



Systems Monitoring Learning & Evaluation (SMLE)

2025

Our Resources

Dive deeper into Systems Monitoring, Learning & Evaluation

Case Studies

A series of case studies produced by our initiative documenting innovative ways of working with MLE with a systems lens, within and beyond food systems.

Case study 1:

[Making sense of market systems change IACDI/VOCA's work on Market System Diagnostics in Honduras](#)

Case study 2:

[Reflecting on the health of a system I Lankelly Chase Foundation's system behaviours framework](#)

Case study 3:

[Embracing Complexity I CALI methodology as a path towards Adaptive Management in complex settings](#)

Case study 4:

[Navigating New Horizon I AGRA and Mathematica's framework to document systems changes](#)

Case study 5:

[Learning and Adapting in Complex Systems: A Practical Approach](#)

Blog capturing lessons from 3 portfolio cases:

[Gauging change in the aggregate across portfolios](#)

Blogs with literature review and practice

These blogs reflect our review and learning of the system aligned MLE thinking and practices from a range of organizations and sectors across the world, within and beyond food systems.

Initial review of general SMLE literature

- [Innovative M&E from the Sandbox and beyond](#)

Series of blogs on Rethinking MLE for Food Systems Transformation

- [\(1/4\) – Defining Food Systems](#)
- [\(2/4\) – Food Systems Change](#)
- [\(3/4\) – Documenting Food Systems Change](#)

Events

Our initiative includes the M&E Sandbox, an effort led by the UNDP Strategic Unit (SIU) to have an open space to nurture and learn from innovative MLE efforts of different organizations. Here you can find blogs of M&E Sandbox events held since 2023. Based on this experience, we also held events with Food and Agriculture practitioners to learn from MLE innovations in this field.

M&E Sandbox Events – You can join the [M&E Sandbox LinkedIn group](#) to stay informed about upcoming events.

- Event 1: [How to track and report on progress when working with complex problems](#)
- Event 2: [How do we measure systems change?](#)
- Event 3: [What is ‘good’ systems change and how do we measure it?](#)
- Event 4: [Decolonizing M&E: What does African monitoring and evaluation look like?](#)
- Event 5: [Transitioning to learning driven M&E](#)
- Event 6: [Undertaking the dual transition to a systems informed and decolonized practice](#)
- Event 7: [Between prediction and emergence: practitioners’ takes and tactics](#)
- Event 8: [Measuring systems change: using pivot metrics to gauge systems change](#)
- Event 9: [Working with working with complexity from the ground up](#)

Food and Agriculture focused events

- Event 1: [Food systems MLE across a sector – the cocoa sector in Honduras](#)
- Event 2: [Food systems MLE at landscape level – the example of the 4 Returns Framework](#)

Reflection blogs

As we implement the initiative, we blog about our learning through it, including our experience innovating with our MLE system.

- [Practicing what we preach – our experience rethinking M&E in complex settings](#)
- [How to do M&E when you’re working with complex problems](#)
- [Learning by doing – Sharing new steps and reflections on our Systems MLE learning journey](#)
- [Learning by doing – Navigating the adoption of Systems MLE](#)

Publications

With support from the initiative, UNDP MLE systemic approaches are being developed and promoted.

- **Causality Assessment for Landscape Interventions (CALI)**

A guidebook providing an integrated, systems-informed approach for project managers and their teams to continuously reflect on the validity of their Theory of Change, with a strong emphasis on unpacking causality between results at different levels.

[Read the blog.](#)

[Download the Guidebook.](#)

- **Documenting Systems Change through Effective Collaborative Action: The Early Signals of Change Self-Assessment Tool**

A qualitative exercise aimed at supporting participants of effective collaborative action initiatives to identify and track early signals of change related to their individual and collective journey of transformation.

Download the Tool [here](#).