INCLUSIVE SYSTEMIC EVALUATION
FOR GENDER EQUALITY, ENVIRONMENTS
AND MARGINALIZED VOICES

ISE4GEMs: A new approach for the SDG era

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ISE4GEMs Approach: Background
Agenda 2030: SDGs
Part A (Practitioner Theory)
Chapters:
1. Introduction
2. Systems Thinking
3. The GEMs Framework
4. ISE4GEMs Approach and the SToC

Part B (Practitioner Approach)
Chapters:
5. Evaluation Preparation and Design
6. Data Collection
7. Data Analysis, Interpretation and Reporting
8. Capacity Development for Social Change
What is Systems Thinking?

- **Interrelationships:** connections between people, things or ideas.
- **Perspectives:** formed by values, beliefs and what we know about the world.
- **Boundaries:** Defined by our knowledge, resources, ideas, values, biases, priorities or perspectives.
**Systematic** analysis implies a thorough, predictable, and controlled process which is essentially reproducible but may not consider all the interactive parts of the system and stakeholders.

**Systemic** analysis encourages a critical and holistic analysis of the opportunities, constraints, and relationships of parts within a system, analyzing the system as a whole.
A systemic ToC or SToC is established by asking a wider set of questions that more fully describe the change processes through different perspectives. SToCs are developed using a second-order judgment from a position outside of the intervention looking in. By viewing the change processes of the intervention from this position, you open up different possible boundaries for understanding change processes to determine the most relevant ones for consideration.
Key elements of ISE4GEMs

- **Ethics** to empower and enable individuals and communities

- **Validity and rigour** through inclusive interpretation

- **Transdisciplinary mixed methods** for socio-environmental analysis

- **Capacity development** on systems thinking and GEMs

- **Attributes and competencies**
Part B
Practitioner Approach
FIGURE B.1
The ISE4GEMs learning and action cycles—Phase I

**PHASE I:**
Preparation and Design

**PHASE II:**
Data Collection

**PHASE III:**
Data Analysis, Interpretation and Reporting

**PHASE IV:**
Capacity Development for Social Change

Timeframe
Figure B.2 Stages of the ISE4GEMs

**Phase I**

**Chapter 5**
Planning and Design

**Step 1:** The Boundary Story
- Conduct a first-order Boundary Analysis of the Intervention
- Complete a stakeholder analysis
- Develop the Boundary Story

**Tools:**
- Tool 1: First Order Boundary Analysis of the Intervention
- Tool 2: Stakeholder Analysis of the Intervention

**Step 2:** The Evaluation Boundary
- Define the ideal evaluation boundary using a second-order analysis and stakeholder analysis
- Define the actual evaluation boundary through a vulnerability and evaluation assessment
- Develop the evaluation design document

**Tools:**
- Tool 3: Second-order boundary analysis
- Tool 4: Vulnerability Assessment for the Evaluation
- Tool 5: GEMs Evaluability Assessment

**Step 3:** ISE4GEMs Planning and Design Considerations
- Define and complete the columns on the ISE4GEMs planning tool

**Tools:**
- Tool 6: ISE4GEMs Planning Tool
- Tool 7: Transdisciplinary Methods and Tools

**Phase II**

**Chapter 6**
Data Collection

**Step 1:** First Data Collection Cycle
- Check your boundaries
- Conduct remote data collections
- Conduct the first data audit

**Tools:**
- Tool 6: ISE4GEMs Planning Tool

**Step 2:** Second Data Collection Cycle
- Check your boundaries, again
- Use of field-based data collections, tips on the first field-based team meeting, data collection, and data audit

**Tools:**
- Tool 7: Transdisciplinary Methods and Tools
- Tool 8: Facilitator’s Field Guide Meeting Planner

**Phase III**

**Chapter 7**
Data Analysis, Interpretation & Reporting

**Step 1:** The Systemic Triangulation framework for data analysis
- Develop the facts by identifying findings and evidence of changes
- Determine values and perspectives on the meaning of change
- Interpret the meaning of change within a specific boundary

**Tools:**
- Tool 9: GEMs Data Analysis
- Tool 10: GEMs Integration Tool

**Step 2:** Develop the STOC and final boundary story (Optional)
- Reflections on the ISE4GEMs’ validity

**Step 3:** Draft report conclusions and recommendations
- Report Writing, Conclusions and Recommendations

**Phase IV**

**Chapter 8**
Capacity Development for Social Change

**Tools:**
- Tool 11: Final reflections
CHAPTER 5

PHASE I - PREPARATION AND DESIGN

- Step 1: The Boundary Story
- Step 2: The evaluation boundary
- Step 3: ISE4GEMs Planning and Design considerations
Figure 5.4 The ideal boundary of the evaluation
## Tool 6: ISE4GEMs planning tool

### Implementation plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column #</th>
<th>Field</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Evaluation purpose, objectives and use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Evaluation criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Evaluation key questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Evaluation indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Data collection methods and alternative methods (including data storage and management plan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Data sources and stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ethical risks and safeguards</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Data analysis and interpretation for systemic triangulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Capacity development and knowledge sharing plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Timeline and resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 6

PHASE 2—DATA COLLECTION

- Step 1: First Data Collection Cycle
- Step 2: Second Data Collection Cycle
- Step 3: Debriefing meeting and practitioner reflection
• Continuous reflection
• Adaptation
• Cycles of data collection and emergence
• Transdisciplinary methods
• Capacity Development
Chapter 7

Phase 3—Data Analysis, Interpretation and Reporting

- Step 1: The Systemic Triangulation framework for data analysis
- Step 2: Develop the STOC and final boundary story (Optional)
- Step 3: Draft report conclusions and recommendations
Figure 7.2 Systemic triangulation

VALUES: Perspectives on the meaning of changes

FACTS: Findings and evidence of change

BOUNDARY ANALYSIS: Interpretation of changes within a specific boundary

Chapter 8

PHASE 4-CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

- Opportunities for Capacity Development
- Dissemination and Communications Methods
- Final practitioners’ reflections
Capacity Development & 2030 Agenda

- Underscores the 2030 Agenda
- At the core of policy failure in some sectors, especially in developing countries.

- Work in partnership to build mutual capacity.
- SDGs have specific targets related to capacities included under Goal 17 on partnerships
Communicating Results

Figure 8.2 Contextualized graphic presentation of data
Annex 2. ISE4GEMs Tools

Tool 1: First-order boundary analysis
Tool 2: Stakeholder analysis
Tool 3: Second-order boundary analysis
Tool 4: Vulnerability assessment
Tool 5: GEMs evaluability assessment
Tool 6: ISE4GEMs planning tool
Tool 7: Transdisciplinary methods and tools
Tool 8: Facilitators’ field guide meeting planner
Tool 9: GEMs data analysis
Tool 10: GEMs integration tool
Tool 11: Final reflections
- Piloting
- Contributions requested for *Inclusive Systemic Thinking* book Routledge 2019-2020
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