

EVALUATION APPROACHES

Theory of Change	
Workshop title	Theory of Change for evaluators
Trainers	Dr. Jan Brouwers
Affiliation	Wageningen University & Research centre / Centre for Development Innovation
Target level	Intermediate
Workshop content	<p>Theory of Change (ToC) is becoming mainstream as a helpful framework to move from analysis towards planning, providing the basis for strategies, development pathways, and the M&E framework including evaluations. When projects and programmes do not have a ToC at the beginning of their project, an evaluation can opt to reconstruct it with stakeholders, either at the beginning or the end, which helps to articulate key lessons and the rationale of the project or programme. At the heart of a ToC are the assumptions of how we think change will happen. These are not just external risk, as expressed in the fourth column of the log frame, but also include new types of assumptions, like cause-effect assumptions. This workshop will provide participants with a sound overview of what ToC is, give examples of ToCs, and help participants apply ToC thinking to their own cases. The workshop is especially meant for evaluators that would like to strengthen their ToC understanding and competencies.</p>
Learning outcomes	<p>Upon successfully completing this course, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the value of critical reflection and good quality ToC to develop and track programme change pathways.• Strengthen their existing skills in identifying and questioning explicit and implicit assumptions connected to different, interacting change pathways.• Generate a shared understanding of how to use ToC with others during an evaluation.