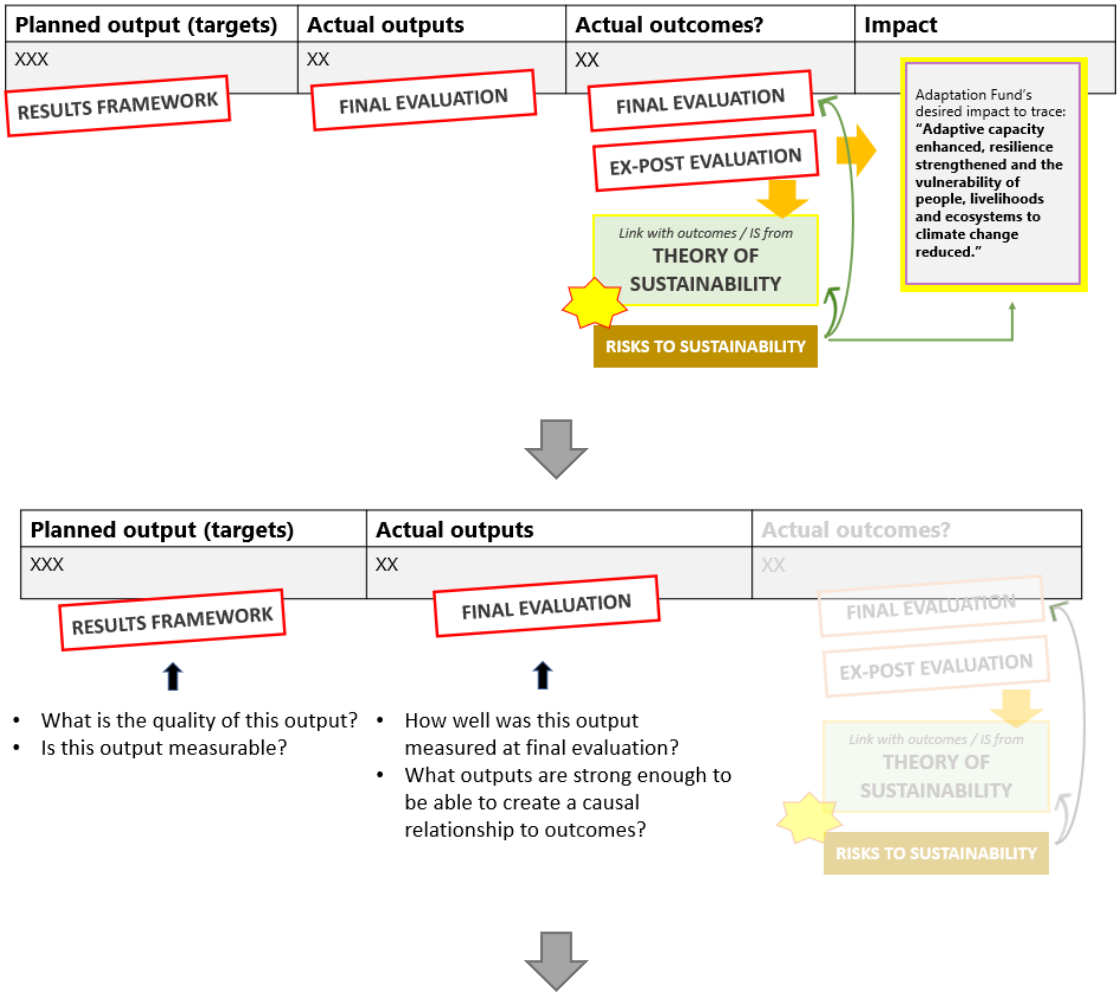
Training handout – OUTCOMES REVIEW FOR OUTCOME SELECTION

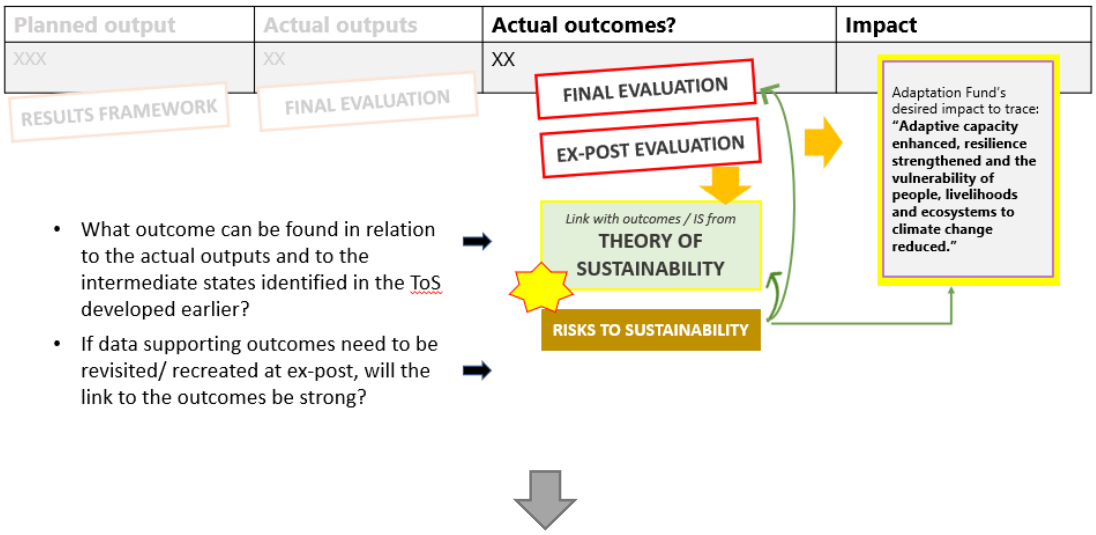
The process to review outcomes/ outputs allows to evaluate the most quantitatively traceable outcome indicators. It involves discussing the quality of outcomes and ability to evaluate outcomes by :

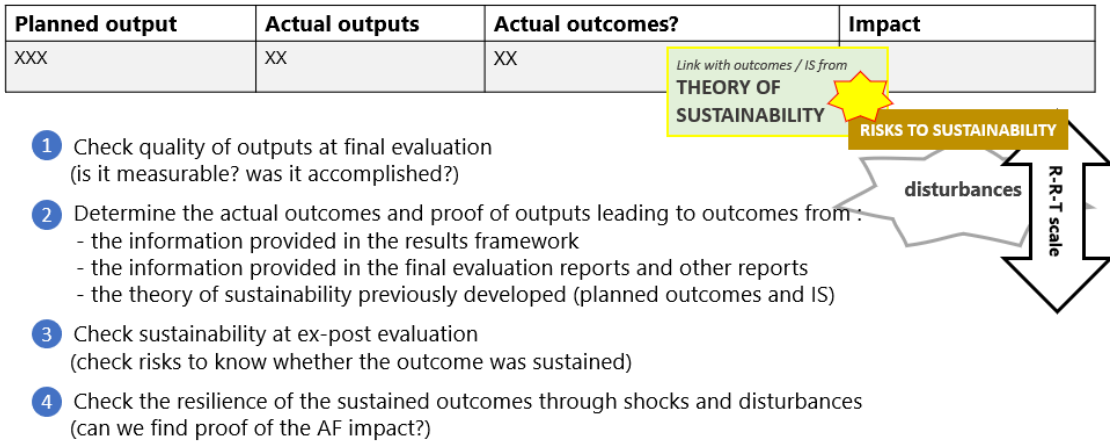
- reviewing more measurable outputs/ outcomes
- reviewing unmeasured outcomes
- checking the ability to evaluate incomplete outcomes or what needs to be recreated

After discussing the quality of outcomes, the process determines which outcomes link to impact, and in case of an incomplete outcome (or no outcome available), the recreation of an actual outcomes with the information provided in the results framework, evaluation reports, and the theory of change/ sustainability previously developed. Risks to sustainability and disturbances are taken into account to understand the sustainability and resilience of outcomes.

Example:







Applied example (measurable outputs):

Planned output	Actual outputs	Actual outcomes?
80 km of coastal roads and related infrastructure improved to withstand climate change and variability-induced stress	4 access roads (total length of 12 km) completed in 2016	**Data linking to actual outcomes**: the change from dirt pedestrian track to tarred road has facilitated mobility, especially for women and reduced risks in steep terrain for all people **Planned outcome TOS:** Increased protection of the road from coastal erosion
	Drainage maintenance works covers 16.9kms of flood-prone areas in the town area and was critical in alleviating flooding of main roads and properties during heavy rain.	
	Climate proofing measures implemented on coastal roads and related infrastructure in at least 10 districts and 40 villages	**IS2: Infrastructure to manage impacts induced by climate change and variability on shoreline, water supply, and road access are strengthened and can endure climate shocks** **RISKS:** very limited for roads with annual maintenance budgets **RISKS:** Possibility of sedimentation patterns changes caused by coastal infrastructure; risks of environmental degradation caused by relocation in the long-term – GoS should monitor in LT

1. ***Actual outputs:*** **go back and check measurable outputs**
2. ***Data linking to actual outcomes*****: Identify examples in the final evaluation that help you make a link with the outcome and intermediate states from the ToS**
   – those examples tell a small part of planned outcomes

3. *Actual outcomes*: Check actual outcomes of roads and related infrastructure improvement
   – proof that the road is protected from erosion;
   – proof that mobility was facilitated by tarred road

4. Check data on risks in order to know if the outcome was sustained
   e.g. was there annual maintenance budgets for roads?

Applied example (not measured outcomes):

Planned output/ outcome	What's measured (actual output)	What's not measured (actual outcome)
N. of population and communities accessing improved water sector services and infrastructure to manage impacts on water supply induced by climate change and variability	N. of population and communities accessing improved water sector services and infrastructure *e.g. 544 ind. /3 villages*	impacts on water supply induced by climate change and variability

RISKS: field visits showed some signs of poor-quality for IWS works but the main issue remains the lack of maintenance through regular community contribution

RISKS: poor governance resulting in uneven financial contributions to IWS's maintenance mechanisms

Data linking to actual outcome: the upgrading of IWS/individual water tanks has resulted in more steady pressure/flow rates (increased water quantity for personal hygiene and better availability during the entire year) and lesser health risks (rapid sand filtration), pool rehabilitation under CSSP is improving water access.

Planned outcome TOS: Increased access to water and support during water shortage period

IS2: Infrastructure to manage impacts induced by climate change and variability on shoreline, water supply, and road access are strengthened and can endure climate shocks

1. **Check actual outcomes of the project beyond the construction of infrastructures by looking for data that can show that the outcome actually materialized**
   e.g. what does upgrading mean? (proof of increased supply)
   e.g. data about the water tanks (how big, how much water provided, water quality, to how many people during what season?
2. **Check data on risks in order to know if the outcome was sustained**

Applied example (incomplete output):

Planned outputs	Actual
Regulatory procedures for physical works implementation was to be revised with climate change and disaster risks integrated by Q2 of 2018. At final evaluation, it is still under discussion (not finalized)	?
Interviews of communities have shown a list of priorities that are still to be covered by government future investments; however, there is little appetite shown by the government to push for direct relocation of the population under direct CCA disaster threat	?

IS1: Awareness and ownership of coastal adaptation and climate risk reduction processes are strengthened at community and national levels and coastal communities involved perceive risk reduction to climate-induced hazard

IS3: Coordination for the implementation of CIM Plans increases and institutional capacity of government sectors to integrate climate risk into coastal management policies & processes is strengthened

1. **Determine if data exists at final evaluation, or if we need retroactive ex-post recreation of outputs?**
2. **Check whether the outputs/ outcomes were finalized and what their sustainability is?**
   If finalized, check whether the outputs have data to link to outcomes
   If re-created at final, check retrospectively how good the outputs were?

Applied example (supportive outcome):

Planned output	Actual output	Actual outcomes
Flood protection measures are implemented in at least 5 districts and 15 villages: The objective of integrated flood-risk management plans/measures implemented in at least 10 watersheds/ 80 Km of waterways, involving at least 15 of villages may have been too ambitious.	A flood protection measure for the Vaisigano Catchment in Apia has been completed through the LDCF and EWAC funding. The Vaisigano project is protecting 11 communities.	**Planned outcome TOS:** Alleviation of flooding of main roads and properties during heavy rain
	The ERCC project contributed with a flood study of the Vaisigano Catchment in Apia. Other flood protection measures were supported on Savaii Island (one site) or Saleia revetment wall in Savaii	**IS2: Infrastructure to manage impacts induced by climate change and variability on shoreline, water supply, and road access are strengthened and can endure climate shocks**

SUPPORTIVE OUTCOMES / OUTPUTS

1. **Check for supportive outcomes (not standalone) that could support findings, and that could help rank the most effective outputs. These outcomes are good candidates for contribution analysis.**
   e.g. there is no mention of the Vaisigano mileage covered by the ERCC project.
   e.g. supporting road and infrastructure maintenance, village-led CIM plans that support climate-resilience

How do we review sustainability and resilience characteristics of outcomes?

Sustainability:

Consider the following questions to select and evaluate 1 outcome for ex-post fieldwork :

a. **What data is available and of greatest interest** to evaluate by stakeholders?

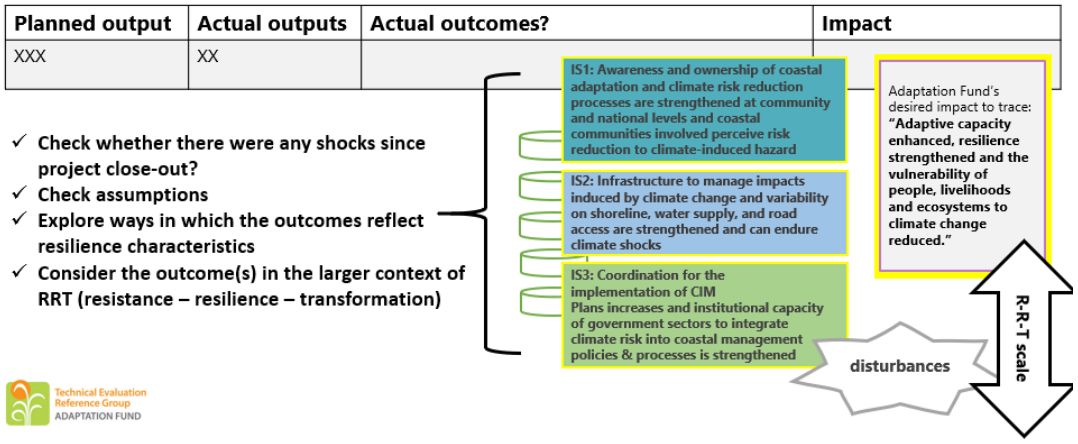
b. **Benchmarking** for ex-post sustainability and tracing participants and partners

c. **What would be necessary for results to be sustained**/ still functioning well?

d. **Was there any monitoring/ evaluation done since exit of outputs/ outcomes**? What can be traced?

e. **What array of stakeholders** will be involved in ex-post learning, stakeholder mapping, regional/ national debriefs (w/representatives from wider groups)?

Resilience:



Example infrastructure (review checklist):

Sustainability:

- ✓ **Resources** - How is infrastructure being maintained? does it generate income or resources for anyone?
- ✓ **Partnerships and local ownership** - Who benefits from it being there? Who is using it/demanding it?
- ✓ **Capacity building** - What behavioral changes or policy changes have happened or are possible thanks to it? What priorities are changed? What new info or other benefits came out of it?
- ✓ **Emerging sustainability** - What modifications or changes are needed or were made locally to make it more useful or used?
- ✓ **Evaluation of risks** - What is the risk management plan? What other systems rely on this infrastructure? are there liabilities?

- ✓ **Impacts** - Is the structure still standing (and expected to based on engineering inputs/expert analysis)?

Resilience:

- ✓ **Disturbances** – What climate shocks and stressors (disturbances) does this infrastructure resist? How have the disturbances changed since project closing?
- ✓ **Systems** – In what systems does the infrastructure sit (human and natural)? What structures and functions does it fulfill in those systems?
- ✓ **Characteristics** - What resilience characteristics does the infrastructure exhibit in the face of climate disturbances (feedback loops, redundancy, diversity etc.)? Are the characteristics locally valued?
- ✓ **Means and Actions** – What activities and resources are being used to ensure the infrastructure continues to exhibit these resilience characteristics? In what ways and for how long?
- ✓ **Resistance – Resilience – Transformation** – Where on the RRT typology does the sustained infrastructure outcome sit overall? To what extent did impacts influence/affect targeted systems?