

Youth Plan Measurement Framework



Whether referred to as youth voice, participation, advising, governance, leadership, advocacy, or civic engagement, a common underlying principle is that young people have expertise and insight relevant to decision-making within youth-serving systems, agencies and programs.



(Checkoway, 2011; Landsdown, 2001)

*A toolkit developed by Research and Evaluation, Ministry of Social Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora
Authors: Zoe Taptiklis, Analyst, Research and Evaluation and Sankar Ramasamay, Evaluation Lead, Research and Evaluation*

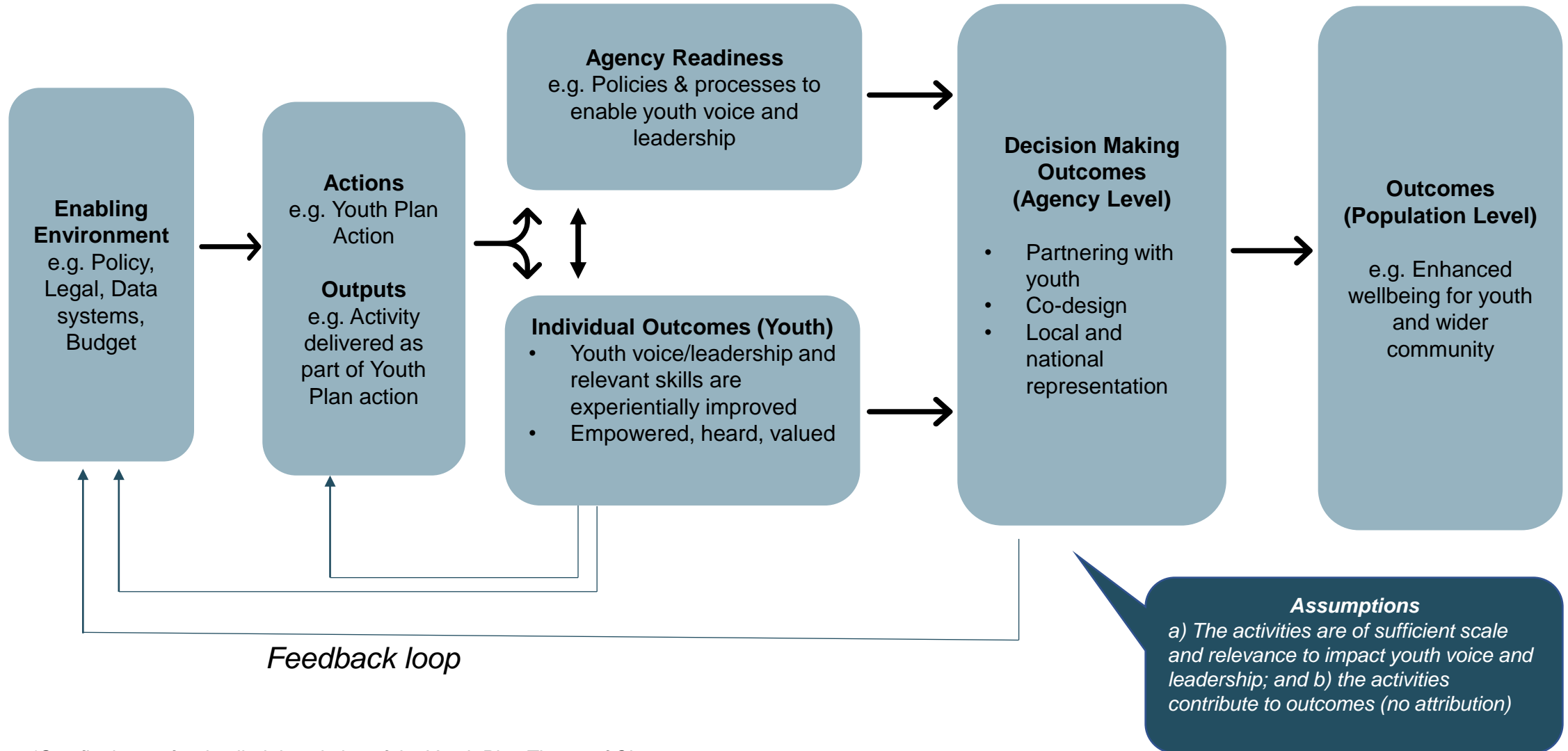
Purpose:

This is a high-level measurement framework toolkit to help monitor the effectiveness of the Youth Plan

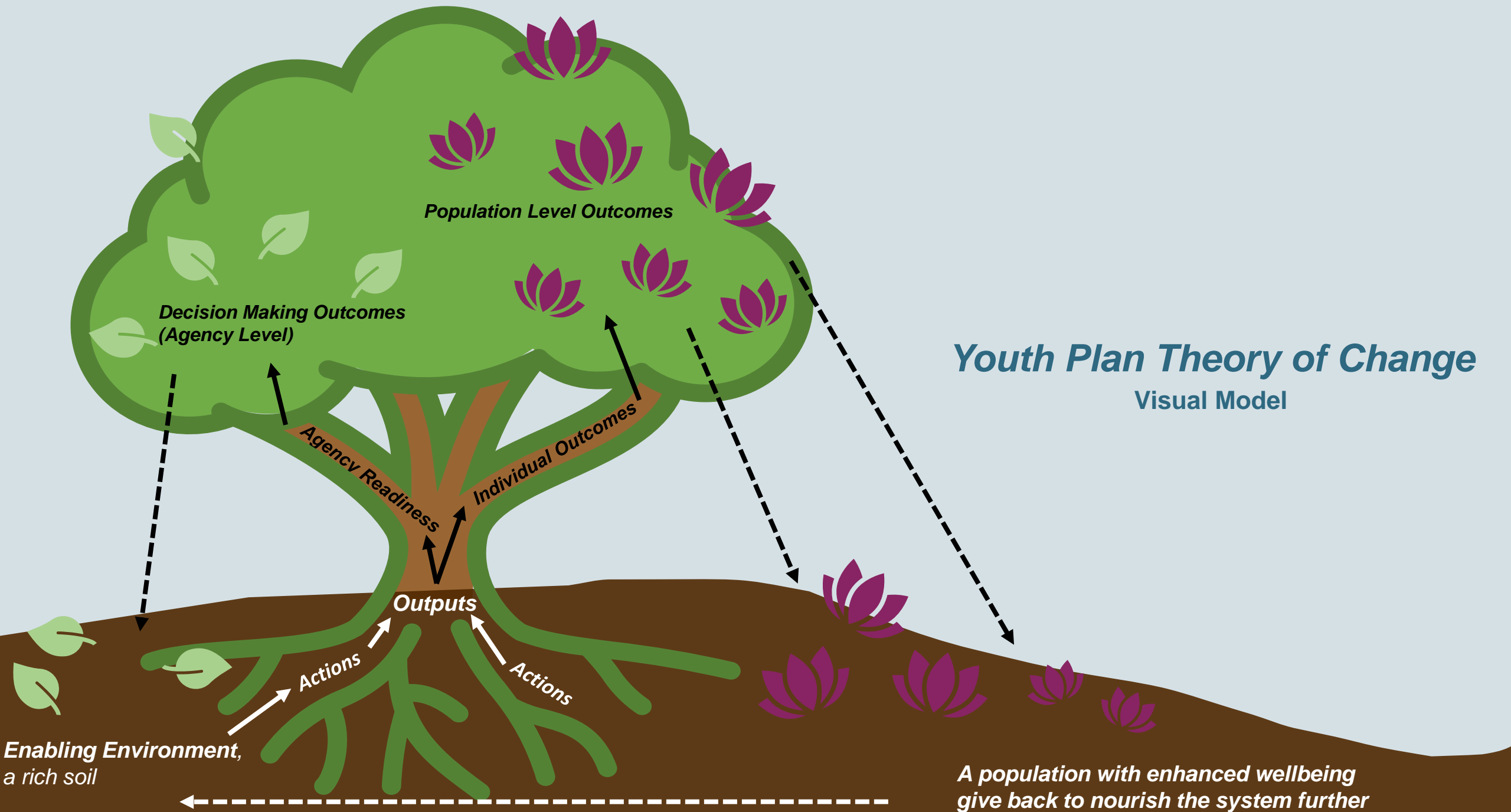
Overview:

1. This toolkit includes a Theory of Change that builds on international research for developing and implementing youth policy with a focus on Youth Voice, Leadership and Wellbeing
2. Youth Plan actions, and Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi youth engagement feedback were used to develop outcomes-centric measures
3. An underlying framework principle is that Youth Plan actions cumulatively contribute to youth wellbeing outcomes and are not attributable to discrete initiatives
4. This framework works to ensure that Youth Plan actions are practical, measurable, youth-centred, evidence-based and achieving their intended outcomes
5. This framework utilises self-reporting on community and agency assurance criteria rather than external data sources

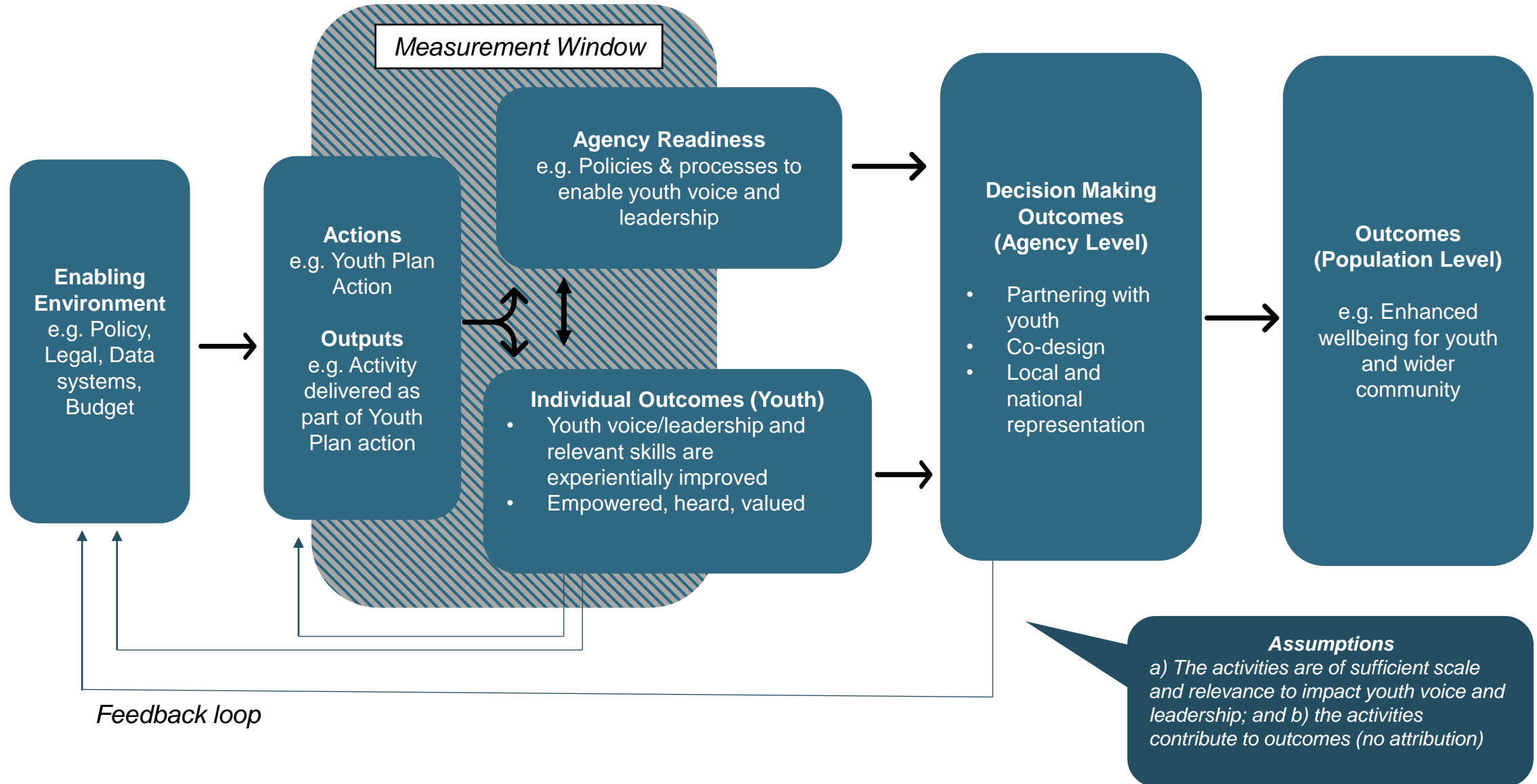
Theory of Change*



*See final page for detailed description of the Youth Plan Theory of Change



Applying Measurement Framework within the Theory of Change



Overview of the Measurement Tool:

A high-level measurement tool has been designed so Youth Plan actions can be assessed against ten criteria annually. Criteria are split into two complementary categories: youth-assessed assurance criteria and agency-assessed assurance criteria.

An assumption of the Measurement Framework is that Youth Plan actions cumulatively contribute to youth wellbeing outcomes and are not attributable to discrete initiatives. Therefore, measurement utilises self-reporting on assurance criteria at individual outcome and agency-readiness levels rather than utilising population-level, external data sources to assess Youth Plan actions.

Utilising the Measurement Tool

The measurement tool will be applied annually to contribute to the annual reporting cycle of the Youth Plan.

The tool should also be used when designing Youth Plan actions to ensure actions align with relevant criteria.

Young people will be engaged (where applicable) to complete their assessment of the assurance criteria prior and separate to agencies completing their assessment to reduce respondent bias in responses.

Youth-assessed criteria ensures that the voice of young people is centred in the monitoring and reporting process.

Some of the youth and agency assessed criteria are exact mirrors of each other. This mirroring enables direct comparison of perspectives.

If there are deviations (young people and agencies reach different conclusions on mirroring criteria) additional work should be undertaken to adjust the action and bring criteria into alignment.

Not all actions will meet all ten criteria, for example: some actions may focus on agency readiness only rather than individual outcomes for young people. In these instances, actions should be assessed against the agency assurance criteria.

High-Level Youth Plan Measurement Tool

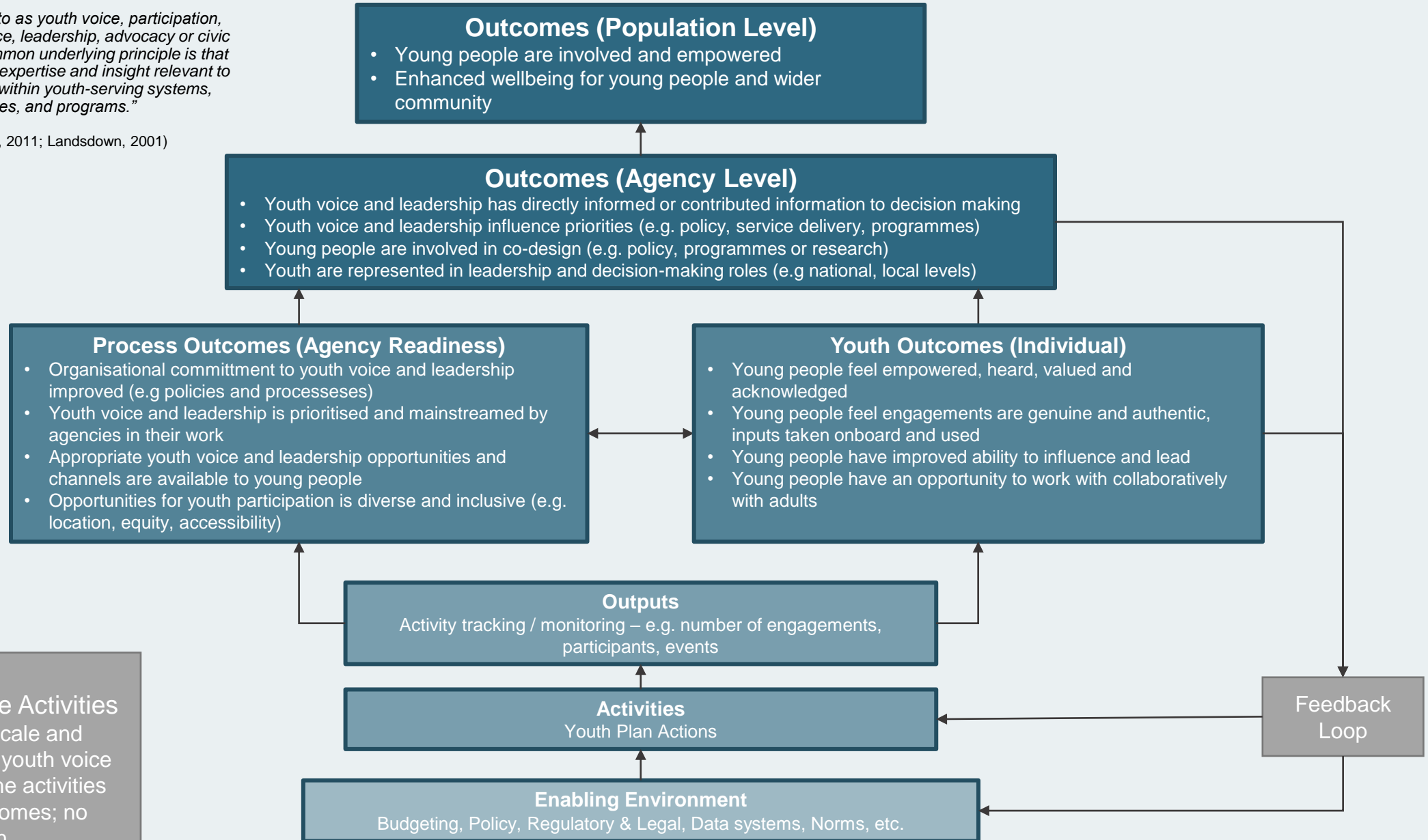
| Youth Plan Action | | Youth (Community) Assurance Criteria* | | | | | Agency Assurance Criteria | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| Name | Goal Outcome (Relevance to Youth Voice and Leadership) | 1. Youth participation is diverse and inclusive | 2. Outcomes improve sense that youth are valued, empowered, and listened to | 3. Action and outcome respects youth, and places value of youth determined needs | 4. Action improves youth ability to connect and work with adults | 5. Young people have contributed to decision making | 6. Improves organisations' commitment to youth voice and/or leadership | 7. Outcomes add to ways that young people are valued, empowered and listened to in organisations | 8. Actions and outcome respect young people, placing due value on youth determined needs* | 9. Action improves organisations' and adults' ability to connect and work with young people | 10. Young people have contributed to decision making |
| EXAMPLE Implement the youth voice project | Allow government and rangatahi to partner to develop youth-centric engagement methods. This includes building off existing youth voice initiatives, such as youth advisory groups, as well as exploring the development of new initiatives. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| EXAMPLE Convene a regional rangatahi Māori leader's forum | Rangatahi Māori are provided with opportunities to engage in regional leadership forums where they can input into policy development, develop their leadership abilities, and have their voices heard. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| EXAMPLE Collaborate with rangatahi to design and implement a wellbeing campaign | Rangatahi Māori and Pacific young people will design a wellbeing campaign alongside government which helps them improve their own wellbeing and support other rangatahi experiencing stress or distress. Rangatahi will be central to the development, design and creation of this campaign. | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |

*these criteria necessitate that youth are reflexively engaged on these points (i.e. consulted on and agree, if they disagree revisions are approached)

Detailed Youth Plan Theory of Change

“Whether referred to as youth voice, participation, advising, governance, leadership, advocacy or civic engagement, a common underlying principle is that young people have expertise and insight relevant to decision-making within youth-serving systems, agencies, and programs.”

(Checkoway, 2011; Landsdown, 2001)



Assumption: a) the Activities are of sufficient scale and relevance to impact youth voice and leadership b) the activities contribute to outcomes; no attribution