



MONITORING SYSTEMIC CHANGE AND EARLY CHANGE IN INCLUSIVE MARKET SYSTEMS FACILITATION

Background

The [Leveraging Economic Opportunities](#) (LEO) project aims to support the capacity of USAID staff and its development partners to design and implement evidence-based programs that facilitate [inclusive market systems development](#). LEO is working to improve monitoring practice by identifying promising methods and tools for monitoring systemic change and early change—changes that occur prior to achieving project goals of sustainably reducing poverty and food insecurity at scale. To expand our understanding of systemic change and improve donor and implementer capacity to monitor early progress in value chain and market systems investments, LEO is focusing on these questions:

- How can we know if systemic change is occurring or has occurred?
- How can we identify early changes that reflect progress in a market systems facilitation project, before systemic changes and final project goals have had enough time to occur?
- What practical methods and tools can we use to monitor systemic change and early change?
- How can these results contribute to improving the management of facilitation activities?

Learning Objectives

1. Identify indicators and domains of systemic change. Building on a recent LEO review of [evaluating systems and systemic change](#), we seek to identify useful indicators of systemic change and the contexts where they are appropriate to apply.
2. Document current trends in monitoring systemic change and early progress. In collaboration with leading practitioners and networks, we will identify the most promising methods and tools and document experiences with their use in the field.
3. Capture successful monitoring practices for adaptive management. Effective facilitation implies sensitivity and adaptation to emergent conditions and dynamic events. We will explore how practitioners are rapidly applying findings on systemic and early changes to improve their programming.

Collaboration

In coordination with leading implementers and networks, including SEEP's [MaFI initiative](#), the [DCED](#) and the [BEAM Exchange](#), LEO is seeking collaboration with implementers on the following activities:

1. Identifying the current state of practice: We need to hear from you!
 - How do you define early change and systemic change in your activities?
 - What methods and tools do you use to detect and measure early and systemic changes?
 - Would you like to learn more about a specific approach for measuring systemic change?
2. Supporting field testing: We will provide technical support for a limited number of implementers in the selection, design and/or implementation of methods and tools for capturing systemic change.
3. Disseminating learning: We will engage with implementers to document and share their learning—findings, lessons, challenges and questions—in order to expand capacity within the community.

If your organization is interested in monitoring systemic change and early change within the context of inclusive market systems facilitation and would like to participate in collaborative learning, please contact LEO at ben@MarketShareAssociates.com.