



European  
Commission

# **CHECKLIST for assessing the quality of the Logframe Matrix**

## 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 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 INTPA 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 LFM<sup>1</sup>:

1 <sup>st</sup> column	2 <sup>nd</sup> column	3 <sup>rd</sup> column	4 <sup>th</sup> column	5 <sup>th</sup> column	6 <sup>th</sup> column	7 <sup>th</sup> column	8 <sup>th</sup> 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	A quantity used as a standard of measurement for each given indicator	Baseline 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 <sup>2</sup>	One source of data is to be provided 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](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
RESULTS	<b>Outputs</b>	The products, capital goods and services which results from development interventions. 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, and are 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.
	<b>Activities</b>	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.
NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE RESULTS	<b>Inputs</b>	The financial, human, material (in-kind), and institutional (including technological and information) resources used for the intervention.	Examples: funding, staff, materials, equipment.
	<b>Assumptions</b>	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 because there are not results expected above the impact in the LF. 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".

## > Results Chain and assumptions

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			
Outcomes	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
			THEN			
Outputs	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
Vertical Logic: Completeness and coherence of the results chain and connected assumptions (1 <sup>st</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> columns of the Logframe). For a good results chain, simplicity, logical coherence and clarity are the three main ingredients.		
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.
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?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check if the activities + the corresponding assumptions (IF, AND links) lead to the delivery of the outputs (THEN link).</li> <li>Check if the outputs are tangible deliverables as per key concepts above.</li> <li>Check if there is at least one assumption for the activity level (in the Activity Matrix) defined according to key concepts.</li> </ul>
2.b. Are outputs tangible deliverables?		
2.c. Are assumptions at the level of the activities (in the Activities Matrix) the necessary conditions for the delivery of the outputs?		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.
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?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check if the outputs + the corresponding assumptions (IF, AND links) lead to the achievement of their outcome (THEN link).</li> <li>Check if the outcomes are changes as per key concepts above.</li> <li>Check if there is at least one assumption for the output level defined according to key concepts.</li> </ul>
3.b. Are outcomes described as changes in behaviour or circumstances of the target groups?		
3.c. Are assumptions at the level of the outputs the necessary conditions for the delivery of the outcomes?		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.
4.a. Is the causal link between the outcomes and the impact logical and complete? Will the outcomes lead to the impact?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check if the outcomes + the corresponding assumptions (IF, AND links) lead to the achievement of the impact (THEN link).</li> <li>Check if the impact describes changes as per key concepts.</li> <li>Check if there is at least one assumption for the outcomes level defined according to key concepts.</li> </ul>
4.b. Is the impact described as a long-term change of final beneficiaries, sectors or environments?		
4.c. Are assumptions at the level of the outcomes the necessary conditions for the delivery of the impact?		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.

Question	Yes/No	How to and Corrective measure
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 Logframe level and iterate the checklist questions 1 to 4.  The results chain of an intervention implies that a set of inputs enables activities, which will generate outputs (first level). These outputs, if assumptions hold, will lead to changes in the target group (outcomes, second level), ultimately contributing to long-term impact (third level). Every intervention should reflect all three levels of expected results.
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?  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?		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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
8. Are all results statements describing the direction of the change, what changes, and who is involved in the changes?		If not, please revise the results statements making sure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The statement starts with a descriptor of the direction of the change (Increased, Improved, Scaled, Enhanced...).</li> <li>• The statement clearly and simply describes what changes and the main qualities if needed (Increased use of inclusive and quality health care services).</li> <li>• The statement describes who is involved (Increased use of inclusive and quality health care services by underserved groups).</li> <li>• 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).</li> </ul>
Horizontal Logic: Completeness/quality of <b>RACER indicators</b> (second to seventh column of the Logframe) including their sources of data. Relevant: connected to the results they measure Accepted: by all partners Credible: unambiguous, well defined Easy to monitor: sources of data available Robust: no prone to manipulations, properly evidenced		
9. Do all the results statements (impact, outcomes, outputs) include at least one relevant indicator?		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.

Question	Yes/No	How to and Corrective measure
10. Are there relevant corporate indicators (GERF, IPA III) included in the LF? Are all corporate indicators properly encoded in the LF?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check in the <a href="#">list of corporate indicators</a> if any of them could be used in your intervention. Corporate indicators are aggregated across EU interventions and reported annually.</li> <li>Check if all corporate indicators are properly identified by their code (for instance GERF 2.1, IPA III 5.1.2.2)</li> </ul> <p>If not: Please make sure that the relevant corporate indicators are directly encoded in the Logframe and avoid to the possible extent to match customised indicators with corporate indicators. Please make sure that all corporate indicators are properly referenced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check if some of the indicators in the LF are a customisation of corporate indicators (they closely resemble corporate ones but are not exactly the same)</li> </ul> <p>If yes: Please replace the customised corporate indicator by the exact corporate indicator and avoid matching customised indicators with corporate indicators.</p>
11. Are the impact indicators measuring the long term effects described in the impact statement?		<p>If not, please redefine the indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give priority to the relevant <a href="#">predefined indicators</a> that are pre-encoded in OPSYS because the values of such indicators can be aggregated in the system once reported in OPSYS.</li> <li>Only if you cannot find a suitable predefined indicator, please make use of a customised indicator, knowing that their values will not be aggregated by the system once reported in OPSYS.</li> </ul>
12. Are the outcome indicators measuring the change of the target groups described in the outcome statement?		<p>If not, please redefine the indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give priority to the relevant <a href="#">predefined indicators</a> that are pre-encoded in OPSYS because the values of such indicators can be aggregated in the system once reported in OPSYS.</li> <li>Only if you cannot find a suitable predefined indicator, please make use of a customised indicator, knowing that their values will not be aggregated by the system once reported in OPSYS.</li> </ul>
13. Are the output indicators measuring goods/ services/ direct benefits of the intervention as described in the outputs?		<p>If not, please redefine the indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give priority to the relevant <a href="#">predefined indicators</a> that are pre-encoded in OPSYS because the values of such indicators can be aggregated in the system once reported in OPSYS.</li> <li>Only if you cannot find a suitable predefined indicator, please make use of a customised indicator, knowing that their values will not be aggregated by the system once reported in OPSYS.</li> </ul>
14. Is the unit of measure clear for all the indicators?		<p>If not, please define which is the unit of measure. Ensure consistency in units between baseline and target values. For qualitative indicators, units are: number of, percentage, Euro, hectares, m2, etc. For qualitative indicators, units are: Status of, Extent to which, Levels of, etc.</p>
15. Are all the indicators formulated in a neutral way (without target or desired direction)?		<p>If not, please correct indicator. The indicator should not include any target or directional words (e.g. "Increased number of..." should be replaced by "Number of...").</p>
16. Do all the indicators include a baseline value?		<p>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, this should be explicitly mentioned.</p>

Question	Yes/No	How to and Corrective measure
17. 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.
18. 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.
19. Do all the target values include the reference year?		If not, please add the reference year.
20. 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.
21. 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.
22. 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"> <li>• Check if the implementing partner possesses robust monitoring and reporting systems or if the resources needed for this will be provided by the intervention.</li> </ul> <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 check additional available resources:

> **ICM WIKI:**

<https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/display/ExactExternalWiki/Intervention+Cycle+Methodology+Guide>

> **Link to training registration on LF designs:**

[EU Learn - INTPA/M - Fundamental Training Package - Intervention Cycle Management](#)