Sustainable implementation of public health initiatives

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Photo: Guri Wist

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What do we mean by implementation?

*Implementation* is the carrying out, execution, or practice of a plan, a method, or any design, idea, model, specification, standard or policy for doing something.

As such, *implementation* is the action that must follow any preliminary thinking in order for something to actually happen.

https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/implementation
Sustainable implementation

Sustainable initiatives

- What's left of the initiative in 10 years? 20 years?
- Continuous improvement of practice – best practice
- Coordinated initiatives across levels and sectors
- Knowledge-based initiatives
Take home message

Sustainable implementation – sustainable initiatives

- Broad knowledge base
- Common understanding (of the challenges)
- Involvement
- Anchoring
- Joint ownership
Outline the need for:

- Multi-level initiatives
- Multi-sectoral initiatives
- Knowledge based strategies
- Broad (user) involvement

Background

International guidelines - WHO - Ottawa-charter, Health in all Polices (HiAP)

National guidelines and legislations
Examples of questions to be answered in the municipalities

- How are the health conditions of the general population in the municipality?
- What is the status of the public health work in the municipality?
- How are central policy guidelines translated into local solutions?
- How can cooperation and co-action be established and maintained between various policy areas like environmental considerations, housing, land management and public health?
- How do we select and implement targeted measures?
- Which knowledge should we apply?
From knowledge to action – from action to knowledge: Innovation in public sector

Aim

To contribute knowledge and methods that can strengthen the capacities of municipalities regarding how to work more systematically, knowledge-based and multi-sectoral in promoting health and health equity in the population.

- 4-year innovation and research project
- Local (municipalities) and County partners in collaboration with research institutions
- Multisectoral communication and collaboration across policy areas, sectors, disciplines and organizational levels.
Mixed Method Research Design

- Document analyses
- Focus group discussions
- In depth interviews
- Diary/log
- Participatory observation
- Search Conference
- Public meetings
Trøndelag Model for Public Health Work

- Based on key challenges in public health work
- Represents a method that operationalizes the legal requirements
- The model and method is based on research and the development and evaluation of public health initiatives
- Aims to improve practical solutions
- User involvement approach

The circle of key actors

- Key actors involved in the public health work.

- The list is not exhaustive, but nevertheless indicates the diversity of actors with defined roles and responsibilities.
Involves seven steps for how to collect and apply the best available knowledge in developing, implementing and evaluating targeted measures based on:

- Common understanding (of the challenges)
- Broad knowledge base
- Involvement
- Anchoring (identity)
- Ownership
The objectives and strategies of public health work is the responsibility of the whole municipality
Discovering the best available knowledge

Developing a common understanding of the challenges

Knowledge-based and systematic public health work depends on diverse sources of knowledge that promote a common understanding.
• Involving and developing a common understanding of municipal public health measures

• Implementing a brainstorming session

• Developing a concrete plan for public health initiatives

Those affected by planes and measures must be involved in the process
• Following up the brainstorming session
• Updating
• Planning new initiatives
• Communication and information

Concrete measures are planned, developed and implemented in a binding cooperation between the actors
• Status update
• Implementing new initiatives
• Description and documentation

A continuous follow-up ensures that the work takes place in accordance with the intentions
Measures need to be evaluated whenever they affect public health, especially if they lead to more equality in the health area.
• Identify the most important experiences from the work

• Collect knowledge to be used in decision-making

• Participating in key political, administrative and professional contexts to share knowledge

Systematic interaction and knowledge sharing. Scope and extent of the sources of knowledge
Public health initiatives in 3 municipalities

The Malvik Path

City park in Steinkjer

Recreation area close to city center of Rørvik
Tröndelag Model for Public Health Work

- Enables possibilities for continuous improvement and development of practical solutions.
- It encourages actors to make use of the best available method and knowledge.
- The model also provides a foundation for restructuring and responding to new challenges.

- 2018-2023: The model will be applied in 30 municipalities, implementing public health initiatives.
Horisont 2020 - INHERIT

Identifying ways of living, moving and consuming that protect the environment and promote health and health equity

INHERIT is about stimulating effective policies, practices and innovations that address key environmental stressors of health and the underlying causes of health inequity.

This Horizon 2020 research project aims to encourage us to modify our current lifestyles, characterized by a ‘take, make, consume, dispose’ models of growth, to formulate scenarios for a more sustainable future, and to design, implement and test inter-sectoral initiatives to achieve the desired change.

• Duration
INHERIT is a 48-month / 4-year (2016-2019) Horizon 2020 project funded by the European Commission

• Consortium
INHERIT consists of 18 partners from around Europe led by EuroHealthNet.

• Budget
5,952,902.50 Euros
Sustainable implementation

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- Joint ownership


Weiss, Lillefjell & Magnus (2016). Facilitators for the development and implementation of health promoting policy and programs – a scoping review at the local community level. BMC Public Health 16:140

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