

Evaluating the Unobservable: The Power of Logic Models and Intermediate Outcomes

Susan E. Cozzens, Director
Technology Policy and Assessment Center (TPAC)
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia, USA

To be presented at
**NSABB Public Consultation on Guidance for Enhancing Personnel Reliability
and Strengthening the Culture of Responsibility at the Local Level**
January 5, 2011
Bethesda, Maryland

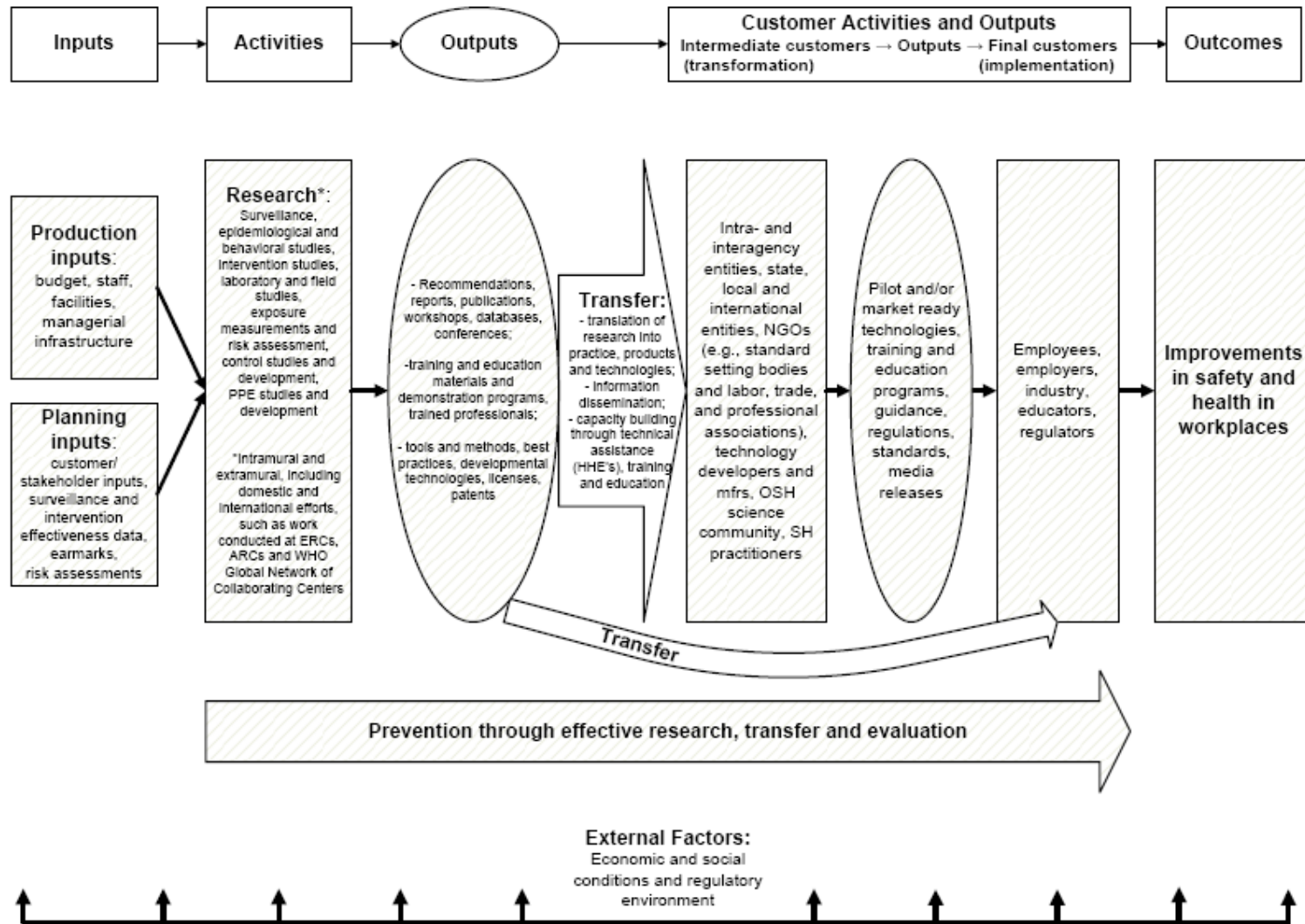


Logic Models

- Longstanding technique
 - Particularly appealing to strategic research agencies that have to demonstrate outcomes that long term and hard to measure
- Intermediate outcomes
 - Linearity of logic model allows specification of steps between outputs and outcomes.
 - Is the program doing the right things to create outcomes in the long run?
 - Are the results taken up by users?
 - Problems with intermediate outcome concept in research evaluation environment
 - Focuses attention only on linear effects
 - Neglects human and social capital
 - Neglects long-term changes in concepts and frameworks

Figure 1. The NIOSH operational plan presented as a logic model

Mission: To Provide National and World Leadership to Prevent Work-Related Illness and Injuries



Reprinted with permission from the Institute of Medicine, 2009 by the National Academy of Sciences, Courtesy of the National Academies Press, Washington, D.C.

Thank you for your attention.
Susan Cozzens (scozzens@gatech.edu)



Technologies in Context