

INCLUSIVE SYSTEMIC EVALUATION FOR GENDER EQUALITY, ENVIRONMENTS AND MARGINALIZED VOICES

ISE4GEMs: A new approach for the SDG era







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# **ISE4GEMs**

INCLUSIVE SYSTEMIC EVALUATION FOR
GENDER EQUALITY, ENVIRONMENTS AND MARGINALIZED VOICES

A new approach for the SDG era

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# **FOREWORD**



Systems thinking is an innovative approach that can expand our awareness of global challenges to better respond to the circular nature of the world we live in. Global development is now recognized by

the 2030 Agenda as being characterized by multiple interconnected and indivisible realities as expressed in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With this understanding there is a need to think and act beyond one area of expertise or mandate to understand how the actions of our work contribute to the SDG goals and objectives. Systems thinking can help us in this endeayour.

With SDGs in mind, the UN Women Independent Evaluation Service initiated the development of a new evaluation approach entitled, *Inclusive Systemic Evaluation for Gender Equality, Environments and Marginalized Voices* (ISE4GEMs). The Guide is underpinned by inclusive systemic thinking and organizes evaluative practice to capture the intersectional linkages that

shape the lives of human and environmental systems. This publication was developed with support from the Australian Government's Endeavour Fellowship programme; James Cook University, Australia, and the Centre for Systems Studies at the University of Hull in the United Kingdom.

This Guide is meant to facilitate evaluation practitioners in applying the ISE4GEMs approach by providing both concept and practical tools. I encourage practitioners and learners alike to use this Guide to further strengthen their knowledge on systemic thinking and to use it to conduct inclusive evaluations.

Finally, I would like to thank the co-authors of the approach and this Guide for this timely contribution to evaluation.

Sincerely,

Verasak Liengsririwat

Verseak Lingswort

Director a.i., Independent Evaluation and Audit Services

# **AUTHOR'S PROLOGUE**

At present, there are significant changes underway in terms of our external world. Climate change has contributed to creating very real environmental, humanitarian and security crises, with more of the same expected in years to come. Economic and social policies are contributing to increasing inequalities, including gender inequalities, leaving some of the most vulnerable groups behind. The rapid advance of information and communications technologies are also creating both new opportunities as well as risks and challenges. These are just a few of many concurrent and overlapping changes happening at the global level, with other changes happening specific to regions, countries, communities and individuals.

The change and the complexity of the contexts within which we work is not new. These changes are part of a continuum that has likely existed since the beginning of time. What is new is our improved understanding of how this complexity may complicate those things that we have long considered to be more straightforward than they actually are including international development interventions.

The practice of evaluation is also ever evolving to improve quality and relevance in response to the changes in our external world to meet the demand for new learning, thinking and understanding. Inclusive Systemic Evaluation for Gender Equality, Environments and Marginalized Voices (hereon referred to as ISE4GEMs) is being introduced in

thisdocument as a new evaluation approach that hopes to contribute to this ongoing evolution. It puts forward an innovative systemic evaluation practice that addresses complexity and prioritizes issues within these three pressing domains for sustainable development: gender equality, environments and marginalized voices (GEMs).

Part A of this document introduces the theo- retical concepts that underpin the ISE4GEMs. Practitioners will be best able to understand and apply the approach if they have a basic understanding of these key concepts. Chapter 1 presents ISE4GEMs and some ideas of when and how it might be used. **Chapter 2** introduces the core concepts of systems thinking: interrelationships, perspectives and boundaries. Chapter 3 provides an explanation of the three intersectional dimensions prioritized through the GEMs framework. Chapter 4 brings systemic evaluation practice and intersectional analysis with the other elements (systemic theory of change [SToC], ethics, validity and rigour, participatory and transdisciplinary methods, and capacity development) that together define the ISE4GEMs approach.

Part B provides hands-on guidance and tools for practitioners to adapt and implement the ISE4GEMs approach. Chapter 5 covers planning, design and the development of the Boundary Story. Chapter 6 focuses on how to conduct an evaluation deploying transdisciplinary methods for data collection and

ethical safeguards. **Chapter 7** adviseson how to conduct systemic triangulation to arrive at evaluation results and develop an SToC. **Chapter 8** includes an overview of the capacity development opportunities throughout the evaluation process for social change, and suggests some relevant communication and dissemination methods.

The publication concludes with an <u>Authors'</u>
<u>Afterword</u>, followed by <u>Annexes</u> that include a <u>glossary of key terms</u>, the full set of <u>tools</u> referred to in <u>Part B</u>, and a complete <u>reference list</u>.

Last, but not least, the process to develop this approach and Guide has been a profoundand enjoyable professional and personal experience. We wish to thank our Advisory Group, peer reviewers, family and friends who have enthusiastically supported our efforts and provided sage advice and guidance throughout the process, adding to the rich-ness of our combined learning experience. This guidance is not able to be comprehensive given the complexity of achieving sustainable development. We see this ISE4GEMs Guide as a beginning and plan to continue to use and learn from this approach to further deepen our understanding of how to be part of, and contribute to, building a world that works for everyone.







# **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

GEMs	Gender Equality, Environments and Marginalized Voices			
GIA	Gender Impact Assessment			
ISE4GEMs	Inclusive Systemic Evaluation for Gender Equality, Environments and Marginalized Voice			
LGBTQI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, and Intersex			
NGO	Non-governmental Organization			
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal			
SToC	Systemic Theory of Change			
ТоС	Theory of Change			
ToR	Terms of Reference			
UN	United Nations			
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women			

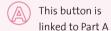
# **CONTENTS**



#### **INTERACTIVE PDF**

The best way to navigate this guide is as a PDF. There are navigation menus on each page, and interactive buttons that enable readers to quickly navigate the different sections:







## PART A: ISE4GEMS PRACTITIONER THEORY













41

Page 8

#### Introduction

1.1 Background	10
1.2 ISE4GEMs	12
1.3 When and how to use the ISE4GEMs	15

### **Systems thinking**

2.1 What is complexity?	16
2.2 Traditional approaches to addressing intervention complexity	20
2.3 What is systems thinking?	21
2.4 ISE4GEMs practitioner and boundary analysis	28

#### The GEMs framework

3.1 Intersectionality and the GEMs	
dimensions	30
3.2 The GEMs framework	36

### **ISE4GEMs** approach and the SToC

4.1	reedback	ιο	systems	anu	tne	510C
						39

4.2 Key elements of ISE4GEMs

# PART B: ISE4GEMS PRACTITIONER GUIDANCE











105



Page 49

PHASE I

## **Preparation and** design

Step 1: The Boundary	Story	5
Step 2: The evaluation	boundary	5

Step 3: ISE4GEMs Planning and Design considerations

PHASE II

#### **Data collection**

**ISE4GEMS TOOLS** 116

Step 1: First Data Collection Cycle	79
Step 2: Second Data Collection Cycle	e <b>82</b>

Step 3: Debriefing meeting and practitioner reflection 88

PHASE III

### **Data analysis, interpretation** and reporting

The Systemic Triangulation framework for data analysis 91

Develop the STOC and final boundary story (Optional) 102

Draft report conclusions and recommendations

CHAPTER



#### PHASE IV

## **Capacity development** for social change

Opportunities for capacity

deve	lopn	nent			
			100		

Dissemination and communication methods

Final practitioners' reflections

110

112

115



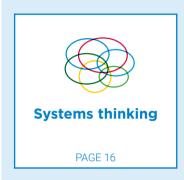




# Part A ISE4GEMs PRACTITIONER THEORY



- 1.1 Background
- **1.2** ISE4GEMs
- **1.3** When and how to use the ISE4GEMs



- **2.1** What is complexity?
- **2.2** Traditional approaches to addressing intervention complexity
- **2.3** What is systems thinking?
- **2.4** ISE4GEMs



- **3.1** Intersectionality and the GEMs dimensions
- **3.2** The GEMs framework

**Key takeaways** 



- **4.1** Feedback to systems and the SToC
- **4.2** Key elements of ISF4GFMs

**Key takeaways** 

# 预览已结束, 完整报告链接和二维码如下:

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