RESILIENCE PROJECT-LEVEL M&E

Common challenges and solutions

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TOPS REAL Resilience Evaluation, Analysis and Learning

Session Overview

- Unique M&E considerations
- Defining indicators
- Right-sizing M&E
- Shallow dive into evaluation

One of these things is not like the other….

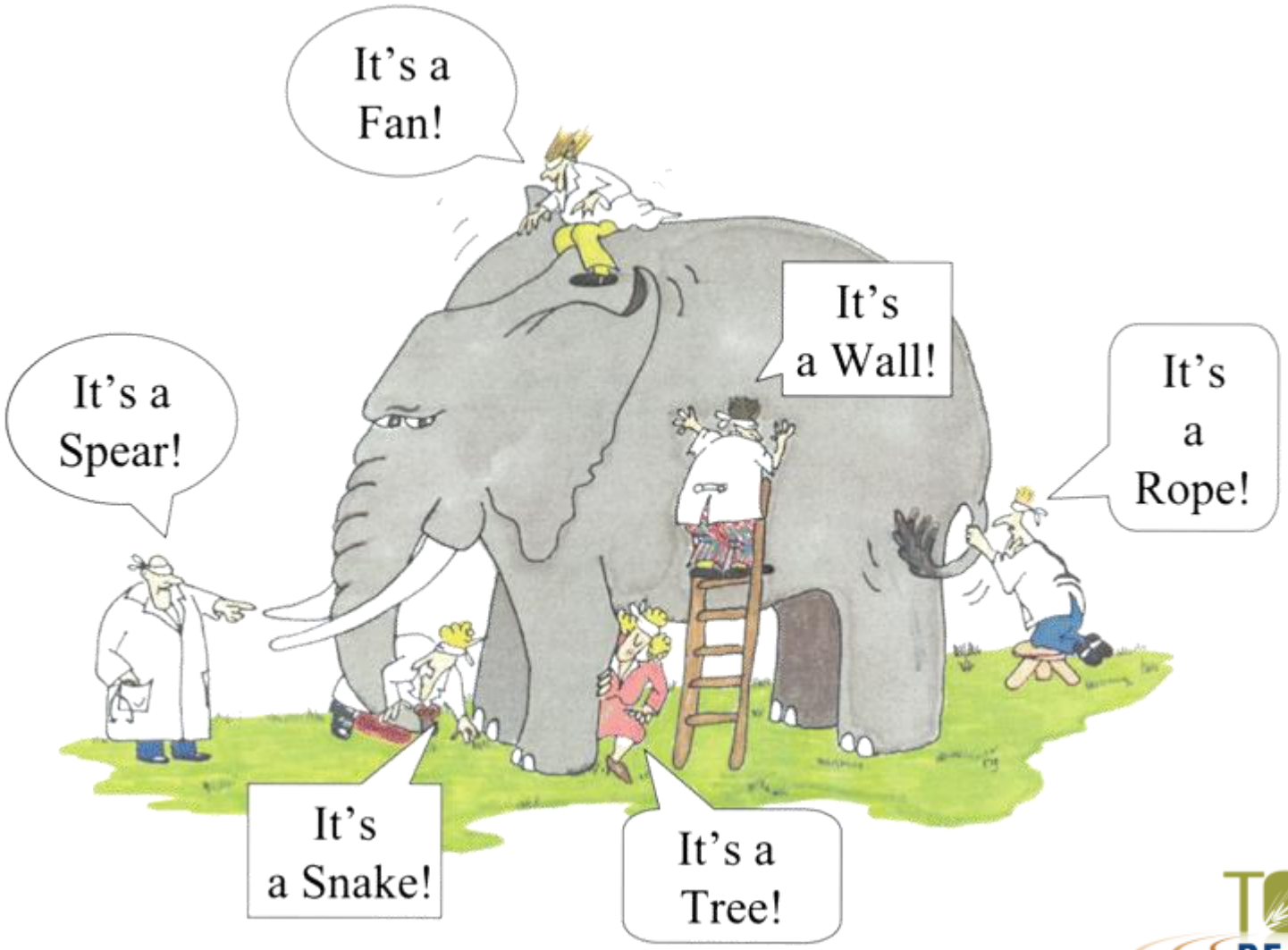
The basics are the same…

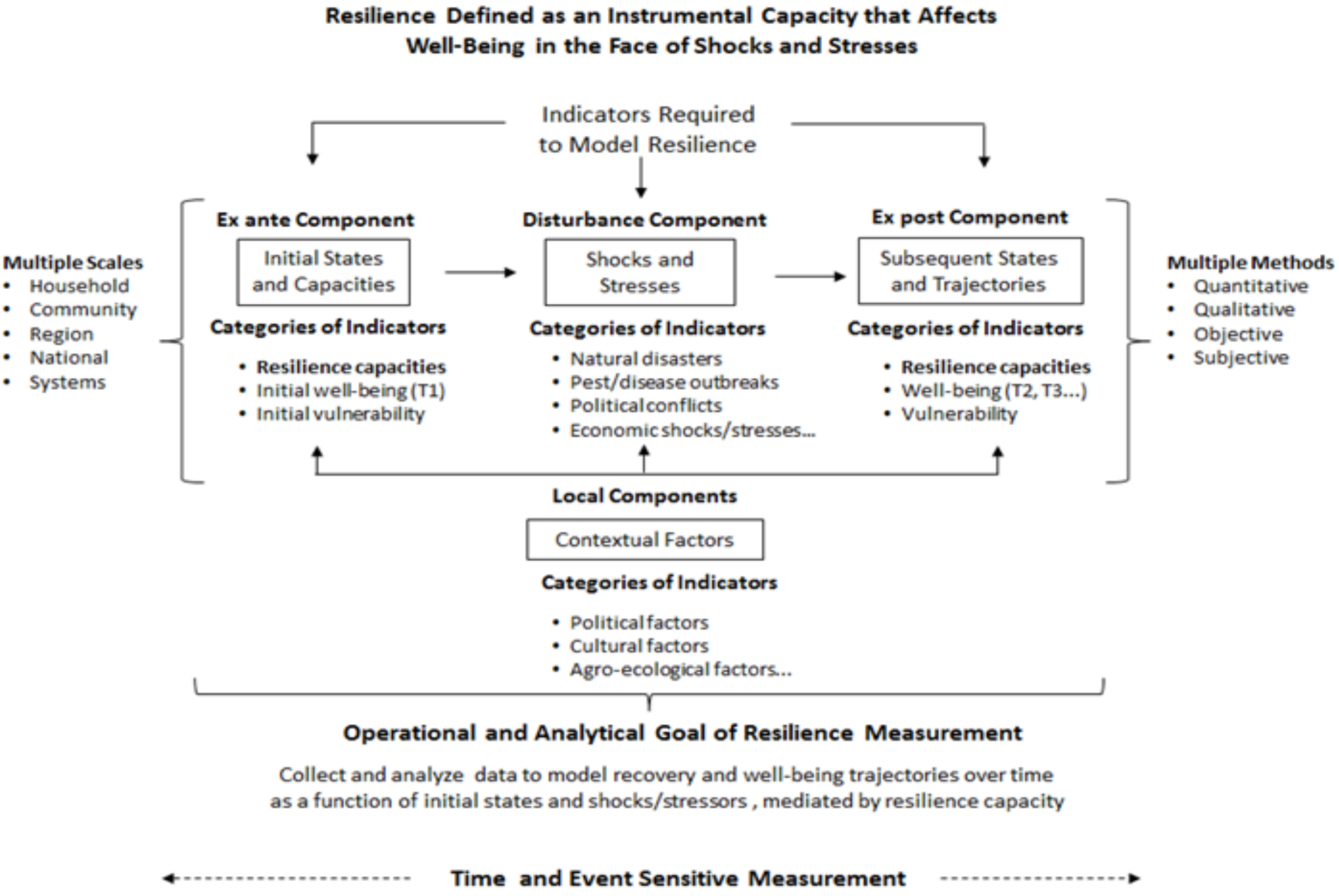
- Requires ToC (or equivalent)
- Requires M&E plan (or equivalent)
- Clearly defined indicators
- Well-defined data collection and management system
- Well-defined reporting mechanisms

…so what's different?

- Usually requires collecting new/different indicators
- Often requires using new/different data sources
- Can involve re-framing existing indicators
- Requires (even more) clarity on evaluation questions

Defining indicators





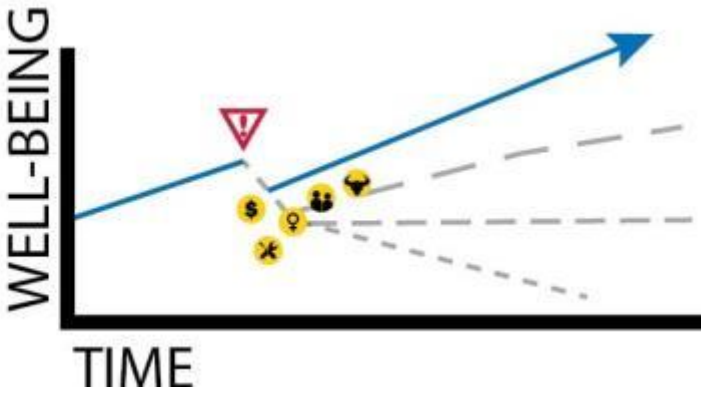
Source: Constas, M., T. Frankenberger, J. Hoddinott, N. Mock, D. Romano, C. Béné and D. Maxwell. 2014. A common analytical model for resilience measurement: causal framework and methodological options. **Food Security Information Network (FSIN)** Technical Series No. 2. Rome: WFP

Put simply…

A set of capacities

Realized in relation to a disturbance

To affect well-being outcomes and trajectories



Translating into an M&E framework

Typical Results Framework Logic

Resilience-focused Results Framework

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Some key considerations

- Primary and secondary data – very different and meaningful perspectives; best to include both!
- Objective and subjective measures – very different and meaningful perspectives; best to include both!
- Timing and frequency – frequent enough to capture dynamic relationships
- Scale – must be at the appropriate level to capture resilience dynamics and inform program management
- Panel vs. cross-sectional

Measuring Capacities

Resilience Measurement Practical Guidance Series:

Guidance Note No. 3 – Resilience Capacity Measurement

- Determine which responses are important in the project context
- Based on the responses, can begin to identify requisite capacities
- Contextualize these capacities into discrete and measurable factors

Forthcoming

Measuring Capacities (cont.)

Responses are nested into a resilience ToC or results framework at the outcome level and typically serve three types of functions:

1. to *prevent* exposure to a shock or stress (i.e. evacuation or relocation, annual health checks, investments in reforestation or water supply infrastructure);
2. to *prepare* for an anticipated shock or stress (i.e. disaster preparedness plans and campaigns, investments in new livelihoods or inputs, establishing an evacuation shelter); or
3. to *act* when shocks and stresses occur (i.e. disaster response, use of credit, asset sales, use of emergency health services, etc.).

For example…

Response	Level	Type of Capacity	Resources
Sustainable farming practices (prevention)	HH	Agricultural techniques	Extension Services, farmer field schools
		Agricultural markets	Input Suppliers, buyers, traders
		Financial services	Savings, Insurance, credit suppliers
Diversified Incomes (preparation)	HH	Off-farm livelihood options	Vocational training providers
			Business development service providers
		Agricultural markets	Input Suppliers, buyers, traders
		Financial Services	Savings, credit suppliers, VSLAs
Disaster preparedness and response	Comm.	Early Warning Structures	Committees, district officials
		Flood Protection Infrastructure	Budget allocations, district engineers
		Climate/weather information	Radio stations, national meteorology dept.

Measuring Shocks

- Determine which shocks and stresses are important in the project context
- Contextualize these shocks and stresses into discrete and measurable indicators

http://www.fsnnetwork.org/resilience-measurement-practical-guidance-series-guidance-note-2-%E2%80%93-measuring-shocks-and-stresses

Measuring Shocks

- For shocks it is particularly important to consider integrating primary and secondary data to incorporate multiple dimensions and scales. Secondary data is often (but not always) objective in nature while primary data tends to be more subjective
  - Objective data are generally standardized and can give a sense of severity relative to the historical record
  - Subjective data capture the nuanced unique perceptions and experiences
- Important to be able to measure both longer term stresses and acute shocks, at varying scales
- Where possible, important to measure cumulative/complex interaction of shocks
- Shock measurement is particularly essential for RMS

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For example…

Shock	Description	Source(s)	Indicator(s)	Level	Timing
Drought	Covariate, protracted and recurrent, acute	MODIS, AVHRR (secondary, objective)	• SPI • NDVI • Soil moisture	Regional; National; Sub-national	Real-time; on-going
		Government ministries (secondary, objective/subjective)	• Local drought measure • Expert opinion	Sub-national	Real-time; on-going
		Household survey (primary, subjective)	• Exposure • Severity • Coping • Recovery	Sub-national	Cross-sectional
Food Price Shocks	Covariate and acute	FAO Food Price Index (secondary, objective)	• Market prices and trends of key commodities	International	Monthly
		Local market survey (primary, objective)	• Market prices and trends	Sub-national	Quarterly
		Household survey (primary, subjective)	• Exposure • Severity • Coping • Recovery	Sub-national	Cross-sectional
Livestock illness	Idiosyncratic that can become covariate, acute, recurrent	Government ministries (secondary, objective/subjective)	• Incidence of illness	Sub-national	Real-time; on-going
		Household survey (primary, subjective)	• Exposure • Severity • Coping • Recovery	Sub-national	Cross-sectional

Measuring Wellbeing

- Arguably the most well understood – many indicators exist, with related guidance
- But there are unique considerations:
  - Capture multiple dimensions of wellbeing – this means not only including indicators of, for example, food security, nutrition, economic status, but also including indicators that have appropriate temporal variation as well
  - It is not the absolute levels of the wellbeing indicators that matters for analyzing resilience dynamics

Right Sizing

Lighter models

When are they appropriate?

- Smaller programs that are not in donor resilience focus countries
- When only the bare minimum level of information required to measure most aspects of resilience is needed
- Can be supplemented with measures from the fuller model according to context

What *might* a lighter model include?

- Bonding/bridging social capital
- Access to informal/formal safety nets, humanitarian assistance
- Access to savings, insurance
- Asset ownership
- Education/training
- Livelihood diversification/risk profile
- Women's empowerment
- Shock exposure and perceived ability to recover
- Depth of poverty
- Malnutrition (wasting)
- Experiential food security measure (e.g. HFIAS, FIES)

Fuller models

When are they appropriate:

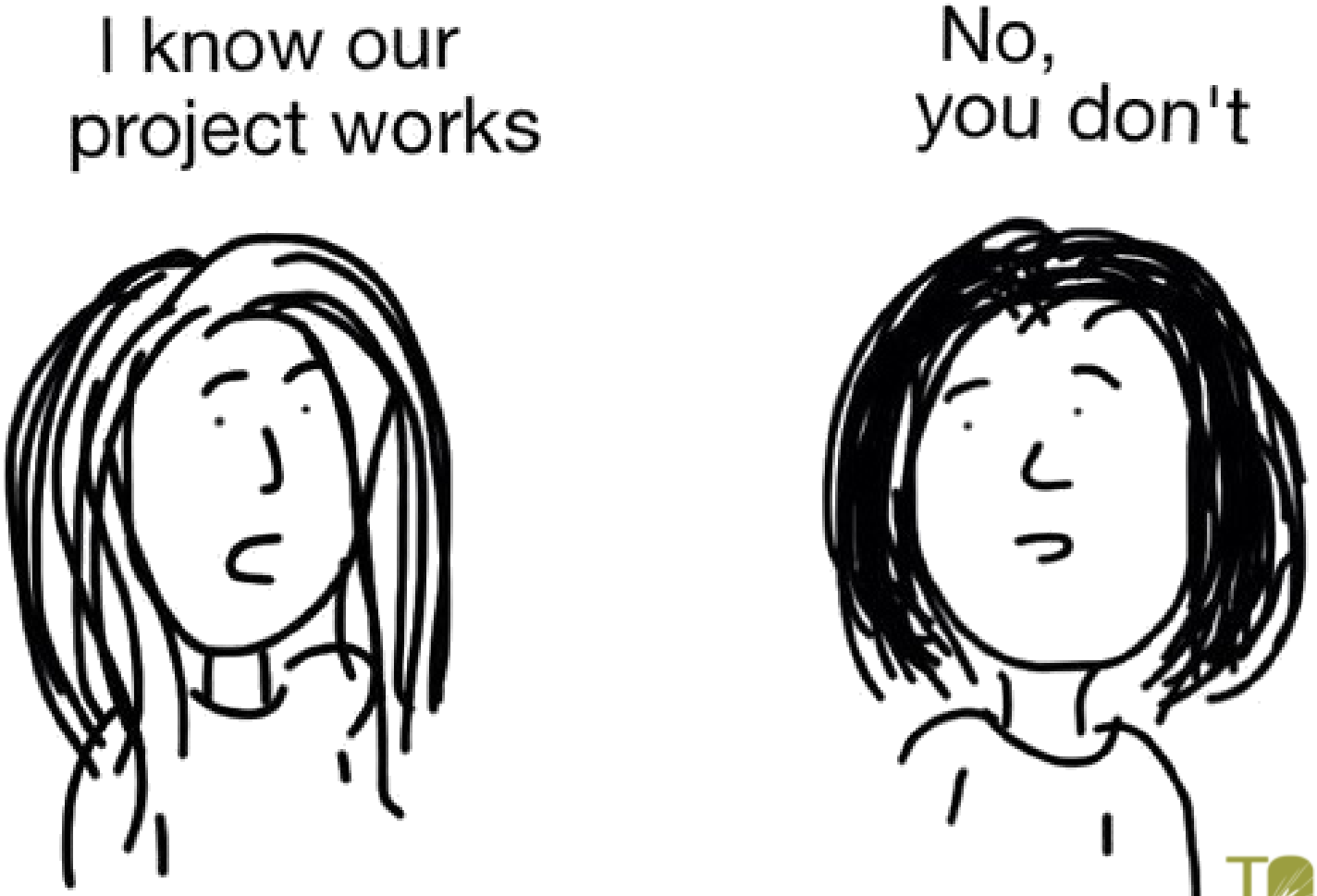
- Programs in donor resilience focus countries
- Programs are generally larger, more complex with significant budget
- Includes additional indicators that capture nuanced and important household details and more community-level indicators to enable a comprehensive resilience analysis

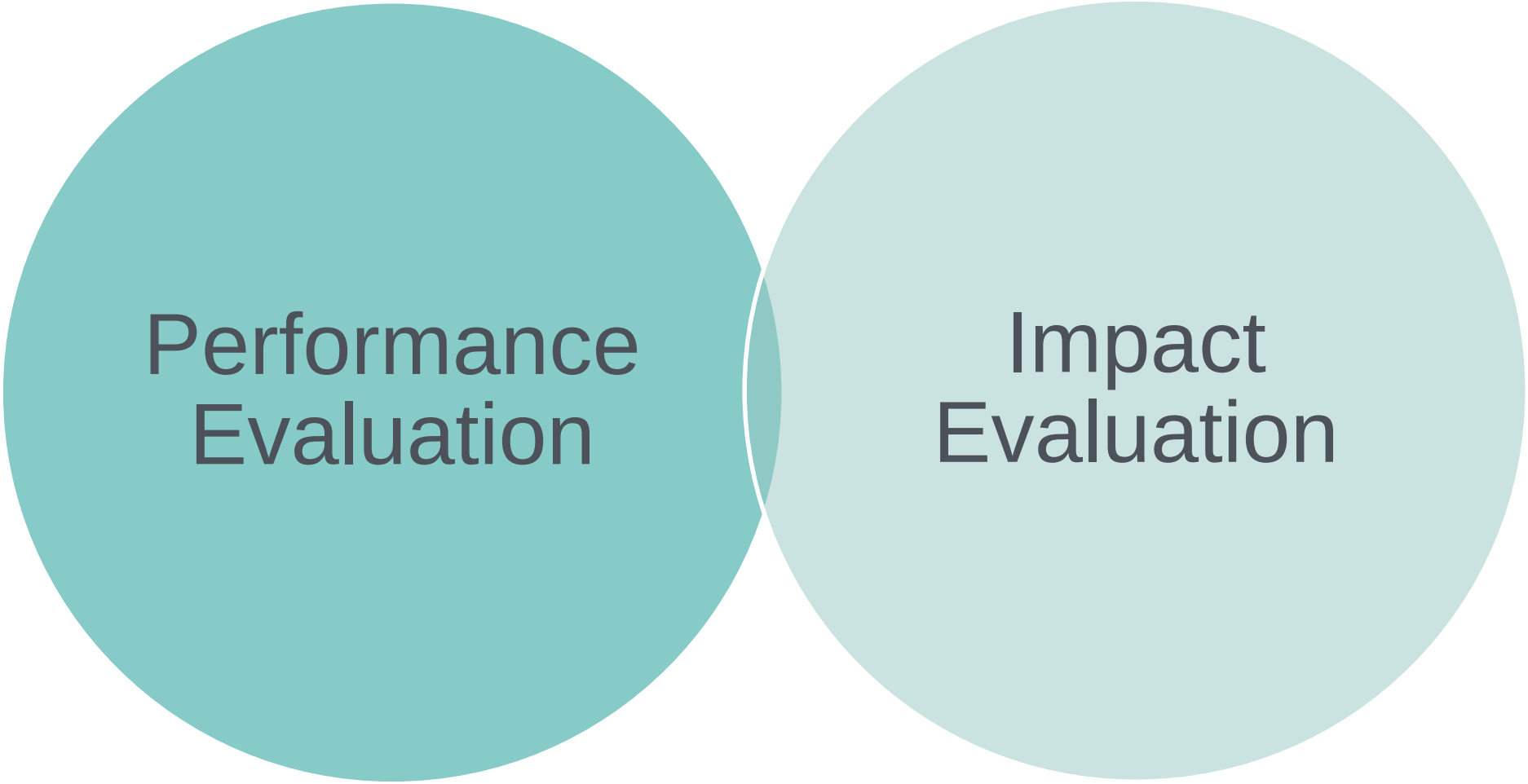
What *might* a fuller model include?

Everything from the lighter model plus:

- Linking social capital, social network index, collective action, social cohesion
- Participation in local decision making
- Shock preparedness and mitigation
- Aspirations, locus of control, confidence to adapt
- Access to information
- Access to financial services, markets, infrastructure, basic services, natural resources, ag extension,
- Remittances
- Coping Strategies Index (CSI)

What about Evaluation?




Performance Evaluation
Impact Evaluation


Thank You!
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