Overview and Applications of the USAID Research Translation Toolkit

Considering the Importance of Research Translation

April 21, 2023

While we wait for others to join, please introduce yourself in the chat by entering your name, affiliation, country of residence, and why you joined this webinar.

RESEARCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

WEBINAR AGENDA

- Welcome & Audience Activity
- Overview of the Research Translation Toolkit
- A Focus on the Research-to-Action Process
- The Context for Research Utilization under RTAC

ACTIVITY

WORD CLOUD: IN YOUR EXPERIENCE, WHAT FACTORS INFLUENCE RESEARCH UPTAKE?

ACTIVITY RESULTS

In your experience, what factors influence research uptake?

Mentimeter

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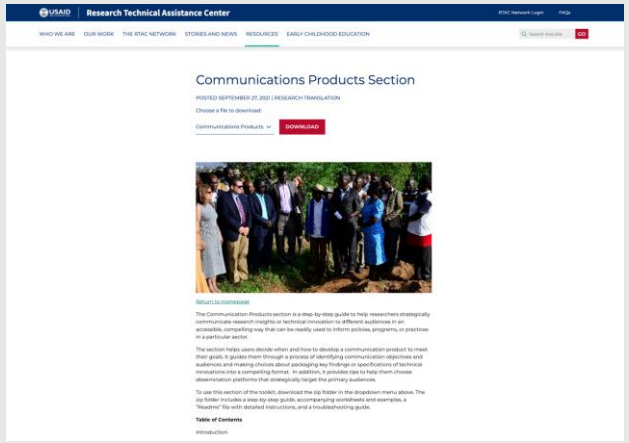
OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO RESEARCH TRANSLATION

- The Research Translation Toolkit is a comprehensive, standalone resource that can be used by anyone who wants to bridge the gap between research production and research utilization.
- Each section includes exercises, fillable forms, and templates to help you apply the information in the toolkit to your own work.

ONE TOOLKIT, THREE SECTIONS

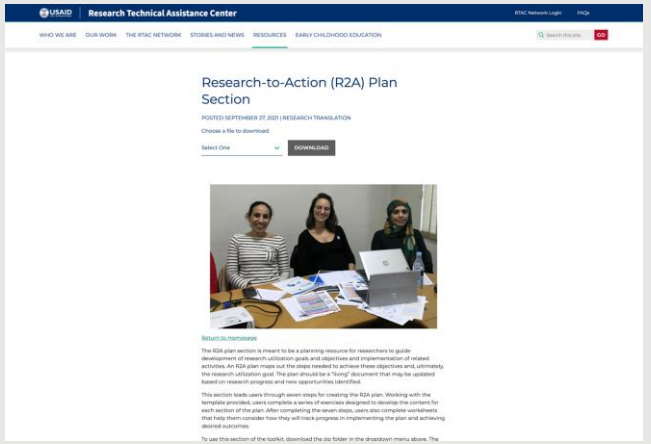


SECTION 1

Stakeholder Analysis

SECTION 2

Communication Products

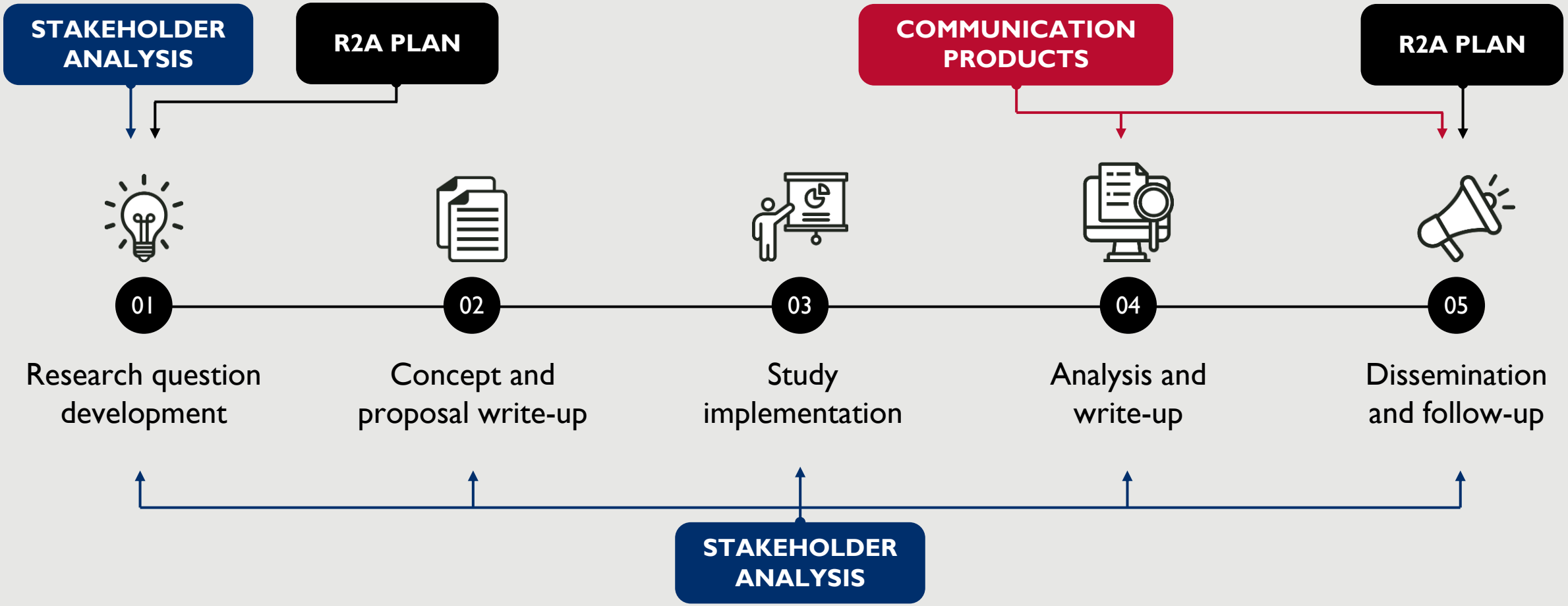


SECTION 3

Research-to-Action (R2A) Plan

When used together, these three sections can help you craft strategies and messages to influence decisions and achieve development impact more effectively throughout the research process.

TOOLKIT SECTIONS ARE USEFUL AT CRITICAL STAGES IN THE RESEARCH PROCESS

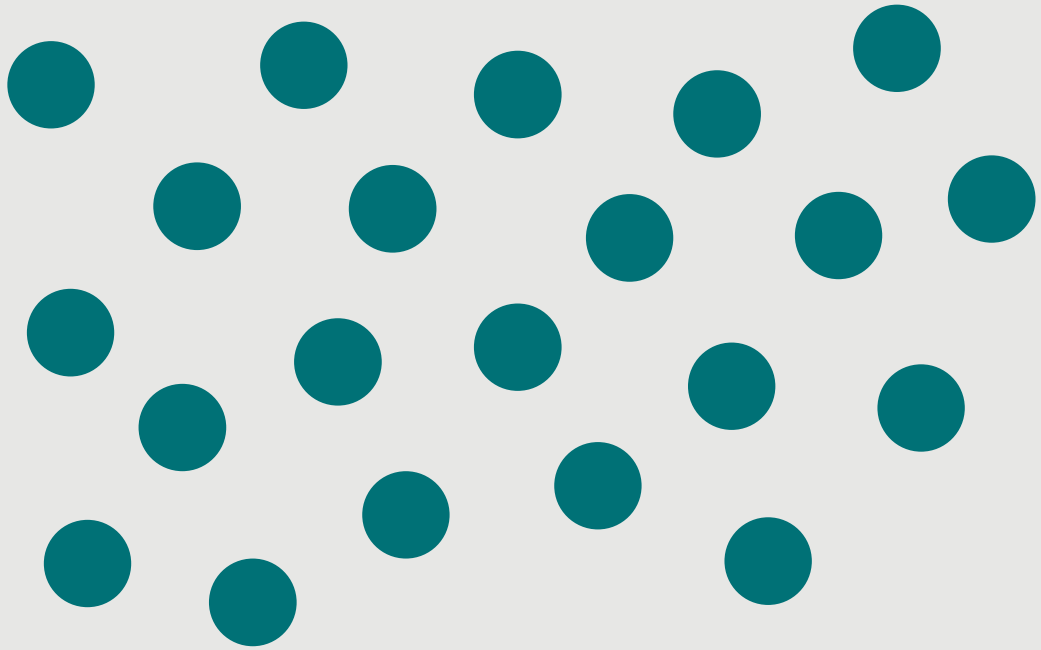


USING THE TOOLKIT IN REAL-WORLD SCENARIOS

SUCCESSFUL STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Improving Diagnosis and Treatment of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in Tunisia

Prioritized according to high level of influence and/or capacity to support a “quick win.”



SUCCESSFUL COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS

Childhood Tuberculosis in the Philippines

01 Analyzed data

02 Identified barriers

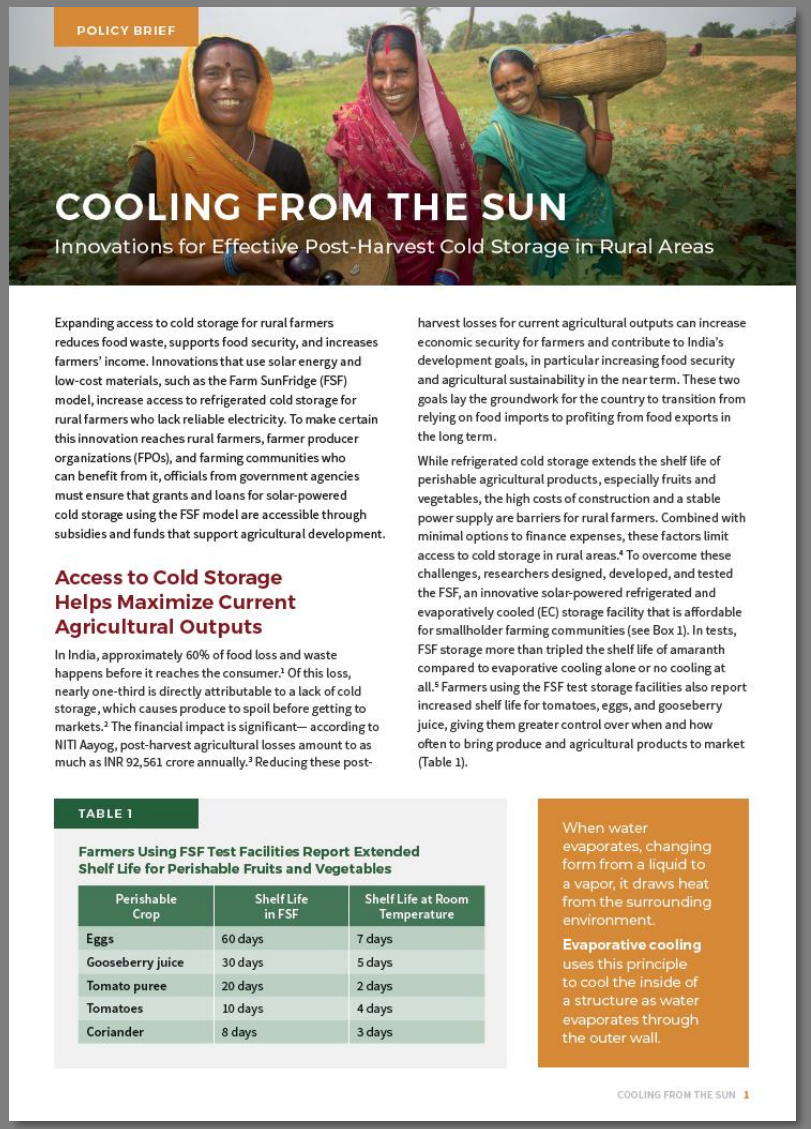
05 Determined stakeholders' communication preferences

06 Packaged findings in a factsheet

SUCCESSFUL R2A PLANNING

IMPROVING CROP STORAGE IN INDIA

- Research team set R2A goals focused on reaching national and subnational stakeholders.
- Identified several immediate, actionable next steps to work toward these goals.



POLICY BRIEF

COOLING FROM THE SUN

Innovations for Effective Post-Harvest Cold Storage in Rural Areas

Expanding access to cold storage for rural farmers reduces food waste, supports food security, and increases farmers' income. Innovations that use solar energy and low-cost materials, such as the Farm SunFridge (FSF) model, increase access to refrigerated cold storage for rural farmers who lack reliable electricity. To make certain this innovation reaches rural farmers, farmer producer organizations (FPOs), and farming communities who can benefit from it, officials from government agencies must ensure that grants and loans for solar-powered cold storage using the FSF model are accessible through subsidies and funds that support agricultural development.

Access to Cold Storage Helps Maximize Current Agricultural Outputs

In India, approximately 60% of food loss and waste happens before it reaches the consumer.[1] Of this loss, nearly one-third is directly attributable to a lack of cold storage, which causes produce to spoil before getting to markets.[2] The financial impact is significant— according to NITI Aayog, post-harvest agricultural losses amount to as much as INR 92,561 crore annually.[3] Reducing these post-harvest losses for current agricultural outputs can increase economic security for farmers and contribute to India's development goals, in particular increasing food security and agricultural sustainability in the near term. These two goals lay the groundwork for the country to transition from relying on food imports to profiting from food exports in the long term.

While refrigerated cold storage extends the shelf life of perishable agricultural products, especially fruits and vegetables, the high costs of construction and a stable power supply are barriers for rural farmers. Combined with minimal options to finance expenses, these factors limit access to cold storage in rural areas.[4] To overcome these challenges, researchers designed, developed, and tested the FSF, an innovative solar-powered refrigerated and evaporatively cooled (EC) storage facility that is affordable for smallholder farming communities (see Box 1). In tests, FSF storage more than tripled the shelf life of amaranth compared to evaporative cooling alone or no cooling at all.[5] Farmers using the FSF test storage facilities also report increased shelf life for tomatoes, eggs, and gooseberry juice, giving them greater control over when and how often to bring produce and agricultural products to market (Table 1).

TABLE 1

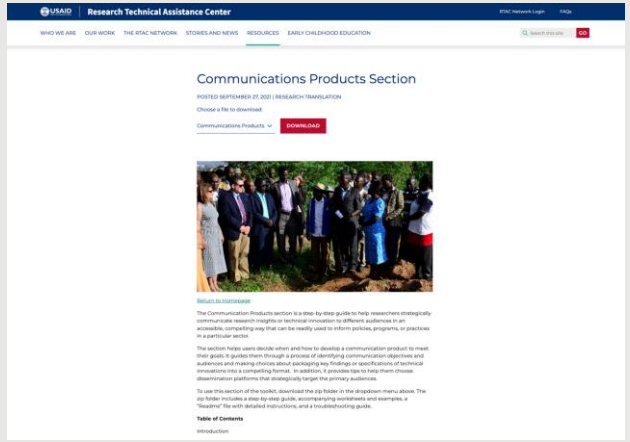
Farmers Using FSF Test Facilities Report Extended Shelf Life for Perishable Fruits and Vegetables

Perishable Crop	Shelf Life in FSF	Shelf Life at Room Temperature
Eggs	60 days	7 days
Gooseberry juice	30 days	5 days
Tomato puree	20 days	2 days
Tomatoes	10 days	4 days
Coriander	8 days	3 days

When water evaporates, changing form from a liquid to a vapor, it draws heat from the surrounding environment.

Evaporative cooling uses this principle to cool the inside of a structure as water evaporates through the outer wall.

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS SECTION

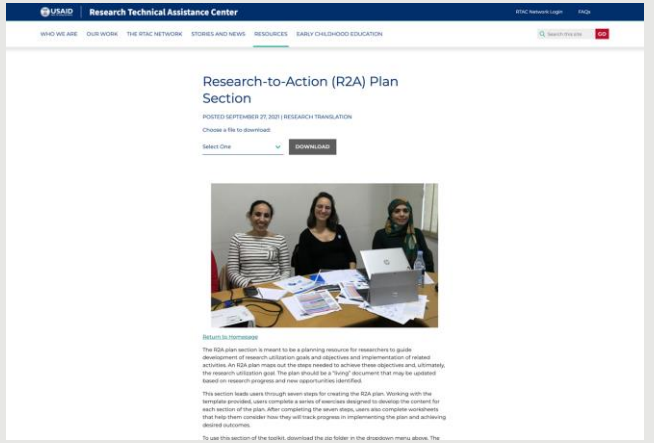


SECTION 1

Stakeholder Analysis

SECTION 2

Communication Products



SECTION 3

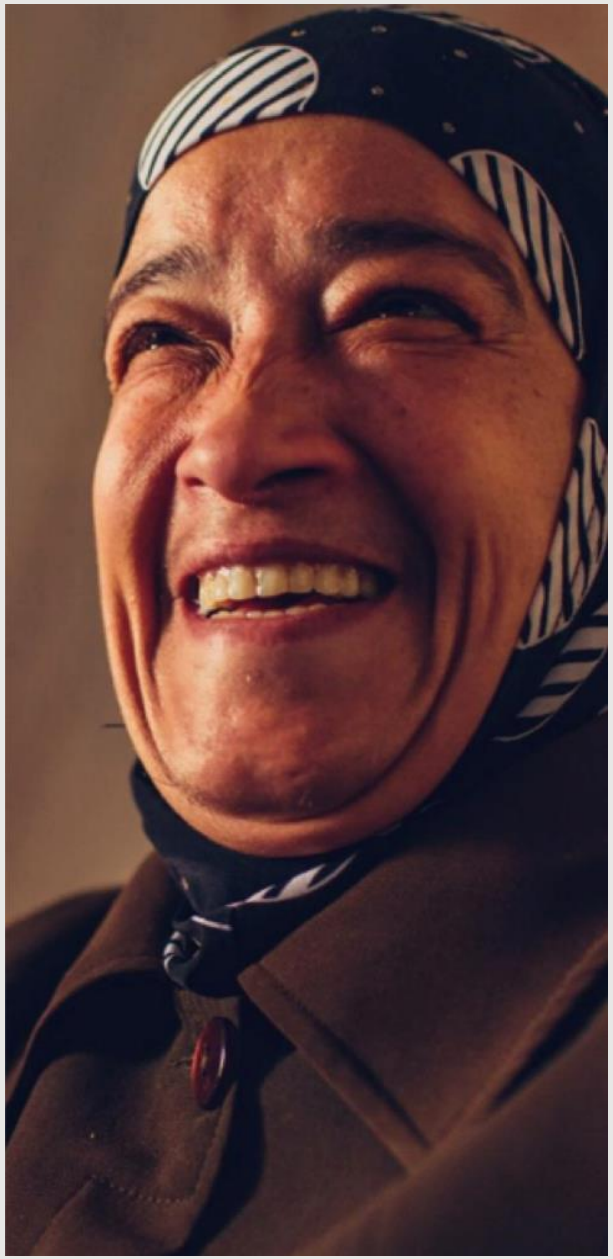
Research-to-Action (R2A) Plan

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS SECTION

IDENTIFY AND ENGAGE

The Stakeholder Analysis section can help you identify influential individuals or groups who might use your research and plan effective engagement with them.

This will increase the impact of your research insights or technical innovations.



WHEN TO USE

Use this section when you want to:

- Understand your stakeholders' interests, influences, motivations, and knowledge of the subject matter.
- Determine which stakeholders are most important to engage in the research process, and when and how to engage them.
- Learn tips for how to interview stakeholders.

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

STEP 1: Identify Stakeholders

- Worksheet 1: *Stakeholder Identification*

STEP 2: Prioritize Stakeholders

- Worksheet 2a: *Stakeholder Prioritization*
- Worksheet 2b: *Stakeholder Mapping Matrix* (optional)

STEP 3: Understand Stakeholders

- Worksheet 3: *Stakeholder Information*
- Resource: *Stakeholder Interview Guide*

STEP 4: Plan Stakeholder Engagement

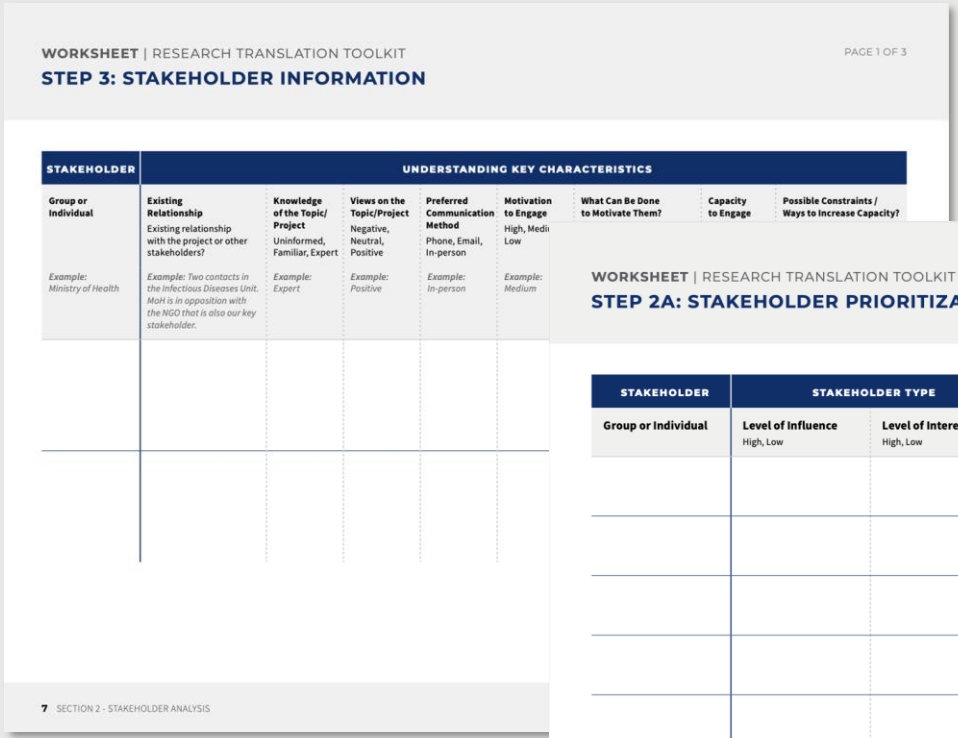
- Worksheet 4: *Stakeholder Engagement Plan by Project Stage*
- Template: *Short-Term Stakeholder Engagement Plan*
- Example: *Short-Term Stakeholder Engagement Plan*

STEP 5: Track Stakeholder Engagement

- Worksheet 5: *Stakeholder Engagement Tracking Plan*

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS SECTION

HANDS-ON TOOLS



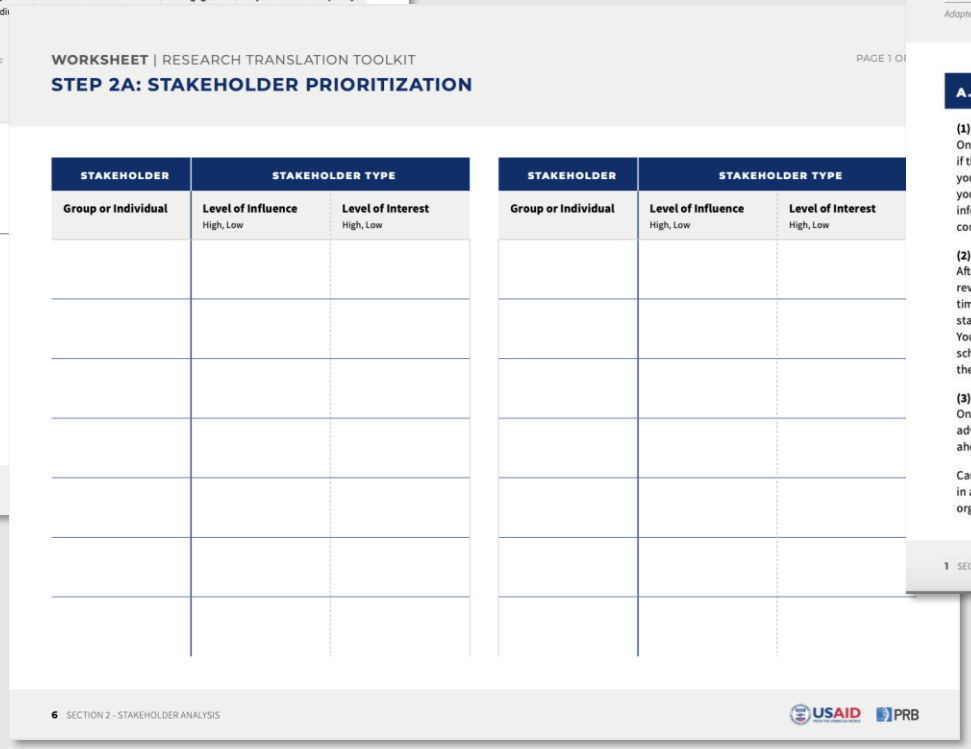
WORKSHEET | RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

PAGE 1 OF 3

STEP 3: STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION

STAKEHOLDER	UNDERSTANDING KEY CHARACTERISTICS							
Group or Individual	Existing Relationship Existing relationship with the project or other stakeholders?	Knowledge of the Topic/ Project Uninformed, Familiar, Expert	Views on the Topic/Project Negative, Neutral, Positive	Preferred Communication Method Phone, Email, In-person	Motivation to Engage High, Medi Low	What Can Be Done to Motivate Them?	Capacity to Engage	Possible Constraints / Ways to Increase Capacity?
Example: Ministry of Health	*Example: Two contacts in the Infectious Diseases Unit. MoH is in opposition with the NGO that is also our key stakeholder.*	*Example:* Expert	*Example:* Positive	*Example:* In-person	*Example:* Medium			

7 SECTION 2 - STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS



WORKSHEET | RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

PAGE 1 OF

STEP 2A: STAKEHOLDER PRIORITIZATION

STAKEHOLDER	STAKEHOLDER TYPE	
Group or Individual	Level of Influence High, Low	Level of Interest High, Low

STAKEHOLDER	STAKEHOLDER TYPE	
Group or Individual	Level of Influence High, Low	Level of Interest High, Low

6 SECTION 2 - STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

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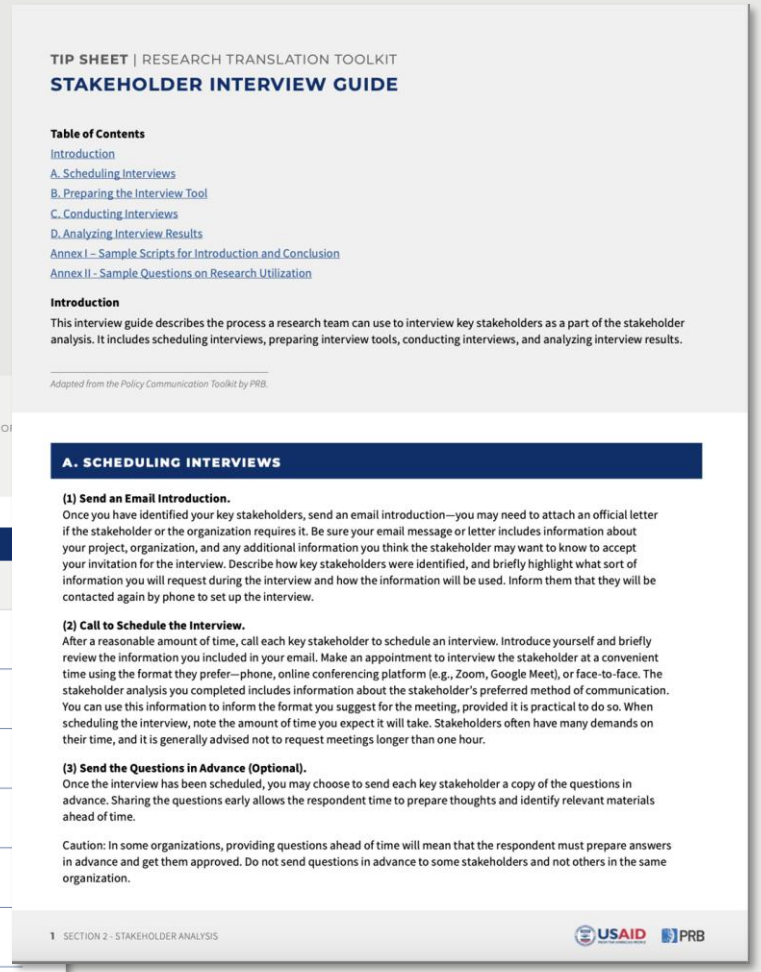

TIP SHEET | RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW GUIDE

Table of Contents

Introduction
A. Scheduling Interviews
B. Preparing the Interview Tool
C. Conducting Interviews
D. Analyzing Interview Results
Annex I – Sample Scripts for Introduction and Conclusion
Annex II - Sample Questions on Research Utilization

Introduction

This interview guide describes the process a research team can use to interview key stakeholders as a part of the stakeholder analysis. It includes scheduling interviews, preparing interview tools, conducting interviews, and analyzing interview results.

Adapted from the Policy Communication Toolkit by PRB.

A. SCHEDULING INTERVIEWS

(1) Send an Email Introduction.
Once you have identified your key stakeholders, send an email introduction—you may need to attach an official letter if the stakeholder or the organization requires it. Be sure your email message or letter includes information about your project, organization, and any additional information you think the stakeholder may want to know to accept your invitation for the interview. Describe how key stakeholders were identified, and briefly highlight what sort of information you will request during the interview and how the information will be used. Inform them that they will be contacted again by phone to set up the interview.

(2) Call to Schedule the Interview.
After a reasonable amount of time, call each key stakeholder to schedule an interview. Introduce yourself and briefly review the information you included in your email. Make an appointment to interview the stakeholder at a convenient time using the format they prefer—phone, online conferencing platform (e.g., Zoom, Google Meet), or face-to-face. The stakeholder analysis you completed includes information about the stakeholder's preferred method of communication. You can use this information to inform the format you suggest for the meeting, provided it is practical to do so. When scheduling the interview, note the amount of time you expect it will take. Stakeholders often have many demands on their time, and it is generally advised not to request meetings longer than one hour.

(3) Send the Questions in Advance (Optional).
Once the interview has been scheduled, you may choose to send each key stakeholder a copy of the questions in advance. Sharing the questions early allows the respondent time to prepare thoughts and identify relevant materials ahead of time.

Caution: In some organizations, providing questions ahead of time will mean that the respondent must prepare answers in advance and get them approved. Do not send questions in advance to some stakeholders and not others in the same organization.

1 SECTION 2 - STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

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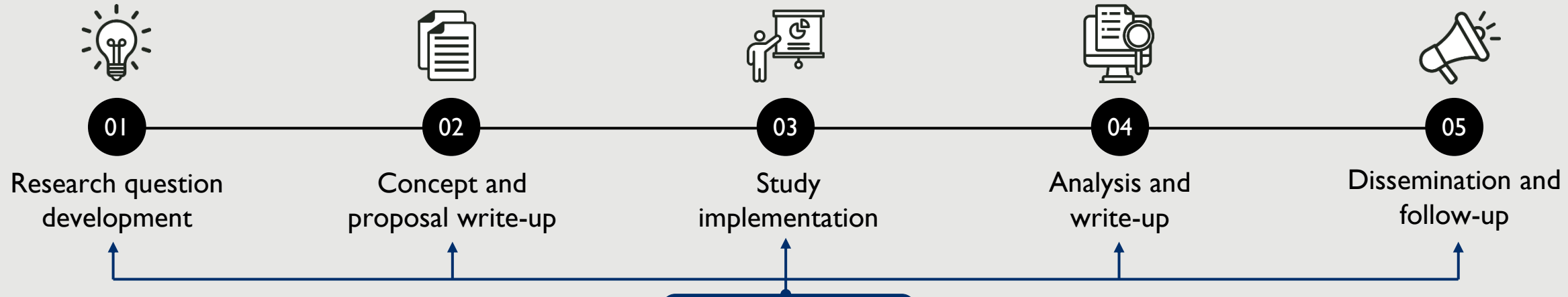
STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS SECTION

USEFUL ACROSS THE RESEARCH PROCESS

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

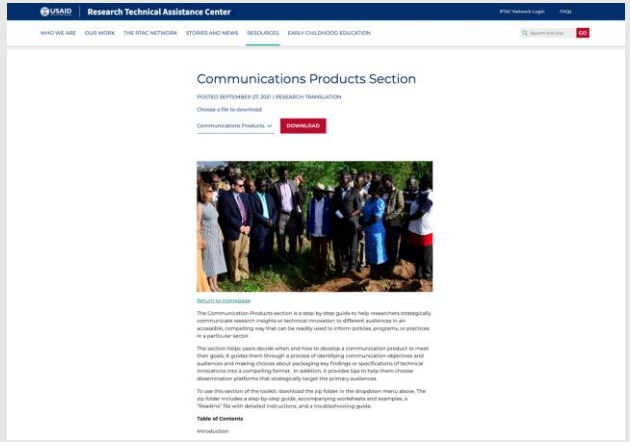
Use this section as early as possible so stakeholders can be engaged to give their input before your research questions and/or approach are finalized.



STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Use this section at any stage of your research project because stakeholder roles may vary at each stage; engagement is an ongoing, iterative process that continues through the project.

COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS SECTION

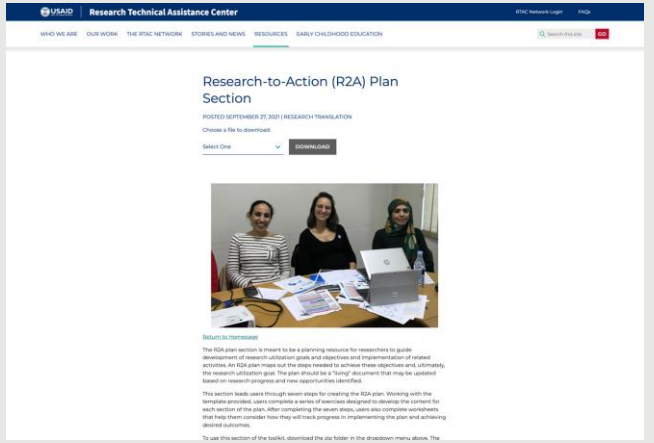


SECTION 1

Stakeholder Analysis

SECTION 2

Communication Products



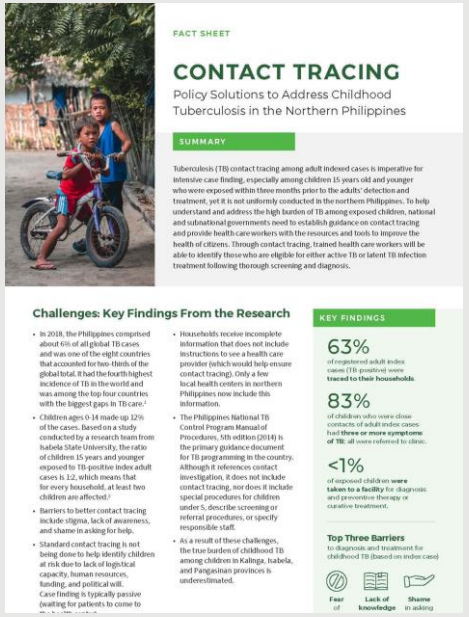
SECTION 3

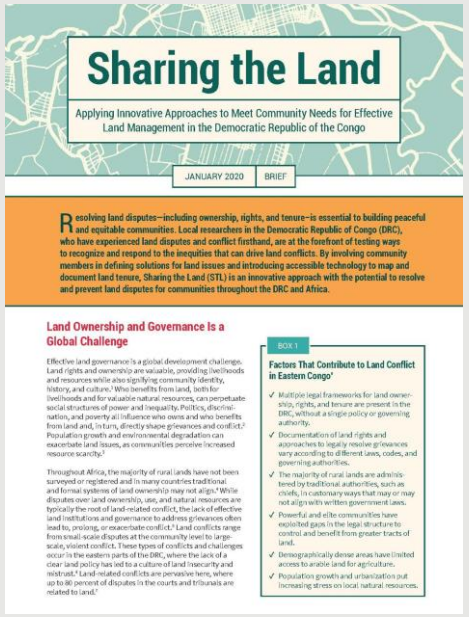
Research-to-Action (R2A) Plan

COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS SECTION

FORMAT & MESSAGING

The Communication Products Section will help you craft main messages and choose the right format to share your research insights or technical innovations with stakeholders in a way that motivates them to use your evidence to inform policies, programs, or practices.





WHEN TO USE

Use this section when you want to:

- Tell a story using your data and information.
- Tailor your main messages to your audiences' interests.
- Package your research results in the format that is most likely to capture your stakeholders' attention so the results will be used.

COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS SECTION

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Step 1: Identify Communication Objectives

- Worksheet: *Communication Objectives and Audiences*

Step 2: Identify Audiences

- Worksheet: *Communication Objectives and Audiences*

Step 3: Identify Main Messages

- Worksheet: *How to Craft Main Messages*

Step 4: Use Accessible Language

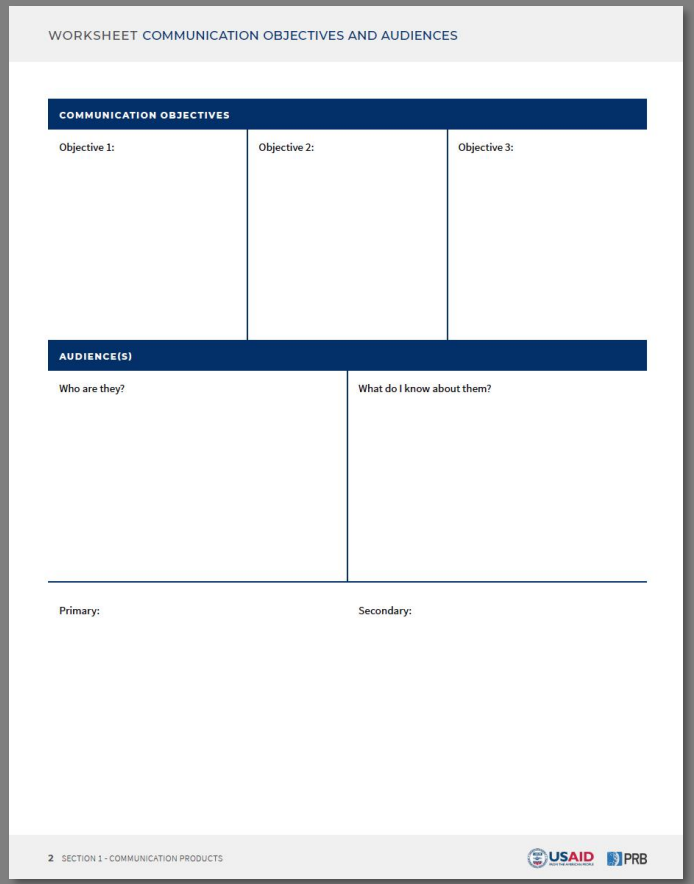
- Tip Sheet: *Tips and Tricks for Writing Accessibly*

Step 5: Identify Resources and Develop the Product

- Tip Sheet: *Timeline and Budget Considerations*
- Example Fact Sheet: *Contact Tracing*
- Example Fact Sheet: *Educating Moroccan Youth*
- Example Policy Brief: *Damming the Ecosystems of Amazonia*
- Example Policy Brief: *Sharing the Land*
- Worksheet: *Communication Product Outline for Fact Sheets and Policy Briefs*
- Template: *Fact Sheet*
- Template: *Policy Brief*
- Checklist: *Developing a Communication Product*
- Tip Sheet: *Types of Communications Professionals*

COMMUNICATION PRODUCT SECTION

HANDS-ON TOOLS



WORKSHEET COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCES

COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVES

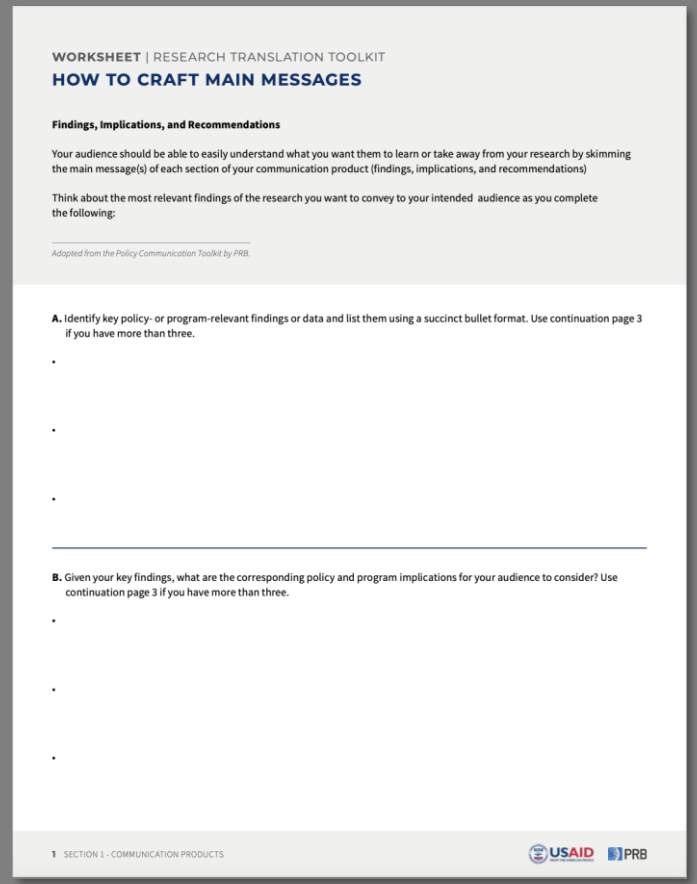
Objective 1:	Objective 2:	Objective 3:

AUDIENCE(S)

Who are they?	What do I know about them?

Primary: Secondary:

2 SECTION 1 - COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS



WORKSHEET | RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

HOW TO CRAFT MAIN MESSAGES

Findings, Implications, and Recommendations

Your audience should be able to easily understand what you want them to learn or take away from your research by skimming the main message(s) of each section of your communication product (findings, implications, and recommendations)

Think about the most relevant findings of the research you want to convey to your intended audience as you complete the following:

Adapted from the Policy Communication Toolkit by PRB.

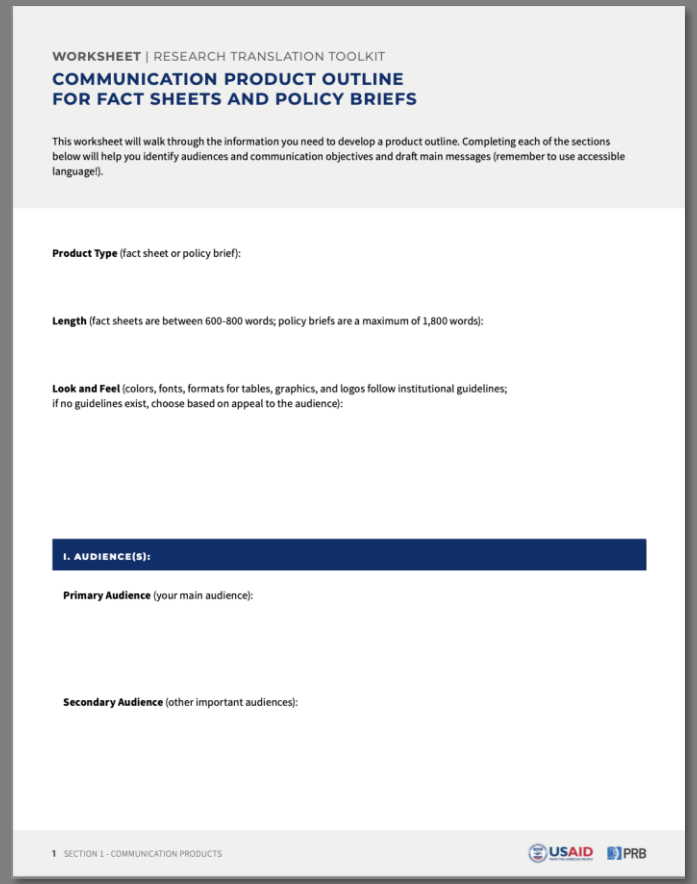
A. Identify key policy- or program-relevant findings or data and list them using a succinct bullet format. Use continuation page 3 if you have more than three.

-
-
-

B. Given your key findings, what are the corresponding policy and program implications for your audience to consider? Use continuation page 3 if you have more than three.

-
-
-

1 SECTION 1 - COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS



WORKSHEET | RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

COMMUNICATION PRODUCT OUTLINE FOR FACT SHEETS AND POLICY BRIEFS

This worksheet will walk through the information you need to develop a product outline. Completing each of the sections below will help you identify audiences and communication objectives and draft main messages (remember to use accessible language!).

Product Type (fact sheet or policy brief):

Length (fact sheets are between 600-800 words; policy briefs are a maximum of 1,800 words):

Look and Feel (colors, fonts, formats for tables, graphics, and logos follow institutional guidelines; if no guidelines exist, choose based on appeal to the audience):

I. AUDIENCE(S):

Primary Audience (your main audience):

Secondary Audience (other important audiences):

1 SECTION 1 - COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS

COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS SECTION

USEFUL ACROSS THE RESEARCH PROCESS

COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTS SECTION

It is best to use this section when you have sufficient data to support your claims; clear results; and actionable, evidence-based recommendations.

01 Research question development

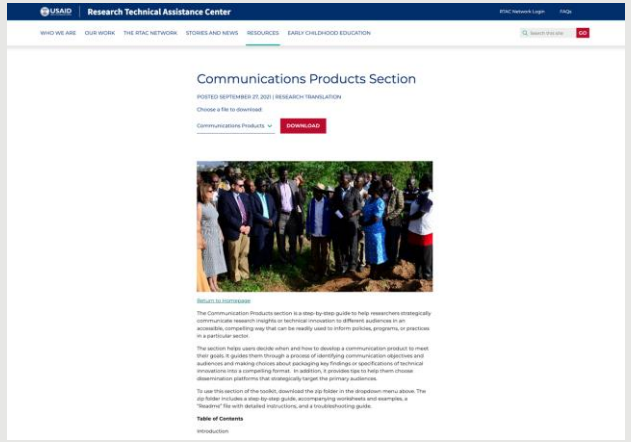
02 Concept and proposal write-up

03 Study implementation

04 Analysis and write-up

05 Dissemination and follow-up

RESEARCH-TO-ACTION (R2A) PLAN SECTION

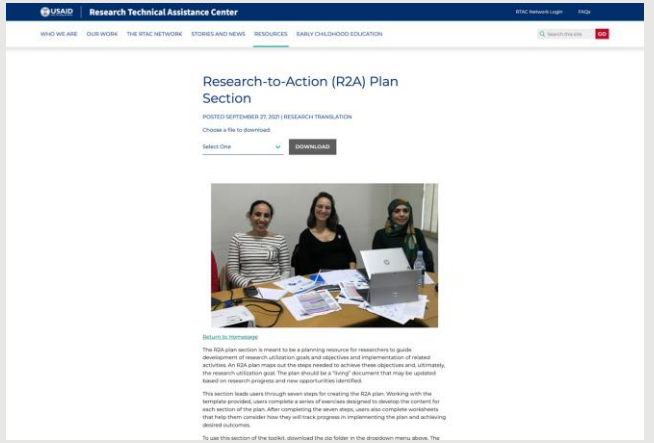


SECTION 1

Stakeholder Analysis

SECTION 2

Communication Products



SECTION 3

Research-to-Action (R2A) Plan

R2A PLAN SECTION

PREPARING FOR ACTION

The R2A Plan section helps you develop a step-by-step plan to communicate your research findings, attract influential stakeholders, and ensure your research leads to action.

You should revisit and update your R2A plan over time.

R2A PLAN SECTION

WHEN TO USE

Use this section when you want to:

- Leverage your stakeholder analysis and communication products.
- Identify the types of changes or decisions that could be made based on your research evidence.
- Ensure your messages are clearly communicated, compelling, and credible to your audience.
- Identify opportunities to highlight your research findings and generate interest in their use.

R2A PLAN SECTION

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

STEP 1a: Set Research-to-Action Goals

- R2A Plan Template: *Box 1a*

STEP 1b: Summarize Major Project Results

- R2A Plan Template: *Box 1b*

STEP 2: Stakeholder Analysis—Identify, Prioritize and Engage

- R2A Plan Template: *Box 2a and Box 2b*

STEP 3: Assess the Policy Environment

- R2A Plan Template: *Box 3*

STEP 4: Distill Main Messages and Develop Actionable Recommendations

- R2A Plan Template: *Box 4a and Box 4b*

STEP 5: Package Research in User-Friendly Formats and Disseminate

- R2A Plan Template: *Box 5a and Box 5b*

STEP 6: Develop an R2A Plan Timeline and Checklist

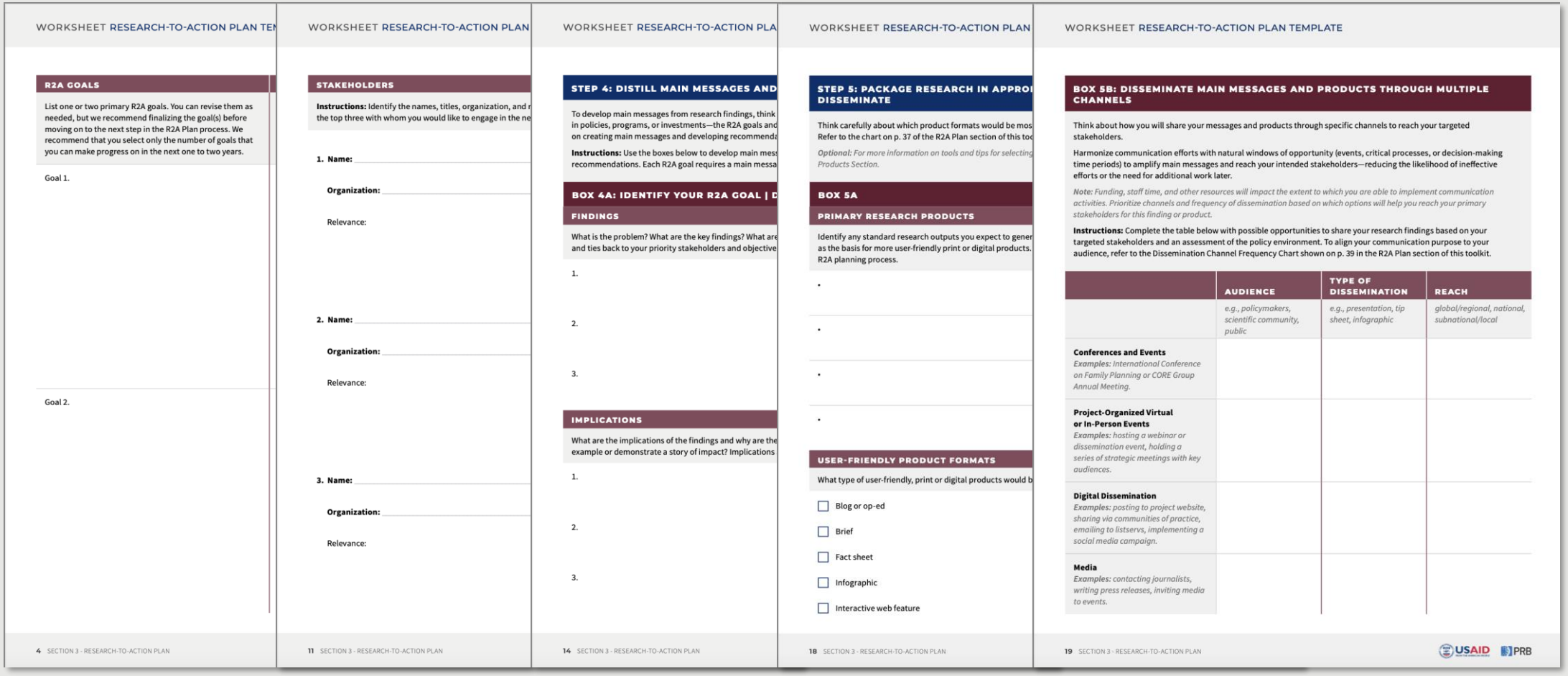
- R2A Plan Template
- R2A Checklist
- R2A Timeline Worksheet
- R2A Timeline Example

Step 7: Regularly Track Progress and Measure Success

- R2A Plan Template
- R2A Progress Tracking Worksheet

R2A PLAN SECTION

HANDS-ON TOOLS



WORKSHEET RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

R2A GOALS

List one or two primary R2A goals. You can revise them as needed, but we recommend finalizing the goal(s) before moving on to the next step in the R2A Plan process. We recommend that you select only the number of goals that you can make progress on in the next one to two years.

Goal 1.

Goal 2.

4 SECTION 3 - RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN

WORKSHEET RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN

STAKEHOLDERS

Instructions: Identify the names, titles, organization, and r
the top three with whom you would like to engage in the ne

1. **Name:** _____

Organization: _____

Relevance:

2. **Name:** _____

Organization: _____

Relevance:

3. **Name:** _____

Organization: _____

Relevance:

11 SECTION 3 - RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN

WORKSHEET RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLA

STEP 4: DISTILL MAIN MESSAGES AND

To develop main messages from research findings, think
in policies, programs, or investments—the R2A goals and
on creating main messages and developing recommenda

Instructions: Use the boxes below to develop main mess
recommendations. Each R2A goal requires a main messa

BOX 4A: IDENTIFY YOUR R2A GOAL | D

FINDINGS

What is the problem? What are the key findings? What are
and ties back to your priority stakeholders and objective

1.

2.

3.

IMPLICATIONS

What are the implications of the findings and why are the
example or demonstrate a story of impact? Implications

1.

2.

3.

14 SECTION 3 - RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN

WORKSHEET RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN

STEP 5: PACKAGE RESEARCH IN APPROI DISSEMINATE

Think carefully about which product formats would be mos
Refer to the chart on p. 37 of the R2A Plan section of this too

*Optional: For more information on tools and tips for selecting
Products Section.*

BOX 5A

PRIMARY RESEARCH PRODUCTS

Identify any standard research outputs you expect to gener
as the basis for more user-friendly print or digital products.
R2A planning process.

-
-
-
-

USER-FRIENDLY PRODUCT FORMATS

What type of user-friendly, print or digital products would b

- ☐ Blog or op-ed
- ☐ Brief
- ☐ Fact sheet
- ☐ Infographic
- ☐ Interactive web feature

18 SECTION 3 - RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN

WORKSHEET RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

BOX 5B: DISSEMINATE MAIN MESSAGES AND PRODUCTS THROUGH MULTIPLE CHANNELS

Think about how you will share your messages and products through specific channels to reach your targeted stakeholders.

Harmonize communication efforts with natural windows of opportunity (events, critical processes, or decision-making time periods) to amplify main messages and reach your intended stakeholders—reducing the likelihood of ineffective efforts or the need for additional work later.

Note: Funding, staff time, and other resources will impact the extent to which you are able to implement communication activities. Prioritize channels and frequency of dissemination based on which options will help you reach your primary stakeholders for this finding or product.

Instructions: Complete the table below with possible opportunities to share your research findings based on your targeted stakeholders and an assessment of the policy environment. To align your communication purpose to your audience, refer to the Dissemination Channel Frequency Chart shown on p. 39 in the R2A Plan section of this toolkit.

	AUDIENCE	TYPE OF DISSEMINATION	REACH
	e.g., policymakers, scientific community, public	*e.g., presentation, tip sheet, infographic*	*global/regional, national, subnational/local*
Conferences and Events *Examples: International Conference on Family Planning or CORE Group Annual Meeting.*			
Project-Organized Virtual or In-Person Events *Examples: hosting a webinar or dissemination event, holding a series of strategic meetings with key audiences.*			
Digital Dissemination *Examples: posting to project website, sharing via communities of practice, emailing to listservs, implementing a social media campaign.*			
Media *Examples: contacting journalists, writing press releases, inviting media to events.*			

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R2A PLAN SECTION

USEFUL ACROSS THE RESEARCH PROCESS

R2A PLAN

Use this section as you begin planning your research to help you think about how you want your results to be used and how to involve/inform stakeholders throughout the research process.

R2A PLAN

Use this section to assess your results, determine who needs to hear about them, and develop a plan to convey significant implications to these stakeholders.

01 Research question development

02 Concept and proposal write-up

03 Study implementation

04 Analysis and write-up

05 Dissemination and follow-up

TYING IT ALL TOGETHER

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Use this section as early as possible so stakeholders can be engaged to give their input before your research questions and/or approach are finalized.

R2A PLAN

Use this section as you begin planning your research to help you think about how you want your results to be used and how to involve/inform stakeholders throughout the research process.

COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTS

It is best to use this section when you have sufficient data to support your claims; clear results; and actionable, evidence-based recommendations.

R2A PLAN

Use this section to assess your results, determine who needs to hear about them, and develop a plan to convey significant implications to these stakeholders.

01 Research question development

02 Concept and proposal write-up

03 Study implementation

04 Analysis and write-up

05 Dissemination and follow-up

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Use this section at any stage of your research project because stakeholder roles may vary at each stage; engagement is an ongoing, iterative process that continues through the project.

A VITAL RESOURCE FOR RESEARCHERS

THE RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

Research can change the world—but only when it is communicated effectively to those who can improve programs and policies.

USAID's Research Technical Assistance Center has developed a participatory Research Translation Toolkit that helps you communicate your research findings effectively, so the right people learn about them at the right time for informed decision-making. Exercises, fillable forms, templates, and other resources walk you through how to effectively **influence key decisions** and **achieve development impact**.

Each Toolkit section guides you through a series of steps to engage with stakeholders throughout the research process and beyond.

Communication Products Section

Craft main messages and choose the right format to share your research insights or technical innovations with stakeholders in a way that motivates them to use evidence to inform policies, programs, or practices.

USE IF YOU WANT TO:

- ☑ Use your data and information to tell a story.
- ☑ Tailor your main messages to your audience's interests.
- ☑ Package your research results in the format that is most likely to capture your stakeholders' attention so the results will be used (e.g., fact sheets, policy briefs, infographics, presentations, etc.).

EXPLORE THE COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS SECTION

Stakeholder Analysis Section

Identify influential individuals or groups who might use your research, and plan effective engagement with them to increase the impact of your research insights or technical innovations.

USE IF YOU WANT TO:

- ☑ Understand your stakeholders' interests, influence, motivation, and knowledge of the subject matter.
- ☑ Determine which stakeholders are most important to engage in the research process, and when and how to engage them.
- ☑ Learn tips for how to interview stakeholders.

EXPLORE THE STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS SECTION

Research-To-Action (R2A) Plan Section

Develop a step-by-step plan to communicate your research findings, attract influential stakeholders, and ensure your research leads to action. You should revisit and update your R2A plan over time.

USE IF YOU WANT TO:

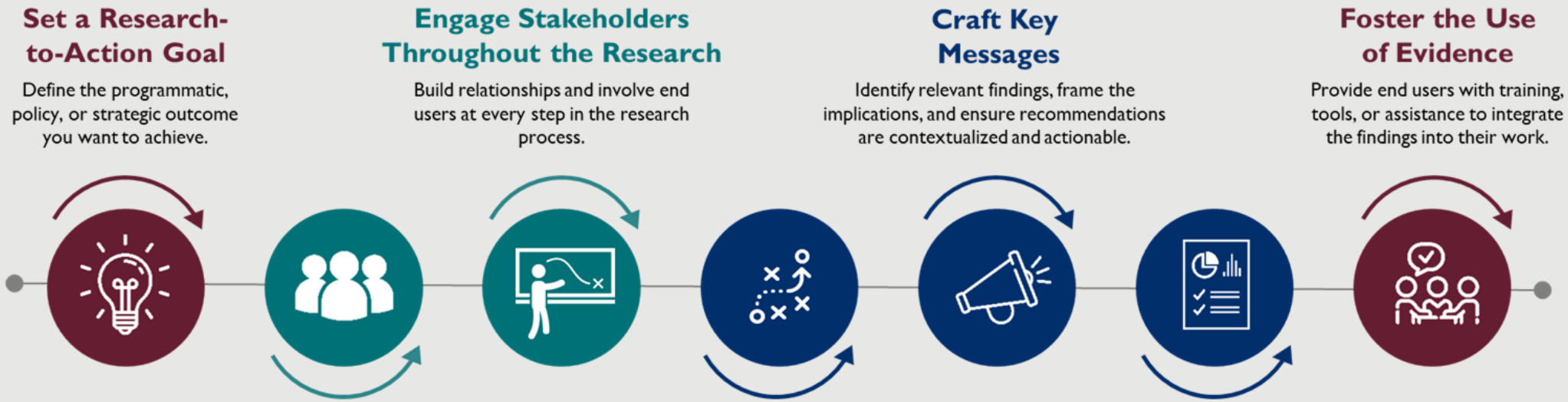
- ☑ Create a strategic plan to leverage your Stakeholder Analysis and Communication Products.
- ☑ Identify the types of changes or decisions that could be made based on your research evidence.
- ☑ Ensure your messages are clearly communicated, compelling, and credible to your audience.
- ☑ Identify opportunities to highlight your research findings and generate interest in their use.

EXPLORE THE R2A PLAN SECTION

THE RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PROCESS

FROM RESEARCH TO ACTION PLAN TO PRACTICE

EACH STEP IN R2A PLANNING BRIDGES THE RESEARCH-TO-PRACTICE GAP



TRACK AND MEASURE SUCCESS

R2A PLANNING TO SUPPORT FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES

KATHMANDU INSTITUTE OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN NEPAL

R2A PLANNING TO SUPPORT FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES IN NEPAL

- Developed device to measure pesticide residue on vegetable and fruit samples.
- Developed technology to detect the infective stages of parasitic organisms.

R2A PLANNING TO SUPPORT FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES IN NEPAL (CONTINUED)

GOAL:

- To increase testing capacity to detect pesticide contamination of vegetables and fruit using PesticidePAD technology.

OBJECTIVES

1) To get approval of PesticidePAD from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development.

2) To adapt PesticidePAD based on feedback from stakeholders.

R2A PLANNING TO SUPPORT FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES IN NEPAL (CONTINUED)

Time Duration (2021–2022) - 18 months

Activity	Aug -Oct	Nov -Jan	Feb- Apr	May -Jul	Aug -Oct	Nov -Jan
1a) Organize meeting with NARC to develop a program for validation study.						
1b) Compare three methods of pesticide detection—PesticidePAD, RBPR, and GC-MS— in collaboration with NARC.						
1c) Share the output from activity 1b among NARC officials and get recommendation.						
2a) Organize stakeholder meeting and technology demonstration.						
2b) Organize short trainings for students, private sector, community groups, and farmers.						
2c) Introduce the PesticidePAD lab module in university curricula/trainings.						

COUNTING WOMEN'S WORK PROJECT

USING THE R2A PLAN SECTION IN WEST AFRICA

MOTIVATION FOR USING THE RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

- Counting Women's Work Project historically has produced estimates of time women, men, and children spend doing unpaid care work.
- These estimates are published in database at www.countingwomenswork.org.
- The effort has been guided by a paradigm about the effects of unpaid work on women's economic status and what needs to change. The first step toward change being recognition of this work and the final step being action that changes national economic context and policy.

TRANSITIONING TO ACTION

- Collaborated with a partner organization: Centre d'Excellence Régional en Economie Générationnelle (CREG).
- Facilitated use of selected tools from the R2A Plan section of the toolkit, working with country team members identified by ONDD (Observatoire national du dividende démographique) in each country: Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Sénégal, Togo.

ANALYSIS WORKSHOPS PROVIDE "RESEARCH RESULTS"

Participants:

- Data experts
- Thematic experts
- National Time Transfer Accounts

Output:

- Report

EXAMPLE COUNTRY RESEARCH ANALYSIS

Research Goal

- Integrate the monetary value of unpaid housework time into household income and GDP calculations

Research Results

- Over the life cycle, the time devoted to domestic work is more important for women between the ages of 21 and 44, where it reaches 16 hours per week (at age 25) compared to just under 3 hours for men.
- The age at when the most time is spent on domestic work is age 25 for women and age 15 for men. The annual value of women's unpaid work at this peak is more than six times the value for men.

EXAMPLE COUNTRY RESEARCH ANALYSIS

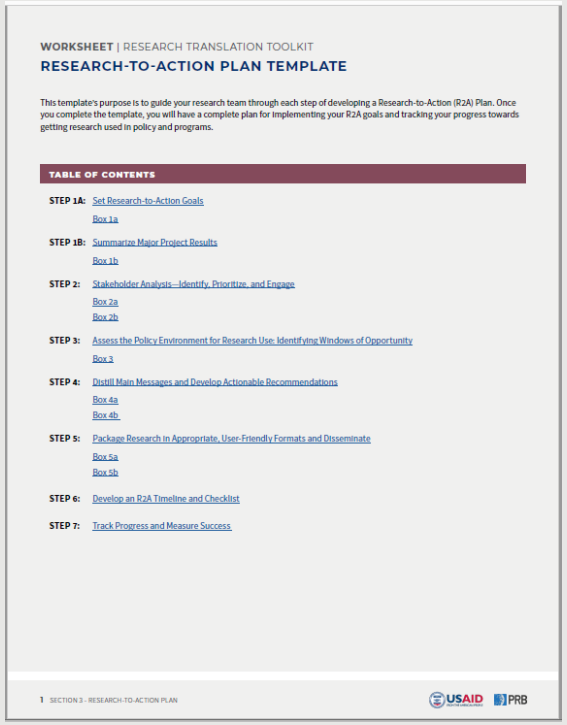
Recommendations:

- Put in place mechanisms to measure and officially take into account unpaid domestic work in national production.
- Develop policies or strategies to reduce women's domestic work.

THE RESEARCH-TO-ACTION ACTIVITY

3 virtual meetings with each country's team:

- Overview of the R2A planning process worksheet. Discussed portions of the worksheet completed by team for each meeting.
- R2A Progress Tracking



WORKSHEET | RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

RESEARCH-TO-ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

This template's purpose is to guide your research team through each step of developing a Research-to-Action (R2A) Plan. Once you complete the template, you will have a complete plan for implementing your R2A goals and tracking your progress towards getting research used in policy and programs.

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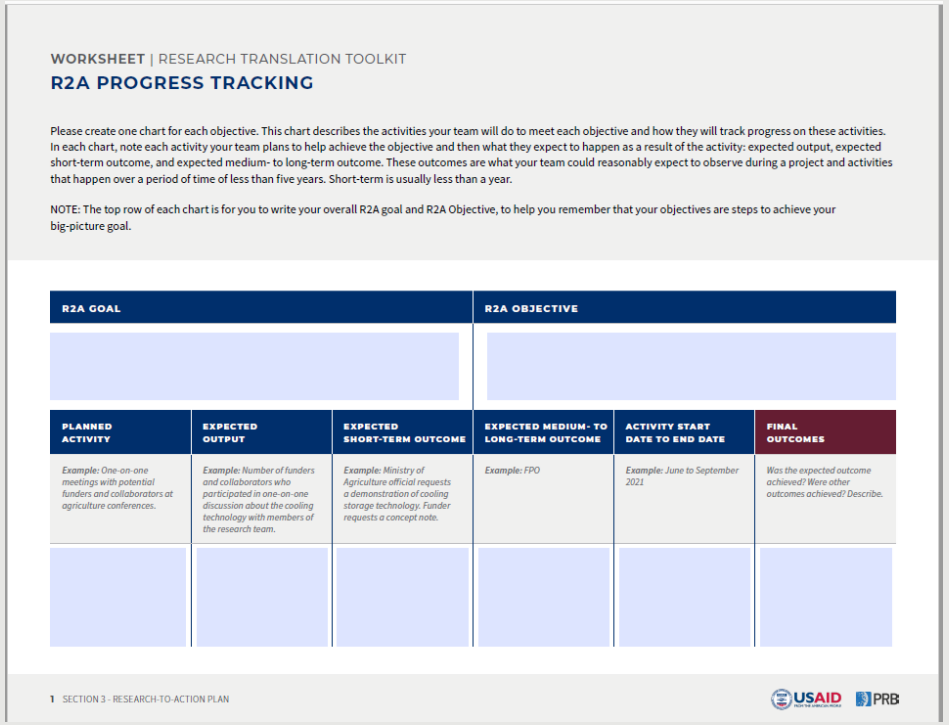


WORKSHEET | RESEARCH TRANSLATION TOOLKIT

R2A PROGRESS TRACKING

Please create one chart for each objective. This chart describes the activities your team will do to meet each objective and how they will track progress on these activities. In each chart, note each activity your team plans to help achieve the objective and then what they expect to happen as a result of the activity: expected output, expected short-term outcome, and expected medium- to long-term outcome. These outcomes are what your team could reasonably expect to observe during a project and activities that happen over a period of time of less than five years. Short-term is usually less than a year.

NOTE: The top row of each chart is for you to write your overall R2A goal and R2A Objective, to help you remember that your objectives are steps to achieve your big-picture goal.

R2A GOAL		R2A OBJECTIVE			
PLANNED ACTIVITY	**EXPECTED OUTPUT**	**EXPECTED SHORT-TERM OUTCOME**	**EXPECTED MEDIUM- TO LONG-TERM OUTCOME**	**ACTIVITY START DATE TO END DATE**	**FINAL OUTCOMES**
Example: One-on-one meetings with potential funders and collaborators at agriculture conferences.	*Example: Number of funders and collaborators who participated in one-on-one discussion about the cooling technology with members of the research team.*	*Example: Ministry of Agriculture official requests a demonstration of cooling storage technology. Funder requests a concept note.*	*Example: FPO*	*Example: June to September 2021*	*Was the expected outcome achieved? Were other outcomes achieved? Describe.*

THE OUTCOME

Country teams had a draft of components to help create a plan with:

- Draft **research-to-action** goals, objectives, and messages (with specific recommendations) relevant to intersection of their research implications and stakeholders' priorities.
- Stakeholders identified (by name) with whom to share results and gauge interest in taking action.
- Specific information sharing events proposed, including presentations to members of national parliaments.
- Communication products needed were identified.

WHY WAS THE R2A PLANNING PROCESS USEFUL?

- Highlighting differences between research goals and actionable objectives.
- Framing the research results with specific stakeholder interests and influence in mind.
- Raising the important of putting research results in context—both country circumstances and combined with a broader research and policy literature.
- Recognizing limitations of researchers to take action and potential contributions of program and policy staff of NGOs and government units.

THE CONTEXT FOR RESEARCH UTILIZATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE UNDER RTAC

SUTHERLAND MILLER III

UTILITY OF RESEARCH TO ACTION PLANNING

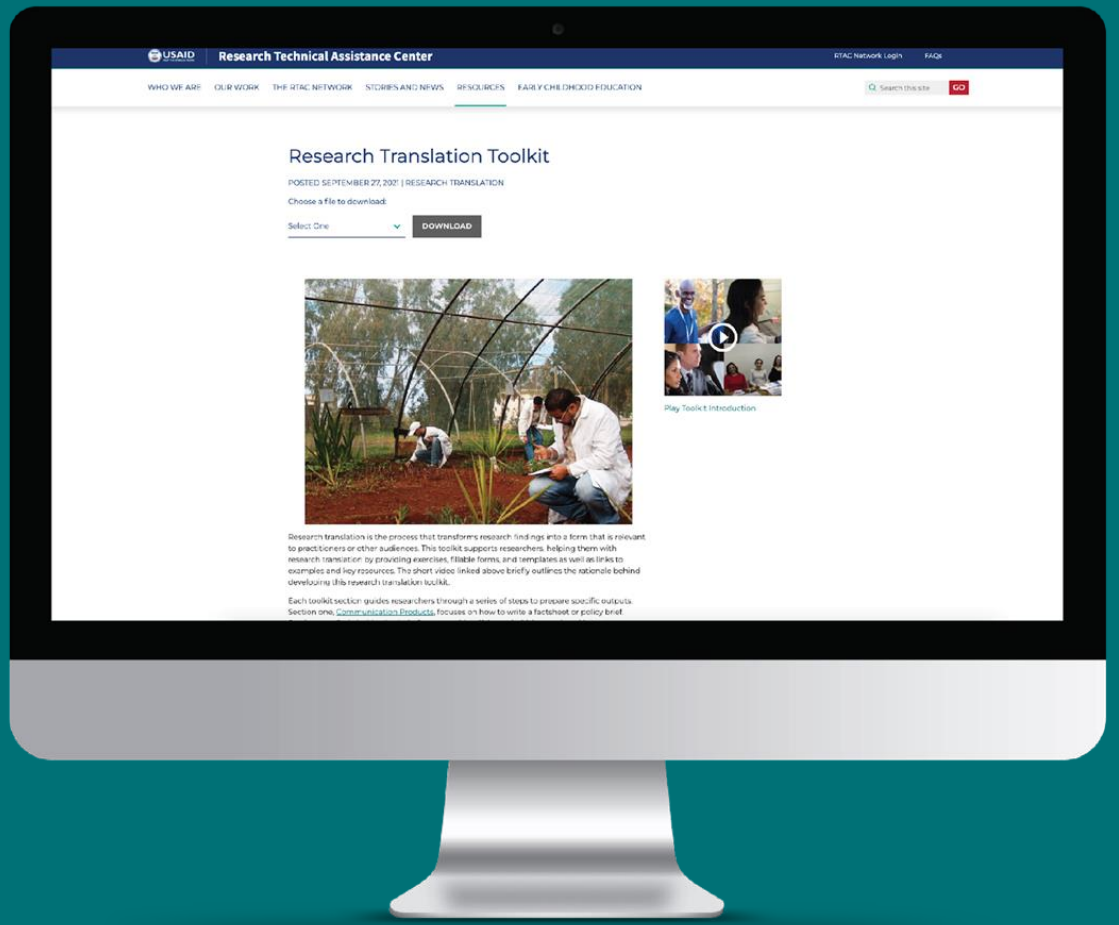
UNLOCKING AGRICULTURAL
POTENTIAL IN DRYLANDS:
Research To Action Planning

QUESTIONS?

ANSWERS!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Share your story about how using the **Research Translation Toolkit** has influenced uptake of your research by emailing us at itr.researchfeedback@usaid.gov.



THANK YOU

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