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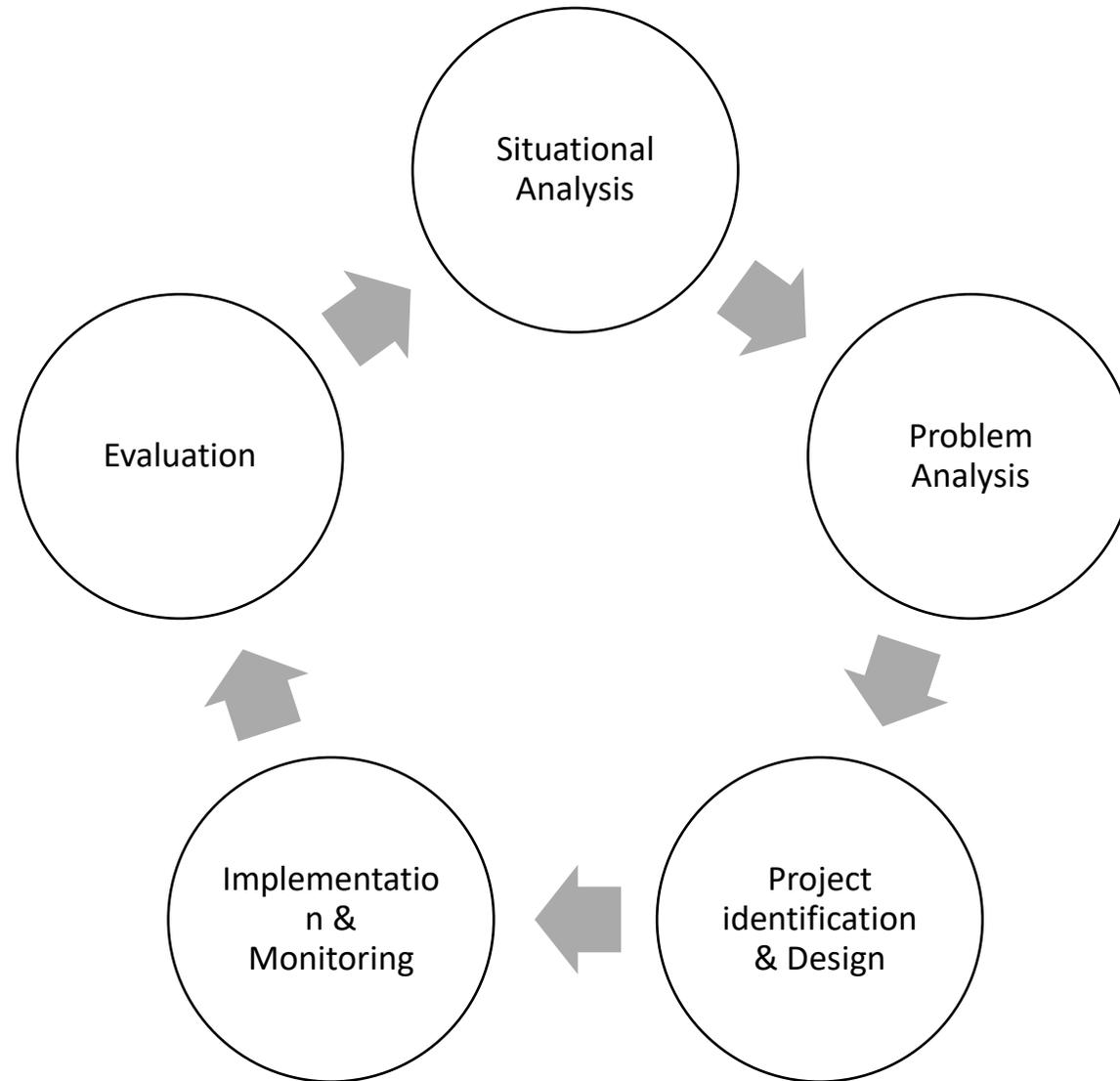
# Designing social development **Projects** Using **Project** cycle and Logic Models

05 Feb 2026

# What is a Project?

- A **'Project'** is:
  - a set of *specific activities*
  - implemented in a *specific time*
  - and with *specific resources*
  - to achieve a *specific objective*

# Project cycle



# Situational Analysis

- The context-setting of knowing what is the existing situation or condition is known as a ***situational analysis***.
- It mainly tries to assess the ground situation from a holistic perspective, to identify what is ‘wrong’ with the given context that needs to be ameliorated.
- It compares ‘the existing situation’ with ‘the desired situation’ in order to understand the need or gap that is to be addressed through the project intervention.

# Problem Analysis

- Project should be addressing the core problem and not its multiple manifestations
- Need to pinpoint the possible causes of the 'situation' or 'problem' in question.
- *A problem is nothing but an existing negative situation*

Consequences

Consequences

Consequences

**PROBLEM**

*PRIMARY CAUSE 1*

*PRIMARY CAUSE 2*

*PRIMARY CAUSE 3*

*Secondary cause 2.1*

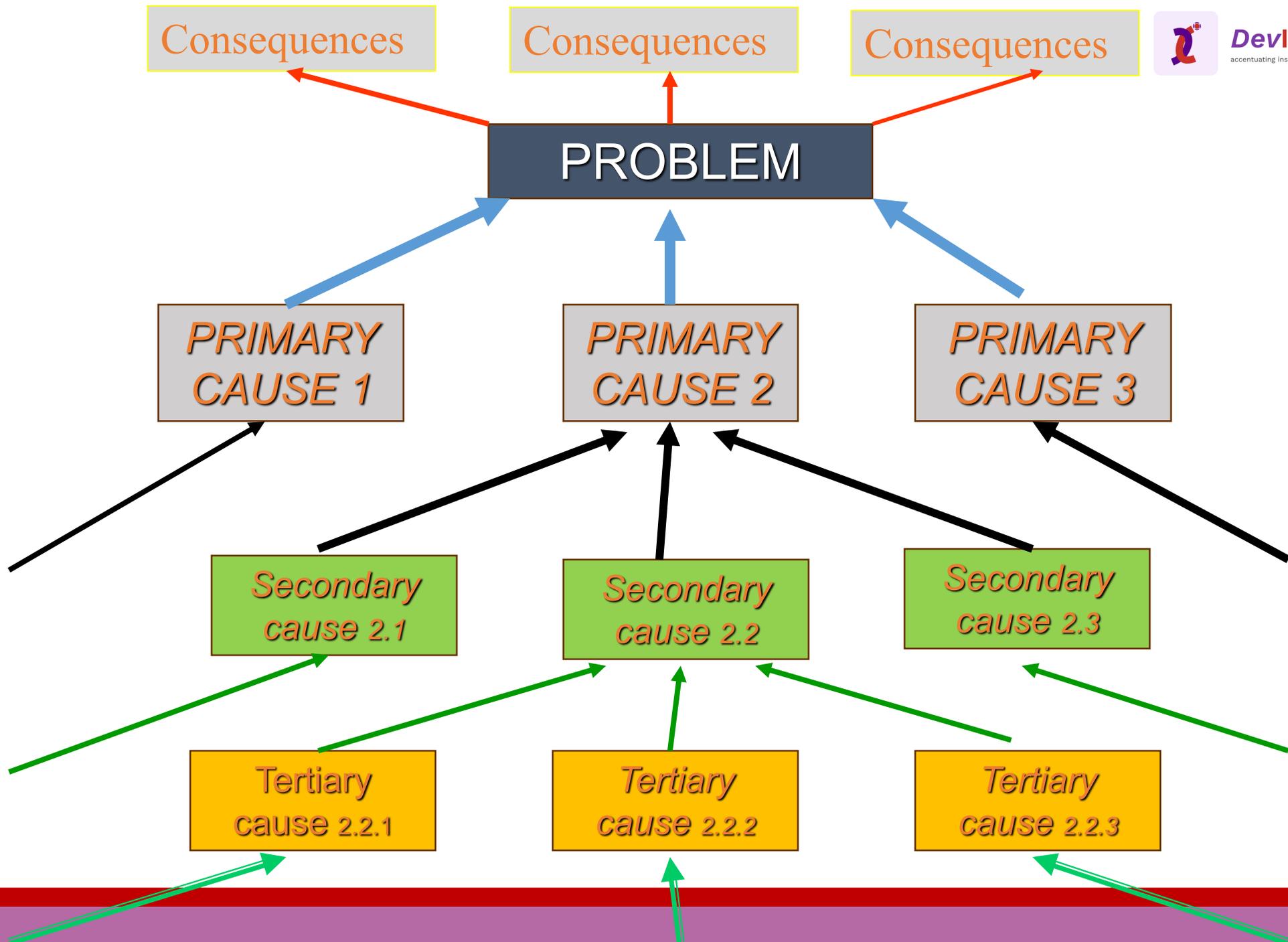
*Secondary cause 2.2*

*Secondary cause 2.3*

*Tertiary cause 2.2.1*

*Tertiary cause 2.2.2*

*Tertiary cause 2.2.3*



*High infant mortality rate*

**Children are malnourished**

*Insufficient  
food*

*Diarrheal  
disease*

*Poor quality of  
food*

*Contaminated  
water*

*Unsanitary  
practices*

*Lack of sanitary  
facilities*

*Flies and  
rodents*

*Do not use  
facilities  
correctly*

*People do not  
wash hands  
before eating*

# Planning and Implementation

- Identification
- Designing
- Implementation & monitoring

# Monitoring & Evaluation

# Monitoring is...

- tracking **implementation of activities** and **achievement of outputs**
- Monitoring results helps to:
  - improve strategies and targeting, allowing decision-makers to concentrate resources where there is maximum leverage
  - provide a framework for understanding of barriers to the envisioned objectives

# Evaluation is....

- the assessment of outcomes and impacts
- to answer the questions
  - First, whether the envisaged objectives and goals have been achieved or not? [change parameter]
  - Second, whether the achievement is because of the project interventions or not? [attribution parameter]

## Monitoring

- **Systematically tracks** the key elements in the performance of a given program/project
- Focuses on **activities and outputs**
- Generally, an **internal** activity

## Evaluation

- **Periodic verification** of change in the results that may be attributed to the program / project
- Examines whether performance leads to **outcomes and impacts**
- Usually outsourced to **external** evaluator(s)

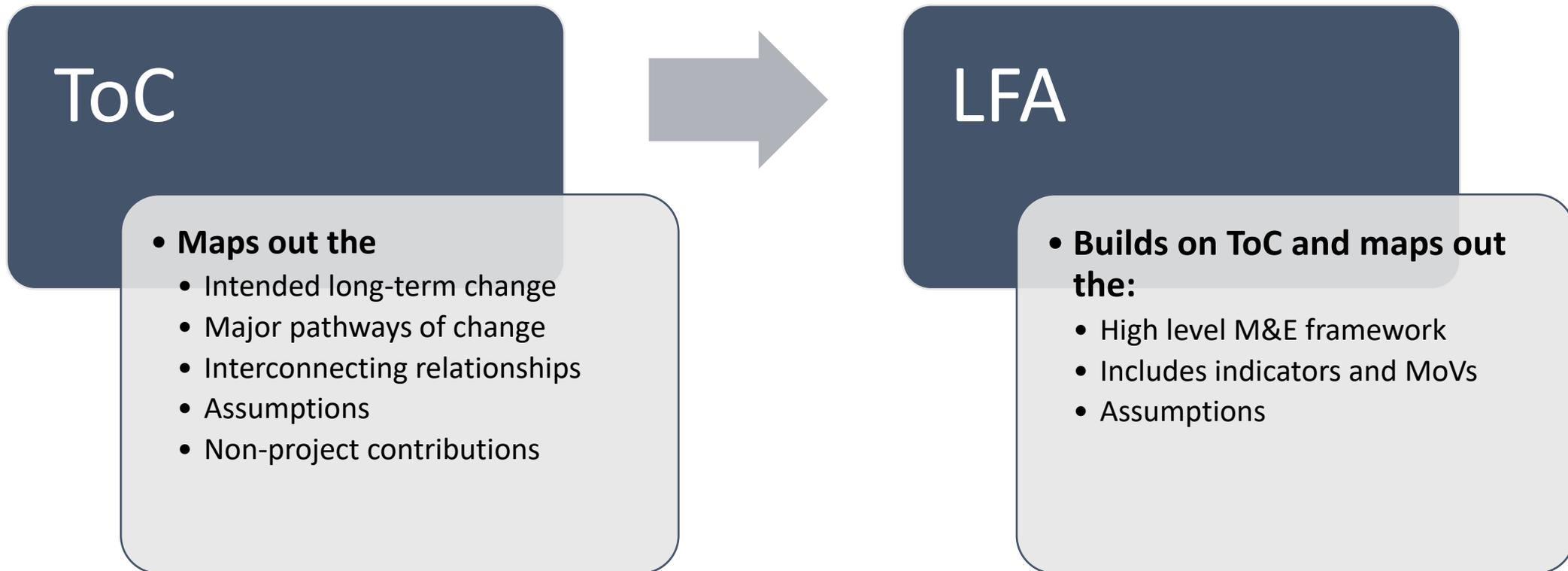
# Designing Logic Models

- Cornerstone is **Results Chain**, which relates to the domain of ‘output’, ‘outcome’ and ‘impact’.
- Refers to the **progressive trajectory** or **pathway of change** guiding a project’s progress. Operations are based on the **'if-and-then'** logic. For example, ???
- A basic results chain has the following components:



- **Inputs:** resources allocated for the project. *For example, funds allocated, human resources deployed, laptops allotted etc.*
- **Activities:** this is the work performed that converts inputs into outputs. For example, building of separate toilets for girls in schools, running ads on radio etc.
- **Outputs:** immediate effect of the activities of a project. For e.g.: # of HHS that have agreed to construct toilets, no. of toilets constructed
- **Outcomes:** mid-term results. For e.g.: a village converted to ODF
- **Impact:** final desired goal or the macro level goal that the project envisages. For e.g.: ???

- Two commonly used LMs – the theory of change (ToC), and the Logical Framework (logframe)

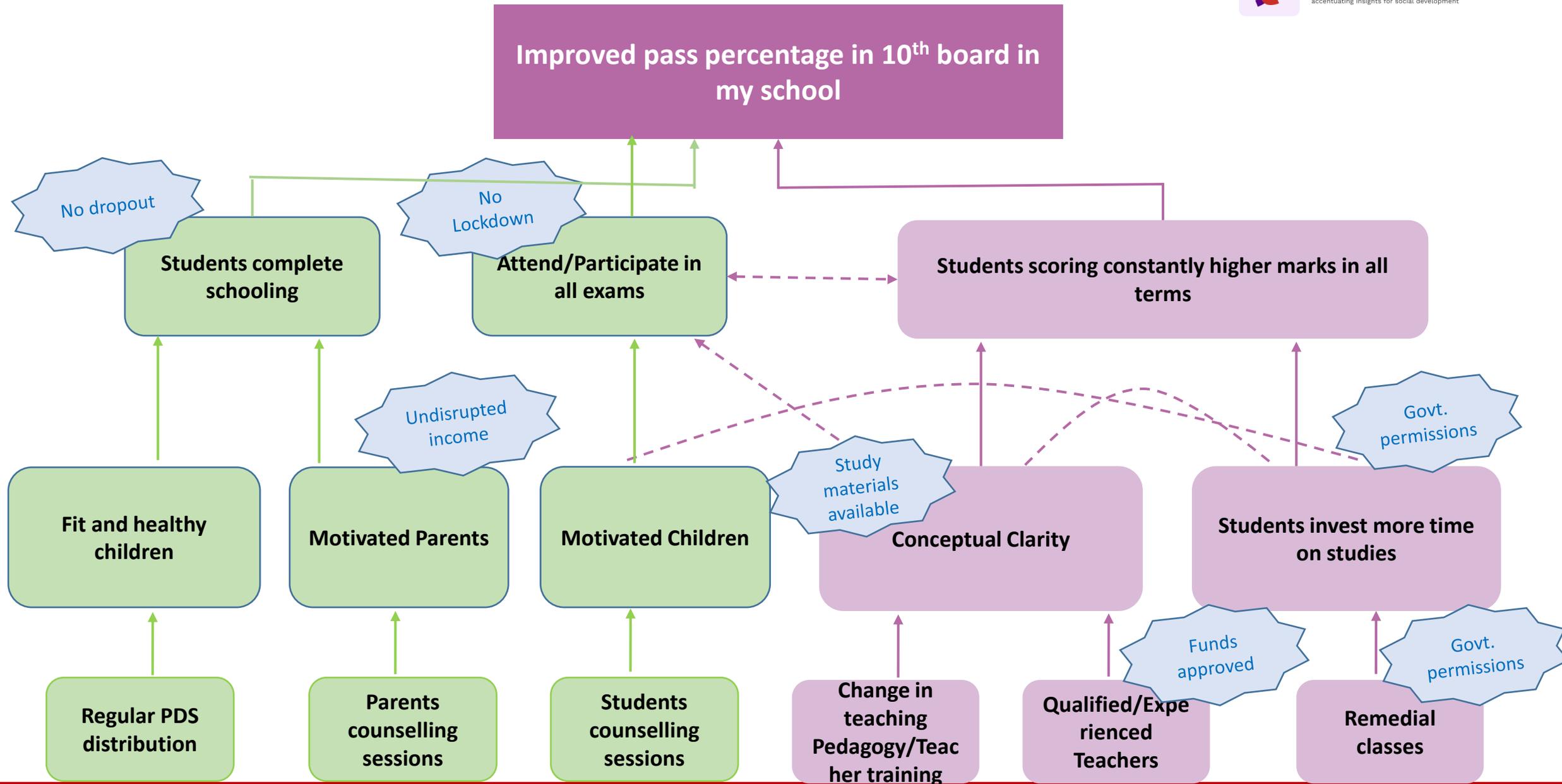


# Theory of Change (ToC)

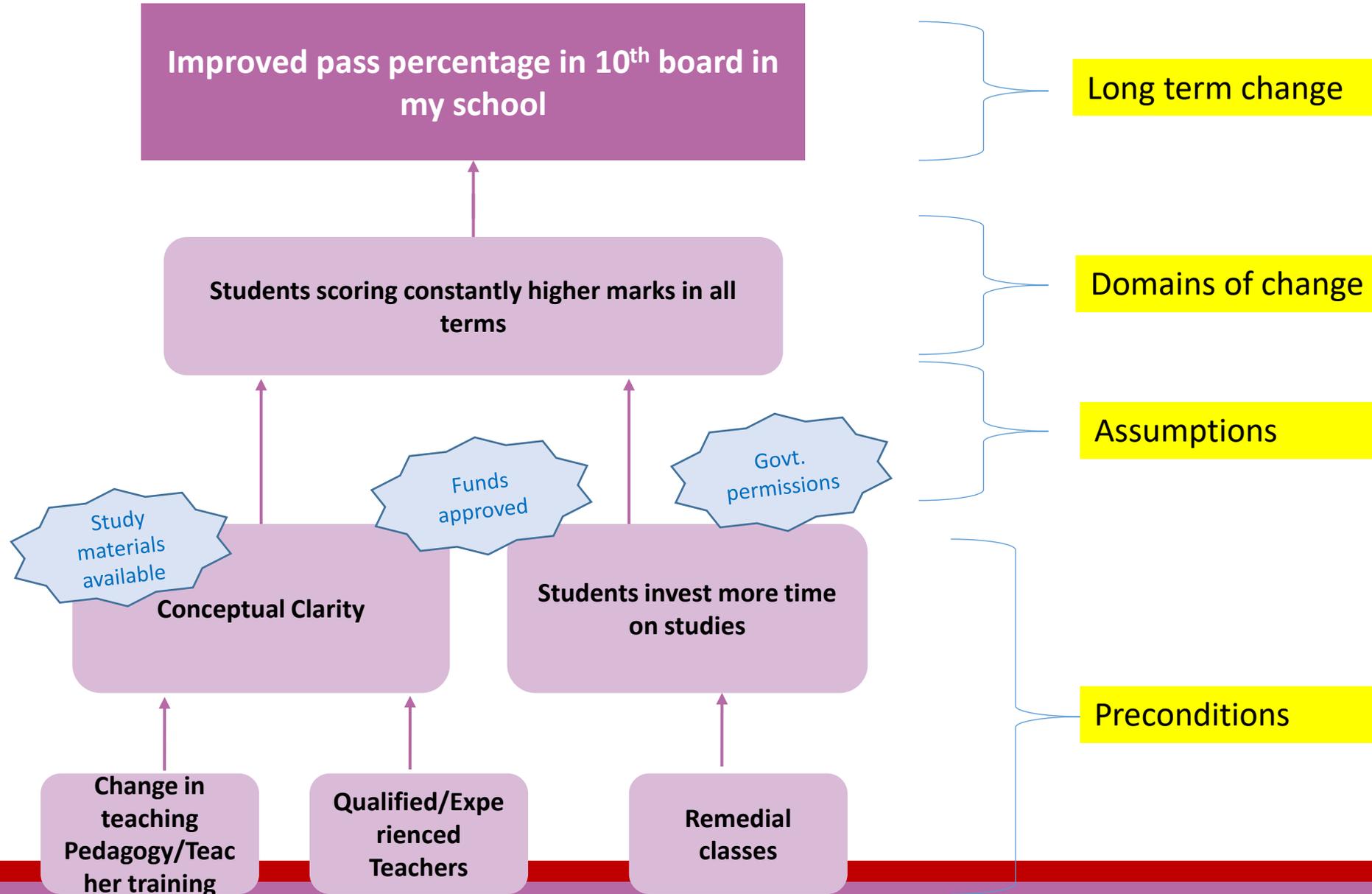
- A comprehensive and visual description of **how** and **why** a desired change is expected to happen
- Various formats – simple/complex; word form/visual form
- Visual form is most common:
  - Visualize complex data and ideas in an image that is **easier to understand**
  - Identify the full range of changes needed to achieve the intended impact, which also includes changes that are implemented by other stakeholders
  - Recognize non-linear change
  - Make explicit the assumptions, i.e. the potential risks that could disrupt the logic of the project
- *The process of developing a ToC should be participatory, involving a cross section of staff (management, technical/sector experts and MEAL) and key stakeholders, to benefit from their many perspectives.*
- Big picture of what is needed to achieve the overall goal

# ToC example

- Situation: Low pass percentage in board exams in my school
- Problem: Dislike for studies, low attendance and drop-out!



# Preconditions and pathways of change



Objective statements	Statement	Indicator	Measurement methods	Assumptions
Goal/Impact	Improved academic success and progression of students			
Long term outcomes	Improved pass percentage in 10th board in my school			
Intermediate outcomes	Students scoring constantly higher marks in all terms			
Outputs	52 remedial classes conducted			
Activities	Remedial sessions Revision in teaching pedagogy			

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Thank You!



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