

DGF'S THEORY OF CHANGE

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What is a ToC

- A Theory of Change is an outcomes-based approach to programming which applies **critical thinking** to the **design**, **implementation** and **evaluation** of initiatives and programmes intended to support change in their contexts (Vogel, 2012)
- It depicts a pathway from the issue to be addressed to the ultimate desired outcome.

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- A ToC is a representation of **how** a project, programme or policy initiative is expected to lead to the outcomes or impact.
 - Casual pathways to change
 - A proposed evidence based model of how change will happen
 - The fundamental assumptions about change
 - The actors that will be involved

Formulating a ToC

- Context analysis - Identify the issues/problem: the causes and consequences of this problem; and the opportunities
- Clarify the aspects of the problem your intervention will address
 - There are so many problems
 - Prioritize

Catch and income of fishing families in decline

Riverine ecosystem under serious threat, including declining fish stocks

High incidence of water borne diseases and illnesses, particularly among poor families and under 5s

Effects



River water quality is deteriorating

Problems

High levels of solid waste dumped into river

Most households and factories discharge wastewater directly into the river

Wastewater treated in plants does not meet environmental standards



Causes

Polluters are not controlled

Population not aware of the danger of waste dumping

Existing legal regulations are inadequate to prevent direct discharge of wastewater

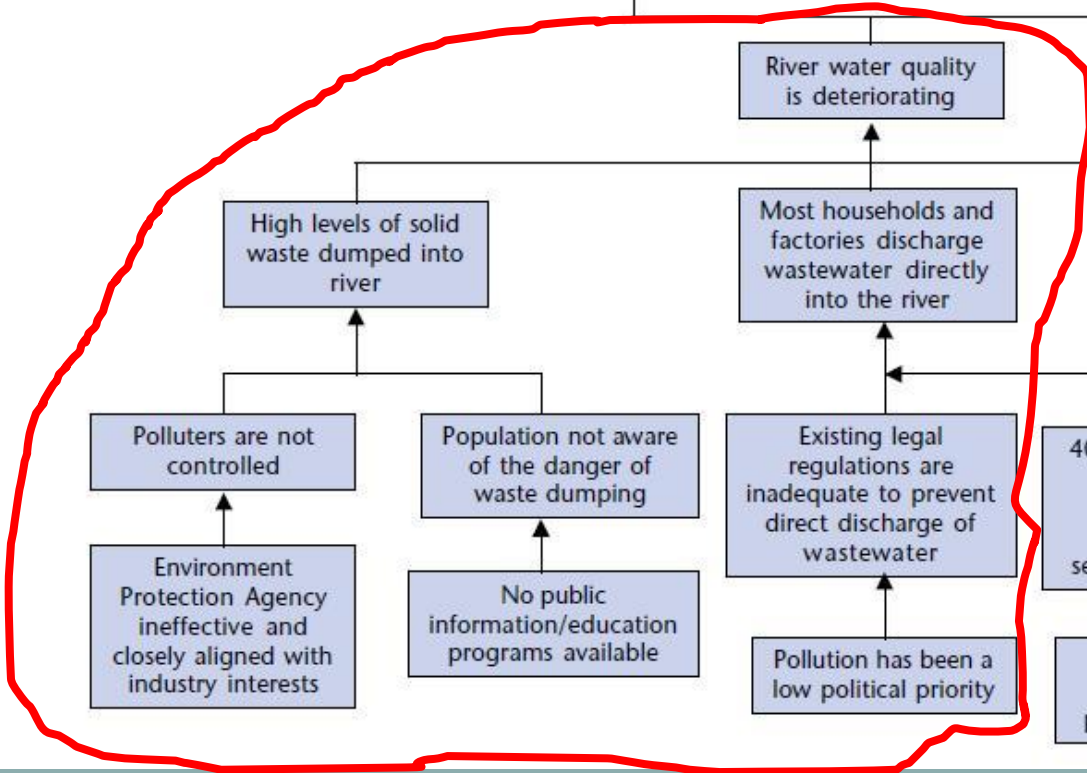
40% of households and 20% of businesses not connected to sewerage network

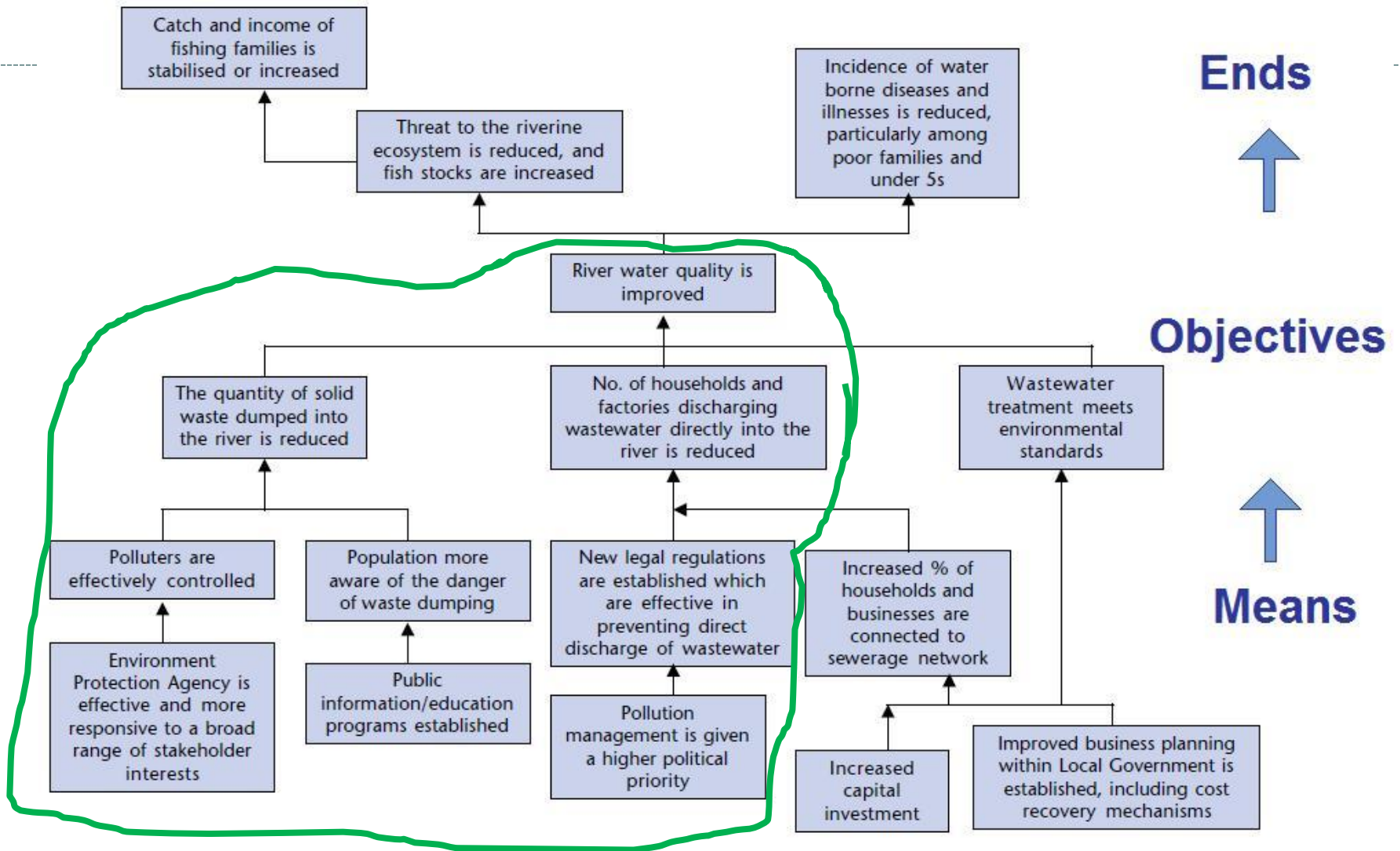
Environment Protection Agency ineffective and closely aligned with industry interests

No public information/education programs available

Pollution has been a low political priority

Inadequate levels of capital investment and poor business planning within Local Government





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- Make the goal/impact explicit
 - Work out the outcomes that contribute to the impact
 - outcomes should also be something that your project can clearly make a difference to; hence they should be feasible, given your scale activity, and short-term (but also linked logically to your long-term goal).

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- Agree on the intervention , the activities/outputs
 - need to consider how your activities will contribute to the change
 - For each outcome, work out the activities
 - Important questions to ask:
 - The resources you will use.
 - The features that make activities particularly successful.
 - Involvement of stakeholders in your project.
 - The other factors could help or hinder your work (assumptions) – which should be monitored
 - what evidence already exists that is relevant to your theory of change

The DGF ToC



DGF ToC.doc

Thank you for listening

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Uganda”*