**TOPS Theory of Change Workshop**

**Handout 1.2c**

**Key questions for data analysis**

1. **General context**
   * What is the general context (social, environmental, economic, political factors)? What BROAD trends exist, including seasonal and demographic trends, such as migration?
   * What is the general availability and quality of public infrastructure and services (roads, electricity, schools, health care, markets, etc.)?
2. **Shocks and stressors**
   * What shocks and stressors are people exposed to? This includes, but is not limited to natural hazards (e.g., conflict, epidemic disease). Who is most exposed and why?

1. **Tangible and intangible assets (contribute to absorptive and adaptive capacity)** 
   * What assets (human, natural, social, physical, financial, political capitals) do households, males, females, or youth have access to? What is the quality of these assets?
   * Does any population (pastoralist, ag-pastoralist, non-pastoralist) or geographic zone have more or less access than another? Why?
   * *Tools 1.2c and 1.2d may help to organize this information.*

1. **Structures, systems, and processes** 
   * What institutions and organizations are operating (CBO, private sector, civil society)?
   * What services do they provide (e.g., humanitarian aid, social protection, nutrition and health). Who has access?
   * To what extent are institutions socially accountable to different populations?
   * What information systems are in place within and near communities? Natural resource management systems? Environmental risk management? Agriculture, market, & financial? How well do they function? Who has access?
   * What laws, regulations, and policies influence people’s lives? Is there recognition and respect for human rights?
   * What cultural, social, gender or religious norms exist?

**Individual and household strategies**

1. **Risk management and coping strategies**
   * What preventative measures are different populations using to avoid or reduce exposure to risk?
   * How do different populations cope with the effect of shock? Are they using appropriate coping strategies to avoid permanent, negative impact?
2. **Household actions/ livelihood strategies** 
   * How do households secure a living? How do households invest / maximize available assets (tangible and intangible)?
   * To what extent are the distinct populations adopting recommended nutrition practices? Recommended WASH practices? Recommended agricultural practices?
   * What strategies are men, women, youth and households using to enhance overall well-being (e.g., advocacy, marriage, education, and diversification)?
3. **Summarize well-being outcomes.** Which well-being outcomes are most challenged and why? Which well-being outcomes are least challenged and why?

**Preliminary analysis**

1. How do existing institutions and organizations directly influence individual, household, and community well-being?
2. To what extent do governance mechanisms, policies and regulations, infrastructure, gender and cultural norms, community networks, collective action efforts, and formal and informal social protection mechanisms constitute an enabling environment for systemic change?
3. Are individuals and households able to make proactive and informed choices that allow for an effective response to changing environmental, climatic, social, political, and economic conditions? Why or why not?