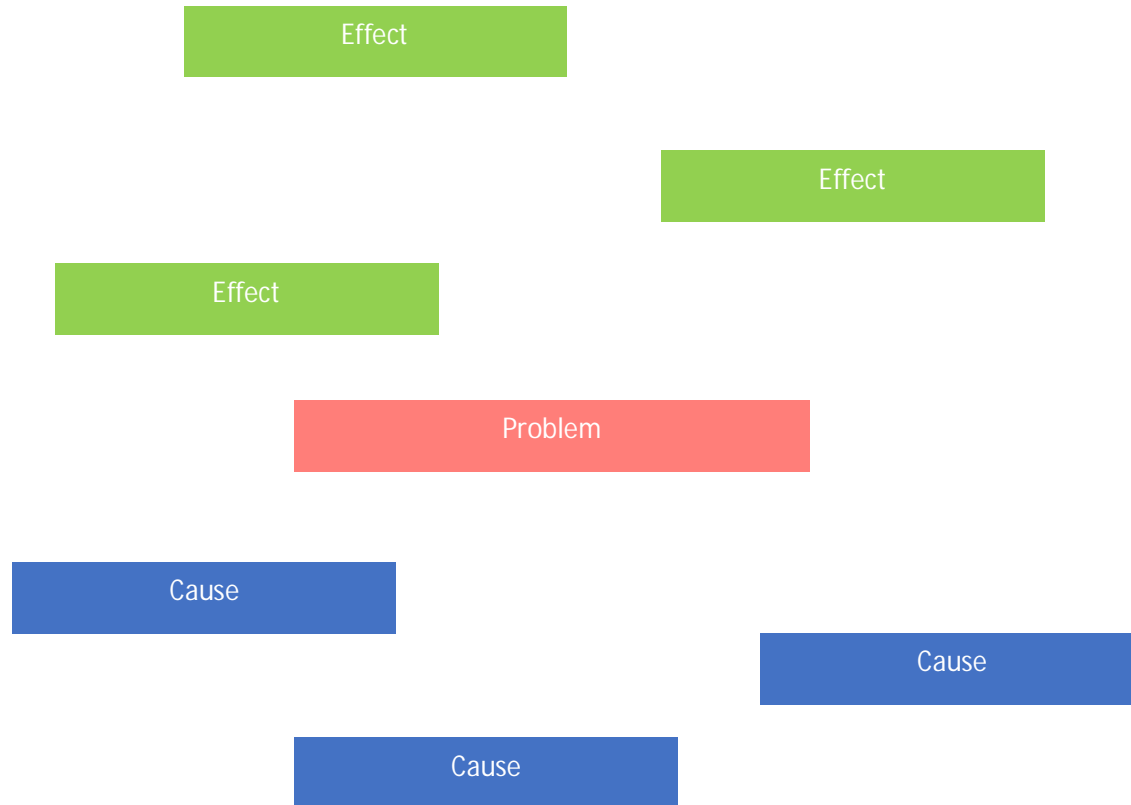CFAN Exercise: Part A

Problem Tree

In Session 2, we discussed the development of a problem tree as a key step in preparing a theory of change. In part A of this exercise, you will build a problem tree using the project idea for Country A.

As you'll recall from our session, at the centre of the problem tree lies the core problem. The roots are the causes of the problem and the branches are the effects. From the causes you work down to identify the underlying causes, while from the effects, you work up to identify the ultimate consequences. Remember to add arrows to demonstrate causal relationships between causes, the problem, and effects- this is a great way to check the logic of your tree. Click on the boxes to edit the text or draw your own diagram. You can add more boxes as needed.
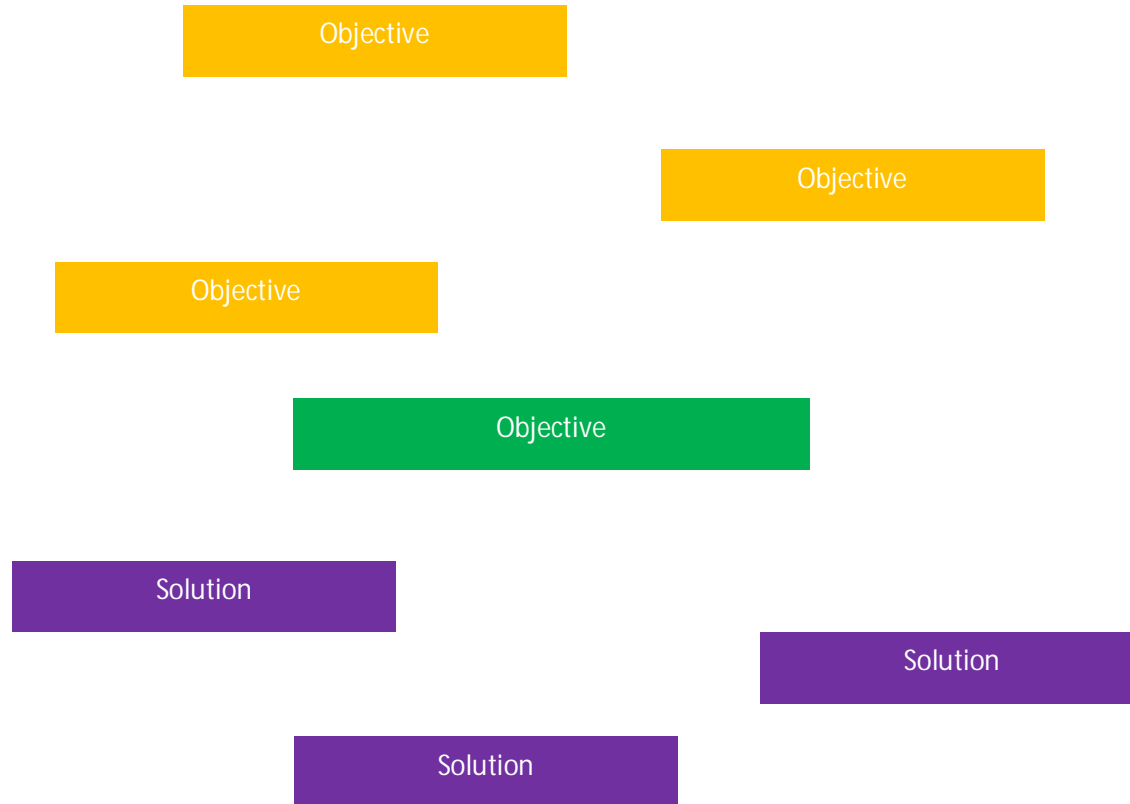
Effect

Effect

Effect

Problem

Cause

Cause

Cause

CFAN Exercise: Part B

Objectives Tree

Now that you've created a problem tree, we'll now move on to the objectives tree. As you'll recall from our session, the objectives tree is a positive mirror of the problem tree. In the objectives tree, you'll reformulate the problems from your problem tree into positive situations that are desirable and achievable. Remember to add arrows linking the items to one another- you can check the logic of your tree by using the arrows to describe the relationships between items with "if... then" statements. Click on the boxes to edit the text or draw your own diagram. You can add more boxes as needed.

Objective

Objective

Objective

Objective

Solution

Solution

Solution

CFAN Exercise: Part C

Theory of Change

Now that you have developed a problem and objectives tree, you are ready to build a theory of change. Using your problem and objectives trees, develop a theory of change for the project. You can use the structure presented on the next page as a template-please add more boxes as needed. Be sure to add arrows to highlight the linkages between items. Fill out as much of the diagram as you can- Click on the boxes to edit the text or draw your own diagram. Remember, the goal statement follows the if... then... because... format: "If the activities your project is undertaking are completed, then you will have addressed the core problem positively because the effects of your problem tree will have been realised."

Goal statement	If... then... because...		
Outcomes	Outcome 1		Outcome 2
Project results	Result 1	Result 2	Result 3
Project activities	Activity 1	Activity 2	Activity 3
Barriers	Barrier 1	Barrier 2	Barrier 3
Assumptions	Assumptions		