Making 'Evidence' the Plural of 'Anecdote'

Presentation by Kate Dyer, Programme Director, Accountability Tanzania (AcT)

to Outcome Mapping Workshop

Beirut, February 2012

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AcT Accountability in Tanzania Programme

Goal

To contribute to the **achievement of MDGs** by ensuring that Tanzanians are increasingly able to claim and exercise their rights as citizens

Improved Outcomes at sectoral level (e.g. inc enrolment, etc)

Purpose

To increase the accountability and responsiveness of government to its citizens through a strengthened civil society

Output

Citizens' **access to information** is improved

CSO **engagement in policy and budget formulation** processes at local and national levels increased

Strengthened CSO **monitoring of service delivery and public resource management**

Improved understanding by civil society of what works in improving accountability and fighting corruption
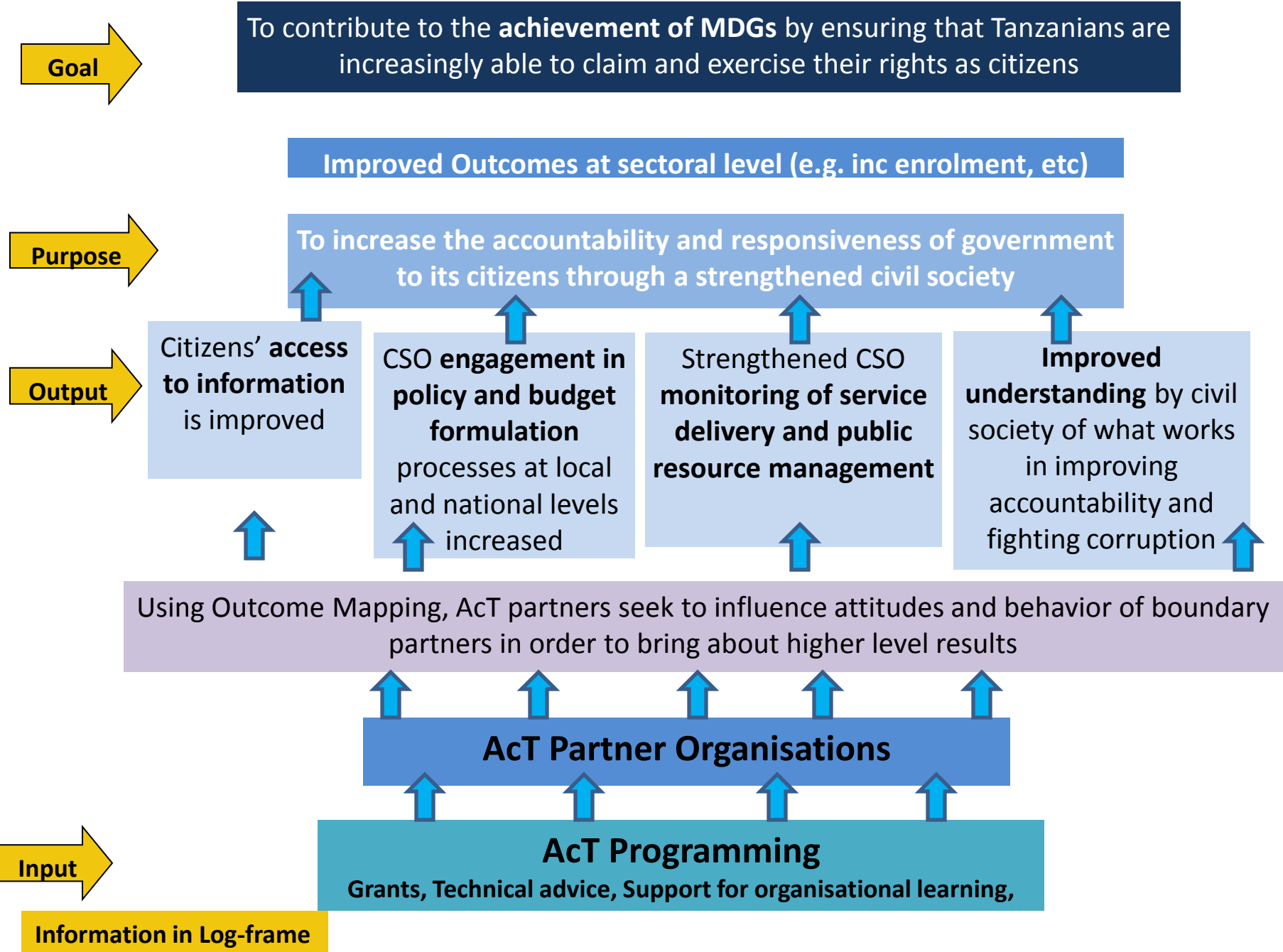
Using Outcome Mapping, AcT partners seek to influence attitudes and behavior of boundary partners in order to bring about higher level results
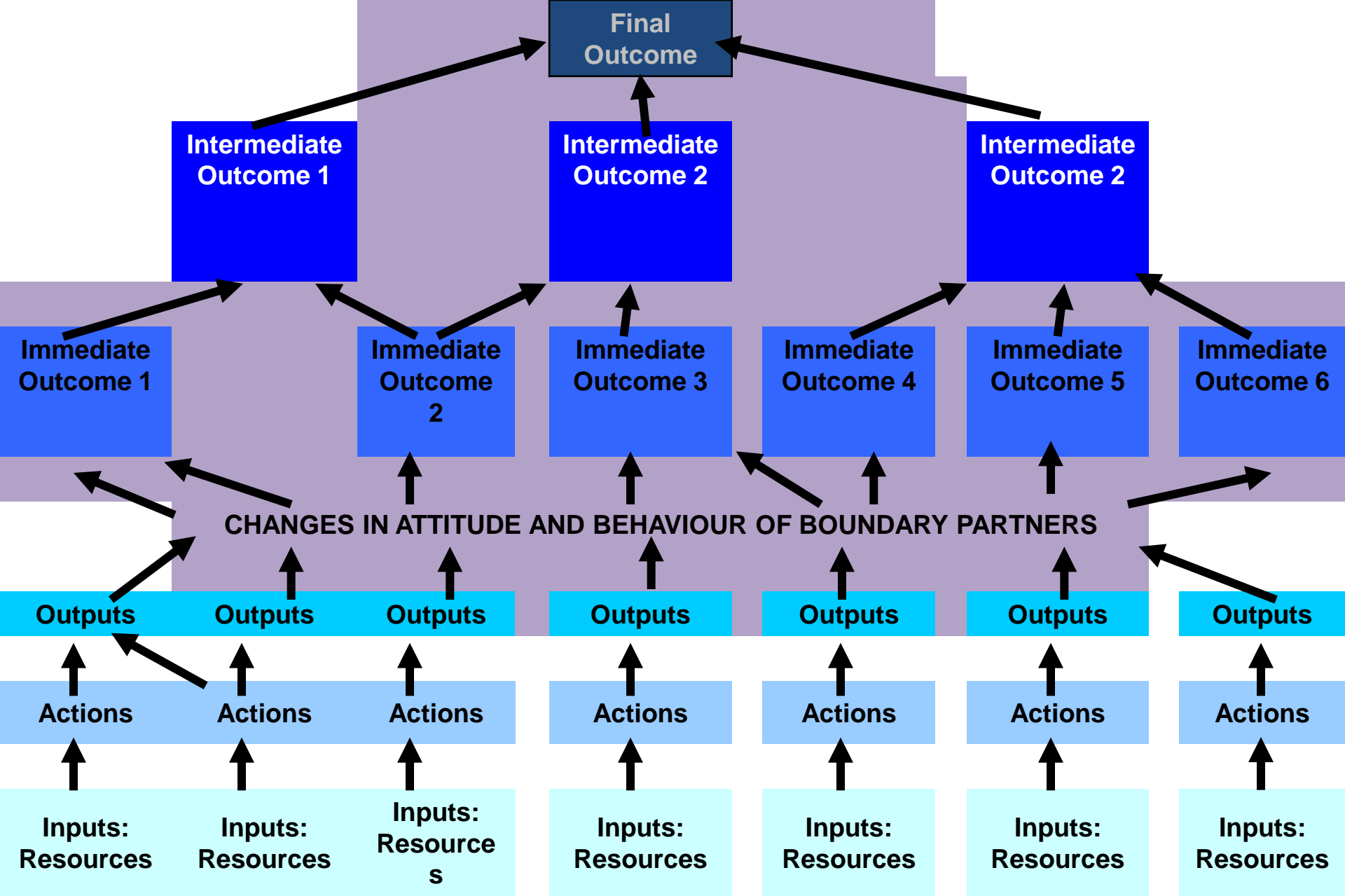
AcT Partner Organisations

AcT Programming
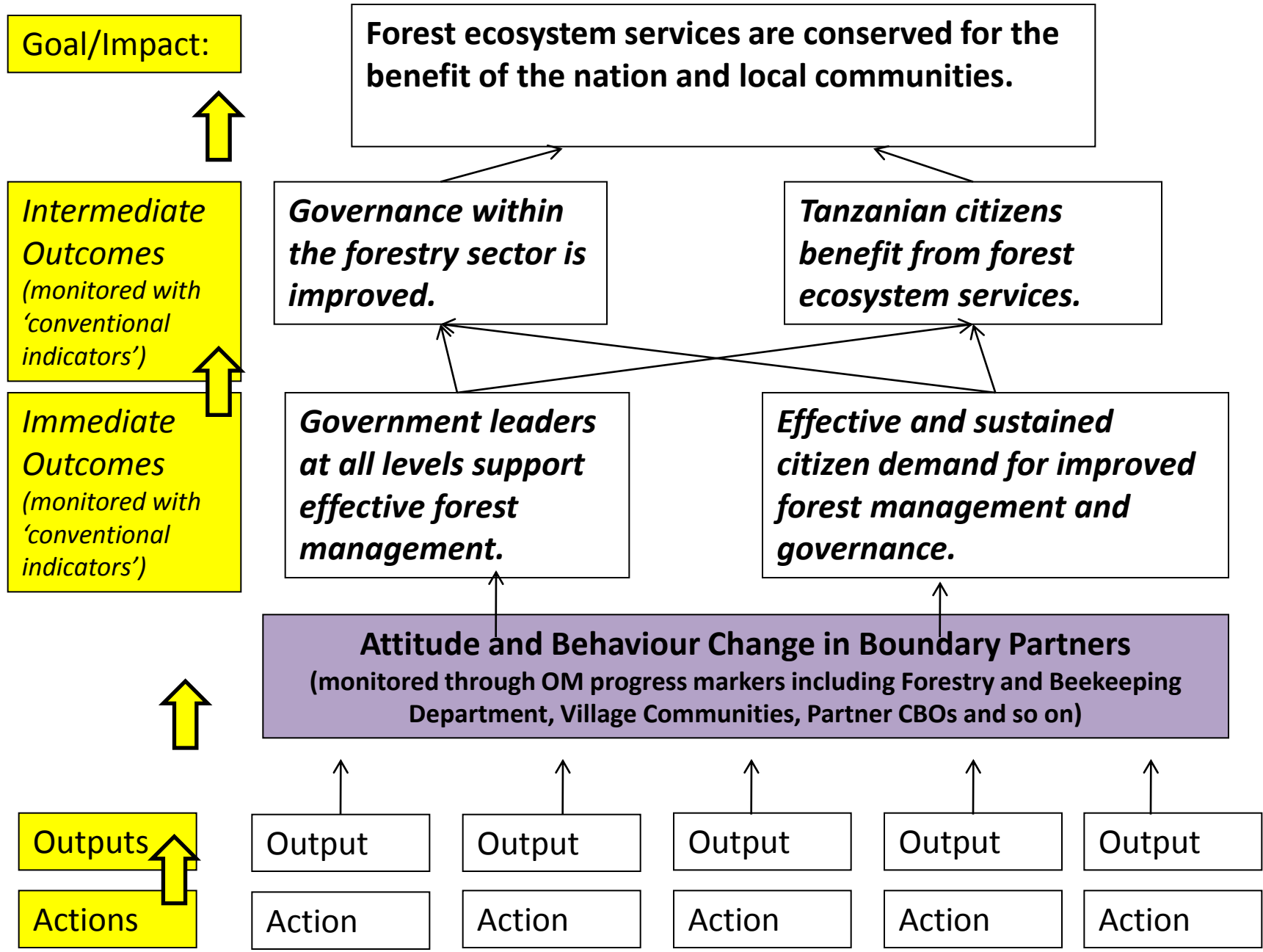**Grants, Technical advice, Support for organisational learning,**
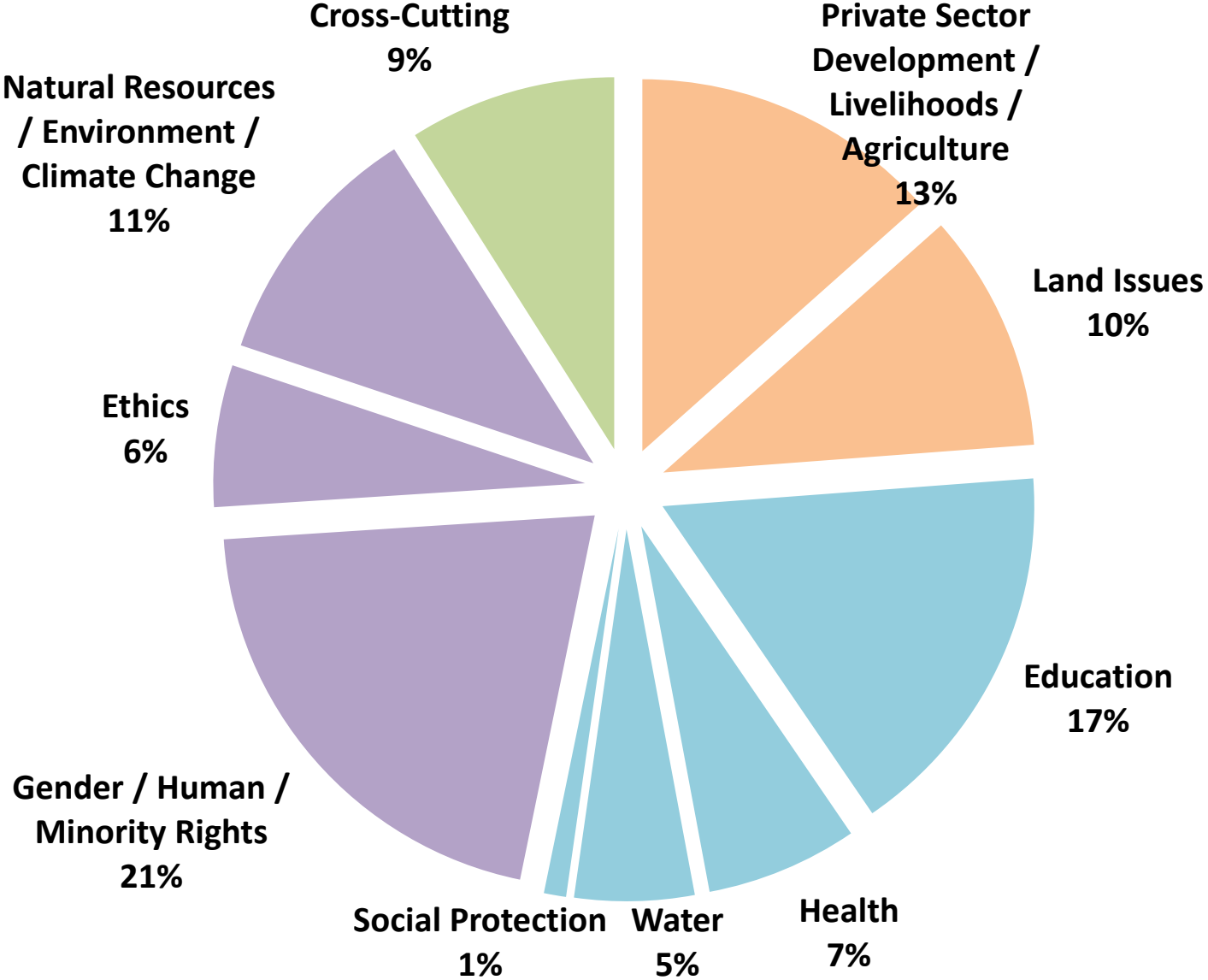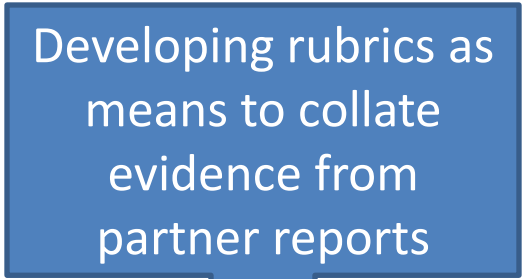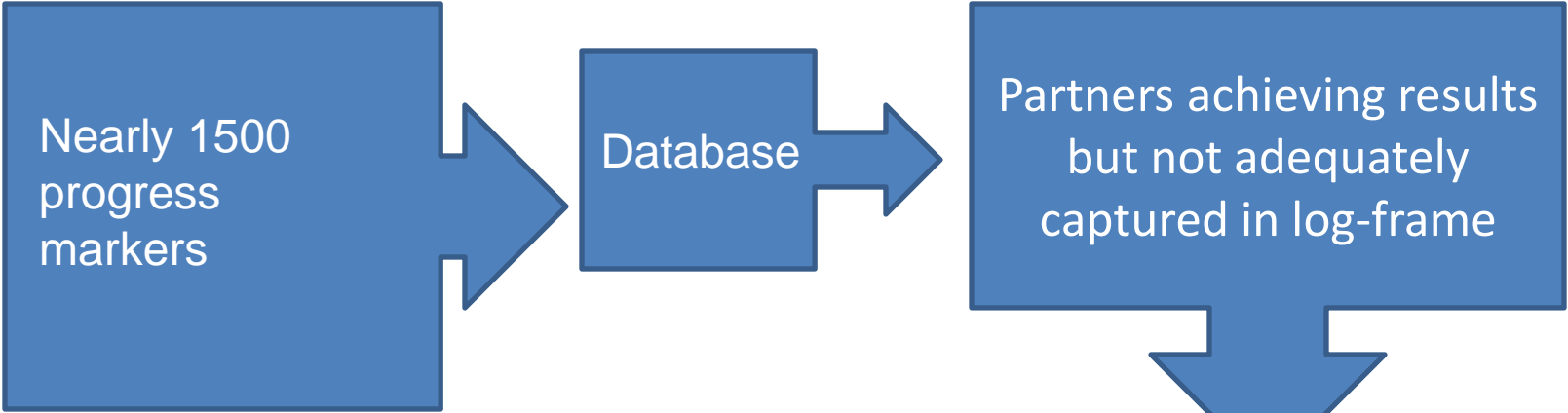
Input

Information in Log-frame

Example of a logic model, showing how attitude and behaviour change underlies higher level results

Goal/Impact:

Forest ecosystem services are conserved for the benefit of the nation and local communities.

Intermediate Outcomes (monitored with 'conventional indicators')

Governance within the forestry sector is improved.

Tanzanian citizens benefit from forest ecosystem services.

Immediate Outcomes (monitored with 'conventional indicators')

Government leaders at all levels support effective forest management.

Effective and sustained citizen demand for improved forest management and governance.

Attitude and Behaviour Change in Boundary Partners
(monitored through OM progress markers including Forestry and Beekeeping Department, Village Communities, Partner CBOs and so on)

Outputs

Actions

Output	Output	Output	Output	Output
Action	Action	Action	Action	Action

Scope of Portfolio

Process so far…

Nearly 1500 progress markers → Database → Partners achieving results but not adequately captured in log-frame

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Developing rubrics as means to collate evidence from partner reports

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Identify the BPs which are common to all partners

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Collate all the P/Markers for each particular BP – see handout

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Draft rubrics by BP – see handout

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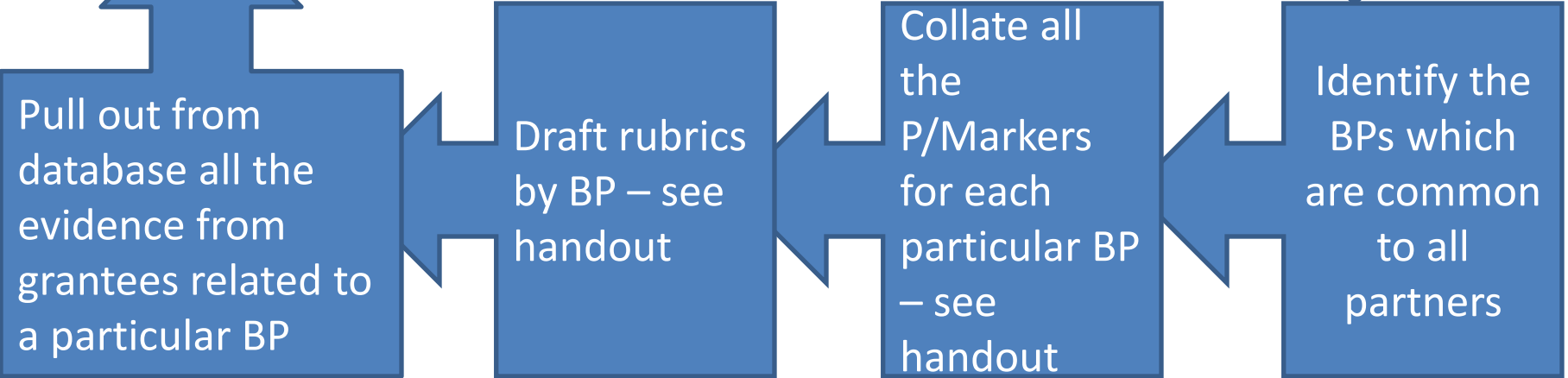
Pull out from database all the evidence from grantees related to a particular BP

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Where does this get us?

Sample of rubrics for MPs

Expect to see	Like to see	Love to see
In regular communication with their constituencies, listening to suggestions from constituents, responding to their queries; raising concerns from constituency in parliament; showing concern for issues not just party politics; engaged in gaining further understanding of critical issues, eg through attending training by CSOs, receiving information and research reports from them; attending district level planning and budget meetings; paying particular attention to the needs of women and marginalized groups; agreeing to campaign promises being publicized and tracked	Demanding relevant reporting to parliament from ministries; supporting independent oversight of work of ministries eg by accountability institutions or independently instituted processes; actively supporting citizen demands eg over improved natural resource management; speaking out in parliament where there has been abuse of power by ministries; holding ministries to account; pressurizing civil servants to make budgets and expenditure reports public; supporting the development of mechanisms and supportive legislation that will decentralize decision making and local management closer to citizens; regular visits to constituencies; relevant committees debating issues of popular concern; increasingly active debates in the house; using media and local organisations to create dialogue with voters about needs and priorities	Making budget information under their scrutiny publicly available to facilitate debate and public engagement; pro-active in taking up issues of marginalized groups and ensuring their voices are heard in decision making processes; engaging in dialogue at community and district level so they are fully informed about needs and priorities; passing legislation that promotes and reinforces good governance and ethical practices; focusing on sustainable development; full attendance in parliamentary sessions; focusing on citizen need not party politics; basing decisions on research evidence

Sample of rubrics: for CSOs

Expect to see	Like to see	Love to see
Externally: engaging in governance issues; contributing human and other resources to networking and collective engagement; sharing information and good practice; informed about relevant by-laws, legislation, policy, internationally/nationally agreed targets reporting breaches in by-laws, legislation and policy; attending trainings; **Internally**: recognising that they need to address internal organisational issues; following agreed internal procedures; informed consulted with Board on engaging in governance; clear plans; having women in leadership positions	**Externally:** Showing increasing confidence in taking action, including independent action, to address observed abuses; engaging with media, village government, district officials and councillors; collecting accurate data as to contribute to wider advocacy and campaign work; smaller CSOs and CBOs responding to community priorities; training communities; collaborating with other CSOs; strengthening partnerships at national and regional level; demanding more information and training (not motivated by per diems etc) **Internally:** addressing gender issues internally within the organisation; strong internal policies eg financial management; Boards of organisations increasingly effective in oversight role;	**Externally**: Taking responsibility for own capacity development; supporting capacity of communities to develop independently, including accessing supplementary sources of support; collaborating successfully with relevant officials to stop illegal actions/ breaches of by-laws etc; denying re-election to representatives who ignore them or break election promises; documenting their impact and sharing with others; ensuring all in the community get equitably access to services; coming together for collective action in alternative fora eg TUs, faith groups, marketing associations or similar; regular communication and mutual support from supportive MPs; creating trust by themselves being accountable to communities; ensuring complementarity not duplication of efforts; more concerned about achieving outcome than taking credit for it; **Internally**: internal organisational issues largely addressed - not an obstacle to effective action.

Scope and scale of evidence so far

	Boundary Partner	Expect to see	Like to see	Love to see
Strengthening demand side	Media	6	6	0
	CSOs / Partners	29	41	5
	Communities	13	18	4
Supply side response	Local leaders (village & district)	4	2	1
	Elected leaders (national – MPs)	2	2	0
	Civil Servants (local)	5	3	0
	Civil Servants (national)	5	0	0
	Total	64	72	10

Many partners started Sept 2011, no reports from them yet…

Where does this get us?

Management Tool	Evidence for our theory of change? What results we are achieving for our funding? What support to progress marker development and use / reporting do we give?
Civil society strengthening	Where is civil society focus actually, as opposed to in perception? What does this imply for governance work? When does demand side connect with supply?
Back Donor (DFID) interest	'Great learning tool', 'Gives opportunity to pick up hints about dynamics of change we might otherwise miss' 'Useful material for Ministerial speeches'

Discussion points: What we'd like help on ☺

- How can we improve this adaptation of OM? Does anyone have any related experience we can learn from?

- Can we convert this into conventional indicators? How? (eg number of partners providing evidence of 'like to see or love to see' behaviour by different stakeholders? numbers of like to see or love to see reports?) What value would there be beyond back donor reporting?

Thank you for your contributions! Please keep in touch

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