

UBC SCARP PLAN 526 - Final Report

# REIMAGINING FOOD SYSTEMS

For a Sustainable and Equitable Future

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Columbia and Royal Roads University

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## Land Acknowledgment and Positionality Statement

We currently live, work and study on the traditional, unceded, and stolen lands of the x̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish) and səliwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations who have been care takers of these lands and waters since time immemorial. As uninvited, non-Indigenous folks, we acknowledge that we benefit from settler-colonialism and the ongoing dispossession of Indigenous people. Our project centres around the use of evaluation. We acknowledge that evaluation has a deep history of upholding colonial power structures. As such, we seek to explore how decolonial approaches can make evaluation more just.

We acknowledge that our cultural backgrounds and lived experiences shape our perspectives and biases. Chloe (Xueqi) is an able-bodied, cisgender international student who grew up in urban environments in China and currently lives in Vancouver. Claire is a white, fifth generation settler who was raised in North Vancouver. Henry is a second-generation immigrant of Chinese descent and deeply grateful to call the vibrant Renfrew-Collingwood community his home.

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# Executive Summary

## Project Overview

Despite the best of intentions, the benefits and burdens of food security policies and practices are not equally distributed across communities in BC. This inequality is further perpetuated by mainstream approaches to food systems planning and a lack of capacity to evaluate food policy and practice with a social justice lens. In 2021, local food actors in three municipalities called on The Public Health Association of BC (PHABC) to support food actors by developing equity evaluation tools.

The goal of this project is to build the capacity of community, municipal, and provincial food actors to plan for and assess movement towards a food system that embodies justice, equity, decolonization, and inclusion (JEDI). Our objectives are:

1. To produce an evaluation framework that guides food actors in critically reflecting on their policies and practices.
2. To test the framework with food actors in the City of Revelstoke.

## Framework Development

To ensure the usefulness of our framework in measuring movement towards JEDI, it was integral that we understand important social justice and decolonial considerations for evaluation. To do this, we conducted a literature review and analysis of existing models of food justice evaluation. This revealed core values and considerations for social justice-based evaluation including:

- Empowering participatory approaches that build the capacity of participants.
- Centring lived and living experiences.
- Embracing ‘othered’ ways of knowledge.
- Using multi-method and mixed methods research.
- Embedding respect for self-determination.

Tribaldos and Kortemaki’s *Criteria for Just Transition in Food Systems* aligned most with these values and our project needs. We adapted this model to align with our project context and food justice considerations from the literature. After multiple rounds of revisions we developed the Just Food System Evaluation Framework (‘the Framework’), that aims to evaluate if and to what extent an activity or policy achieves certain food justice outcomes. The Framework’s outcomes are linked to desired impacts that are indicative of movement towards a just food system. The Framework organizes these impacts based on three justice dimensions, which are the basic rules of justice established in research and relevant to food systems planning.

The Framework was further informed by three focus groups and an in-depth workshop with food actors from Revelstoke. These engagement sessions gathered feedback on the applicability, usefulness, and envisioned use of the Framework. Participants largely found the Framework would be useful for their

work. There has been a growing desire to incorporate JEDI in Revelstoke's food security in recent years, and participants expressed the Framework could play a large part in supporting that effort. While participants still had questions around the feasibility of developing and measuring indicators for the Framework, they noted various ways in which the Framework could be used. This includes as an auditing tool for organizational policies and practices, a tool to evaluate specific interventions, and a tool for evaluating collecting impact.

## Conclusion

The framework that we propose in this report will continue to be tested and refined by PHABC and Royal Roads University. Based on our learnings and feedback from the community, our team offers recommendations for the next phase of this project:

1. Delineate the different ways the Framework can be used.
2. Position the Framework within a developmental evaluation approach.
3. Further explore the feasibility of indicator development and collection.
4. Design a mock-up of the digital Framework to evaluate for future engagement sessions.
5. Test the Framework with people unfamiliar with JEDI concepts.
6. Develop resources to accompany the Framework.
7. Encourage peer support for using the Framework through the creation of communities of practice.
8. Pursue institutional adoption of the Framework.

Our project serves as a response to the urgent need for food justice-oriented evaluation frameworks and capacity building for food actors to apply a JEDI approach to their work. We hope these findings will help support movement toward a more just food system.

# 1. Project Overview

# Problem Statement

A range of food security policy and practices exist in BC; however, the benefits and burdens of these policies and practices are not equally distributed across communities. Despite the best of intentions, current food planning work is contributing to cross-cutting issues that uphold harmful systems of oppression for marginalized communities. This includes the oppression of marginalized populations in food systems, unequal governance and resourcing for food systems planning, and limited exposure to food justice-related issues in professional planning training.

For example, decision makers may attribute an individual's food insecurity to limited budgeting or cooking skills and respond by addressing that education gap. However, this approach ignores the structural drivers of food insecurity, centres individual responsibility, and applies a paternalistic approach where decision makers position themselves as knowing more than the individual. This is one of many examples that demonstrate how the current mainstream food system operates within oppressive systems that fail to address root issues, such as individualism, colonialism, and racism.

# Project Context

Considering these issues, in 2020-2021, the Public Health Association of BC (PHABC) conducted dialogues with food organizations in three cities (Kamloops, Vancouver and Victoria) to understand:

- Current urban agriculture policies and practices.
- Their visions for the food system.

A key recommendation from this work (the *Urban Foodlands Report*) was to create an equity evaluation framework to interrupt policies and practices that further marginalize and exclude communities. This recommendation informs this project's theory of change:

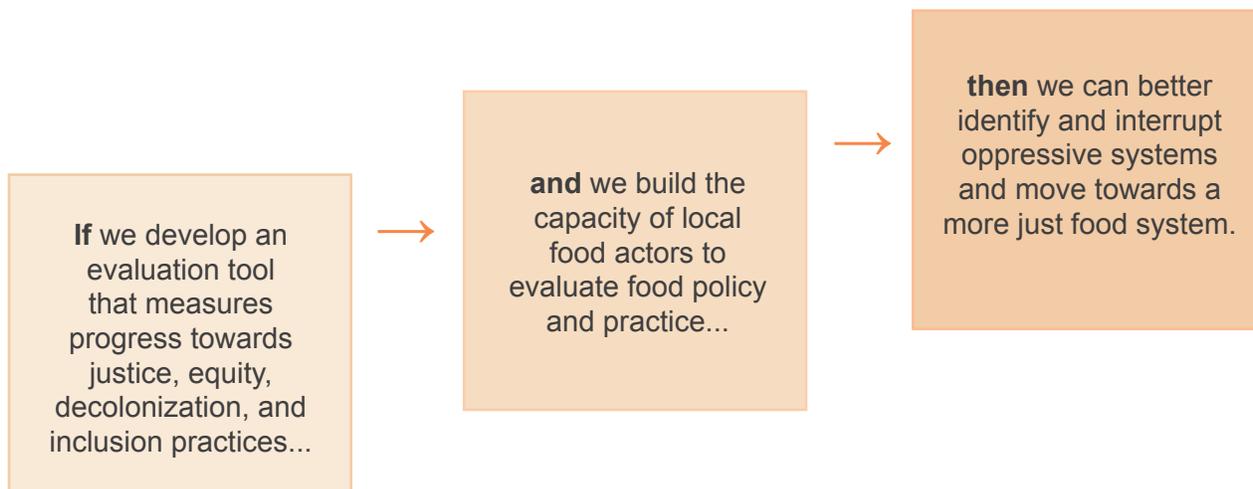


Figure 1: Our theory of change

This theory of change is driven by two key assumptions. First, evaluation, when connected with the purpose of correcting an injustice, can help understand the changes needed to move towards a just food system. Shifting the focus away from individuals and towards structural barriers can reveal the upstream drivers of food injustice. An evaluation tool that evaluates progress towards JEDI does just that. For example, when monitoring rates of food insecurity among racialized communities, it is imperative to understand that the metric is actually monitoring racism.

Secondly, evaluation has historically been used as a tool by ‘experts’ and ‘specialists’ to determine what should be considered the ‘truth’ or ‘normal’. If evaluation is the lens in which the world is perceived, then this can be problematic when individuals and communities are told how to see their world by people not living the day to day of those realities. Building the evaluation capacity of local food actors makes progress towards dismantling the idea of ‘experts’ and moving power towards the community to determine what matters to them.

This project builds on previous work that has been focused on urban agriculture. While the project builds on this, we also consider other elements of food systems and food security in relation to food justice.

## Goals and Objectives

The goal of this project is to build the capacity of community, municipal, and provincial food actors to plan for and assess movement towards a food system that embodies justice, equity, decolonization, and inclusion (JEDI).

The main objective is to produce an evaluation framework that guides food actors in critically reflecting on their policies and practices. This in turn aims to support planning for a just food system. The evaluation framework will include example food policy recommendations and summative and formative food justice-oriented indicators.

Our secondary objective is to pilot the framework in the City of Revelstoke with local food actors in collaboration with the Community Connections Revelstoke Society. Our aim is for this engagement to have reciprocal benefits. While our research and output will benefit from feedback on how the framework could be improved, we also envision the process to be beneficial for participants to reflect on the food systems planning work that is being done in Revelstoke. Our approach to achieving these objectives is as follows:

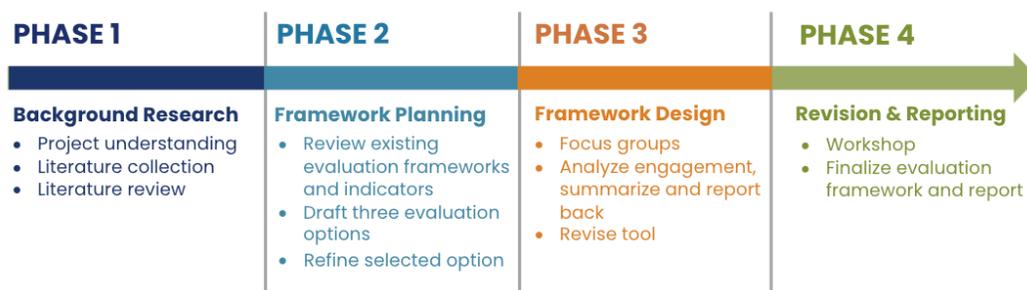


Figure 2: Project Timeline

## **2. Background Research**

# Introduction

This section provides a summary of background research completed in phase one. The team conducted a review of the literature to understand important social justice and decolonial considerations for evaluation. We also completed a scan of existing models of food systems evaluation with a social justice lens. These case studies helped to understand different approaches and methods to evaluation. The following sections are summaries of these components. Our full findings can be found in our interim report.

## Summary of the Literature Review

### The Need for Food Justice-Oriented Evaluation

The mainstream food system represents a complex and political system of trade-offs between social, environment, and economic factors.<sup>1,2</sup> Marginalized communities are often the ones exploited to uphold industrial food system practices.<sup>1</sup> For example, in North America, socio-economically disadvantaged communities face greater health challenges due to the limited availability and quality of retail food environments, despite their outsized contribution to the retail food workforce.<sup>3</sup>

It is critical to have tools to understand and challenge harmful power dynamics in the food system.<sup>1,3,4</sup> However, evaluation is heavily informed by White/settler-worldviews often seen as upholding oppressive, Western ideologies and determining what is legitimate knowledge.<sup>5</sup> Despite the critical role evaluation can play, the literature on food systems evaluation is largely focused on sustainability and limited in terms of assessing JEDI. Limited literature exists on the evaluation of JEDI proxies like food system drivers, determinants of food choices, the political economy, and power relationships.<sup>6,7,8,9,10</sup> Even studies that include elements of food justice often limit justice as a single theme amongst a larger framework.<sup>7,11,12</sup>

### Perspectives on decolonizing evaluation

'Value-neutral' approaches to evaluation often do not capture race, culture, colonization, and other historical socio-political nuances. This risks watering down or losing those complexities. As such, these types of evaluation offer no discernible benefits for the participants, establish a narrow view of what is valued, and overlook important connections between people, practices, and place.<sup>13</sup> Rather, research has led to the perpetuation of false stereotypes of Indigenous peoples, a deficit and damage-centred narrative around social issues, and adoption of a pathologizing lens.<sup>14,15</sup> However, Hesterman and Millet argue that evaluations can be effective when the approach recognizes the wickedness of problems, aims to understand the root causes of issues, and allows the most impacted communities to guide the process.<sup>4</sup>

The concept of decolonizing evaluation has been proposed to 'de-centre' Western thoughts and approaches, while honouring an 'ecology of knowledge' and realities that have been previously and presently 'other(ed)'.<sup>14,16</sup> Chilisa et al. adds that decolonizing evaluation also revolves around restructuring power relations so that oppressed voices can determine what is evaluated, who is doing it, and the process involved.<sup>17</sup> Furthermore, a decolonial approach to evaluation

should be context specific, centre the values, experiences, and worldviews of the communities being evaluated, and should at minimum, be co-planned and implemented with the communities of interest.<sup>18,19,20,21</sup>

## Practices to embed a decolonial approach to evaluation

These considerations suggest that decolonial approaches are only as effective as the purposes and processes in which they originate from. BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner provides a framework that may be able to assist practitioners. In 2020, the Office released the *Disaggregated demographic data collection in British Columbia: The grandmother perspective report* which highlights the “the grandmother perspective” offered by Gwen Phillips of the Ktunaxa Nation.<sup>22</sup> The framework notes that without a clearly articulated purpose and process, there is a greater risk of doing harm than good. By keeping the purpose front and centre, a process can be developed that is mindful to not perpetuate racism or harm in the process. Other scholars agree with this approach, while stressing the importance of having a theory of change guide the work.<sup>23, 24, 25</sup>

While we did not find any standard models for what decolonial approaches to research or evaluation looks like, Thambinathan and Kinsella provide four considerations for (qualitative) researchers to use.<sup>14</sup>

- 1. Exercise critical reflexivity.** Researchers have a responsibility to consider their inherent power over participants and reframe their approaches in a way that rebalances power relations.<sup>26,27</sup>
- 2. Reciprocity and respect for self-determination.** Reciprocity considers the need to have collaboration and collective ownership throughout the project to establish accountability to research participants. Self-determination demands the need to listen and to allow Indigenous ideas drive processes.<sup>28, 29</sup>
- 3. Embrace “other(ed)” ways of knowing.** Settler settler researchers should strive to unlearn dominant ways of thinking, and to embrace the various “ecologies of knowledge”.<sup>17</sup>
- 4. Embody a transformative praxis.** A transformative praxis represents a shift from status quo approaches that have yielded limited results, and movement towards approaches operate working with marginalized communities to bring about about social justice and the elimination of inequities.<sup>5</sup>

The diversity in approaches and considerations in the growing body of literature related to decolonizing evaluation is representative of the complexity that exists when addressing historicized and ongoing legacies of oppression. The research challenges us, especially as settler researchers, to think more holistically around purpose and process. Doing so will be imperative for addressing injustices in the food system and meaningfully working alongside marginalized communities.

## Summary of Case Studies

Justice-focused evaluation frameworks are needed to daylight and address inequities in the food system. Ensuring these frameworks are available can support more justice-oriented policies and programming, enable the liberation of alternative ways of knowing, and create a more just society.<sup>30,19,31</sup> Our literature review revealed 10 models of food systems evaluation with various focuses including sustainability, resiliency, health and justice. We selected four models for further examination that attempt to embed a food justice lens (See Appendix A).

These models show a variety of approaches to evaluation. The *City Region Food System Indicator Framework*<sup>32</sup> and the *Community Food Systems Resilience Audit Tool*<sup>33</sup> offer defined metrics to plan policy and measure progress in a relatively prescriptive format. While the *Criteria for Just Transition in Food Systems*<sup>31</sup> and the *Food Sovereignty Indicators for Indigenous Community Capacity Building and Health*<sup>34</sup> offer space for reflection and critical examinations of systemic issues. Further, we see a range in the degree to which justice is centred in the approaches. The *City Region Food System Indicator Framework* includes equity as one theme, while the *Criteria for Just Transition in Food Systems* completely centres justice theory. The four models help us to consider the tradeoffs and tensions between different approaches (prescriptive vs open ended), and the degree to which social justice principles are centred (see Figure 3). Further, considering the capacity of food systems actors could be a barrier to evaluation, these four models helped us to consider trade offs and priorities for the usability of our framework including knowledge, resources and time required.

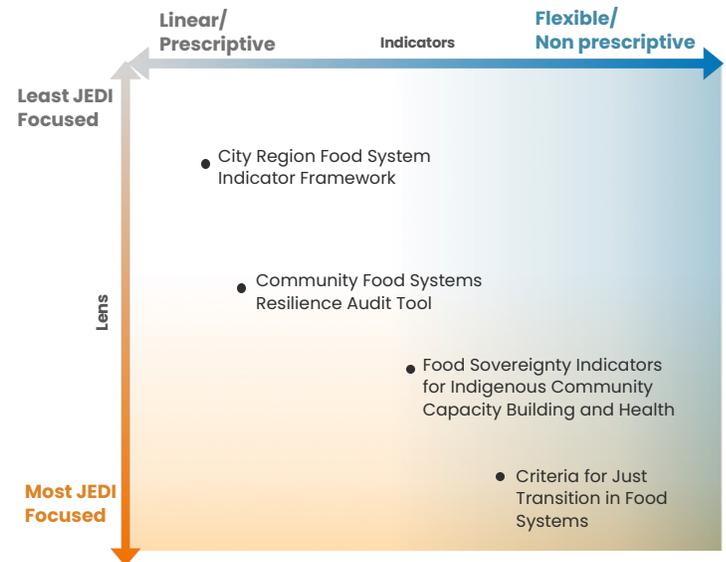


Figure 3: Comparing case studies

Learnings from the literature review and case studies informed the following core values to embed into our framework:

- Respecting self-determination by ensuring the tool can adapt to different contexts and needs.
- Empowering participatory processes and centring community and lived experiences in implementation.
- Measuring things of relevance and avoiding prescriptive approaches (i.e., elements are supported by rights holders and stakeholders).
- Approachable for diverse levels of knowledge and experiences in food justice.
- Feasibility (i.e., metrics can be reasonably collected and analyzed by end users).
- Utilizing multi-method and mixed method approaches.
- Embracing “other(ed)” ways of knowing.

## Identifying a Relevant Model

Considering the core values from the background research, we chose the *Criteria for Just Transition in Food Systems* as the basis for developing of our Just Food System Evaluation Framework ('the Framework'). This model was the most rooted in justice and aligned with our project needs. The *Criteria for Just Transition in Food Systems* contains the following components:

- Five justice dimensions based on established theories of social justice.
- 12 principles that the authors operationalize as practical rules of justice.
- 27 criteria of food systems specific standards and policy pathways.

We adapted the framework by making the language more accessible and consolidating and refining the dimensions, principles, and criteria to be more relevant to theories of food justice. Further changes are detailed in the following sections.

# 3. Engagement

# Introduction

In order for our framework to be useful, it was critical that we centre community needs and experiences in the development of the framework. Engaging with community aligned with the core values identified from the literature review (including the importance of participatory processes and embedding lived experiences). Engaging with food actors in Revelstoke aimed to ensure community voice was present in the framework and to build support for using it. Specifically, we facilitated three 90 minute focus groups and one three hour workshop to test the usability, applicability and accessibility of the framework. This section highlights key findings from the engagement activities.

## Focus Groups

### Purpose

The focus groups aimed to introduce the Framework to Revelstoke food actors to get feedback on the coherence of the concepts and the framework's applicability to their work. The focus groups were designed to achieve three main objectives:

1. To gauge understandings of the justice dimensions and principles.
2. To assess how end users perceive the usefulness of the framework.
3. To identify knowledge gaps and where clarification is needed.

### What Happened

Prior to the focus groups we conducted a survey to get a sense of participants' experience with evaluation and work on JEDI. Three focus groups were conducted virtually using Zoom and Miro. The virtual format enabled a hybrid model of engagement where participants could provide verbal or written feedback. Focus groups took place on February 16, 22, and 23. Eight participants attended in total, with representation from the following organizations:

- Community Connections Revelstoke Society
- Indigenous Friendship Society of Revelstoke
- Interior Health
- School District 19
- The City of Revelstoke Planning Department
- The Local Food Initiative

Each focus group was structured the same. Facilitators introduced the relationship between justice dimensions, principles and guiding questions. Participants were then guided through each justice dimension, asked to read the description of each framework component and provide feedback on where they were experiencing sticking points. Finally, participants were asked to provide feedback on the framework as a whole, including the relationships between the different framework components.

## Key Takeaways

### More accessible language is needed

- Participants noted the value of having the descriptions readily available for people to reference, especially since many of the concepts could be new for users. Similarly, participants noted the limitations of just listing the name of a principle as it may not resonate with users (e.g., ‘just food relations’ is not a common term).
- Conversely, participants reported that the language used in the justice dimension and principles descriptions was overly complex and difficult to read. In addition to simplifying the language, participants suggested including analogies and examples to help convey complex ideas.
- Some justice dimensions were easier to understand and relate to compared to others. This was largely due to the fact that some dimensions are more relatable to their current work (e.g., distributive justice relates to the distribution of goods and services, such as provision of food).

### Capacity building is needed to apply the tool

- Relatableness to work:
  - The Framework provides a methodical approach to moving towards JEDI. For example, it can identify potential strengths and risks of an intervention. This is helpful as JEDI considerations are often not considered or given the desired amount of focus because organizations are largely occupied by maintaining day-to-day operations.
  - Participants felt the Framework would offer space for marginalized groups to see themselves in the work being evaluated.
- Capacity to use the tool:
  - Varying educational levels and capacities should be factored into the Framework. For example, one participant felt that Revelstoke was still at “JEDI preschool,” yet some of the framework language and concepts felt like “JEDI university”.
  - Participants noted that JEDI often factors into their discussions and planning; however, it is not explicitly evaluated.
- Comfortability with indicators and evaluation:
  - It’s difficult to make an indicator before policy implementation because things can change between planning and implementation.
  - There’s a tendency for indicators to be quantitative. However, food work, especially at the community level, is often more than just numbers. This can be challenging for data collection since program participants may be unwilling and uncomfortable to provide their stories and perspectives.
  - Indicators can be challenging because working in collaboration makes it hard to measure specific goals/indicators.
  - Participants had limited experience and capacity with developing and measuring indicators.
  - Participants noted uncertainty about how to tell if something is just.
  - Evaluation and the use of indicators are often done in the context of grants (e.g., grant reporting that asks, how will you know if you’re successful?). This can lead to the tendency to aim low with measurable targets.
  - Participants were well-versed with choosing what type of data to

use for different stakeholders (e.g., funders may want quantitative data, whereas media may appreciate qualitative data more).

### The visual elements helped to communicate important aspects of the Framework

- Relationship between components was easy to understand.
- The wheel visual helped communicate the cyclical nature of the different components (see Figure 4).

## Applying Feedback

Based on the feedback received from focus groups and an internal discussions with PHABC, the team made the following changes to the Framework:

### Increased accessibility of the language

- Modified some of the terminology to language that may better resonate with end users (e.g., changed the principle 'co-existence of different knowledge, values, and experiences' to 'embracing difference').

### Re-organized framework format

- After the focus group, it was proposed by PHABC during an internal discussion with the team to restructure and rename the components of the Framework. This was done with the intention of enhancing the feasibility of the Framework and facilitating the comprehension of its flow.
- The category names were changed as follows:
  - Principles renamed to impacts.
  - Guiding questions renamed to outcomes.
- Activity and output components were added to assist users in locating themselves in the Framework.
- Redesigned the visual for both presentation and activity purposes.

### Built example indicators

- Outcome-level indicators were built within each outcome, with one activity-level indicator given as an example.

### Changed workshop direction

- Focused on testing the feasibility of the tool and getting feedback on example indicators, instead of asking participants to make their own indicators.



Figure 4: Framework wheel visual used in focus groups

# Workshop

## Purpose

The focus groups were followed by an in-depth workshop to test the tool. This workshop had three objectives:

1. To share findings from focus groups and revisions to the Framework.
2. To test the Framework's usability and people's ability to apply the tool.
3. To get feedback on how participants could use it in their work.

## What happened

On March 7, the project team hosted a three hour virtual workshop with six participants from the focus groups. The session started with reporting back on what we heard in the focus groups and changes made to the Framework. Next, we introduced our theory of change and discussed how it relates to logic model planning to help participants relate their current activities with the Framework. This was followed by the first activity in which breakout groups examined the outcomes and outcome indicators for each justice dimension. Participants also provided feedback on the usefulness and feasibility of the indicators (see Figure 5). The second activity sought to test the logic model concept by asking participants to make connections between the outputs of an example policy or activity they brought and the Framework outcomes (see Figure 6). This activity showed how policies and programs in Revelstoke are meeting desired outcomes and where there are gaps.

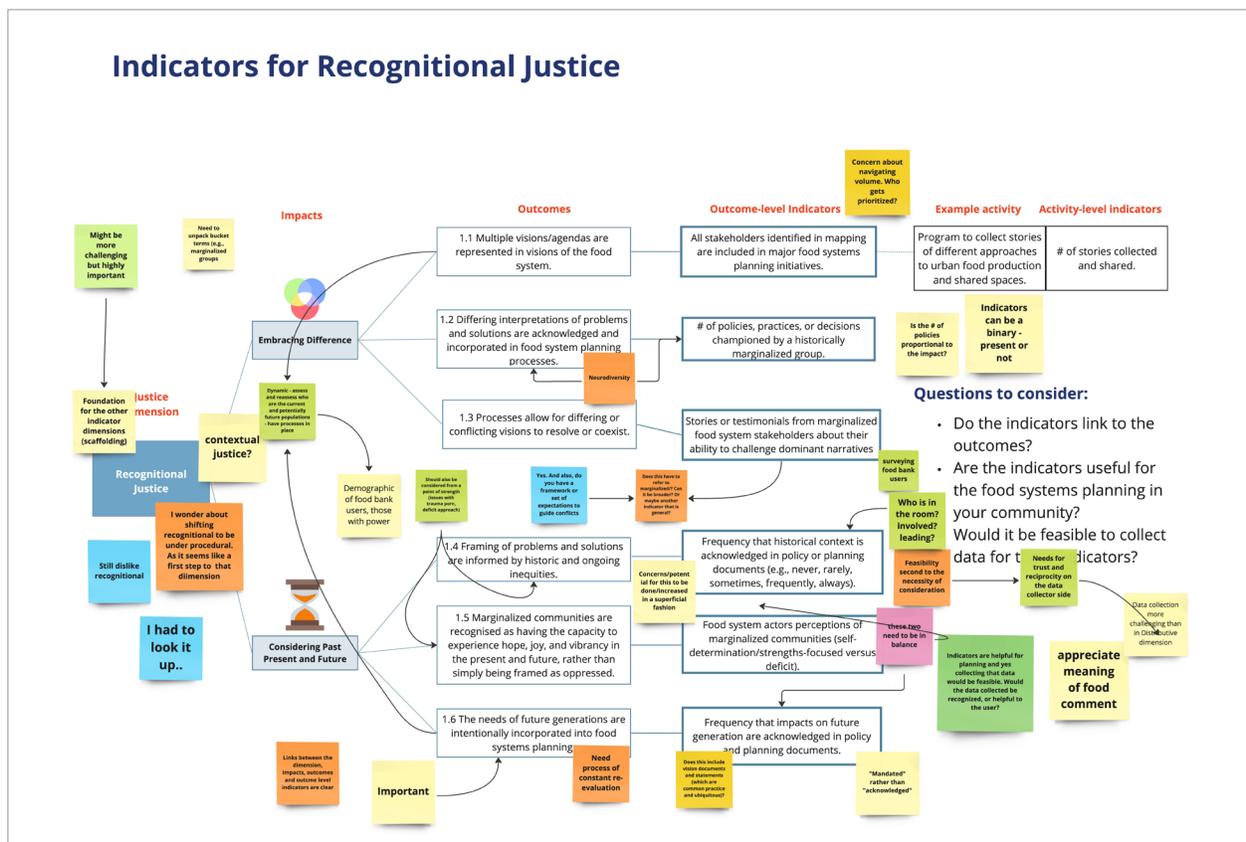


Figure 5: Workshop activity 1 example

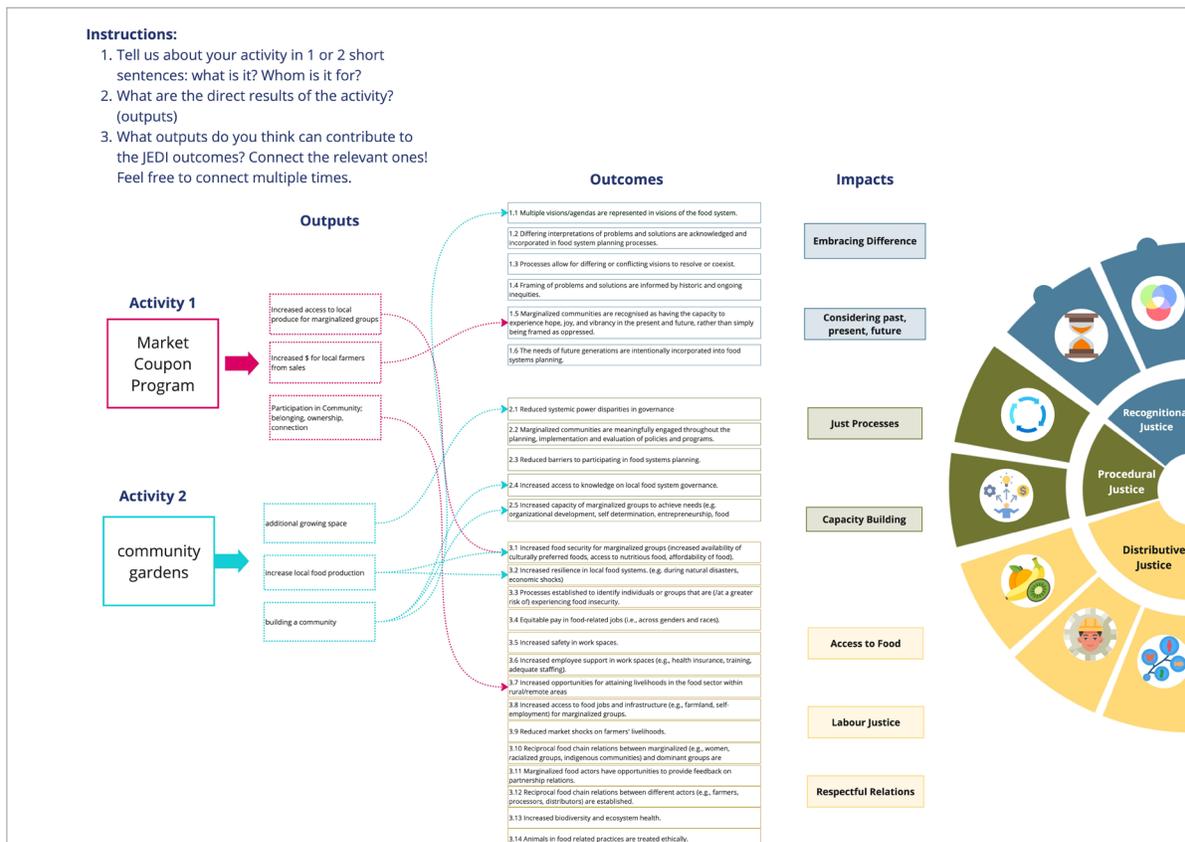


Figure 6: Workshop activity 2 example

## Key Takeaways:

### Participants saw the potential of using the Framework as an audit tool

- Participants felt the Framework could be useful as an audit tool if you go through the whole list of outcomes and see how your activity(s) or policy(s) meets them or not.
  - Participants cautioned there is a risk the Framework could simply become just a means to validate their current work, rather than a true evaluation tool.
  - Users noted the feasibility of using the Framework as an audit tool amongst staff and contractors who may have little time. An audit could be the starting point for further evaluation using the Framework.
- Activity 2 tested one format and use of the tool where participants connect activities up to an outcome. Participants noted another way to use the Framework is to work in the opposite direction by identifying outcomes first and then developing policies or programs that meet those goals. One participant described these two approaches as “theory down or practice up”.

*“the Framework feels overwhelming but this activity helped break down the ideas and made it more digestible”*

(workshop participant)

### The Framework helps to see linkages between practice and theory

- Participants were able to quickly identify their activity’s outputs and their linkages with the outcomes. This can help users see how their work contributes to JEDI outcomes.
  - Participants noted the activities helped them to see previously unnoticed connections between their work and JEDI outcomes. For example one participant was surprised to see that their work was

- working towards procedural and recognitional justice.
- Some outcomes were easier to connect with compared to others; however, other outputs are more challenging (e.g., it's difficult to evaluate the impacts of a universal meal program on marginalized students without risking stigmatizing food insecure students)
- The Framework can help justify the purpose of a program or initiative.
  - One participant gave an example that if someone says, “why is it important to have women in positions of leadership” you could connect the initiative to procedural justice outcomes to show why.
- Participants appreciated how the Framework translates complex justice theories into food systems practices that are relevant to their work.

### **Questions remain on the feasibility of creating and using indicators**

- While connecting activities to outcomes is quick and easy to do, this workshop did not go into detail on validating these connections with indicators.
- Participants expressed concerns with creating and measuring indicators. Some indicators may be more complex to measure than others.
  - For example, under recognitional justice, participants noted the challenge of capturing and measuring casual conversations that happen between staff, accounting for residents who are transient (due to Revelstoke's tourism industry), and differentiating the different degrees of acknowledgment and recognition between people at varying degrees of their JEDI learning journey.
- One respondent noted feasibility should be secondary to the necessity of consideration.
  - In theory indicators seem reasonable; however, having the skills, knowledge to measure is difficult. Some indicators are simple metrics, whereas some indicators (e.g., recognitional justice indicators require trust and reciprocity from the perspective of the data collector. These complexities raised hesitancy amongst participants regarding their own ability to collect this type of data.
- Lots of procedural questions remain about data collection.
  - E.g., when would measurement take place, frequency, what resources are required.

### **Additional design and resource development can assist with using the Framework**

- There was mixed feedback regarding the amount of text on the Framework's visual representation. Some users wanted more text, whereas others liked the minimal amount. However, it should be noted that the Framework may appear differently once it has been added onto a digital platform.
- It may be beneficial to have accompanying resources that detail the components of the Framework and how it can be adapted to differing contexts.

# **4. Just Food System Evaluation Framework**

# Framework Overview

After completing desk research, community engagement and multiple iterations of refinement our team created the Just Food System Evaluation Framework ('the Framework') to support food actors in embedding food justice in their work. Specifically, it responds to several questions. How do you know if an intervention is contributing to JEDI? Why is it just? For whom is it just? The Framework pulls from Western liberal justice theories, decolonial theories, and food systems literature to create a suite of 'components' that are indicative of moving towards a just food system. Five hierarchical levels capture these components:

## Justice Dimensions

The justice dimensions refer to the basic rules of justice established in the literature. The Framework consists of three key justice dimensions relevant to food systems. These three overarching themes inform the other Framework components.

## Impacts

Impacts are the more practical aspects of each dimension. The Framework has seven impacts derived from the literature. The Framework's impacts represent guideposts food actors should work towards. However, interventions could also contribute to other unintended positive or negative impacts.

## Outcomes

Each impact has specific outcomes that are the short- and medium-term effects of an intervention. Outcomes act as criteria for meeting a desired impact. In total, we propose 25 outcomes. (See Appendix B for sample outcomes).

## Outputs

Outputs are the tangible or intangible things that an intervention (implemented by Framework users) produces with the aim of achieving an outcome. Outputs can contribute to a single outcome or multiple different outcomes.

## Activities

Activities are the interventions implemented by Framework users. These include a wide range of initiatives, such as policies, programs, and projects.

The Framework also consists of sample outcome-level indicators (see Appendix B) that are intended to illustrate if an intervention is achieving an intended outcome or not. Since outcomes, and by association, outcome-level indicators operate at a high level which framework users may not relate to, we developed sample activities and activity-level indicators that better align with community food planning activities. These examples intended to assist users in identifying how their work feeds into the outcomes and outcome-level indicators.

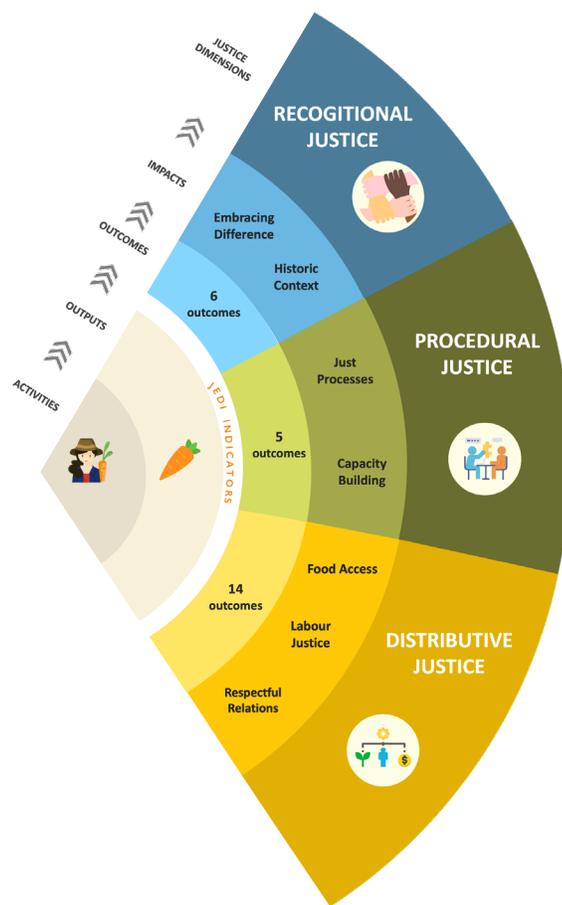


Figure 6: Just Food System Evaluation Framework

# The Justice Dimensions and Their Impacts

This section describes the three justice dimensions and their impacts in detail. We envision these descriptions will accompany the framework to support framework users in developing their knowledge of justice theories and build their capacity.

## 1. Recognitional Justice

Different values, experiences, and knowledge systems inform people's food practices and meanings. For example, race, culture, gender, and ability-level influences people's interaction with food. Yet, the Canadian food system limits this difference from thriving. Broad approaches to complex problems and solutions implies a hierarchy of how things should be. A common example is the notion that "if hungry people only knew how to cook or budget, they wouldn't be hungry anymore" or "we can change the food system by voting with our fork".

These examples show how White, Euro-centric values, such as neoliberalism and individualism, pop up in the food system. Recognition justice asks whose values are being normalised or oppressed, how to resist this dichotomy, and what can be done to acknowledge and support difference.

### Impact 1.1: Embracing difference

Certain values guide the mainstream food system. For example, neoliberalism forces people to earn enough money to prevent hunger. Or colonialism limits Indigenous peoples' ability to access traditional foods in public settings because the food must meet certain guidelines.

Embracing difference moves away from these hierarchical values. This provides space for differing values, experience, and knowledge systems to co-exist.

Differences can also elicit conflict. This principle also suggests rather than seeing conflict as something to be managed and removed, consider how it can be generative.

### Impact 1.2: Considering past, present, and future

Food system problems or solutions are often framed by looking at the present. Who is affected? How are they harmed? To what extent? Looking at an issue's past shifts framing away from damage or deficit, and towards recognizing that inequities stem from historic and ongoing forms of oppression (e.g., colonialism, patriarchy).

Present day actions also influence the future. Inequities can occur by erasing differences when singular visions and goals are created. Enacting futures is not equal. For example, some organizations are better resourced in enacting their futures compared to others.

## 2. Procedural Justice

Procedural justice asks us to consider who makes decisions and how. It is common for governments to decide what individuals and communities need.

While decisions may be made with good intentions, because people hold biases, what you think may be right may not work for others. This can perpetuate inequality and have devastating impacts on communities. Procedural justice seeks to change this by encouraging meaningful participation in decision making. It honours the approach of “nothing for us without us”. In other words, any decisions that impact communities should be decided by those people.

Procedural justice acknowledges that many groups are excluded from political, social, and economic opportunities and seeks to change that by removing barriers. This dimension of justice encourages planning to move beyond tokenistic participation and towards a distribution of power to communities.

### **Impact 2.1: Just Processes**

Just processes questions the structures and systems that determine who is designing, delivering, and enforcing procedures and processes. It seeks to examine how decisions are made and what is prioritized. While having space at the table is an important first step, these spaces must be accessible and safe for people. If not, you risk causing additional harm. It is important to acknowledge and meaningfully address barriers to participation. Planning and decision making must respect and centre relationships by moving at the speed of trust.

### **Impact 2.2: Capacity to Participate**

This principle seeks to uplift people’s capacity to engage with decision making processes (in traditional forms of government and self-government). This requires acknowledging and reducing capacity-related disparities and barriers of different social groups. Supporting oppressed peoples to create their own organizations and governance structures is vital to this.

## **3. Distributive Justice**

Distributive justice calls for the fair sharing of benefits (e.g., safe and nutritious food) and burdens (e.g., exposure to pesticides, malnutrition). Here, ‘benefits’ and ‘burdens’ refer to both tangible and intangible factors, such as access to food or power in decision making.

From food production to waste management, the distribution of resources is highly inequitable in current food systems, due to the broader socio-economic and political environment. In general, low-income groups, Indigenous communities and racialized populations are exposed to greater risk of food insecurity, and have less access to land.

To move towards distributive justice, food practitioners should consider: who will be impacted by the actions, and how can we deliver benefits to those who are in the most need?

### **Impact 3.1: Access to Food**

The “physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food... at all times...” is a fundamental human right.

Marginalised groups often face barriers to realising this right. Specifically, this principle aims to address food security from the individual, household, and community perspectives. This includes exploring the following ques-

tions: is there enough food? How stable is the food supply? Is the food easy to access? Is the food high in quality?

### **Impact 3.2: Labour Justice**

The fair labour conditions for workers in food systems include ensuring fair compensations, safe working conditions, the ability of self-employment, and the power to make decisions on issues affecting their livelihoods (e.g., land use decisions relating to farmland).

### **Impact 3.3: Develop Respectful Relations**

A just food system requires examining its various relationships and the power dynamics between them. This includes developing accountable, reciprocal and respectful relationships between humans, the environment, and non-humans (e.g., animals, plants, fungi, insects, etc.).

This principle aims to challenge harmful power relations, and to encourage reciprocal relations, especially between marginalised and dominant groups.

## Using the Framework

The Framework can be used at various scales to evaluate movement towards a just food system. This includes evaluating at the activity, organization, community, and systems level. While specific procedures for each application still need to be developed and tested for feasibility, we have identified some potential uses through our framework development and testing processes. These uses are not necessarily mutually exclusive but can be viewed and utilized as such depending on what a user or organization finds most useful and feasible. For example, evaluating at an organizational level yields important findings for strengths and opportunities that can inform evaluation at a community level; however, an organization may not have capacity to provide data at a community or systems level. Three sample uses include:

### **1. Auditing organizational policy and practice**

An organization can use the Framework to audit its activities and policies to determine which outcomes and impacts are being met in relation to moving towards a just food system. This involves users identifying the outputs of their policies and activities to determine which outcomes are being met or not by the outputs (see Appendix C for a visual of this tool). For example, a universal school breakfast program that provides barrier-free breakfasts for students could contribute to *outcome 3.1 Increased food security for marginalized groups (increased availability of culturally preferred foods, access to nutritious food, affordability of food)*.

A limitation of this approach is that it assumes outputs contribute to outcomes in a meaningful way, which may not always be the case. Further evaluation would be required to address this limitation. Nonetheless, this approach offers a quick assessment of whether an organization may be contributing to different elements of food justice or not.

### **2. Evaluating programs, policies, and projects**

The Framework can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of activities and

policies using indicators. This iteration of the Framework contains a suite of sample outcome-level indicators; however, these indicators may be too broad for specific activities or policies to relate to. As such, users are encouraged to develop indicators that are contextually relevant and operate within their logistical parameters (e.g., access to data, willingness, and ability to invest in evaluation). This may be challenging for some users who are not as familiar or confident with developing indicators; however, these indicators may be more reflective of what is feasible and relevant for a user, versus a generic indicator.

### **3. Evaluating collective impact.**

The Framework could be used in a collaborative approach across multiple stakeholders working towards shared visions of a just food system. In this approach, the Framework would evaluate the impact of their collective initiatives. However, evaluating collective impact has several challenges. This includes the need for different stakeholders to determine appropriate shared metrics for measuring outcomes and the resource-intensive nature of collective evaluation over a long period of time.

Despite the uncertainty around the Framework's multiple uses, the Framework still offers a starting point for organizations and communities to assess their progress towards a just food system. The lack of a single, defined use can be detrimental to operationalizing the Framework; however, it also provides opportunity for different communities and organizations with unique needs, goals, and capacities to tailor the framework to meet their specific contexts. As such, the Framework offers valuable information to inform reflection, planning, and implementation that can contribute to cultural shifts at multiple scales.

# 5. Limitations

## Limitations

There are diverse understandings of what constitutes a just food system given the complex nature of food security and food justice. Despite our intentions to create a tool that values diverse knowledge, values, and experiences, we recognize that we, as researchers, could be limiting factors in this endeavor. Specifically, our Western-oriented training and large reliance on Western, liberal theories of JEDI would implicitly influence the tool in a way that still limits difference. Even within our project team, there were different understandings of what a just food system should look like (e.g., Should we try to implement fixes within a capitalist system or move towards dismantling a system that is fundamentally unjust? What do fair labour conditions look like?, etc.). These different opinions played into what the framework presents as a just food system.

Engaging with the Revelstoke community addressed these concerns to an extent. However, limited time and capacity amongst our project team and prospective attendees resulted in a relatively small sample size for engagement. Furthermore, the engagement participants had previously attended JEDI training led by our partner from Royal Roads University. This could have positively influenced their ability to understand the framework, thereby providing data that may be not representative of users with varying degrees of understanding JEDI.

# 6. Recommendations

# Recommendations

The findings in this report represent one way of engaging with the project goal. Despite the shared understanding between the project team and community partners of the goal to evaluate movement towards JEDI in the food system, our journey to get to the goal presented with ambiguity and uncertainty. Working within the liminal space between the current food system and just future food systems, while navigating the limited food justice evaluation literature meant that different opportunities and tensions arose around how the evaluation framework should be structured and used.

Many of these questions remain unanswered, contributing to a sense of discomfort. However, we recognize this discomfort is also driven by the uncertainty as we unlearn the status quo and move towards ways of knowing and doing that have not been given the space to be understood or enacted. As such, much like liminal spaces, we hope our work provides a foundation for further exploration and experimentation of how the evaluation framework can support movement towards a more just food system. Our learnings offer the following eight recommendations for next steps:

## 1. Delineate the ways the Framework can be used

Our understanding of how the Framework was intended to be used evolved throughout the project. Similarly, testing the Framework with the Revelstoke community also revealed other ways it could be used. While the Framework could simply be framed as serving multiple uses, it would be helpful to articulate and delineate the uses for several reasons, especially in the context of receiving feedback. For example, one type of use may solicit different feedback compared to another use. Similarly, delineating specific uses can help articulate the value for end users and their community (e.g., enhanced decision-making, improved reflection, advocacy, etc.). This would also contribute to embedding the tool into existing processes. By not articulating and delineating the different ways the framework can be used, it can be difficult for users to understand how they may benefit from it. Similarly, inconsistent uses of the Framework could be challenging if there is a desire to measure collective impact.

## 2. Position the Framework within a developmental evaluation approach

While the Framework is focused on evaluating, it has also been framed as a planning tool. This connection comes from the idea that planning should be informed by evaluation and that understanding what is being evaluated at the onset can help with planning. However, this framing can be confusing, especially since there is an equity planning tool being developed by Royal Roads University. As such, the Framework could be framed within a developmental evaluation approach to ground in the realm of evaluation.

Developmental evaluation (DE) is an evaluation approach for evaluating complex programs or initiatives that are emergent in nature, such as food justice work. With DE, the evaluator is usually a participant or leader in the initiative to ensure the evaluator understands the program's goals and context. This could often be the case in a community setting if there aren't resources to hire an evaluator. DE also encourages real-time evaluation which

contributes to a practice of continuous learning and improvement. This focus on learning and improvement may be relevant for food justice given the large focus on process and the long-term nature of outcomes, especially at the systems level.

### **3. Further explore the feasibility of indicator development and collection**

The focus groups and workshop found mixed opinions on the feasibility of indicator development and collection. For example, participants felt more confident developing programmatic indicators compared to developing JEDI-related indicators. The degree of confidence also varied depending on the justice dimension. Similarly, participants felt more comfortable collecting some indicators over others given concerns about their ability to collect data or the risk of collecting data (e.g., interviewing program participants for qualitative data could be stigmatizing for them). The workshop also elicited several procedural questions related to data collection, such as who is responsible for collecting the data and how often certain indicators should be evaluated.

Future community engagement sessions can explore the feasibility of indicator development and collection by providing examples of development and collection processes for select indicators. The examples can provide greater context for people to assess feasibility, especially for people who may be new to evaluation or monitoring processes.

### **4. Design a mock-up of the digital Framework to evaluate for future engagement sessions**

A mock-up of the Framework in its envisioned digital interface can be helpful for understanding how people will use the Framework. Our focus group and workshop sessions were largely focused on the content and usefulness of the Framework, with limited emphasis on using the Framework. This approach may not be a realistic representation of the Framework if the digitized version presents only certain aspects of the Framework at a time, as opposed to showing all the components like in our engagements. For example, participants were able to clearly see how their activities contributed to specific outcomes and where there may be gaps. However, a digital platform may only show portions of the Framework that users are interested in.

### **5. Test the Framework with people unfamiliar with JEDI concepts**

Prior to attending our focus groups and workshop, Revelstoke participants participated in JEDI training workshops facilitated by Colin Dring from Royal Roads University. These workshops and ensuing coaching sessions provided our participants with a baseline knowledge of JEDI that may have influenced their ability to understand and use our Framework. Recruiting participants who may be unfamiliar with JEDI concepts may be helpful in assessing the accessibility of the Framework for broad audiences, its usefulness for them, and if and how they may use it.

## 6. Develop resources to support the Framework

The focus group and workshop found helpful information on the ease of use of the Framework; however, both engagements were facilitated processes where we were present to explain concepts and answer questions. A suite of tools to be used before, during, and after evaluating with the Framework may be beneficial for potential users. For example, a pre-evaluation tool could help users identify at what scale they want to operate, how JEDI is currently embedded in their work, and what they want to get out of the Framework. A guide would be particularly helpful to explain how to use the tool and how to develop and monitor indicators. The *City Region Food System Indicator Framework* offers an example of a tool box approach that may be useful to future researchers. Similarly, a resource to support users after they use the Framework could also be helpful. Food justice can be deeply personal and revealing, which can cause people to re-evaluate their whole work or feel stuck. A resource may be helpful in guiding people through that discomfort.

## 7. Encourage peer support through the creation of communities of practice

Our engagement sessions revealed that people were approaching food justice from varying degrees of experiences and comfort levels. As such, there was a lot of uncertainty around if people were interpreting and operationalizing the Framework concepts correctly, if the Framework was moving people towards JEDI or was it simply self-validating their existing work, how to evaluate intangible elements, and so on. Framework users would likely benefit from being a part of a community of practice (CoP).

CoPs are a group of people who share a common interest and would like to come together to share knowledge and strategize. A CoP is grounded in the idea that people learn best from one another and can achieve collective problem-solving. As such, not only can CoPs guide future users on how to use the Framework, but it can give greater power and control back to community members as they navigate using the Framework.

## 8. Pursue institutional adoption of the Framework

A focus group participant alluded to the need for institutional adoption of the Framework. Engagement was largely done with organizations in the non-profit sector working on food security. If the Framework uptake ends up being mostly by community-level organizations, then that creates an inequity where the non-profit sector, which is often over-worked and underpaid, is then required to bear the tasks of learning about justice concepts, developing indicators, and pushing for a more just food system. Future stewards of the Framework should pursue the adoption of the Framework at institutional organizations, including government and funding organizations. This would relieve some of the burden from non-profit organizations, but also foster systems change at multiple levels of influence.

# 7. Conclusion

# Conclusion

Since September 2022, the project team collaborated with PHABC and Royal Roads University to develop an evaluation framework to support food actors in moving towards a just food system. To date, we have:

- Completed a two-part literature review examining existing food systems evaluation models and decolonial approaches to evaluation.
- Developed and refined an evaluation framework, including three justice dimensions, seven impacts and 25 outcomes with related outcome-level and activity-level indicators.
- Conducted engagement with food actors in Revelstoke to test the feasibility of the Framework.

Our Framework has many potential uses, including facilitating the audit of policies and practices, assessing programs, policies, and projects, and evaluating collective impact. Nevertheless, the Framework is not without limitations, as it assumes end users have the capacity to evaluate and assess for movement towards food justice. This places the onus largely on community organizations who already have limited capacity with maintaining the day-to-day operations of their programs. Furthermore, the Framework may be influenced by Western-oriented training and theories of justice, and the concept of a just food system may differ across various cultural contexts.

Despite the constraints, the Framework serves as a foundational tool for organizations and communities to measure their progress towards a justice food system that is tailored to their distinct circumstances. Our team recommends an elucidation of different ways the evaluation Framework can be applied and encourages further exploration and experimentation to support progress towards a more equitable food system.

Our project serves as a response to the urgent need for food justice-oriented evaluation frameworks and capacity building for food actors to apply a JEDI approach to their work. The findings pave the way for the future iterations and digitalization of the Framework which will be taken over by PHABC and Royal Roads University.

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# Appendix A: Case Studies

Model	Purpose	Components	Learnings
<b>City Region Food System Indicator Framework</b> <sup>32</sup>	It is designed to help cities with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assessing the baseline of a CRFS with performance indicators.</li> <li>2. Identifying priority areas for action with outcomes and directions of change</li> <li>3. Planning and creating strategy to achieve desired outcomes.</li> <li>4. Monitoring effects policy or program implementation with performance indicators</li> </ol>	Logic model: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 dimensions of sustainability in the food system</li> <li>• 9 objectives</li> <li>• 21 outcomes (i.e., desired direction of travel)</li> <li>• 29 impact areas (i.e., types of changes)</li> <li>• 210 indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation is strengthened by other tools in a toolkit that help food actors assess the current state of their food system, create a vision, and set priorities. Evaluation cannot be treated independently from other components of food systems planning.</li> <li>• Importance of applying to local contexts. Indicators were drafted by experts and focus on quantitative measures which may not be culturally relevant for many communities.</li> <li>• Developers of this toolkit encourage to use any of the components as a starting place. The developers do not prescribe one method to use the tools.</li> <li>• Acknowledges issues related to accessing and collecting data for indicators. A process is provided for users to prioritize which indicators are relevant to local context, have the most potential for change and available data.</li> <li>• Example of a food systems evaluation tool that does not centre JEDI, but includes dimensions of JEDI as a theme.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Food Systems Resilience Audit Tool</b> <sup>33</sup>	To help food actors assess the resilience of their local food systems, identify priorities, and implement policies to achieve their desired outcomes.	Audit/ checklist: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seven core themes for policies and programs (including food justice and distributive and democratic leadership)</li> <li>• 17 sub themes</li> <li>• 35 primary indicators</li> <li>• 61 sub indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formatting the tool as a checklist provides a high degree of functionality and usability for end users. This format makes identifying policy gaps simple and effective. However, it does not have the ability to highlight the significance of the gaps.</li> <li>• This format supports the capacity building of food actors to identify community priorities and gaps but policy is only effective if action is taken on them.</li> <li>• Evaluation focused on the current state of the food system but has limited ability to evaluate outcomes or progress.</li> </ul>
<b>Principles for Just Low-Carbon Transition and Criteria for Just Transition in Food Systems</b> <sup>31</sup>	To help decision makers pay attention to the harms of the mainstream food system and overcome deeply rooted power structures inherent in the food system. Tool provides 27 criteria or policy pathways to support food actors to make decisions and implement policy that is grounded in justice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 distributions of justice</li> <li>• 12 principles of just transition - practical rules of justice serving as an analytical lens to just transition questions across systems</li> <li>• 27 criteria - food specific standards / policy pathways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rather than defining specific indicators it prompts users to ask questions and analyze the current state of their food system. This non prescriptive and open ended approach allows room for meaningful reflection. However this process would likely be time and resource heavy.</li> <li>• The framework is highly theoretical which may pose a barrier to food actors that have limited knowledge of or experience with justice work.</li> <li>• This approach would require additional tools to draft policy and measure progress.</li> </ul>
<b>Food Sovereignty Indicators for Indigenous Community Capacity Building and Health</b> <sup>34</sup>	To support community capacity building for communities to discuss food security issues and to plan for food sovereignty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 food sovereignty indicators</li> <li>• 25 sub indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responds to calls from Indigenous communities to support and promote Indigenous ways of knowing in evaluation.</li> <li>• Format is open ended and reflexive with sub indicators formatted in a way to generate conversation. Authors stress the importance of centring community in the application.</li> <li>• Indicators and sub indicators are described in plain language which reduces barriers for communities to engage with the tool.</li> </ul>

# Appendix B: Just Food System Evaluation Framework

Dimension of Justice	Impact	Outcome	Outcome Indicator	Example Activity	Example Activity Indicator
Recognitional Justice	Embracing difference	1.1 Multiple visions/agendas are represented in visions of the food system.	All stakeholders identified in mapping are included in major food systems planning initiatives.	Program to collect stories of different approaches to urban food production and shared spaces.	# of stories collected and shared.
		1.2 Differing interpretations of problems and solutions are acknowledged and incorporated in food system planning processes.	# of policies, practices, or decisions championed by a historically marginalized group.	Sharing circles/BIPOC caucusing to identify problems, root causes, and solutions.	# of stories collected and shared.
		1.3 Processes established to allow for differing or conflicting visions to resolve or coexist.	Stories or testimonials from food system stakeholders about their ability to challenge dominant narratives.	Setting ground rules/ community agreements at planning meetings to ensure shared speaking time.	Frequency that ground rules/ community agreements are used in meetings.
	Considering past, present, future	1.4 Framing of problems and solutions are informed by historic and ongoing strengths and challenges.	Frequency that historical context is acknowledged in policy or planning documents (E.g. never, rarely, sometimes, frequently, always)	Incorporate analysis of historic context and root causes during planning process	Frequency of root cause analyses conducted (E.g. never, rarely, sometimes, frequently, always)
		1.5 Marginalized communities are recognized as having the capacity to experience hope, joy, and vibrancy in the present and future, rather than simply being framed as oppressed.	Food system actors recognize the strengths and self-determination of marginalized communities (asset versus deficit framing)	Stories of food sovereignty and resiliency are highlighted.	Frequency of stories shared.
		1.6 The needs of future generations are intentionally incorporated into food systems planning.	Frequency that impacts on future generations are required in policy, planning, and mandate/vision documents.	Programs to pass on food knowledge and practices to youth.	# of programs and activities to pass on food knowledge and practices to youth.
Procedural Justice	Capacity Building	2.1 Increased capacity of marginalized groups to achieve needs (e.g. organizational development, self determination, entrepreneurship, food sovereignty)	# of initiatives led by marginalized groups to respond to their own food needs.	Training program to build capacity of marginalized actors to be food system leaders, champions and ambassadors (e.g., leadership, meeting procedures, digital literacy training, etc.)	# of program participants.
		2.2 Increased access to knowledge on local food system governance.	% of individuals in a community that have knowledge on food system governance.	Communication or public awareness campaigns about local food system governance	# of communication and public awareness campaigns about food system governance.
	Just Processes	2.3 Reduced systemic power disparities in governance.	Stories or testimonials from marginalized food system stakeholders to understand if they feel empowered and have agency.	Promoting the recruitment of i) women, ii) young people ii) racialized people iii) people with low incomes into leadership positions.	# i) women, ii) young people ii) racialized people iii) people with low incomes participating in leadership positions.

		2.4 Marginalized communities are meaningfully engaged throughout the planning, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs.	Degree of engagement with marginalized communities (e.g., consulting, informing, partnership, delegated power.)	Hiring people with lived and living experience expertise in planning processes (e.g. community navigators).	# of people with lived and living experience hired on the team.
		2.5 Reduced barriers and increased safety to participate in food systems planning.	Perceived accessibility of engagement processes.	Meetings provided in another language spoken within an affected group.	How often are meetings or events provided in another language spoken within affected groups? (E.g. never, rarely, sometimes, frequently, always).
<b>Distributive Justice</b>	Access to Food	3.1 Increased food security for marginalized groups (increased availability of culturally preferred foods, access to nutritious food, affordability of food).	% of food insecurity in marginalized groups.	Offer culturally preferred foods at food retailers, wholesalers, and access organizations (e.g., food banks).	# of food wholesalers, retailers and access organizations offering specific cultural foods.
		3.2 Increased resilience in local food systems. (e.g. during natural disasters, economic shocks)	% of food grown/ produced locally vs imported.	Establish local food processing infrastructure (e.g., abattoir, canning/ preserving, storage, etc.).	# of food processing facilities.
		3.3 Processes are established to identify individuals or groups experiencing/ at risk of food insecurity.	Frequency of food security assessments.	Collect demographic info (e.g., intake forms) at food access organizations.	# of food access organizations collecting demographic data.
	Labour Justice	3.4 Equitable pay in food-related jobs (i.e., across genders and races).	Differences in average wages across gender and racial groups for each sector in the food industry.	Organizational audit of pay differences.	# of audits conducted.
		3.5 Increased safety in work spaces.	# of reported safety concerns.	Offer educational workshop to employers on how to improve safety and support in work spaces.	# of workshops run.
		3.6 Increased employee support in work spaces (e.g., health insurance, training, adequate staffing).	% of food workers who feel supported at work.	Offer educational workshop to employers on how to improve safety and support in work spaces.	# of workshops run.
		3.7 Increased opportunities for attaining livelihoods in the food sector within rural/remote areas.	# of food businesses/jobs in rural/remote communities.	Provide business planning, finance, advice and support services in rural/remote communities.	# of rural/remote food businesses accessing support services.
		3.8 Increased access to food jobs and infrastructure (e.g., farmland, self-employment) for marginalized groups.	% of food businesses/jobs owned/held by people from marginalized groups.	Funding program to support marginalized farmers in purchasing farmland.	Amount of land being used for farming.
		3.9 Reduced market shocks on farmers' livelihoods.	% of food businesses with a diversity of income streams (e.g., agri-tourism, product value addition, education, training, etc.).	Business coaching to support food businesses in diversifying income streams.	# of food businesses receiving coaching.
		Just Food Chain Relations	3.10 Reciprocal food chain relations between marginalized (e.g., women, racialized groups, indigenous communities) and dominant groups are established.	Testimonials and stories from marginalized and dominant groups indicate reciprocity in food chain relations.	Partnership program to connect marginalized and dominant food systems actors (e.g. connecting a latino, female owned producer with buyer staff at a grocery chain).

		3.11 Marginalized food actors have opportunities to provide feedback on partnership relations.	Frequency that feedback is collected from marginalized food actors.	Introduce feedback process that centres safety (e.g. anonymous feedback form).	# of responses received.
		3.12 Reciprocal food chain relations between different actors (e.g., farmers, processors, distributors) are established.	Perceived reciprocity of the relationships between food chain actors.	Food education programs involve other food system actors (farmers, cooks, food vendors, policy makers) as educators.	# of food system actors (farmers, cooks, food vendors, policy makers) as educators.
		3.13 Increased biodiversity and ecosystem health.	Status (quality & contamination) of natural resources (water, land, forest, biodiversity).	Educational program on agroforestry practices.	# of farms practicing agroforestry (e.g. using crop rotation and on-farm composting/green manures/mulching to maintain soil and plant health and conserve water etc.).
		3.14 Animals in food related practices are treated ethically.	# of animal welfare incidents reported.	Program to provide incentives for ethical treatment of animals.	# of farms participating in the incentive program.

# Appendix C: Using the Framework to Audit Policy and Practice

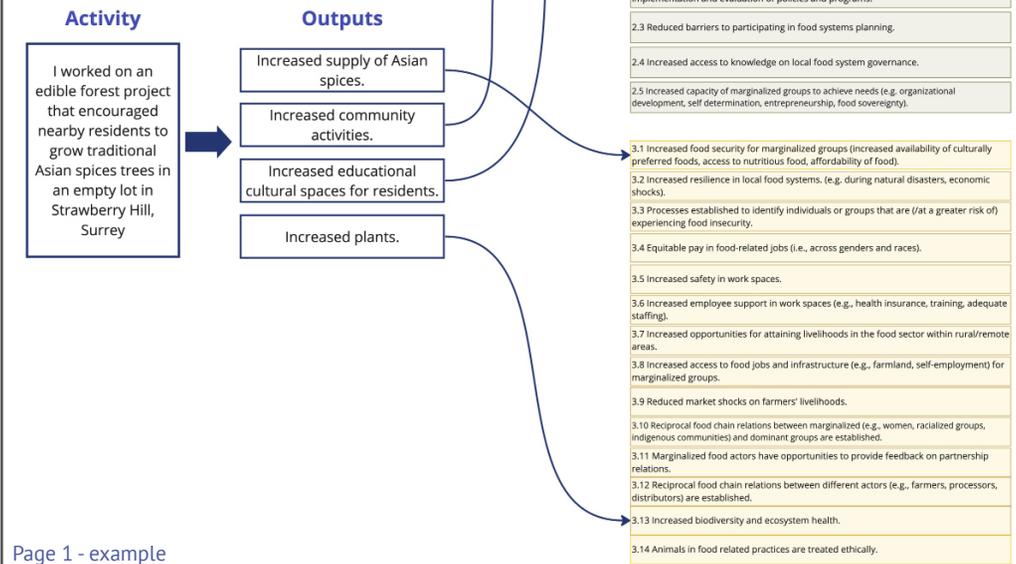
## Just Food System Evaluation Framework

### Tool 1: Connecting Outputs to Outcomes

#### Purpose of the tool:

To support communities to identify how the programs or policies (activities) they have in place are working to achieve desired outcomes for equitable food systems. Once the connections have been made, we encourage you to examine the gaps and think of how your activity could be adjusted to meet these gaps.

#### Example:

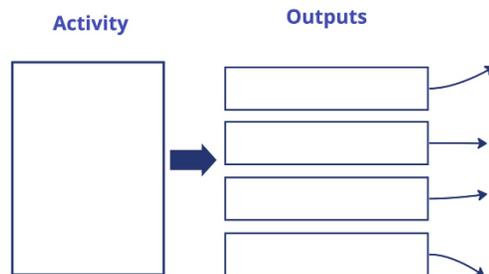


# Just Food System Evaluation Framework

## Tool 1: Connecting Outputs to Outcomes

### Instructions:

1. Describe an activity in 1 or 2 sentences (e.g. What is it? Who is it for?)
2. Describe the direct results of the activity (i.e. outputs)
3. Connect outputs that contribute to achieving outcomes.
4. Identify the impacts you are reaching.



### Outcomes

1.1 Multiple visions/agendas are represented in visions of the food system.
1.2 Differing interpretations of problems and solutions are acknowledged and incorporated in food system planning processes.
1.3 Processes allow for differing or conflicting visions to resolve or coexist.
1.4 Framing of problems and solutions are informed by historic and ongoing inequities.
1.5 Marginalized communities are recognised as having the capacity to experience hope, joy, and vibrancy in the present and future, rather than simply being framed as oppressed.
1.6 The needs of future generations are intentionally incorporated into food systems planning.
2.1 Reduced systemic power disparities in governance.
2.2 Marginalized communities are meaningfully engaged throughout the planning, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs.
2.3 Reduced barriers to participating in food systems planning.
2.4 Increased access to knowledge on local food system governance.
2.5 Increased capacity of marginalized groups to achieve needs (e.g. organizational development, self determination, entrepreneurship, food sovereignty).
3.1 Increased food security for marginalized groups (increased availability of culturally preferred foods, access to nutritious food, affordability of food).
3.2 Increased resilience in local food systems. (e.g. during natural disasters, economic shocks).
3.3 Processes established to identify individuals or groups that are (at a greater risk of) experiencing food insecurity.
3.4 Equitable pay in food-related jobs (i.e., across genders and races).
3.5 Increased safety in work spaces.
3.6 Increased employee support in work spaces (e.g., health insurance, training, adequate staffing).
3.7 Increased opportunities for attaining livelihoods in the food sector within rural/remote areas.
3.8 Increased access to food jobs and infrastructure (e.g., farmland, self-employment) for marginalized groups.
3.9 Reduced market shocks on farmers' livelihoods.
3.10 Reciprocal food chain relations between marginalized (e.g., women, racialized groups, indigenous communities) and dominant groups are established.
3.11 Marginalized food actors have opportunities to provide feedback on partnership relations.
3.12 Reciprocal food chain relations between different actors (e.g., farmers, processors, distributors) are established.
3.13 Increased biodiversity and ecosystem health.
3.14 Animals in food related practices are treated ethically.

### Impacts

Embracing Difference
Considering past, present, future
Just Processes
Capacity Building
Access to Food
Labour Justice
Respectful Relations

### Dimensions of Justice

Recognitional Justice
Procedural Justice
Distributive Justice