Tools/Resources for PHASE I, Principle #2:

Tools Specific to Logic Models and Theory of Action

The development of a theory of action for the assessment system and a logic model for the system components and design is a challenging task that takes time. These selected resources can guide district ELAS Leadership Teams and others through this process.


The W.K. Kellogg Foundation Logic Model Development Guide focuses on the development and use of the program logic model. The logic model and its processes facilitate thinking, planning, and communications about program objectives and actual accomplishments. This guide provides an orientation to the underlying principles and language of the program logic model so it can be effectively used in program planning, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of results.

Available at: https://www.bttop.org/sites/default/files/public/W.K.%20Kellogg%20LogicModel.pdf

This Toolkit is designed to help practitioners learn the purpose of logic models, the different elements of a logic model, and the appropriate steps for developing and using a logic model for program development and evaluation. The toolkit includes an agenda, slide deck, participant workbook, and facilitator’s manual. The materials have been designed for use by schools, districts, states, and other groups serving them.

Available at https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/projects/project.asp?projectID=401

Theories of Action Aren’t Enough: An argument for Logic Models

This article by Juan D’Brot provides some helpful ways to think about and work with theories of action and logic models.

Available at https://www.nciea.org/blog/assessment/theories-action-arent-enough-argument-logic-models

Tools Specific to Assessment Audits or Inventories

The development of a theory of action for the assessment system and a logic model for the system components and design is a challenging task that takes time. These selected resources can guide district ELAS Leadership Teams and others through this process.

District Assessment System Design (DASD) Toolkit (National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment, 2018)

This toolkit is useful for districts to determine users of assessment, the different ways that assessment information can be used, and which assessment approaches are most valuable in meeting the assessment information needs of different assessment users in the district.

Available at: https://www.nciea.org/featured-resources

Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts (Achieve, 2014)

This toolkit guides district leaders in taking stock of how many assessments are administered throughout a school year and for what purposes they give assessments. Designed from a student perspective, the audit tool can be used by leaders to make decisions about what amount of testing is appropriate and to be more transparent with parents about the testing in schools.

Available at www.achieve.org/assessmentinventory.

A listing of all Tools and Resources mentioned in this Guide to help you develop an early literacy assessment system (ELAS) is available online at www.MichiganAssessmentConsortium.org/ELAS.