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THEORY-BASED EVALUATION OF INCLUSIVE BUSINESS PROGRAMMES

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Notes on Contributors

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Gordon Freer is a part-time lecturer in international relations at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. He has over 20 years of international experience in monitoring, evaluation, and research of developmental projects, including those focused on private sector development, fragile and conflict-affected areas, and climate resilience. Gordon presents regularly at international conferences. He has a specific interest in theory-based evaluations and has published in this area.

Edward Hedley is a Principal Consultant and Evaluation Director at Itad. He has over 14 years' experience in evaluating international development programmes and he specialises in the areas of impact investing, value chain development, and market systems strengthening. In his work he deploys a range of approaches including theory-based evaluation designs and mixed methods. He worked closely with Gordon Freer to design and implement the evaluation of the Samarth-Nepal Market Development Programme (Samarth-NMDP), which drew on an adapted form of contribution analysis to capture the complexity of change at different levels of the market system.

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Jake Lomax is Director of 3sd Research. As well as undertaking consulting work for clients which include the World Bank, Stockholm Environment Institute, Itad, and NIRAS-LTS International, 3sd Research produces practitioner-oriented processes and tools for mapping systems, analysing conflict, designing strategies for systemic change, and evaluating systemic change programmes. Jake is also a Senior Associate at Tandem and a Senior Associate at Springfield Centre. He has a PhD in International Development and an MSc in Research Methods for International Development, both from the University of East Anglia, and a BSc in Management from the University of St Andrews.

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Fédes van Rijn is a Senior Researcher at WUR. Her educational background lies in business administration and development economics. She obtained her PhD on the topic of agricultural extension, social capital, and impact assessment from WUR in 2014. Fédes' research interests relate to agricultural research and development, private sector support, and sustainability standards in tropical value chains. She specialises in the design and implementation of evaluations that meet scientific standards while at the same time maximise learning. She has extensive experience in field research and stakeholder consultation in multicultural and multi-stakeholder settings.

Greetje Schouten is a Senior Research Fellow at the PrC, based at the Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University, the Netherlands. Through her research, she aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the role of business – in collaboration with governments and/or civil society – in the area of sustainable and inclusive food and agriculture, especially in the context of low- and middle-income countries. Most of the research projects she is involved in have an Action Research component. Before joining the PrC, Greetje worked as a postdoctoral researcher at WUR.

Ben Taylor is chief executive officer of Agora Global and is an expert in systemic approaches to development. He has played a leading role in the conceptualisation, codification, and implementation of market systems development globally. He focuses on overcoming challenges in the implementation of the approach to new development objectives such as health or education, new contexts such as refugee camps, or new methodologies including the measurement of impact and evaluation. He has extensive experience in programme and intervention design, monitoring and evaluation, and technical advisory services. He currently holds academic positions on the boards of several journals, guest lectureships, and a Senior Research Fellowship at Durham University.

Jodie Thorpe is a Research Fellow in the Business, Markets and the State Cluster at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK. Her work explores the relationships between market actors, and between the market and the state, to understand what drives business investment that is more or less inclusive. She is interested in the governance processes and institutional structures that mediate these interactions, including more deliberative and democratic economic arrangements. Prior to joining IDS, she worked as a Private Sector Adviser at Oxfam GB and a Director at SustainAbility, a leading global consultancy on business risks and opportunities from sustainable development.

Giel Ton is a Research Fellow at IDS, University of Sussex, and Director of the Centre for Development Impact (CDI). He specialises in the design of mixed-methods impact evaluations in private sector development programmes. He promotes contribution analysis as an overarching approach of theory-based evaluation and a stepwise process to identify the hotspots where additional data collection and reflection are needed. He has a special interest in the effectiveness of programmes that aim to improve governance and coordination in agricultural value chains and empower smallholder farmers in collective action.

Sietze Vellema is Associate Professor in the Knowledge, Technology and Innovation group at WUR. He leads Action Research with the 2SCALE programme at the PrC, based at the

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