Training handout – MAPPINGS

The following questions can be asked for evaluating the ex-post sustainability of outputs/ outcomes and impacts, after agreements on scope of the evaluation and review of sufficient data quality:

Pre-field work: verify sustainability

1. What was the Theory of Sustainability?

   What assumptions were made in it and who is expected to sustain results, after reviewing stakeholder and other types of mapping?

2. What projected ratings of sustainability were made, if any, and can they be validated?

For the field work: possible questions to explore for the evaluation

Those questions should be discussed by stakeholders, who should decide whether all of them are a priority for the project and their needs?

3. What is still functioning, how well at ex-post and regarding resilience categories & RRT? Why or why not?
4. What conditions/inputs during project implementation were assumed at exit changed since closure?
5. What unexpected outcomes arose?
6. Why would results last (or not)/ for how long)?
7. How do implementing partners on the project see the long-term effects? Emerging ones?
8. How have sustained outcomes affected and been affected by underlying socio-ecological systems (climate resilience)?
9. What external shocks affected the participants, partners, natural system, wider country?

For the field work: questions to understand relevance

Those questions focus on the 'why'? (barriers and drivers of sustainability). They should also be discussed by stakeholders, who should decide whether all of them are a priority for the project and their needs?

10. How widely 'owned' were the activities/ outputs-outcomes to be sustained? By whom?
11. How did resources, capacities and partnerships get sustained?
12. How did the output/ outcome change as a result?
13. How well was the project handed over to local actors or other implementers/ donors/ partners?
14. What shifts in power relationships happened? How did the intervention change the power relations more widely e.g. gender, generational, systemic/organizational?
15. Did men, women, boys, and girls experience the results differently?
16. What recommendations from the project's final evaluation and subsequent studies were implemented and did they affect sustainability?
17. Are there lessons for other projects' design, implementation, timeframe, handover & exit?
18. How to plan for resilience better?

This is not an exhaustive list. Other questions can also come from the co-creation process.