Monitoring and Evaluation of Trade Capacity Building: USAID Experience

Bhavani Pathak
Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade Bureau

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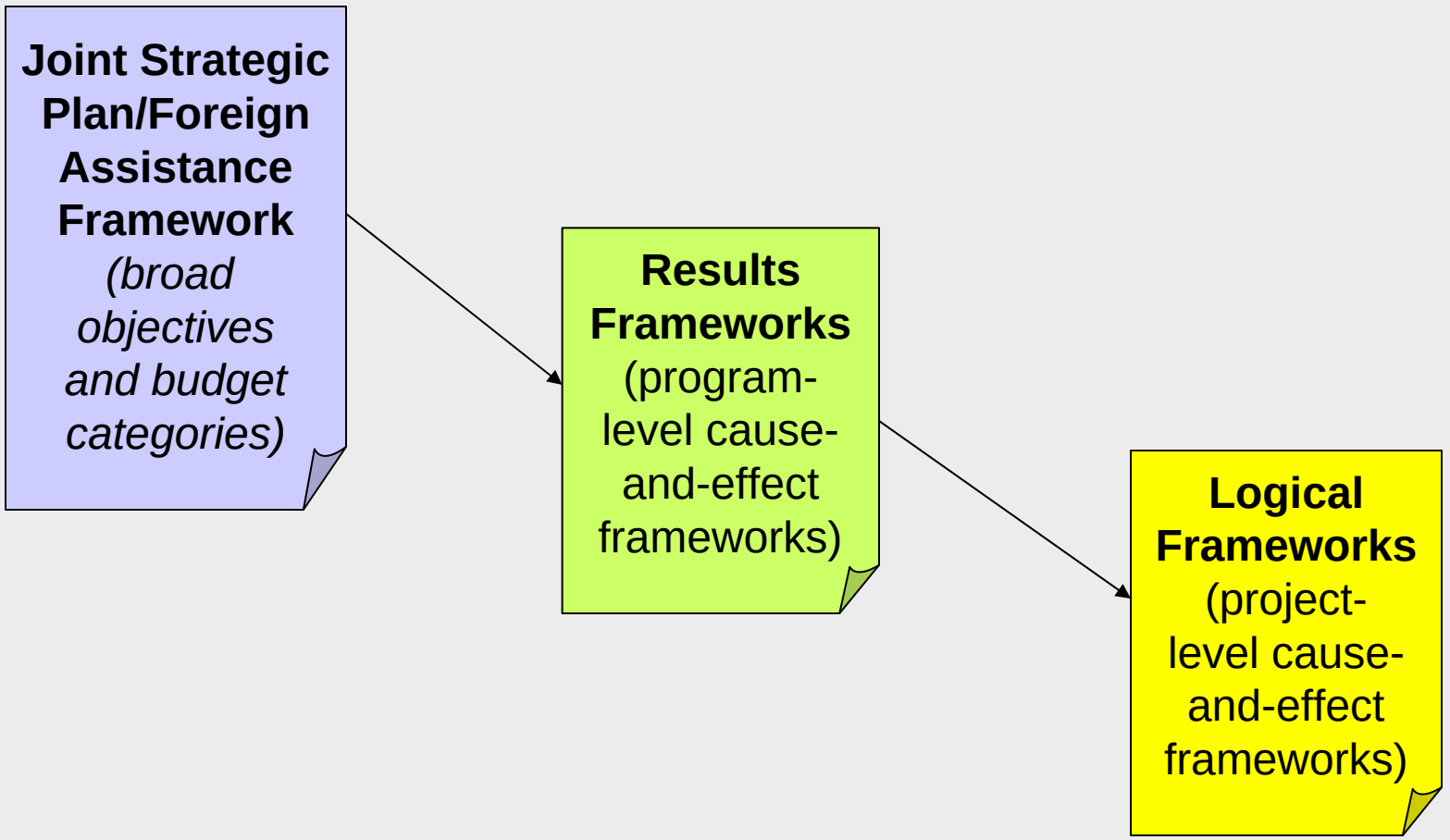
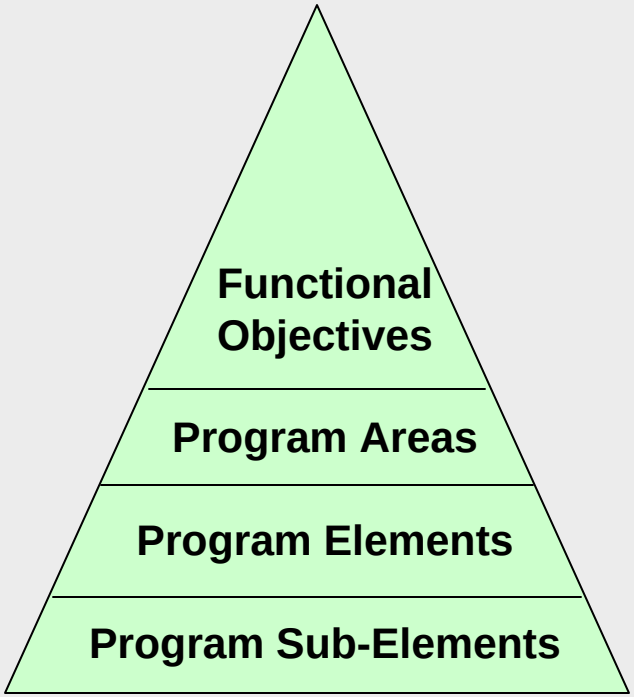
USAID planning is facilitated by three distinct frameworks

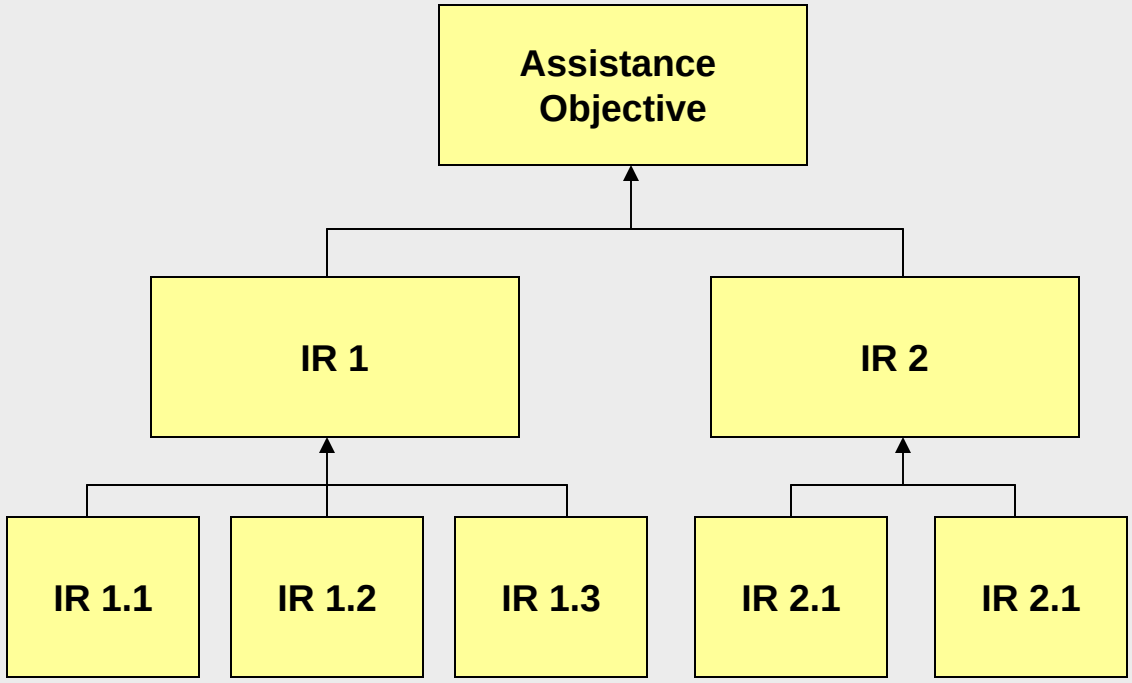


FAF Program Hierarchy and Results Framework
Two ways of portraying activities

F Program Hierarchy for Budgeting & Reporting



Illustrative Results Framework for Program Planning

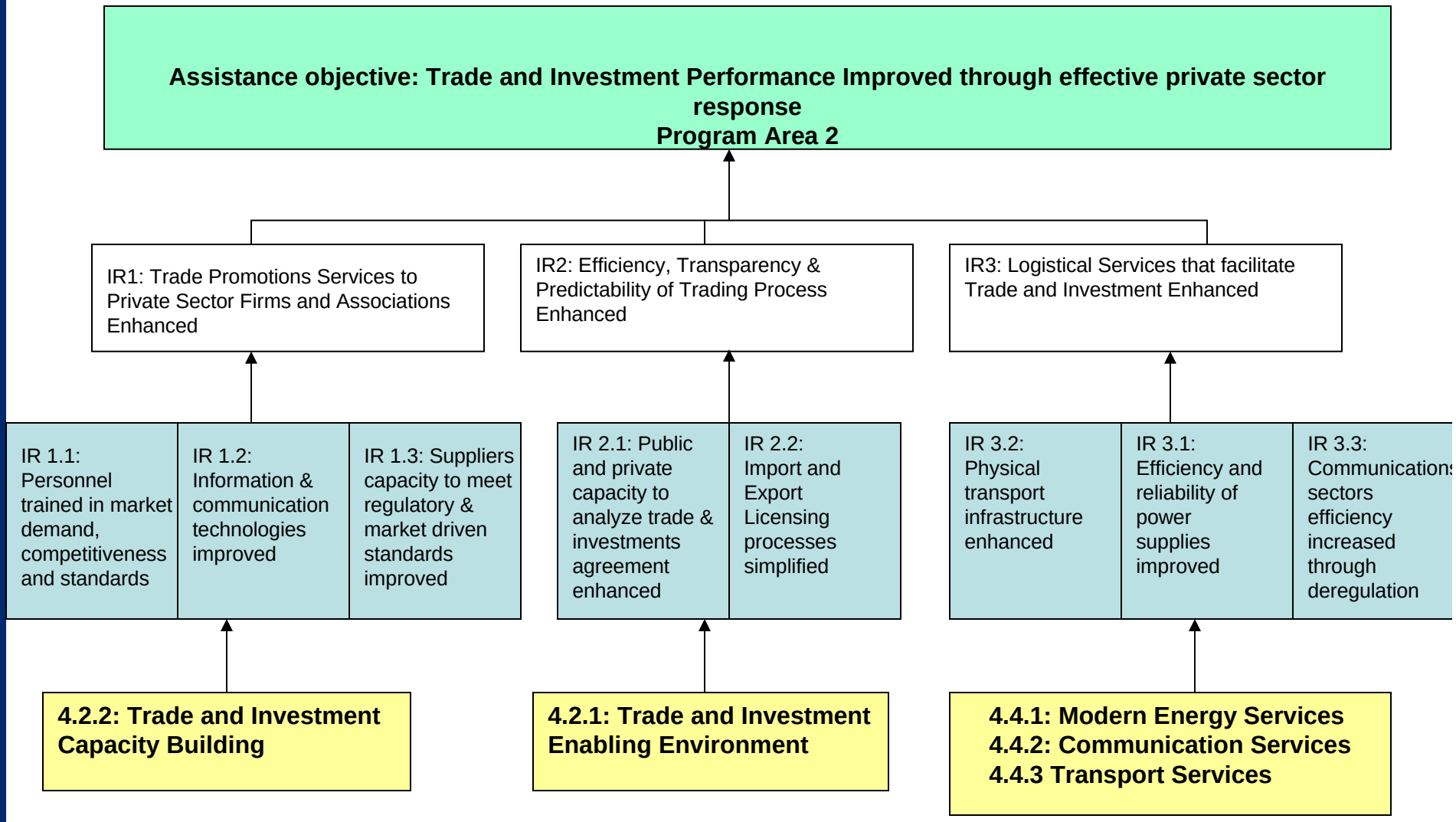


Critical Assumptions:

- ----------
- ----------

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

CROSSWALK EXAMPLE



Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring data tell "what happened"

Evaluation can tell you

- Why it happened (or did not)?
- Why were results above/below expectations?
- Did the activity/program cause the results?
- Were planned results the only ones produced?
- Evidence for sustainability.

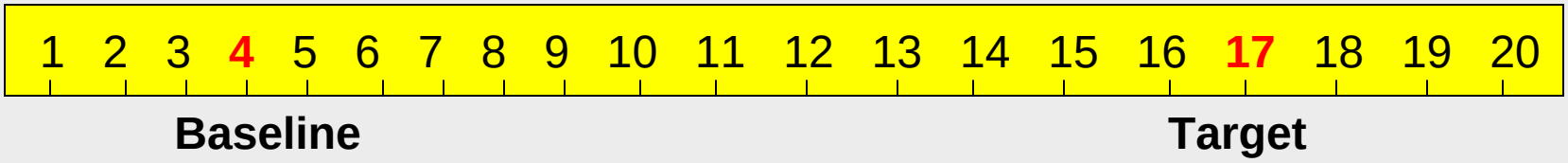
Results Frameworks Use Two Types of Indicators

Standard Indicators

Pre-defined Performance Indicators established as part of the FAF to assess progress at the Program-Element level on a world-wide basis.

Custom Indicators

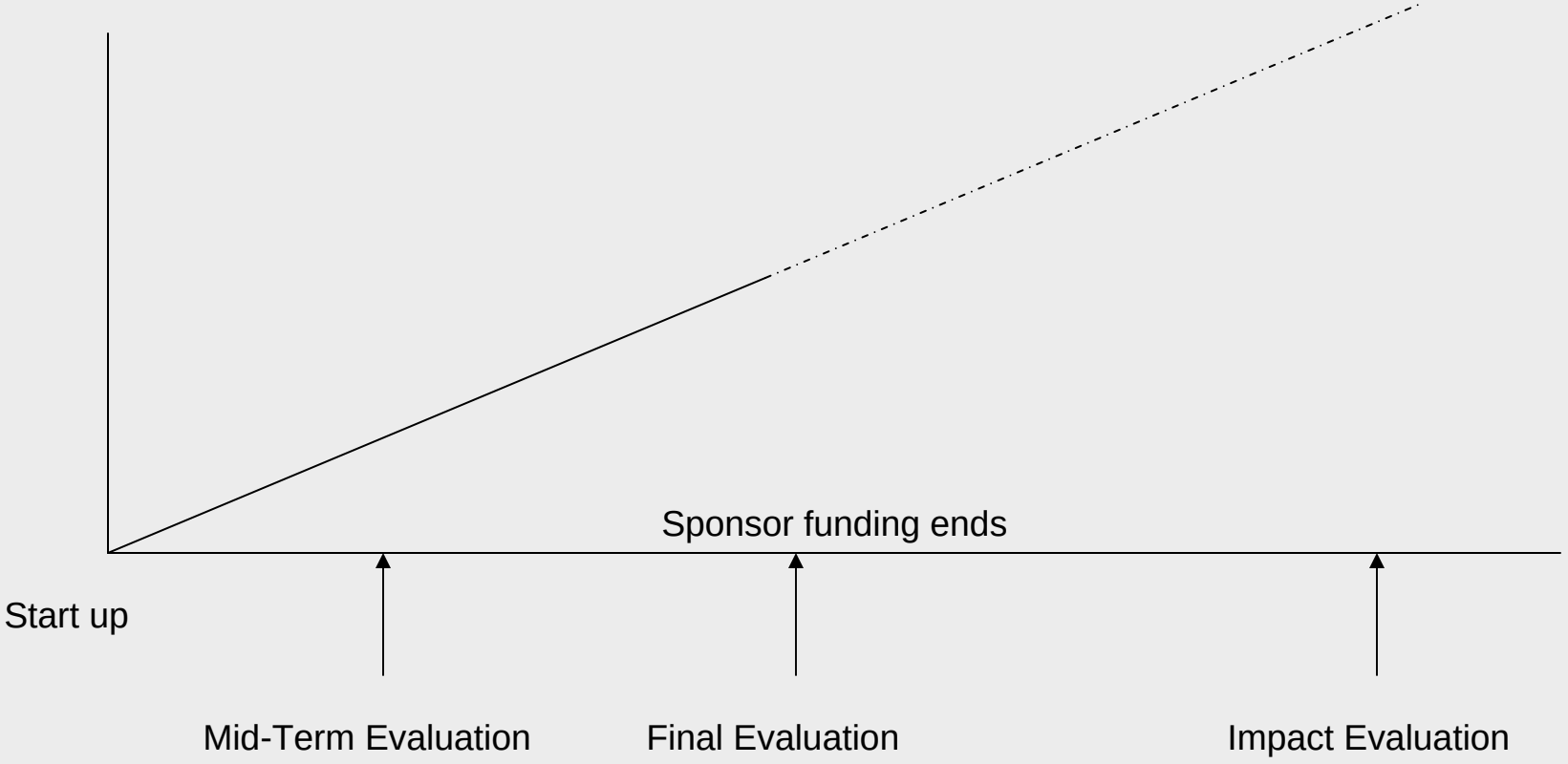
Supplementary Performance Indicators that are added to ensure that all levels of an RF are properly monitored and to address local monitoring priorities not addressed by Standard Indicators.



Evaluation at USAID: Past Present and Future

- From the 1960s to 1990s evaluations were mandatory at USAID
- In the 1980s USAID pioneered with its Impact Evaluations
- In the 1990s USDAID made evaluations “decision driven” – dropping the requirements that ALL projects be evaluated
- By 2001 USAID evaluations had declined dramatically – less than 150/year
- 2003- Administrator Natsios- all PROGRAMS be evaluated
- 2005- Administrator Tobias – DFA – evaluation once again adrift
- 2007- Adminstrator Fore – Evaluation reemerges as a priority
- 2008 – Central Evaluation Unit created at M Bureau

Types of Evaluation



Evaluation of Trade Capacity Building Programs

Challenges:

- **Umbrella of programs – trade capacity building, physical infrastructure, improved communications networks, improved energy services**
- **Developing effective and efficient ways to look across range of program activities**

Evaluation of Trade Capacity Building Programs : TCB database

Phase I: Opening Analysis

Phase II: Collect Additional Project Information

Phase III: Focused Data Collection on Evaluation Questions

Phase IV: Selected Field Visits

Phase V: Report Writing and Vetting