



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT

# Measuring What Matters

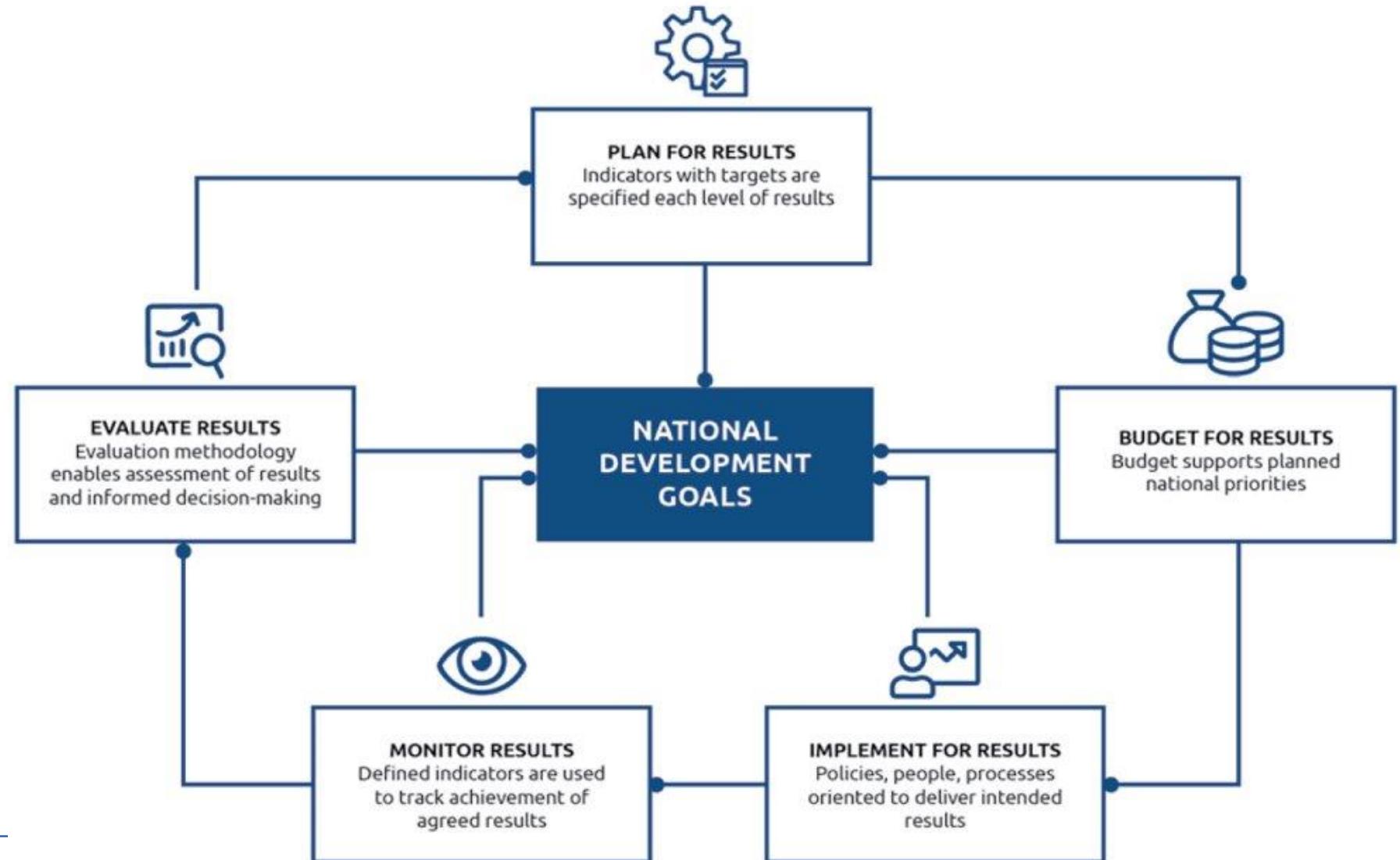
## The Revised National Evaluation Policy Framework

JESSE DAVID

DEPDev-Monitoring and Evaluation Staff

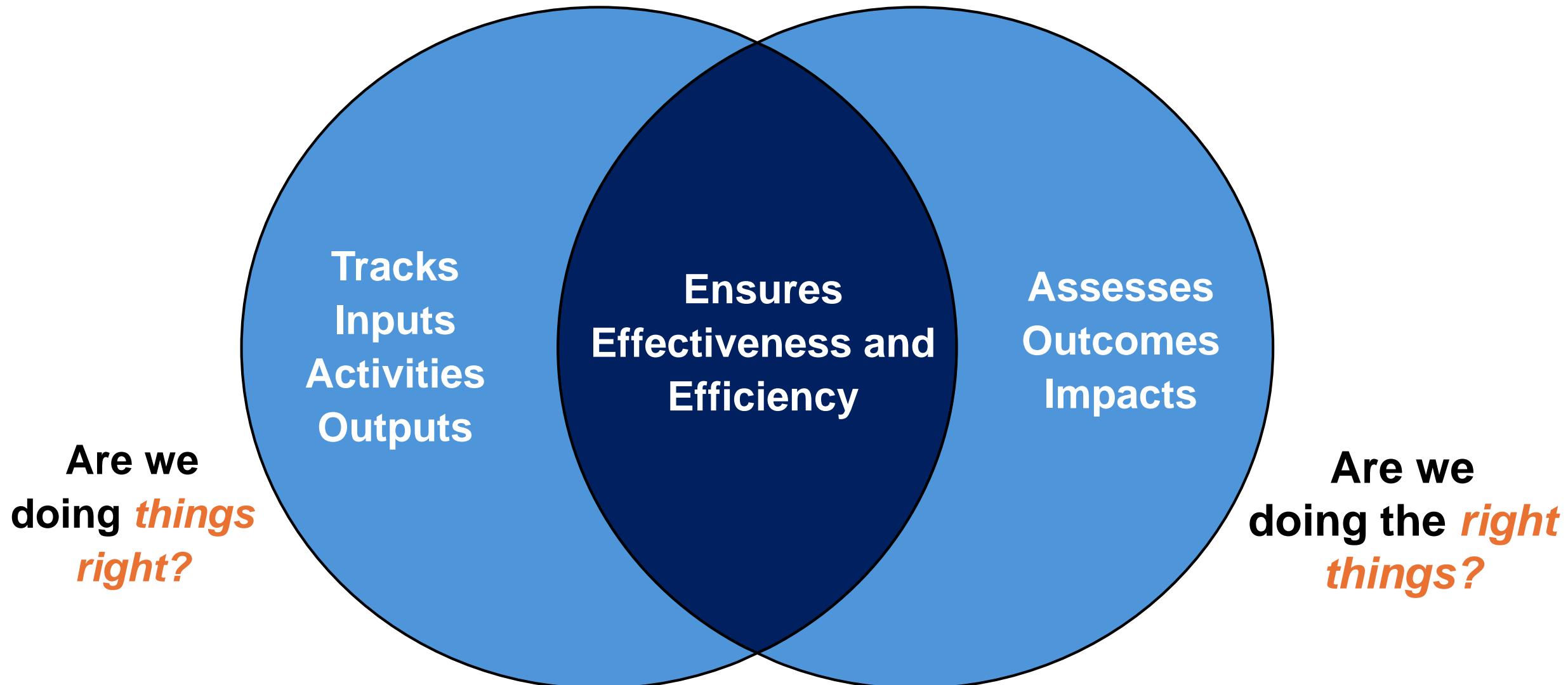


# Results-oriented Public Sector Management

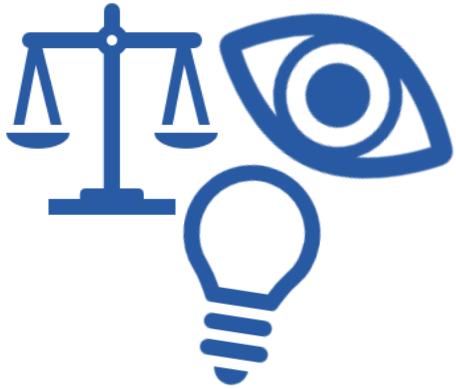


Source: Asian Development Bank. (2011).  
Framework for Results-Based Public  
Sector Management and Country Cases.  
Asia-Pacific Community of Practice on  
Managing for Development Results.  
Manila.

# Monitoring & Evaluation



# WHY M&E MATTERS?



**Drives**  
accountability,  
transparency, and  
learning

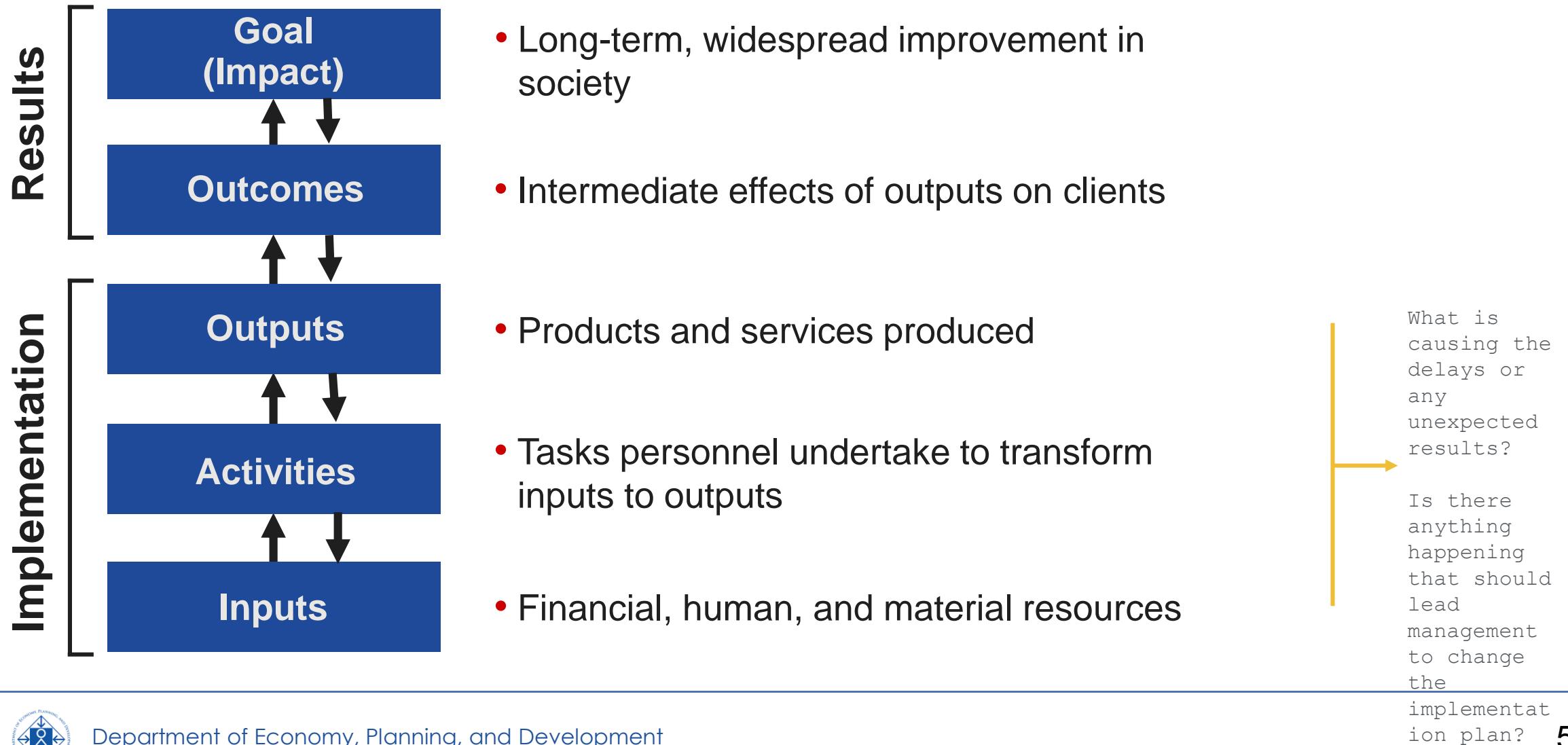


**Provides**  
evidence for better policies,  
programs, and budgets



**Builds**  
trust and ensures  
resources deliver  
results

# The Results Framework



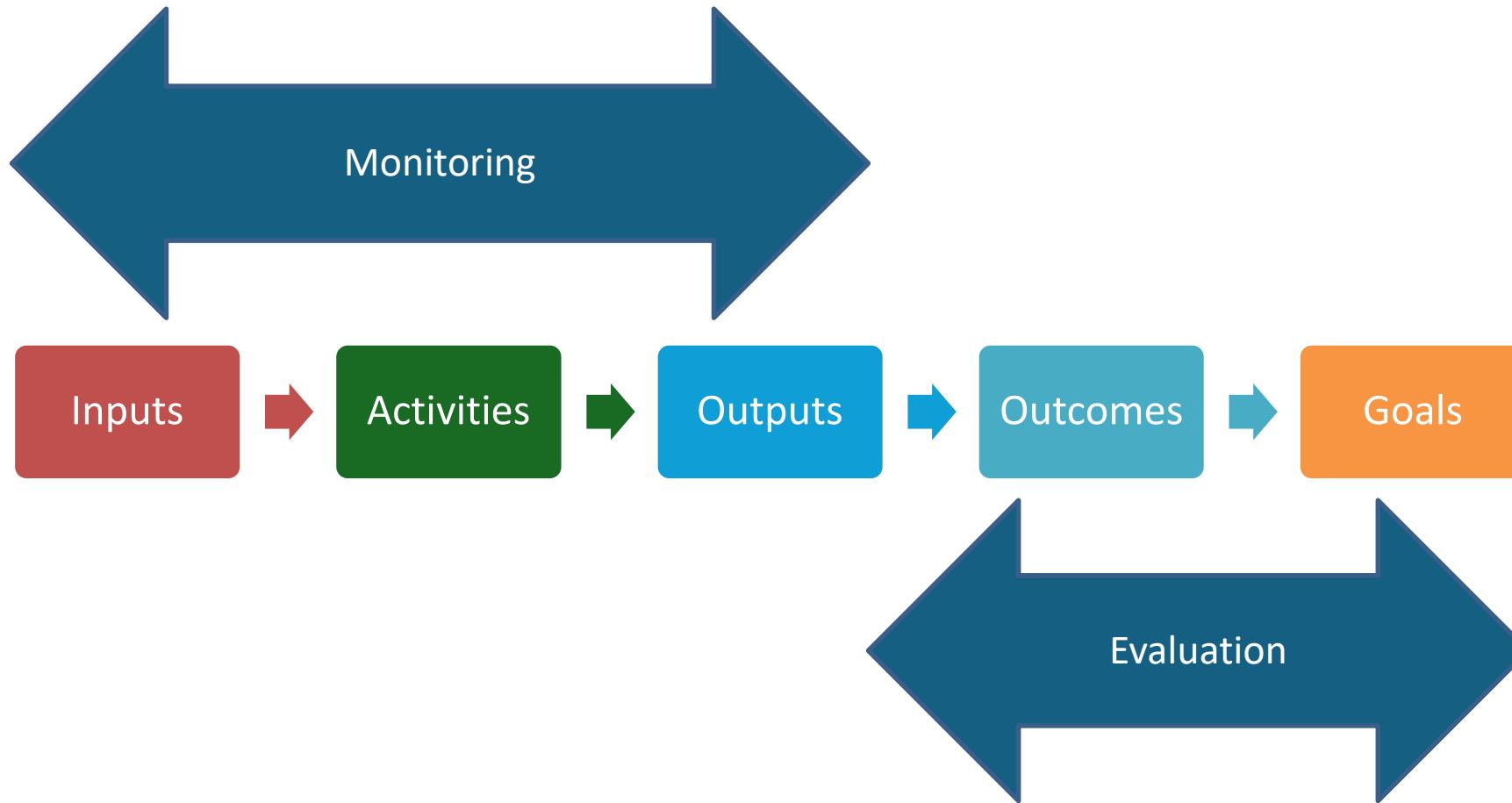
# Secondary Education Program



[www.paref.southridge.seniors](http://www.paref.southridge.seniors)

Results Category	Results Objective
<b>Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quality of secondary education improved</li></ul>
<b>Outcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learning outcomes improved</li></ul>
<b>Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New Curriculum for SHS developed</li><li>• SHS Learning Resources prepared</li><li>• School furniture and equipment utilized</li><li>• Service standards achieved</li></ul>
<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preparation of curriculum and learning modules</li><li>• Conduct of trainings for teachers</li><li>• Conduct of orientation, IECs</li><li>• School building construction</li><li>• School furniture and equipment delivery</li></ul>
<b>Inputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Budget (ODA, GAA)</li><li>• Obligations and Disbursements</li></ul>

Internal to the IA but external to the beneficiaries



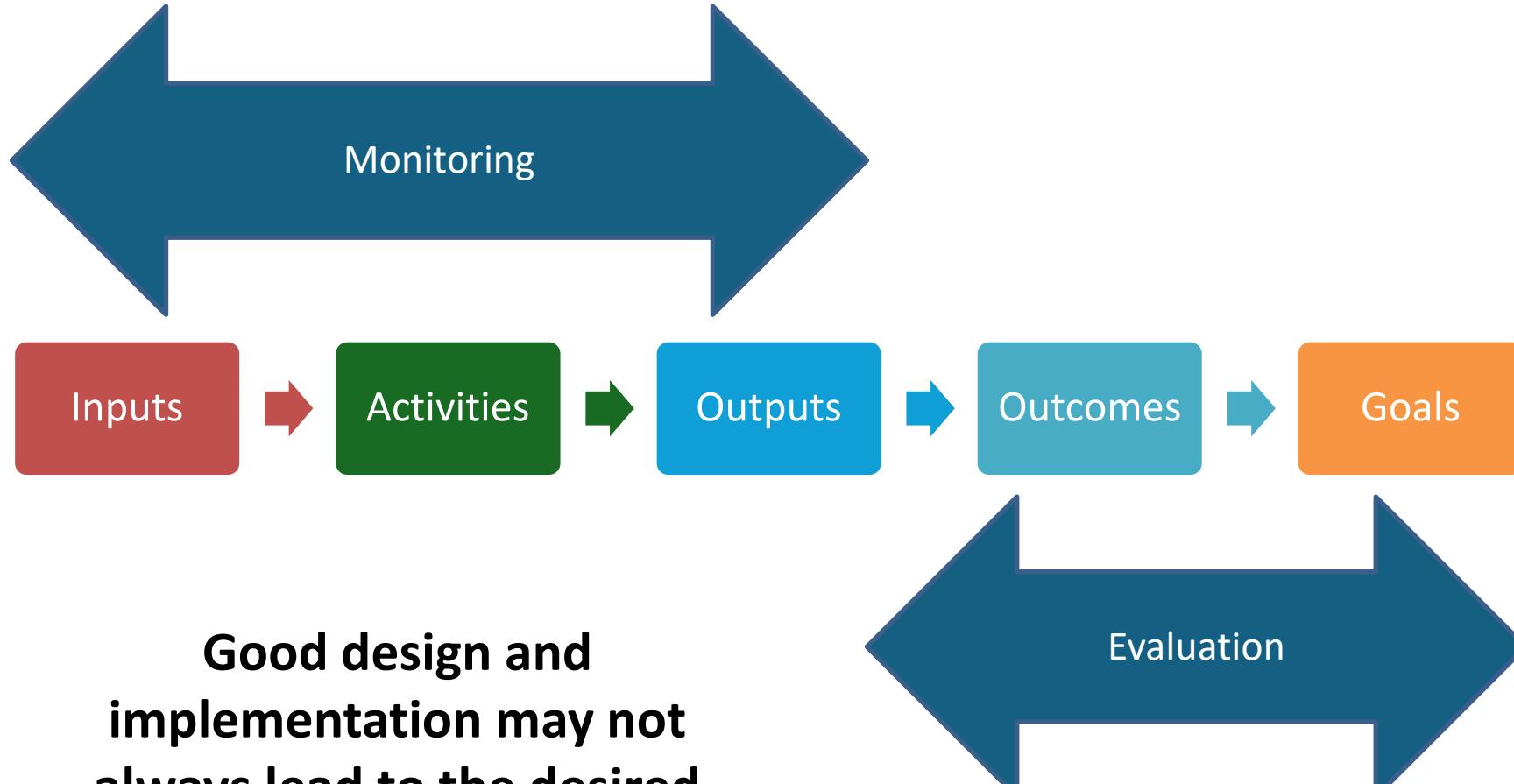
# HOW DO WE IMPROVE LEARNING OUTCOMES OF STUDENTS?

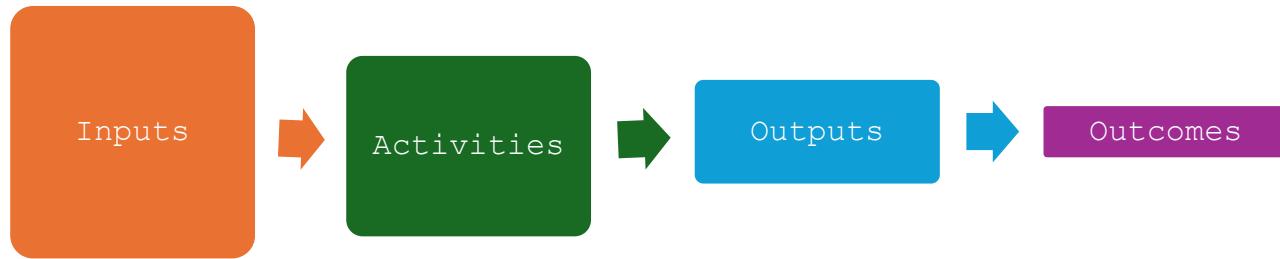
- Free books
- Free tuition
- School buildings, classrooms
- Cash incentives
- Learning modules/approaches
- Additional years of schooling
- Training for teachers
- Provision of school supplies, uniforms
- Modularization and e-learning approaches



[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

**Which initiative works?  
Which work best? Which are  
the most cost-effective? The  
most that provided greater  
impact?**





**Many M&E are really Big M and little e**

Howard White, 3ie

# Key M&E Issues and Challenges

- Policy Support
- Budget
- Capacity
- Institutional Set-up
- Data availability and systems



## Key Highlights of RA 12145

### Stronger Institutional Mandate

Transforms NEDA into DEPDev with authority over **planning, monitoring, and evaluation** across national and subnational levels.

### Evidence in Policy & Budgeting

Oversees and mandates agencies to **align programs with evaluation findings** and ensures evaluations inform **planning, budgeting, and reporting**.

### National Evaluation Agenda

Formulate a rolling agenda of **priority programs and projects for evaluation**, aligned with development goals.

### Capacity & Data Systems

Build **M&E capacity** across government and establish a **centralized M&E data system** for better evidence use.

*Mandates DEPDev to lead planning, monitoring, and evaluation functions for national and subnational development plans, including the formulation of the National Evaluation Agenda and implementation of a centralized M&E data system*

# M&E Mandates and Systems

## Republic Act No. 12145 (Economy, Planning, and Development Act)

Revised National Evaluation Policy Framework (NEPF)

RA 8182 or the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Act of 1996

Investment Coordination Committee (ICC) Alert Mechanism

Infrastructure Flagship Project (IFP) monitoring

Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System (RPMES)

 **New/Updated**



# Before the issuance of the NEPF:



**Building on the momentum of these reform initiatives towards a results-based government, an evaluation policy framework was issued to govern the practice of evaluation in the public sector.**

# Why is there a need to revise the NEPF?



1. Lessons learned: “*Implementation revealed gaps...*”
2. Evolving governance priorities and challenges
3. Need to explicitly mandate systematic generation of evaluation evidence

**Aim:** “*Refine scope, optimize resources, enhance accountability, support evidence-based decision-making.*”



# Revised National Evaluation Policy Framework (NEPF)

*Institutionalized through DEPDev-DBM JMC No. 2025-02, establishes evaluation standards, procedures, and interagency coordination mechanisms, led by the NEPF Steering Committee.*

**CORE PURPOSE: ESTABLISH A POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR SYSTEMATIC EVALUATIONS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR**



**Institutionalize the governance structure**



**Guide the formulation of the National Evaluation Agenda**



**Mandate Agency-based Evaluation Agendas**



**Incorporate internationally-recognized evaluation principles**

# Coverage (Section 3)

**Government  
agencies (NGAs)**

**State Universities and  
Colleges (SUCs)**

**Government-owned  
and/or controlled  
corporations (GOCCs)**

**Government financial  
institutions**

# Development of Evaluation Agenda (Section 5.1)

## National Evaluation Agenda (NEA)

- List of priority programs and projects identified for evaluation over a rolling six-year period
- Authorized by the NEPF Steering Committee
- **Focus:** Prioritizes **impact evaluations** for key programs and projects

## Department/Agency Evaluation Agenda

- List of priority programs and projects of the agency
- Ensuring continuous improvement in the service of its mandate and functions
- **Focus:** Generally uses **process evaluations** for program/project management

The NEPF Steering Committee will issue separate guidelines on the formulation of both evaluation agenda ensuring alignment with the PDP, PIP and PDP-Results Matrices



# Revised National Evaluation Policy Framework (NEPF)

*Institutionalized through DEPDev-DBM JMC No. 2025-02, establishes evaluation standards, procedures, and interagency coordination mechanisms, led by the NEPF Steering Committee.*

## RESPONSIBILITIES: A QUICK OVERVIEW



### NEPF Steering Committee

Overall policy direction, coordination, issue NEA, authorize impact evaluations, issue standards



### NEPF Technical Committee

Technical arm, reviews/recommends policies, agendas, reports



### NEPF Secretariat

Technical and administrative support, formulates NEA for endorsement, MR monitoring, capacity development



### Departments/Agencies

Establish/enhance evaluation units, formulate agency agendas, conduct/commission evaluations, ensure use of findings, allocate resources

# Guiding Principles (Section 6)

**Lays out the fundamental considerations and standards that must guide all evaluations.**

**Key aspects include:**

1. Prioritization for Evaluation
2. Integration with Project Proposals
3. Core Guiding Elements
  - a. Application of Evaluation Criteria (**Annex A**)
  - b. Ensuring Evaluation Competencies (**Annex B**)
  - c. Methodological Rigor and Robustness
  - d. Observing Ethical Standards (**Annex C**)
  - e. Best Practices in Evaluation Planning (**Annex D**)
  - f. Ensuring Impartiality (**Annex E**)
  - g. Effective Reporting, Dissemination, and Use of Evaluations (**Annex F**)

# Utilization of Evaluations



## Communicating Results

NEPF Steering Committee shall ensure that the results of IE studies are **disseminated** and **communicated** with relevant agencies as well as **made available** to the public.



## Management Response

NEPF Steering Committee to facilitate **development** and **implementation** of management responses.



## Link to Planning and Budgeting

DEPDev and DBM to utilize evaluation results to inform/strengthen planning & budgeting. Explicitly serves as input to **Agency Performance Review (APR)** process. NEPF Steering Committee endorses findings to PDP Planning Committees & APR leads.

**Significance: Enhancing the actual use of evaluation findings for improvement and accountability**

# Actions Moving Forward

## For Government Agencies:

- Familiarize with the revised framework
- Establish/strengthen independent evaluation units
- Develop/Update Agency Evaluation Agendas
- Allocate resources for evaluation
- Ensure management responses and use of findings

## For DEPDev, DBM, OP-PMS & Other oversight agencies

- Operationalize the NEPF Steering Committee and Technical Committee
- Develop and issue supporting guidelines and tools
- Develop and approve the National Development Agenda
- Lead capacity development initiatives



## Building Confidence and Competence



## DEPDev In Action



## Fostering a Community of Practice



## Creating and Curating Knowledge

## Building Confidence and Competence



Republic of the Philippines  
National Economic and Development Authority and  
Department of Budget and Management

Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2025-[02](#)  
April 14, 2025

FOR : All Heads of Departments, Bureaus, Offices, and Agencies of the National Government, including Commissions, State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Government-owned or Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), Government Financial Institutions, and Other Instrumentalities of the Government

SUBJECT : REVISED NATIONAL EVALUATION POLICY FRAMEWORK OF THE PHILIPPINES



- Strengthening institutions and people through the **NEPF, evaluation agendas, an evaluation staff, and capacity development programs.**

### Accomplishment so far...

- Revised NEPF (2025)
- Central Evaluation Unit established (2022) with Strategic Outcome Evaluation Division approved (2025)
- M&E Competency Framework + Assessment Tools piloted in 9 NGAs
- 210+ staff trained (DEPDev, BARMM, SUCs) on impact evaluation & basic evaluation methods

**PIOS** Philippine Journal of Development  
Volume 48 (2024), Number 2

Development Intervention and Armed Conflict: Evaluating the PAMANA Program in Davao Region

Roberto S. Deluna Jr.,<sup>1</sup> Maria Lourdes D. Lim,<sup>2</sup> Michael L. Ayala,<sup>3</sup> Christine R. Varquez,<sup>4</sup> Jesus A. Villardo III,<sup>5</sup> Karlo Martin C. Caramugan,<sup>6</sup> Fe Monique M. Tagaytay,<sup>7</sup> Eunice B. Niere,<sup>8</sup> Laurice Cyl C. Pondojo,<sup>9</sup> Gay L. Valledor,<sup>10</sup> and Michael R.M. Abrigo<sup>11</sup>

**PIOS** Philippine Journal of Development  
Volume 49 (2025), Number 1

Impact of Livelihood Projects on the Fishing Households' Income and Wealth: The Case of Fisheries, Coastal Resources, and Livelihood (FishCORAL) Project in Eastern Visayas, Philippines

Josefin F. Ballesteros<sup>1</sup>, Ian Dave B. Custodio<sup>2</sup>, Jay-ar O. Ragub<sup>3</sup>, Karl Robert L. Jandoc<sup>4</sup>, Evangeline M. Paran<sup>5</sup>, Jam M. Colas-Villaber<sup>6</sup>, Meylene C. Rosales<sup>7</sup>

- Generating and prioritizing quality evidence through **impact and process evaluations, assessment tools, and research outputs**

## Accomplishment so far...

- 7 Regional Impact Evaluation studies (*2 published in Philippine Journal of Development*)
- Completed studies: Policy on Alternative Work Arrangements, Summative Evaluation of NEPF, Rapid Evidence Assessment on Teacher Training Programs, DA KADIWA
- Ongoing studies:
  - Impact Evaluations: TUPAD, Kupkop, School-Based Feeding Program, DILP
  - Process Evaluations: DOH Telemedicine, PhilHealth Konsulta



## Fostering a Community of Practice



- Promoting collaboration and evidence use through **M&E forums, evaluation guidelines, and strategic partnerships.**

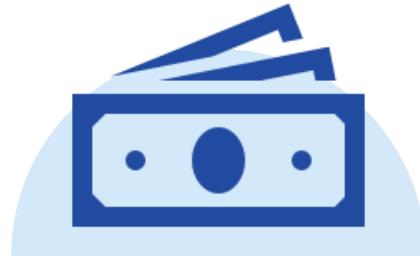
### Accomplishment so far...

- Annual National & Regional M&E Forums institutionalized
- Active partnerships mobilized resources and expertise for Philippine evaluations

# Challenges



**Capacity Gaps  
in Evaluation**



**Inadequate  
Resources for  
Evaluation**



**Data  
Availability  
and Quality**

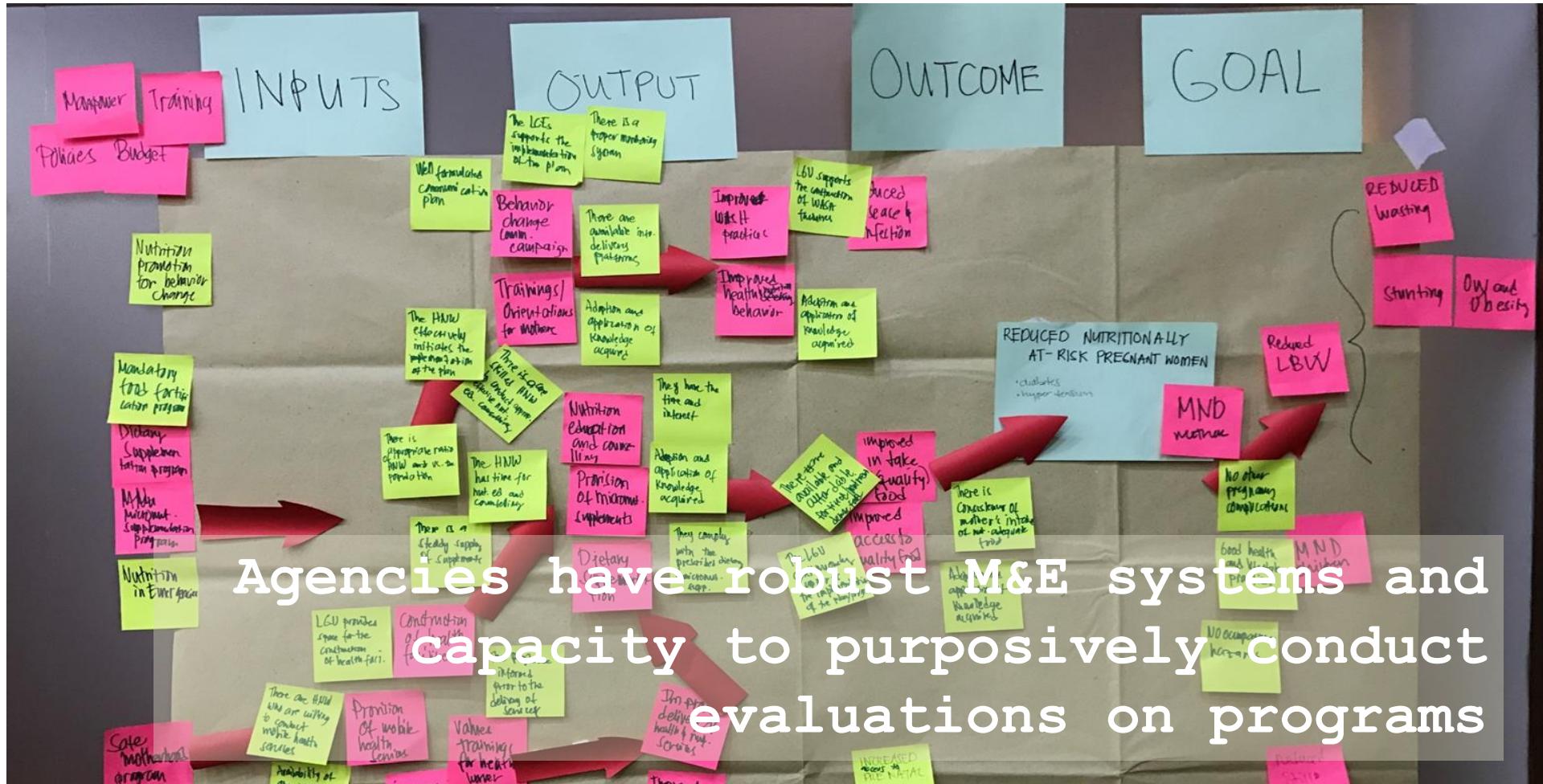


**Weak  
Institutionalization  
of Evaluation  
Systems**

# Ways Forward..



## Ways Forward..

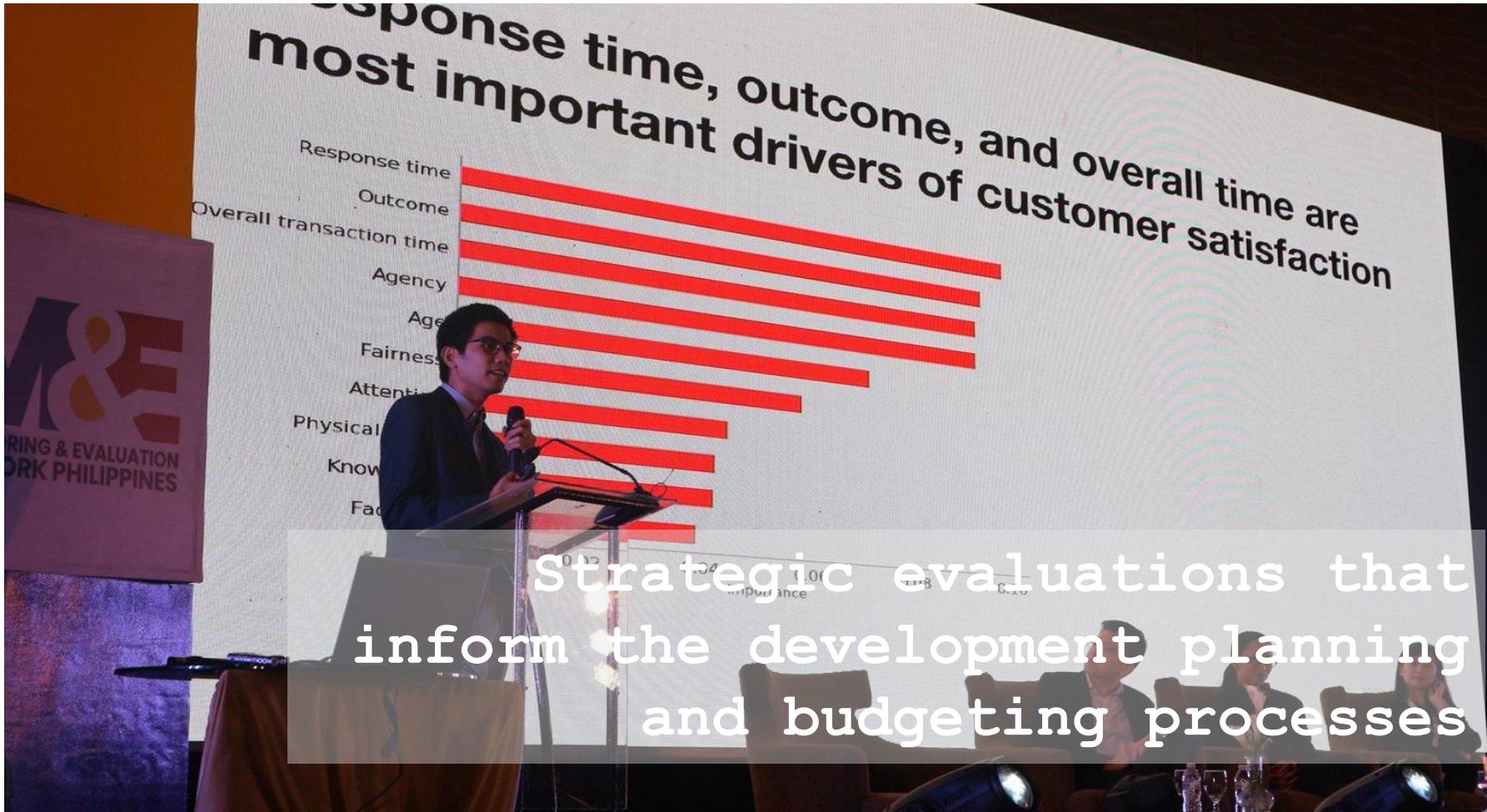


# Ways Forward..



Cadre of M&E professionals  
strengthened to take on  
increased demand for evaluations

# Ways Forward..



# Ways Forward..



# Monitoring & Evaluation is a shared responsibility.

We will work together — national, regional, and local — to make evidence central to decision-making and deliver better results for the people



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT

# Thank you!

Email us at: [ceu@depdev.gov.ph](mailto:ceu@depdev.gov.ph) and [&mes-soed@depdev.gov.ph](mailto:&mes-soed@depdev.gov.ph)

