



Education
Nest



Designing For Impact: Developing theory of change

SAMBODHI





About the Course

The delivery of outcomes and impact improves with better design and logically sound and realistic plan of action. The delivery also gets better with the careful consideration of the preconditions, delineation of cause-effect relationships, and identification of underlying assumptions. Such a process facilitates sharpened development interventions with chiseled outcome focus, making them more plausible.

As resources become scarce and interventions environs become more complex, donors, impact investors, philanthropies, and charities are increasingly asking for clearer articulation of pathways of change. This is where Theory of Change (ToC) plays an important role. ToC is a method that explains how a given intervention, or set of interventions, is expected to lead to specific developmental change, drawing on a causal analysis based on available evidence. This process enhances implementation efficient and intervention efficacy, which results in improved impact.

Purpose

ToC helps in describing how the envisioned outcomes and impact in the given development scenario are expected to unfold. A well-articulated ToC helps in visualizing the causal linkages and making the implicit assumptions explicit. It also helps in envisioning how the invested resources will translate into improved ecosystem conditions over time. Such impact has made ToC the most used tool for designing and describing developmental change processes.


In recognizing its growing prevalence in policy development, Sambodhi, as part of its education profile, announces a four-week online training program on Developing Theory of Change for Development Interventions. With this program, we aim increase the knowledge base and augment the skills of development practitioners for articulating TOCs of interventions, projects, or programs they are engaged in.

At a glance

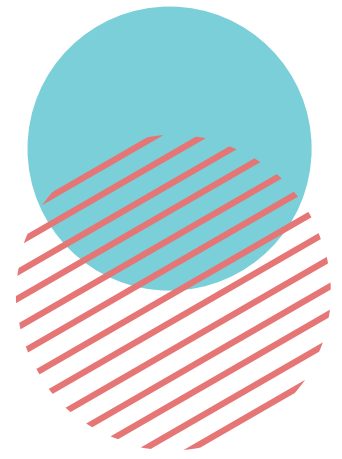
Duration: 11th Feb 2023 to 4th March 2023

Level of Effort: 3 hours per week

Modality: Online with live-classroom sessions and group assignments

- Course fee and scholarships - 182 USD (or its equivalent in local currency)
 - Limited, partial scholarships are available for candidates on a merit basis
 - Discounts on course fees in case of institutional sponsorships, group enrolments, and for participants from grassroots organizations
 - Last date to apply: January 30th, 2023
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The course seeks to:



- train the participants on developing ToC of development interventions,
- foster a better understanding of the concept of ToC and associated fundamentals,
- impart skills for developing ToC in each intervention context,
- enhance knowledge for developing Performance Measurement Framework congruent to the ToC,
- develop a personal approach to visualizing and describing a ToC, and
- teach how a ToC works to support impact measurement.

Course highlights:

- Practitioners' lens: developed and facilitated by MEL practitioners & experts, for practitioners
- Multi-sectoral perspective: uses case studies & real-world examples from different sectors
- Real-world examples: application-based interactive learning through classroom activities
- Context specific: builds critical perspective for the global south
- Merit-cum-means scholarship: scholarships and discount offer available
- Mixed method approach: uses hands-on tools and approaches from quantitative and qualitative perspective
- Weekend learning for working professionals: tailored for early career professionals with weekend classes



Course Andragogy

Designed by development professionals, this course is rooted in practice and embedded in experiences of the Global South. Following the principles of adult learning, the course will use:

- participatory tools,
- experiential learning with a 'learning-by-doing' approach,
- interactive lectures and case-studies, and
- reflective group discussions and structured group assignments.

Participants will be divided into groups at the beginning of the course. Each group will work on a unique case study from a sector of their interest (e.g., education, livelihoods, and public health). Learnings from each module will be applied to the case studies and group activities in the virtual classroom. At the end of the course, each group will propose a ToC for their case study. In the process, the course will foster peer learning, collaboration, and cross-sectoral dialogue.

Requirement for course completion

Sambodhi will provide a certificate to the participants upon successful completion of the course. This would entail:

- 50% classroom attendance,
- active class participation,
- submission and assessment of final project work.

Course Structure and Intended Learning Outcomes

The program consists of four 3-hour modules, each offered at weekends, making it a 12-hour intensive learning experience. The four interrelated modules are:

Week 1

Introducing key concepts

- Defining ToC
- Listing the purpose, uses, advantages, and limitations of a ToC intervention

Week 2

Developing a result-chain

- Describing the result-chain/program logic model
- Developing a hierarchical result chain to represent the change process in each context
- Identifying underlying assumptions in developed result-chain

Week 3

Developing the ToC schematic

Week 4

Preparing a Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) for the developed ToC

This training has been designed as an instructor-led participatory program to build upon the experiential learning of participants. Our training methodology is underpinned by andragogical principles of peer learning and learning-by-doing. Reading materials including how-to notes specifically developed for the training program augment the learning experience.




By the end of this course participants will be able to:

- explain ToC,
- elaborate the purpose, use, advantages, and limitations of a ToC intervention,
- describe the result-chain/program logic model,
- create a hierarchical result chain to represent the change process in each context,
- diagnose underlying assumptions in developed result-chain,
- develop a schematic to illustrate ToC, and
- construct a performance measurement framework for the developed ToC.



Each week, there will be 3 hours of online classes on Saturdays conducted by course facilitators, with an hour of self-paced reading, assignments, or project work.

Who Can Apply?

- Young and emerging evaluators and early-career development professionals
 - Persons of all nationalities
 - Persons with 1-6 years of relevant experience
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How to Apply?

If you meet the eligibility criteria and are willing to commit adequate time to this course, please apply by filling out the form by January 15, 2023

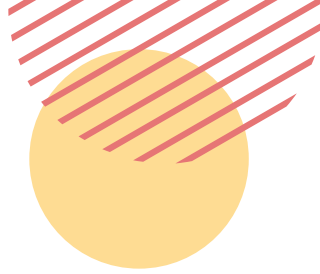
Link: <https://sambodhi.co.in/capacity-building/theory-of-change-certification-course/>

Note: Since this is a facilitated course with group assignments and classroom discussions, students are expected to engage with the course actively to gain the most out of it.

Scholarship And Fees

The course is priced at USD 182 which can be paid in easy instalments and in any currency. To enhance access to the course, especially for early-career professionals, we will offer:

- partial scholarships to a few participants (request for a scholarship must be specified in the application form),
- discounts in case of any institutional sponsorship and group enrolments, and
- discounts to participants working with grassroot organizations in the Global South.



This training course is beyond my expectations. These tools and methodology & principles have opened my eyes to how to be effective and ethical! Honestly speaking I wanted to be a Researcher but, due to a lack of knowledge and guidance it was difficult for me (I was thinking) but, after attending the course I really found the path that how I have to initiate. Thanks, Sambodhi, and their amazing teacher/ trainer(s). Looking forward to putting all those learning things into my professional and personal practices. Thanks again!



Abhinav Pandey
Associate Sector Lead- HCL Foundation

MEL4DP Program has immensely helped me in getting clarity on MEL through a clear practical lens. The course taught me various aspects of MEL practice and theory and dashboard making by drawing examples from different case studies. I strongly recommend this course to beginner and mid-level professionals interested in monitoring and evaluation. A big thank you to Sambodhi and my mentors for providing me with a scholarship to pursue this course.



Hashir P.V
Centre for Research in Schemes and Policies



I have been a development practitioner for six years. I, however, felt the need to understand the "change" that was coming from the immense work we all were doing. I switched my career to M&E in sambodhi. We were offered a course that was so deep yet easy to understand the gist, which was bliss to a professional like me from the field. Right from the history of monitoring and evaluation to all the techniques and technicalities, this course is a complete package for any professional wanting to get into the domain of M&E. This course also offers some learning while doing which is great and easy to cope with regular office work.



Abha
Senior Research Manager- Sambodhi





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