

# PG&E ESA Program Logic Model: Mapping the Current Program as a Basis for Future Program Updates

## What Is A Logic Model?

A program logic model illustrates a program's theory: a road map showing how to get from Goals to Outcomes



## Logic Model Components

- Goals:** Where the program is going, what the program *intends* to accomplish
- Resources:** Inputs, what is invested in the program
- Barriers:** Impediments to ESA reaching its goals
- Assumptions:** Critical expectations that program activities will result in specific desired outcomes
- Exogenous factors:** External conditions or influences on the program beyond the program's control
- Activities:** Processes, events, and actions used to bring about the intended results or changes
- Outputs:** Direct products of the activities--who and how many are reached
- Outcomes:** Expected changes that happen as a result of the activities--outcomes show how the program is progressing and how to recognize when its goals are realized

## Why Use A Logic Model

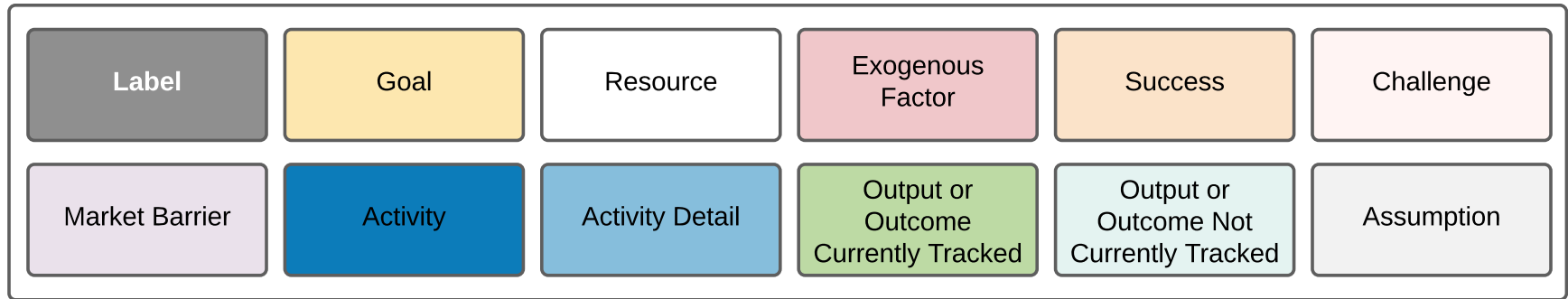
- Document how ESA's activities logically lead to the results PG&E and stakeholders want to achieve
- Enhance a shared understanding among PG&E staff and stakeholders about ESA's goals, strategies, and underlying assumptions
- Support efforts to update the program's design, marketing, implementation, and evaluation
- Help ESA program staff discuss the program with others at PG&E, implementers, contractors, regulators, and other stakeholders

## Contents of this Document

1. Introduction
2. Reader Guide
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6. -- Section Divider --
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# PG&E ESA Program Logic Model Reader Guide

## Legend



## Definitions

**Short Term:** *Monthly or quarterly*  
**Medium Term:** *Annually*  
**Long Term:** *Program cycle (multiple years)*

## Data Sources

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Source</u>
<None>	Interviews with PG&E and ED staff, & implementers; monthly program and annual ESA reports	†	CPUC Code
*	2008 Strategic Plan (CPUC and CEC)	††	RHA Customer Journey Map
**	2021- 2026 CPUC Guidance document and white paper		
***	2021-26 PG&E ESA Application		

## Abbreviations

<b>CBO:</b> Community-Based Organizations	<b>IOU:</b> Investor-Owned Utility
<b>CEC:</b> California Energy Commission	<b>LI:</b> Low Income
<b>CIP:</b> PG&E's Central Inspection Program	<b>LIEE:</b> Low Income Energy Efficiency
<b>CPUC:</b> California Public Utilities Commission	<b>LIHEAP:</b> Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
<b>CSI:</b> California Solar Initiative	<b>LINA:</b> Low Income Needs Assessment
<b>DG:</b> Distributed generation	<b>LIWP:</b> Low Income Weatherization Program
<b>DR:</b> Demand response	<b>Low-E:</b> Low-efficiency
<b>ED:</b> Energy Division of the CPUC	<b>MASH:</b> California's Multifamily Solar Homes Program
<b>EE:</b> Energy Efficiency or Energy Efficient	<b>NEB:</b> Non-energy benefit
<b>ES:</b> Energy Specialists	<b>NGAT:</b> Natural Gas Appliance Test (technicians)
<b>ESA:</b> Energy Savings Assistance Program	<b>PG&amp;E:</b> Pacific Gas & Electric
<b>HCS:</b> Health, Comfort, and Safety	<b>SASH:</b> California's Single Family Affordable Solar Homes Program
<b>HERS:</b> Home Energy Rating System	<b>SPOC:</b> PG&E's multifamily Single Point of Contact program
<b>HH:</b> Household	<b>WAP:</b> Weatherization Assistance Program
<b>HVAC:</b> Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning	<b>WS:</b> Weatherization Specialists

## PG&E ESA Program Logic Model Goals

### 2008-2020 Goals

- Treat all *willing and eligible* low-income households in PG&E's service area by 2020 with no-cost energy-efficiency and health, comfort, and safety services and measures and energy education\*
  - Increase participant understanding of home energy use and change participant behaviors to support energy use reductions\*
  - Reduce LI customers' electric and gas consumption, and bills†
  - Improve the health, comfort, and safety of the customer
- Serve as an energy resource by delivering increasingly cost-effective and longer-term savings\*
  - Balance energy savings with NEBs to ensure program is as cost-effective as possible\*†
- Encourage local employment and job skill development†

### PG&E Draft 2021-2026 Goals

- Encourage energy savings in each participating home through resource measures; achieve energy savings as cost-effectively as possible.\*\*\*
- Encourage installation of non-resource measures that promote health, comfort, and safety\*\*\*
- Identify and serve qualified households not yet treated by ESA and households where a significant need for services exists
- Manage a portfolio of measures that, taken as a whole, provide overall energy savings and contribute to California's greenhouse gas Emissions Reduction targets\*\*\*
- Administer innovative approach for multifamily housing\*\*\*
- Help improve the environmental factors and social justice inequities impacting income-qualified customers\*\*\*

### ED Draft 2021-2026 Goals-- Guidance Document

- Realize deep (average) savings per participating HH: energy savings from resource measures; HCS benefits from non-resource measures\*\*
- Realize specific numbers of participants (HHs) annually: include HH not yet served by ESA and HH where a significant need for service exists\*\*
- Realize specific portfolio-level energy savings annually: energy savings with avoided greenhouse gas emissions, kWh, therms, and kBtUs (combining kWh and therm savings)
- Hit targets for additional metrics such as indicators for energy burden, public health indicators, and/or climate change

### ED Draft 2021-2026 Goals--White Paper

- Increase year-over-year average energy savings per treated household by at least 5% per year\*\*
- Maximize ESA household participation and coordination with other IOU clean energy programs that reduce hardship at the household level\*\*
- Build a universal low-income customer application system\*\*

**\*\*\* Citations for 2021-26 PG&E ESA Application: (Note that PG&E Draft 2021-2026 Goals are not numbered above because we did not want readers to assume the goals are prioritized. However, they're numbered here for easier reference)**

Goal #1: p. I-48, lines 1-3 and Table 1-11; p. I-62, lines 6-7

Goal #2: p. I-48, lines 1-3 and Table 1-11

Goal #3: p. I-50, lines 6-17; p. I-63, lines 1-2

Goal #4: p. I-52, lines 3-5

Goal #5: p. I-35, lines 10-12 (and mentioned during our discussions with Lori)

Goal #6: p. I-63, lines 9-11

Previously listed goal that is not included above: "Increase ease of participation for qualified customers" (see Table I-16, p. I-80; also mentioned during some of our discussions). This seems more like an implementation issue rather than a high-level program goal. However, please let us know if we should add it back into the list above.

**\*\*\* Citations for 2021-26 ED Draft Goals--Guidance Document:**

All from pp. 7-9

## PG&E ESA Program Program Resources and Exogenous Factors

### Resources

- Human expertise:
  - PG&E staff
  - Regulators
  - Network of partners throughout PG&E's service area (private contractors and CBOs)
  - Skilled contractor workforce: ESSs; WSSs; NGATs; HVAC, AC tune-up, and large appliance contractors
  - Ratepayer and customer advocates, environmental groups, and other stakeholders
- Funding: ratepayer/public purpose monies
- Tools: CPUC-established ESA Policy and Procedures Guide and Installation Manual

### Exogenous Factors

- Regulatory requirements and process:
  - Current Statewide ESA Installation Standards allow only like-for-like measure replacements (e.g., replacing a low-E gas furnace with a ductless mini-split heat pump, which could result in energy savings, is not permitted)
  - Due to 3-year program cycle (in contrast to general EE programs' 1-year cycle), and lengthy mid-cycle advice letter process, changes ESA is not nimble, changes cannot be implemented quickly
- Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic: economic downturn, restrictions on customer contact
- Wary customers: e.g., due to immigration status, seniors concerned about getting scammed, no PG&E logos on contractor-developed outreach materials
- Structural degradation can render some measures infeasible

## PG&E ESA Program Successes and Considerations for Future Program Refinements

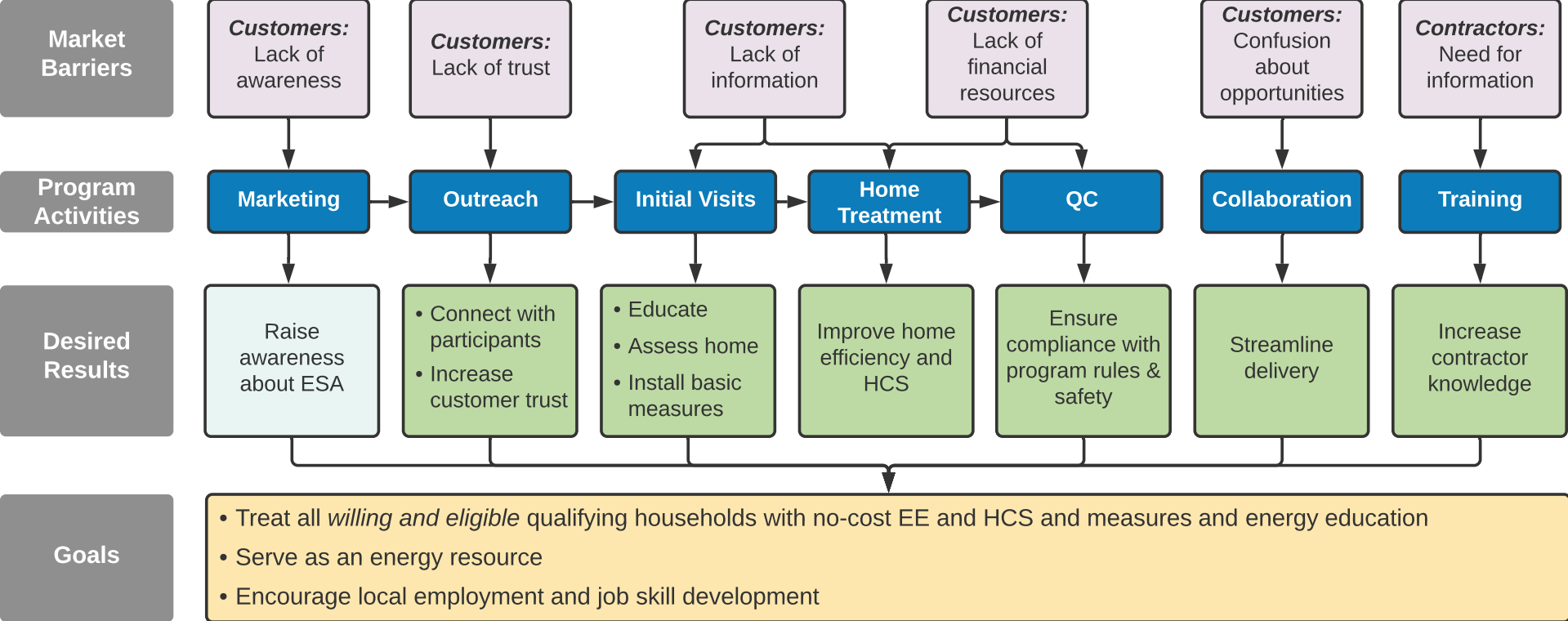
### Successes

- PG&E met 2020 goal of treating all eligible, willing, and feasible households
- ESA improves the energy efficiency and internal environment of treated homes at no cost to qualifying participants
- ESA provides resource savings and grid resources to PG&E
- Robust network of skilled partners make positive contribution to local economies

### Considerations for Future Program Refinements

- PG&E's low-income customers have varying energy needs based on their climate, setting (urban, suburban, rural), access to multiple fuels (e.g., electricity, natural gas, propane), and demographics
- Target population changes over time due to changing customer circumstances
- Improved baseline equipment efficiencies mean less potential for energy savings
- Replacing or repairing inoperable and under-used baseline equipment leads to rebound effects that undermine program cost-effectiveness (although they improve participants' HCS)
- Measure and program cost-effectiveness can be difficult to attain:
  - ESA includes HCS measures that may not have energy benefits.
  - Program covers full measure cost and labor.
- Competing ED priorities: maximizing program or per-HH savings, achieving HCS improvements, maximizing program cost-effectiveness, serving customers most likely to participate, serving customers with greatest need.
- Historic environmental injustices experienced by many low income communities are difficult to reverse.

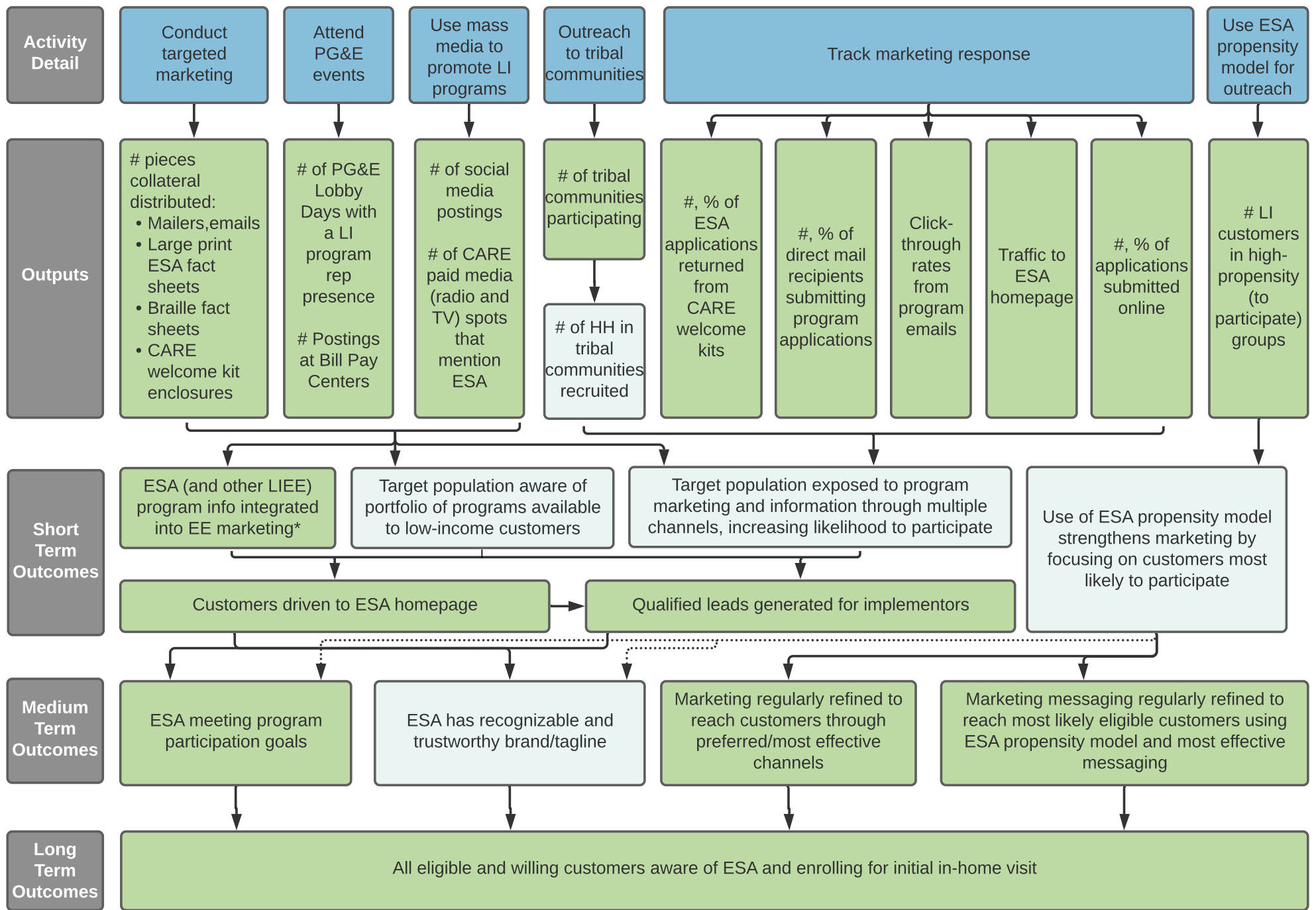
# PG&E ESA Program Logic Model Overview



## **PG&E ESA Program Logic Model**

-- The following pages show ESA Program Logic Model details for each program activity --

## Activity: Market ESA to LI Customers



### Successes:

- 2007, 2013, 2016, 2019 LINA findings were used to inform/refine ESA marketing.
- Non-digital marketing response rates are above the industry standard.

### Considerations for Future Program Refinements:

- It can be challenging to engage the 40% of eligible customers (statewide) who have not wanted to participate. Reasons for non-participation include:
  - Do not want strangers in the home
  - Concerned about immigration status/issues
  - Cannot take time off work for one or more ESA visits.
- The ESA propensity model identifies customers who are most likely to participate; it was not designed to target specific customer segments.

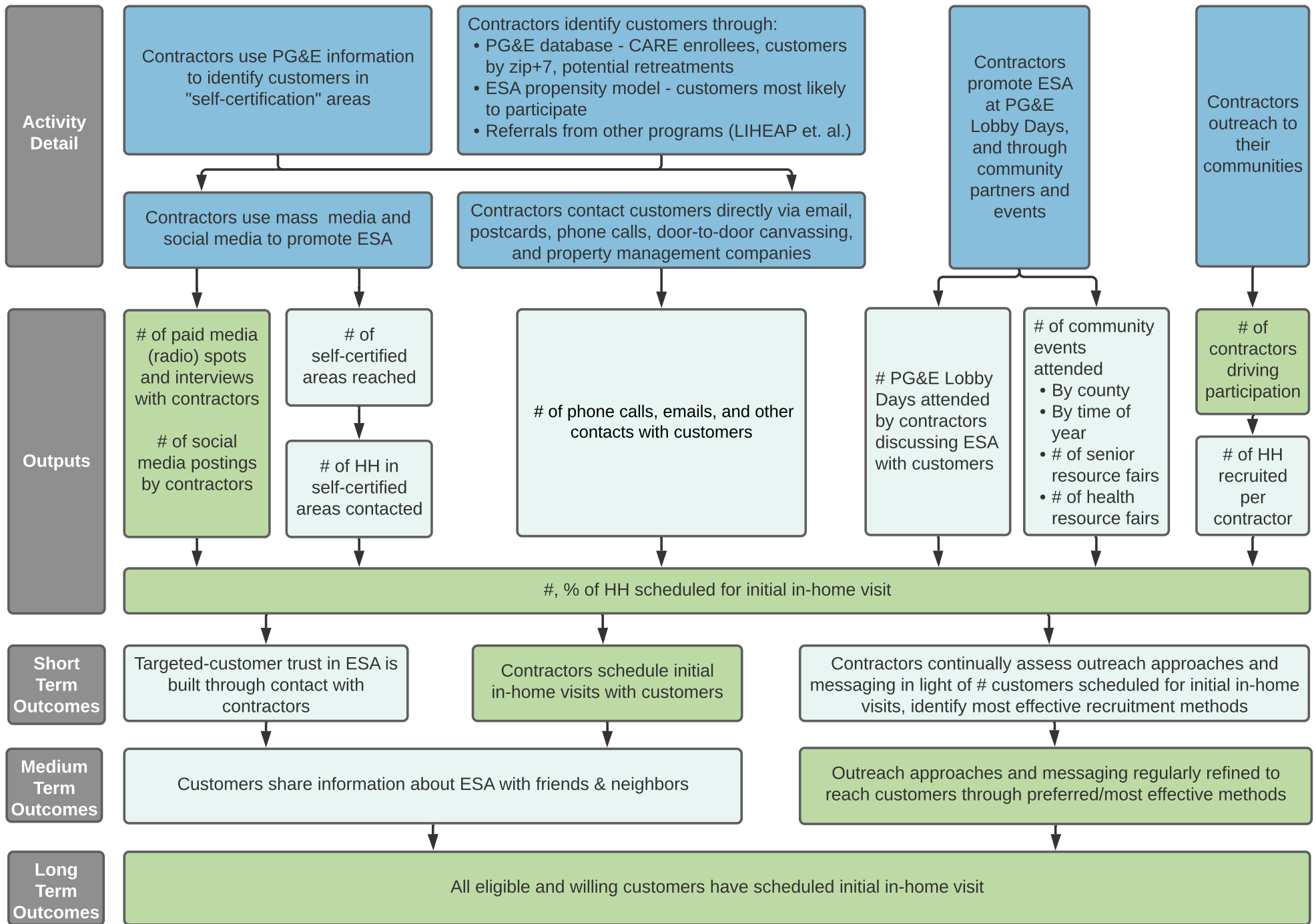
### Notes:

- Tracked metrics (outputs, outcomes) may be documented/reported monthly, annually, and/or per program cycle.

### Assumptions:

- ESA propensity model accurately identifies customers who are most likely to participate.

## Activity: Outreach to LI Customers



### Successes:

- Contractors have ties to, are respected in, and have cultural competency and understanding of the communities where they work; they are effective in tailoring their approaches.

### Considerations for Future Program Refinements:

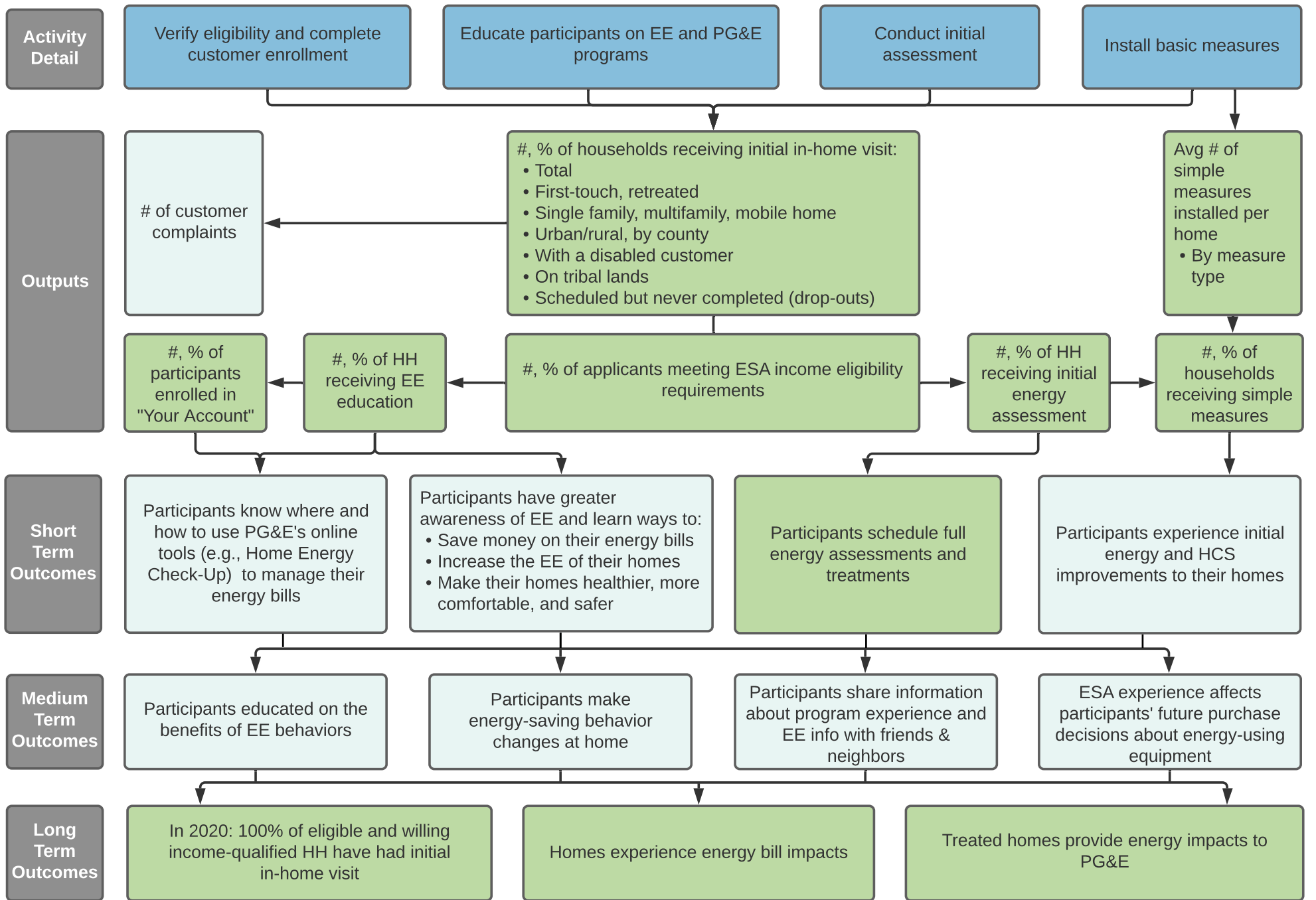
- Identifying and reaching eligible customers who have not yet participated: e.g., customers with trust concerns (elderly, those with immigration concerns) can be challenging.
- For-profit contractors and mission-driven contractors have different motivations for conducting outreach.

### Notes:

- Tracked metrics (outputs, outcomes) may be documented/reported monthly, annually, and/or per program cycle.
- "Contractors" includes both CBOs and non-CBO contractors.



# Activity: Conduct Initial In-Home Visits



## Successes:

- Conducted initial visits in over 2 million homes from 1983 through the end of 2018.\*\*\*

## Considerations for Future Program Refinements:

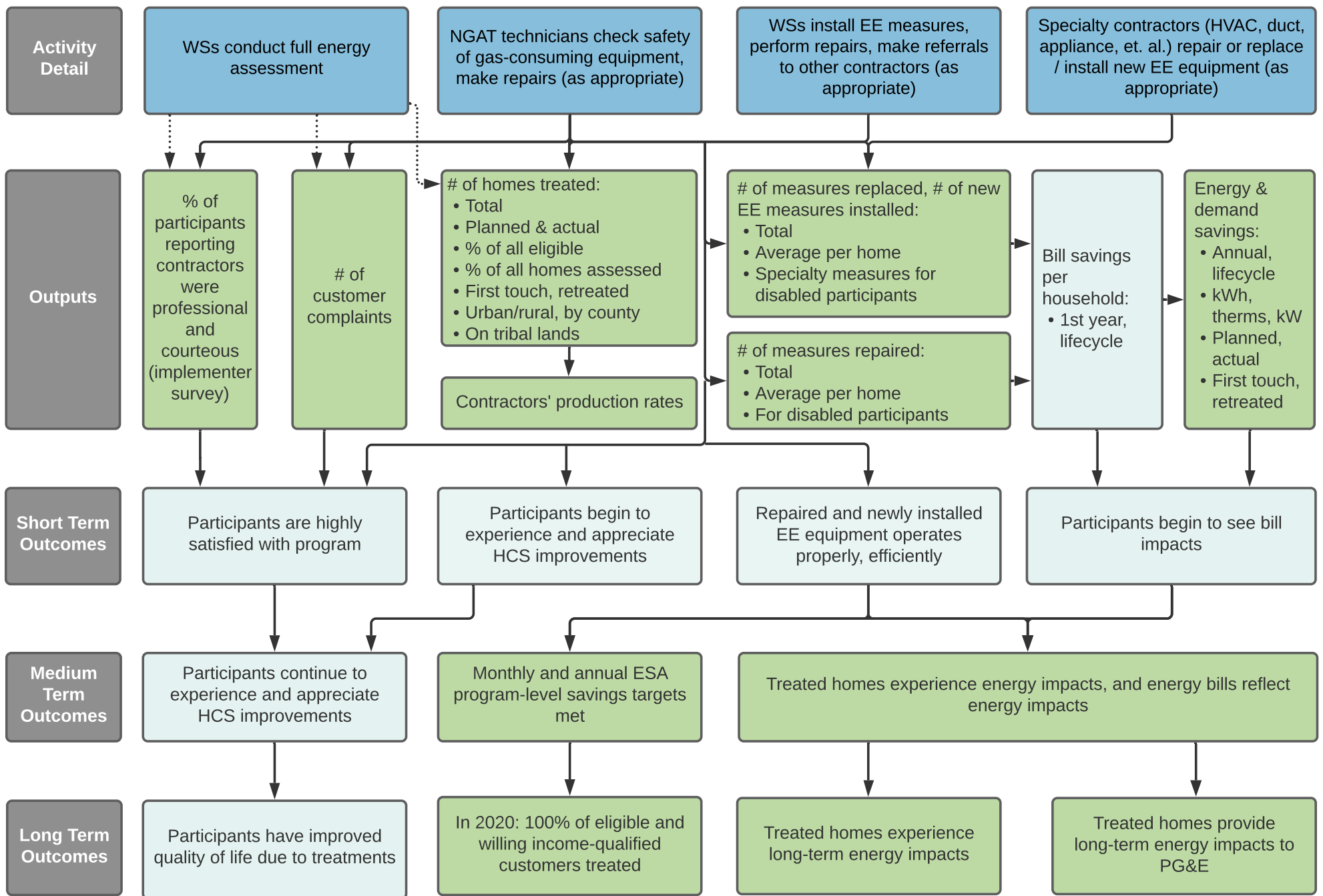
- Participants are required to prove their income eligibility and sign documents in multiple places: the income eligibility process is complicated and can feel demeaning to some customers.
- For renters: obtaining landlord's signature can be extremely challenging (e.g., from a landlord who owns dozens of properties).
- Lack of dedicated grassroots trusted messengers makes it difficult to reach the hardest-to-reach customers.
- Renters are often hesitant to ask landlords for permission for upgrades due to fear of rent increases.
- Management of customer expectations during sign up: customers may become frustrated if they get only basic measures when program markets the possibility of receiving more substantial measures/improvements. As a result, the ESs may have difficulty keeping customers engaged.
- The standard of 200% Federal Poverty Level may not capture the entire LI segment, potentially limiting the number of customers eligible for ESA.

## Notes:

- Tracked metrics (outputs, outcomes) may be documented/reported monthly, annually, and/or per program cycle.



## Activity: Treat Participant Homes



### Successes:

- Treated over 2 million homes from 1983 through the end of 2018:\*\*\*
  - In aggregate, participants have saved over \$902 million on their energy bills.
  - In aggregate, participants have reduced their electric use by over 634 GWh and their natural gas use by over 28.8 million therms.
- Direct installation program has operated at no cost to participants.
- Customers generally very satisfied with the program: report participation has improved their home environment/quality of life.

### Considerations for Future Program Refinements:

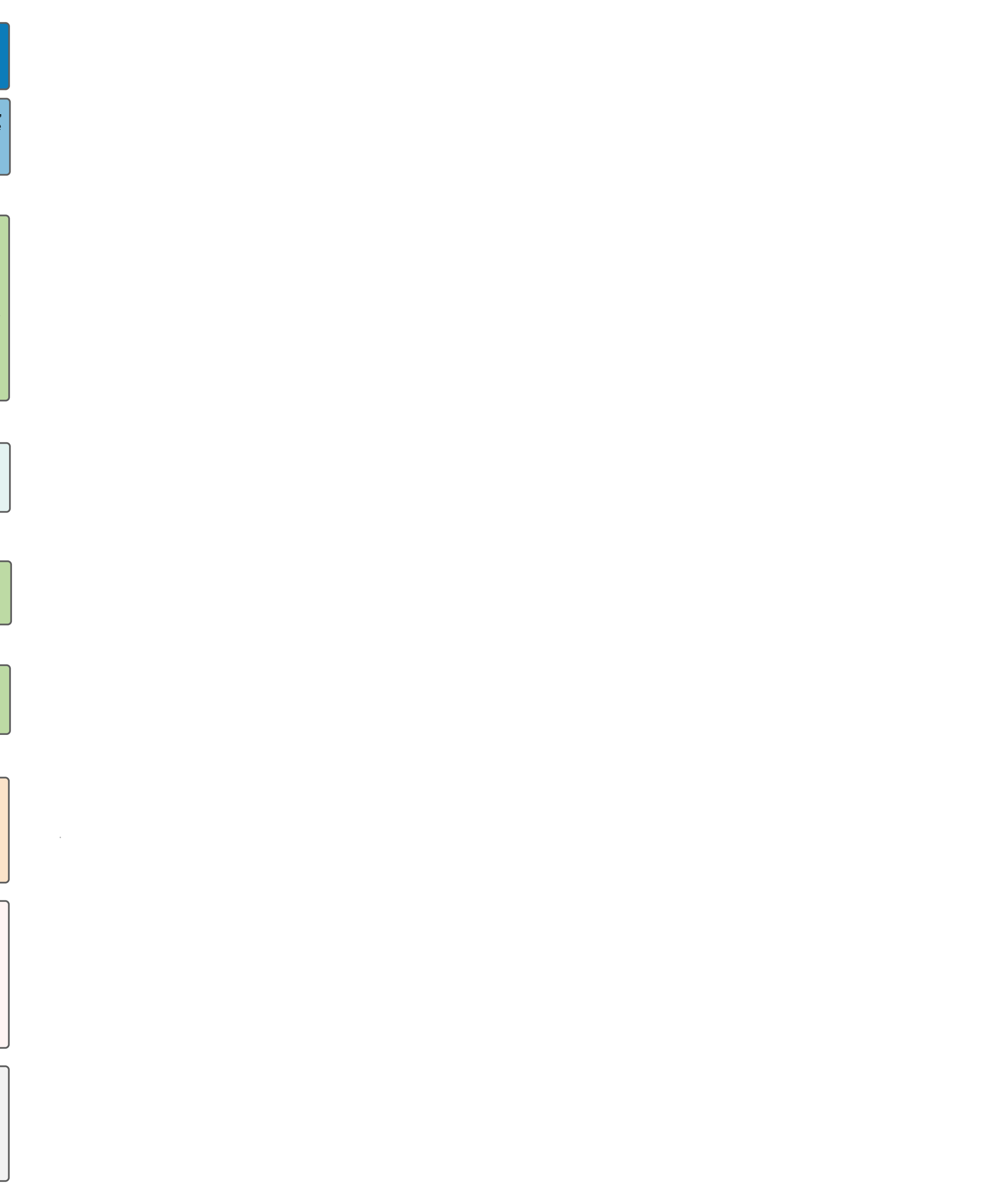
- The program does not always offer measures customers actually want or will use (e.g., want stainless fridge but offered only white).
- Customers may experience up to 10 or more touchpoints.
- Entire process can take up to 2 months or longer.
- Lengthy/slow process to respond to market or measure changes (e.g., poor customer response to a measure).
- HVAC and appliance contractors explain new equipment to customer at time of installation, but person home during delivery may not be person who usually operates it.
- WSs and HVAC contractors must rely on nameplate information to determine if customer qualifies for replacement for inefficient, working furnaces.
- Strict installation rules do not allow contractors the flexibility to tailor measures to each participant home.

### Notes:

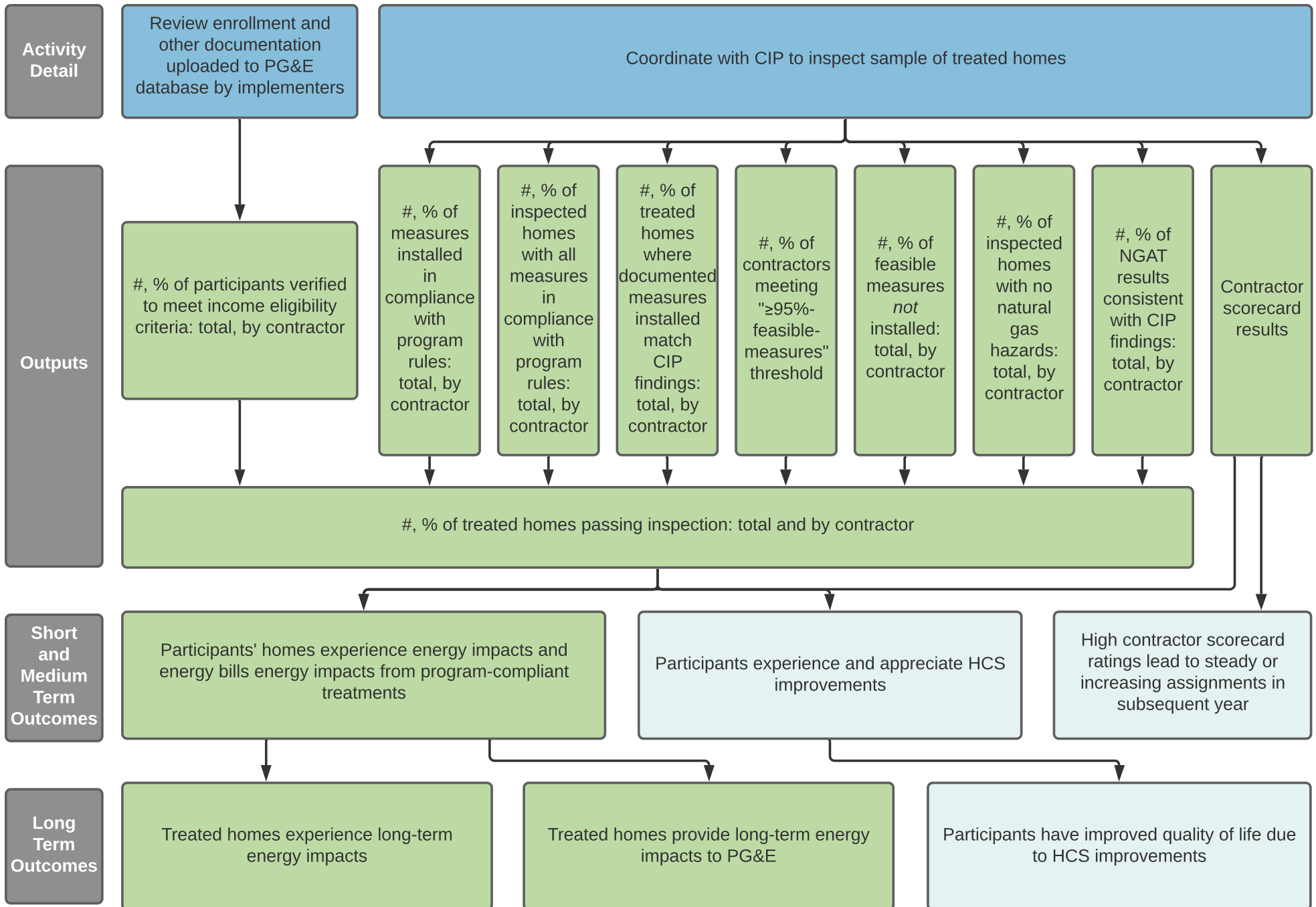
- Tracked metrics (outputs, outcomes) may be documented/reported monthly, annually, and/or per program cycle.

### Assumptions:

- Implementing all feasible measures (in accordance with program rules) renders treated homes more energy efficient than they were pre-treatment.
- Implementing all feasible measures (in accordance with program rules) improves the HCS of treated homes.



# Activity: Conduct Quality Check



## Successes:

- Participants generally consider post-treatment NGAT safety inspections and CIP inspections acceptable parts of the ESA process.

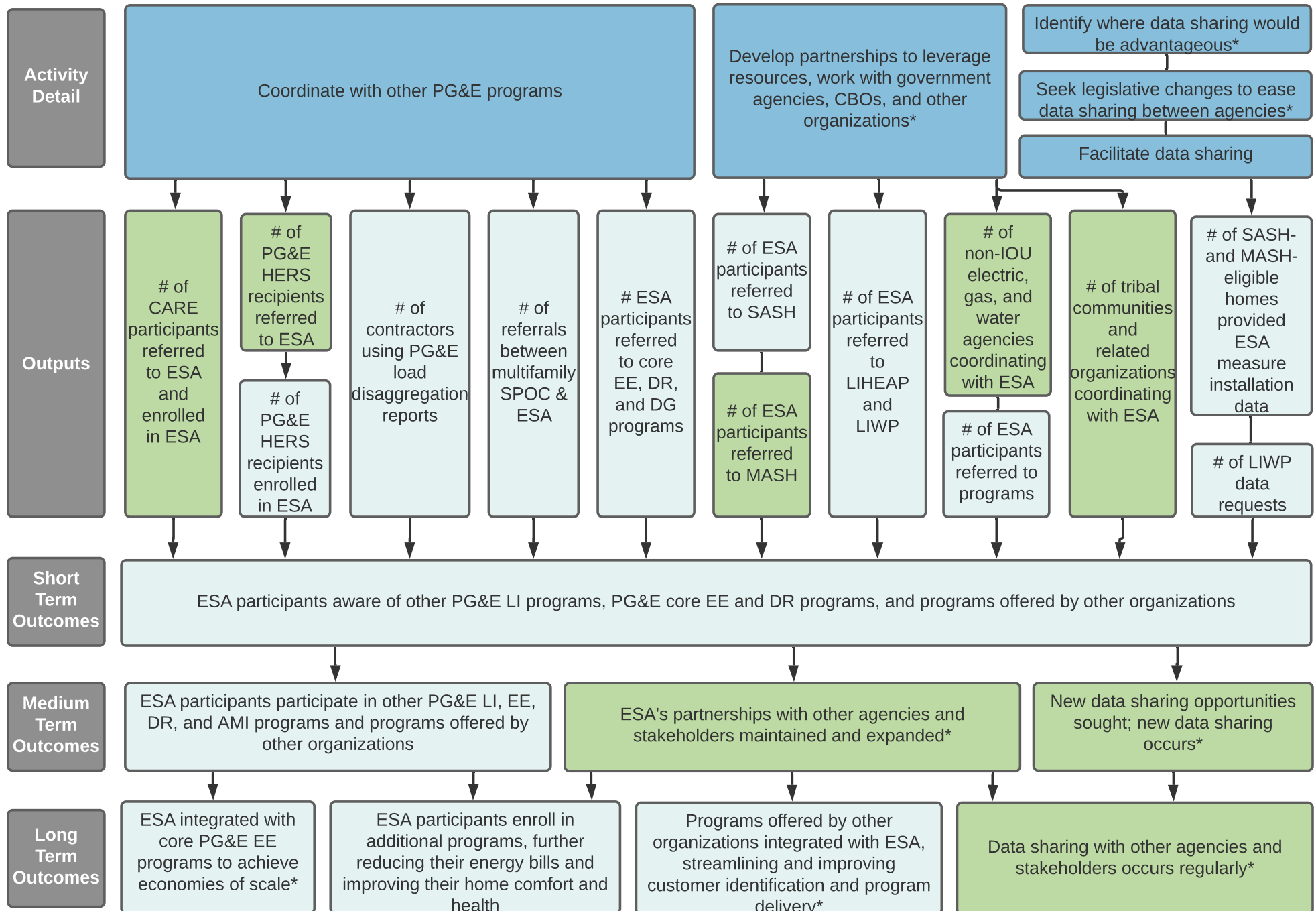
## Considerations for Future Program Refinements:

- Once homes have been treated, some participants may not be inclined to schedule and complete follow-up NGAT safety inspections and CIP inspections.
- Some implementers and contractors believe the inspection rules are too strict (e.g. they have to return to a treated home if they initially missed installing one outlet cover plate that is located behind a couch).

## Notes:

- Tracked metrics (outputs, outcomes) may be documented/reported monthly, annually, and/or per program cycle.
- Implementers' internal QA/QC activities and metrics are not included on this logic model.

## Activity: Collaborate with Other Programs



### Successes:

- Coordination with water agencies (e.g, ESA delivering kits and information to water agency customers; contractors leveraging opportunities).

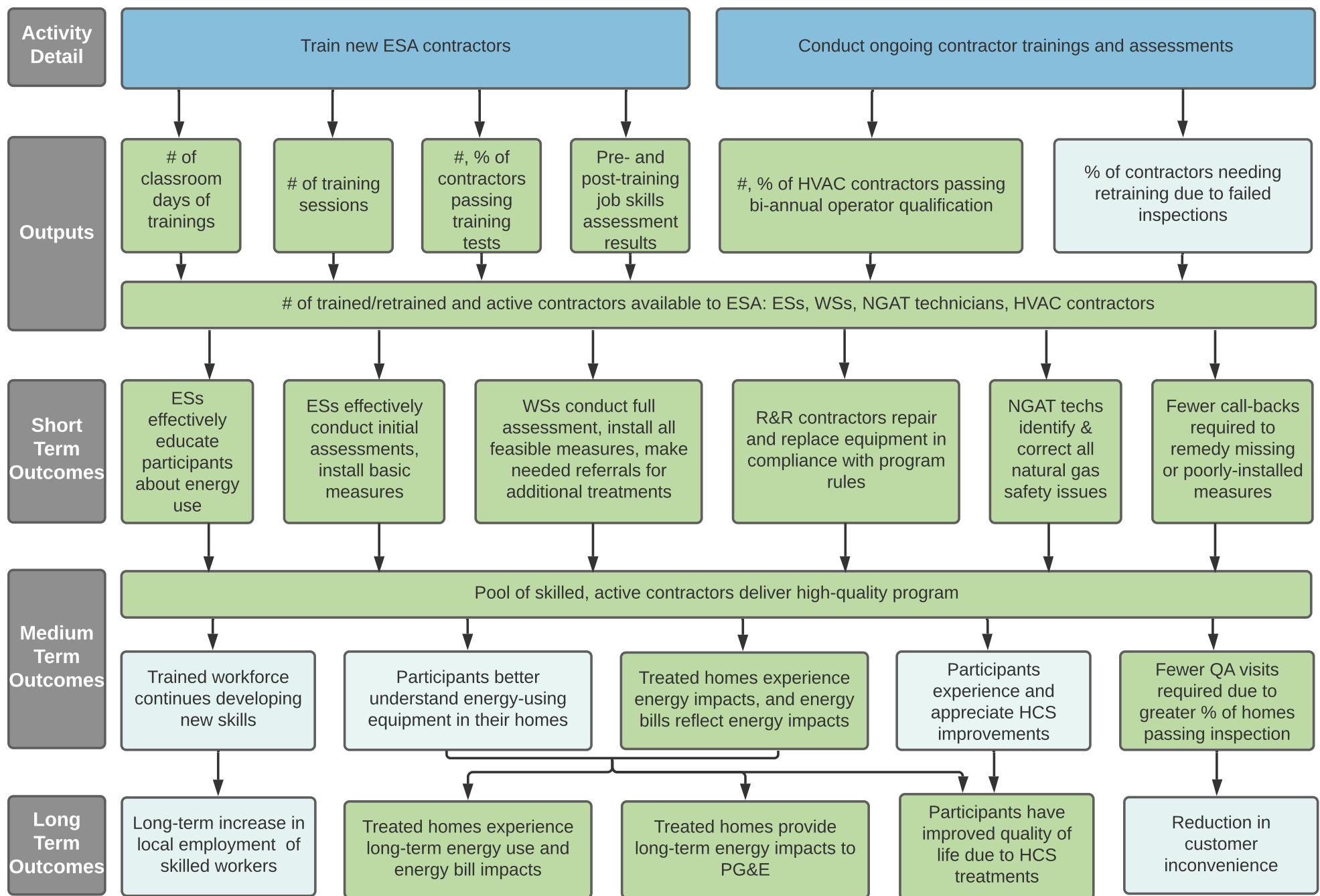
### Considerations for Future Program Refinements:

- Privacy concerns restrict data sharing and rendering coordination/leveraging resources with other organizations offering similar services and measures (e.g, with federal LIHEAP and WAP, California's Community Services and Development department) difficult/impossible.
- Where PG&E and another organization are serving the same customer, coordinating efforts so all contractors involved get maximum benefit can be complicated and challenging.
- ESA coordination with new technologies (e.g., batteries in wildfire safety zones, solar, electric vehicles) and power shut-off events can be complicated and challenging.
- Criteria for LI Solar (SASH/MASH) and other LI Residential Housing programs are not the same as ESA criteria.
- Ability to leverage other programs can be limited by those programs' resources.

### Notes:

- Tracked metrics (outputs, outcomes) may be documented/reported monthly, annually, and/or per program cycle.

## Activity: Train Contractors



### Successes:

- Two-tier system lowers employment barriers of entry, creates more jobs:
  1. ESs
  2. WSs, NGATs, duct technicians, and HVAC and appliance contractors.
- Contractors have opportunity to continue learning new skills; some move to specific (unionized) trades (e.g., HVAC specialty).

### Considerations for Future Program Refinements:

- The level of documentation required by program administrators does not always align with mission-driven trusted program messengers (CBOs) with limited staff working on ESA and little interest in cost-effectiveness.
- There are limited contractor incentives for customer acquisition.
- Contractor training is only offered in English: languages such as Spanish, or Hmong could be beneficial.
- There is no universal training or certification for contractors participating in ESA and other programs that also target LI customers (e.g., LIHEAP).
- There is no two-way path for contractors to go between working in ESA and other EE programs.

### Notes:

- Tracked metrics (outputs, outcomes) may be documented/reported monthly, annually, and/or per program cycle.

### Assumptions:

- Implementers recruit sufficient numbers of new contractors to attend trainings to ensure full program coverage.
- PG&E trainings impart all necessary program and technical information to ESs, WSs, and NGAT technicians.
- Duct test and seal technicians, HVAC contractors, and appliance contractors acquire all necessary training and licenses outside of ESA program.
- PG&E or implementers track measures that inspections repeatedly note were feasible but not installed (total, and by contractor), research why the measures were missed, and address these omissions with additional training and/or changes to program rules.