseline value?		If not, please identify the missing baselines for the indicators. Without a baseline, there is no measurement of the progress made. If the baseline is to be defined in the early stages of the intervention implementation, this should be explicitly mentioned.
16. Do all the baseline values include the reference year?		If not, please add the reference year. This information is crucial to assess actual change when current values are reported.
17. Do all the indicators include a target value? Does the target value include the baseline value?		If not, please add the target value and/or add the baseline value to the final target. The target defines the expected magnitude of change and its direction from the baseline. The target values should align with the level of resources invested to achieve the desired results, ensuring feasibility and efficiency.
18. Do all the target values include the reference year?		If not, please add the reference year.
19. Are all related data sources well identified? Are data available on a timely basis?		If not, please add them. If no reliable data source is available, consider replacing the indicator with one that can be associated to sources of data that will ensure the future collection of current values.
20. Is sex-disaggregation or any other relevant disaggregation included for all the relevant indicators, their baselines and their targets?		If not, please add the relevant disaggregation and also disaggregate the baseline and final target values. Whenever an indicator refers to individuals, it should be disaggregated by gender.
21. 21. Is the number of indicators manageable for later tracking and reporting considering also in this assessment the disaggregation that apply? Are/will the necessary resources needed for collecting, processing and reporting indicator's values available?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check if the implementing partner possesses robust monitoring and reporting systems or if the resources needed for this will be provided by the intervention. <p>If not or not sure, please adjust the number of indicators and/or redefine the indicators prioritising those with available sources of data in line with the monitoring capacities of the implementing partner.</p>

FOLLOW UP

The questions in this checklist define the minimum requirements for the Logframe Matrix. Please also check additional available resources.

Public resources:

- > ICM WIKI: <https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/display/ExactExternalWiki/Intervention+Cycle+Methodology+Guide>
- > Join the [Design, Results and Reporting public group on Capacity4dev](#) —your one-stop shop for accessing guiding documents, learning materials, and exchanging knowledge and experience on design, results and reporting for EU external action implementing partners (IPs). To stay updated on all Design, Results, and Reporting news, **create an account on Capacity4dev** using your **EU Login**, **request membership**, and activate weekly notifications in your profile settings. **Stay tuned for upcoming resources.**

For EC Operational Managers:

- > Link to training registration on LF designs: EU Learn - INTPA/M - Fundamental Training Package - Intervention Cycle Management.
- > Comments or questions on LF designs and FPI RF: design-results-support@meldea.eu
- > Request support on LF designs: [book a short call](#)