

Logic Models

M. Brooke Robertshaw, PhD
Oregon State University Libraries
brooke.robertshaw@oregonstate.edu

What is a logic model?

Among the many reasons for using logic models, the primary reasons are in program planning, implementation and evaluation. They are also used in planning research. A logic model is a way to show connections between resources, interventions, and outcomes. They can be scaled for small and large projects.

A good logic model will communicate an overview of the project pieces and steps to the project stakeholders.

Facets of a logic model

The basics:

- Inputs: What is invested
- Outputs: What is done
- Outcomes: What results

Other facets can include (but are not limited to)

- Different time periods
- Different types of inputs and outputs
- External factors
- Limitations
- Assumptions
- Basically, anything you need to communicate, in a simple way, your project from beginning to end.

A logic model for assessment

Input			Output			Outcomes
Assessment Problem	What information do you need?	Who do you want the information from?	How are you going to look at the information you collected?	How will you communicate the information you collected?	Who will you communicate the results to?	What changes will you make?

An example

Input			Output			Outcomes
Assessment Problem	What information do you need?	Who do you want the information from and how will you find it out?	How are you going to look at the information you collected?	How will you communicate the information you collected?	Who will you communicate the results to?	What changes will you make?
How are the new iPads being used? What apps do users need on the iPads? Is the program worth continuing?	How often the iPads are checked out What apps patrons are putting on the iPads Are there repeat users of the iPads How patrons are using the iPads	Patrons: Survey Post-return survey of apps Alma data on loans	Analysis of questions to the survey Descriptive information from Alma and survey of apps	Report and presentation to Administration	Department Head Other circulation staff Library Administration	Potentially more advertising for the program Permanently installing certain apps on the iPads Potentially discontinuing the program as iPads start to need to be repaired

Resources

- An online course for thinking about logic models in program assessment: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/lmcourse/#>
 - PDF that accompanies this course: <https://fyi.uwex.edu/programdevelopment/files/2016/03/lmcourseall.pdf>
- The Logic Model Guidebook: Better Strategies for Great Results, Lisa Wyatt Knowlton & Cynthia C. Phillips
- **Using a logic model**, from the Pell Institute & Pathways to College Network Evaluation Toolkit: <http://toolkit.pellinstitute.org/evaluation-guide/plan-budget/using-a-logic-model/>
- **How to create a logic model**, from the Pell Institute & Pathways to College Network Evaluation Toolkit: <http://toolkit.pellinstitute.org/evaluation-guide/plan-budget/use-a-logic-model-in-evaluation/>