

PROGRAM LOGIC MODELS: EXPANDING THEIR ROLE AND STRUCTURE FOR PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION

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Abstract—Schematic representations of a program, sometimes referred to as program logic models, have been used for a number of years as a means of clarifying the purposes of the program and casual assumptions on which it is based. This paper discusses some of the benefits of expanding the structure of these logic models by clearly separating implementation and outcome objectives within the objectives hierarchy of the program. Benefits of constructing these logic models for program planning and other purposes are also discussed.

Résumé—Les représentations schématiques d'un programme, dites modèles de la logique du programme, ont servi depuis quelques années à éclaircir les buts du programme ainsi que les hypothèses causales de base. Cette étude présente les avantages du développement de la structure des modèles de la logique en séparant nettement les buts de la mise en oeuvre des résultats dans l'hierarchie des buts du programme. Les avantages revenant du développement des modèles de la logique à la planification de programmes et à d'autres fins sont également examinés.

SEVERAL CONCEPTUAL GUIDES AND navigational aids to the world of social action and program evaluation have been developed. Suchman's (1962) suggestion for the construction of a hierarchy of objectives is particularly useful when evaluators are presented with a host of short-term and long-term goals, and for helping program managers and evaluators make explicit their assumptions about a program's causes and effects. Bennett's (1979) model of a program's "chain of events" can also be helpful to an evaluator trying to develop a workable view of a program and identifying the type of data required for various levels of evaluation. Weiss (1972) proposed the use of a model which