

# OPERATIONAL CAPACITY & CONTINUITY FRAMEWORK

## Strategic Training & Capability Assessment

EDGE5 INDEPENDENT DESIGN AUTHORITY

### PURPOSE

Many projects provide infrastructure, resources, and training during implementation phases.

Few projects assess whether sufficient operational capability exists for systems to remain functional after external support declines.

This framework helps organisations identify:

- operational capability gaps
- training priorities
- continuity risks
- local maintenance requirements
- authority transfer requirements
- long-term survivability pressures

The framework focuses on whether practical operational capability remains locally functional under real conditions after support withdrawal.

### CORE QUESTION

**What practical operational capability must remain locally functional for this system to survive independently?**

### IMPORTANT

Training alone does not create continuity.

Operational continuity depends on whether:

- practical skills remain locally functional
- systems remain manageable under stress
- authority transfers successfully
- maintenance systems remain realistic
- households can continue operating systems independently
- knowledge becomes distributed locally over time

Many systems fail because:

- training occurs before systems exist
- operational complexity exceeds local capacity
- skills remain externally concentrated
- maintenance demands become unrealistic
- local trainer pathways never develop
- systems remain dependent on outside supervision

## HOW TO USE THIS FRAMEWORK

Assess current operational capability, practical maintenance requirements, household labour realities, seasonal operating conditions, and continuity risks after support withdrawal.

Identify critical training priorities, operational skill gaps, long-term mentoring needs, trainer development pathways, and implementation sequencing requirements.

This framework is an operational continuity tool, a capability assessment framework, and a strategic implementation planning guide — not a generic training checklist, participation-based workshop schedule, or compliance reporting tool.

## 01 HOUSEHOLD HUB SYSTEMS / ZONE 1

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### OPERATIONAL FOCUS

Daily household survival, food continuity, water access, labour efficiency, and practical daily function.

### TRAINING AREAS

- kitchen gardens
- mandala systems
- keyhole systems
- greywater reuse
- compost systems
- household nutrition
- labour-efficient layout

- dry-season food continuity
- small livestock integration

**OPERATIONAL RISK IF WEAK**

High.

**STRATEGIC OBSERVATION**

Stable household systems significantly improve long-term operational continuity and reduce dependency pressure during stress periods.

## 02 WATER HARVESTING & LANDSCAPE FUNCTION

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**OPERATIONAL FOCUS**

Dry-season survivability, infiltration, runoff control, erosion reduction, and long-term landscape stability.

**TRAINING AREAS**

- swales
- infiltration systems
- overflow planning
- water storage
- erosion control
- landscape hydration
- dry-season planning
- water budgeting

## 03 FOOD & FARMING SYSTEMS

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**OPERATIONAL FOCUS**

Seasonal food continuity, manageable production systems, labour realism, and livelihood stability.

**TRAINING AREAS**

- staple crop systems
- crop rotation
- soil improvement
- seasonal planning
- labour management
- market resilience
- integrated farming systems

## 04 TREE SYSTEMS & WINDBREAKS

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### OPERATIONAL FOCUS

Long-term landscape function, climate buffering, biomass systems, and environmental stability.

### TRAINING AREAS

- tree establishment
- species selection
- survival watering
- wind protection
- succession systems
- biomass production
- canopy planning

## 05 LIVESTOCK & INTEGRATED ANIMAL SYSTEMS

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### OPERATIONAL FOCUS

Integrated food systems, nutrient cycling, manageable animal systems, and household resilience.

### TRAINING AREAS

- rotational systems
- housing systems
- water access
- feed planning
- disease prevention
- integrated fertility systems

## 06 GOVERNANCE, TRAINERS & OPERATIONAL CONTINUITY

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### OPERATIONAL FOCUS

Local operational sovereignty, distributed skills, leadership continuity, and post-withdrawal survivability.

### TRAINING AREAS

- trainer development
- governance systems

- maintenance planning
- operational responsibility
- local adaptation
- mentoring systems
- continuity planning

## 07 OPERATIONAL TRAINING WARNING INDICATORS

If several of the following conditions are present, operational capability may be insufficient for long-term continuity.

- Training delivered before systems exist
- Skills concentrated in a few individuals
- Local authority transfer unclear
- Maintenance systems unrealistic
- Household labour capacity exceeded
- Seasonal operating conditions ignored
- Systems dependent on external trainers
- Local trainer pathways absent
- Operational complexity increasing
- Participation declines after support withdrawal

### EDGE5 PRINCIPLE

**Training is not the objective. Long-term operational continuity is the objective.**

### EDGE5 INDEPENDENT DESIGN AUTHORITY

Operational viability systems for mining, oil & gas, CSR, humanitarian and development, landscape rehabilitation, livelihood continuity and post-handover operational viability.

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