

Identify Policy Options

Learning Objectives

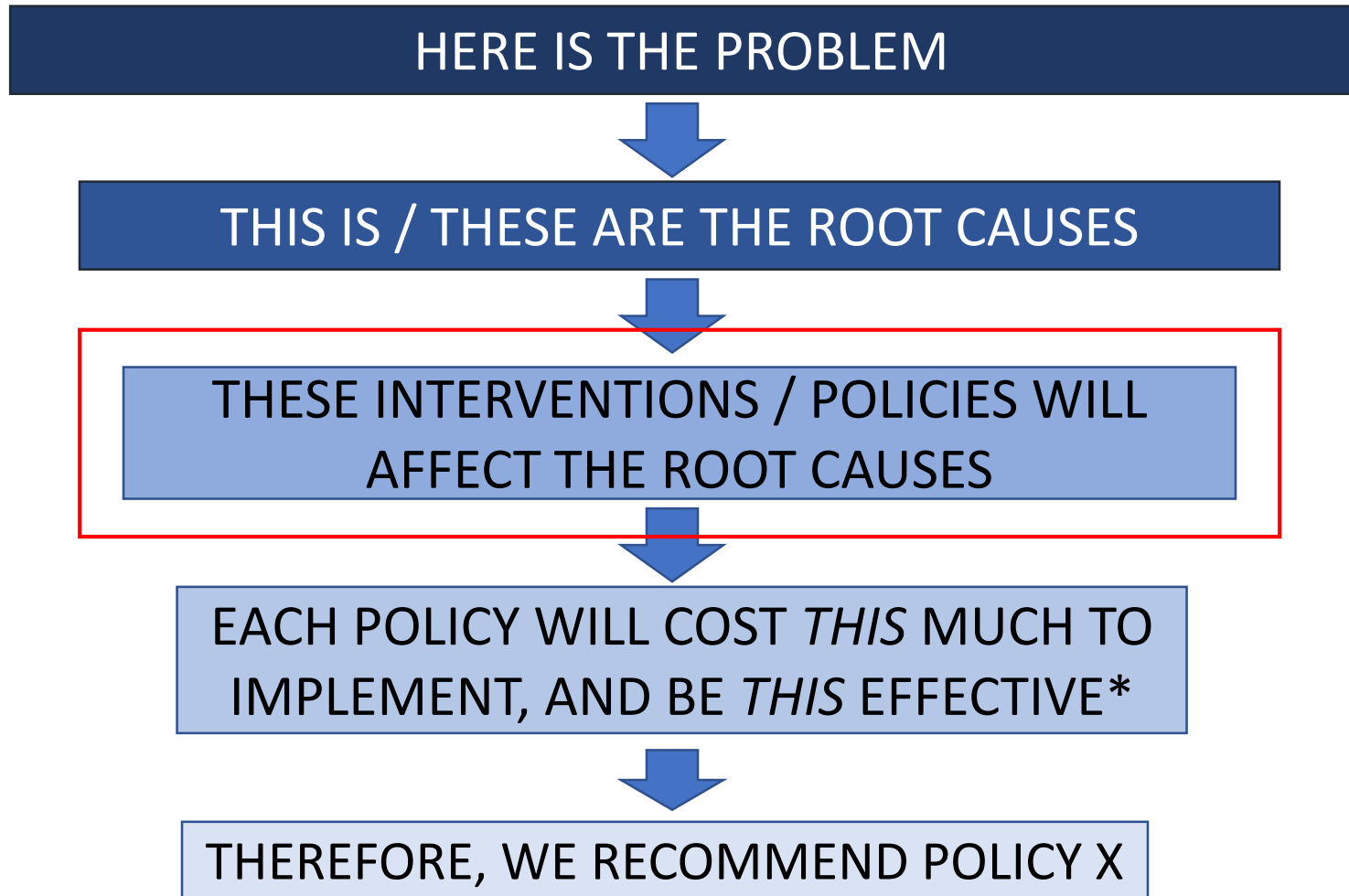
By the end of this module, you will be able to:

- **Select the most feasible policy options**
- **Develop indicators to assess impact of policies**
- **Identify evidence to support options selected**



Define Your Policy Options

Narrative / Storyline of a Policy Brief



Determining Your Policy Options, Part I

- **Policy options should target the key modifiable driver / root cause of the public health problem**
 - Must be something that can change if policies change
- **Multiple options (~3) is ideal**
 - Convincing to your audience
- **Rare situations: only one option can be proposed**
 - Compare proposed option with existing situation

Many Types of Policy

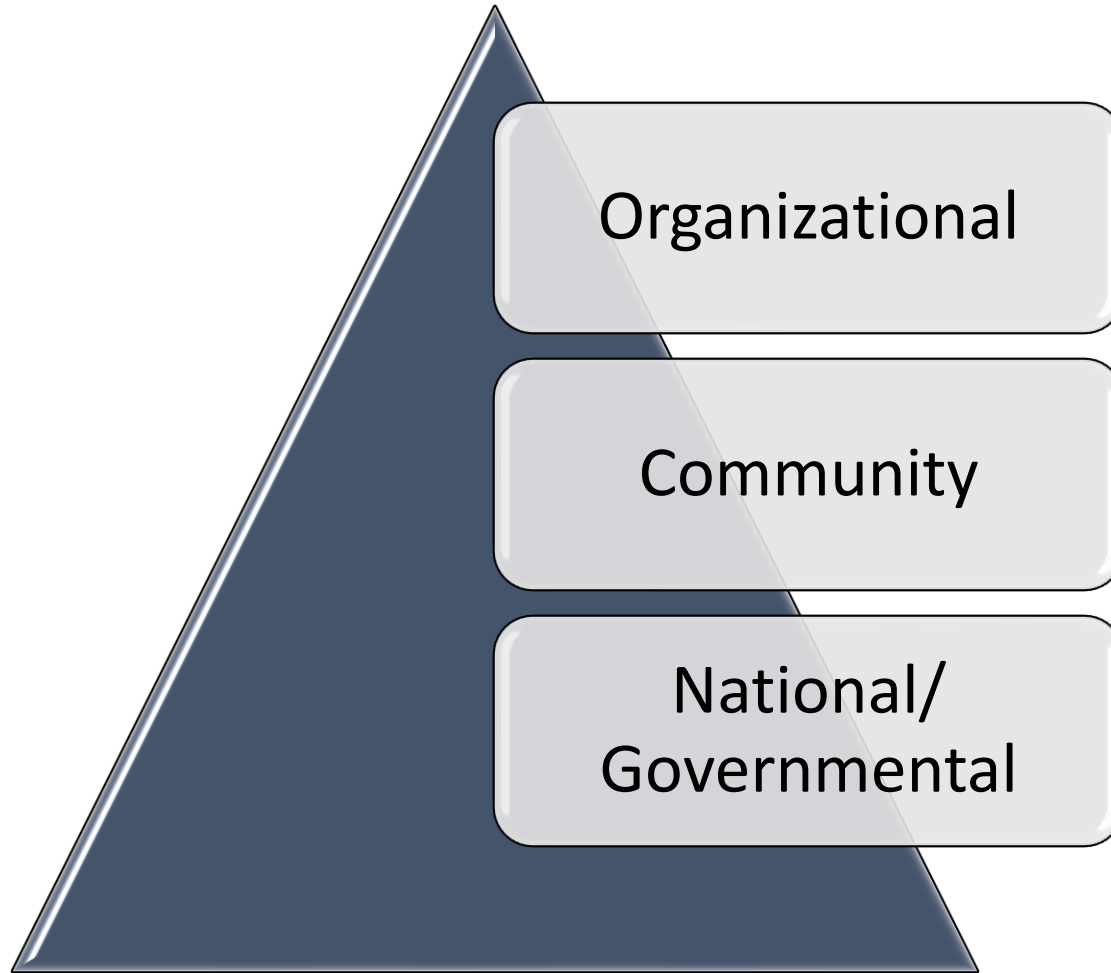
YES

- **Laws**
- **Regulations**
- **Guidelines**
- **Administrative actions**

ALSO YES!

- **Procedures**
- **Incentives**
- **Voluntary practices**
- **Resource allocation**

Three Levels to Implement Policy



Determining Your Policy Options, Part I

- **What type of policy is being proposed?**
- **What organization has the authority to enact that policy?**
- **Who will implement the policy?**
- **How will the policy be operationalized?**
- **What is the history behind this policy?**

- **Apply these to your policy brief**

Policy Analysis

Components of Policy Analysis

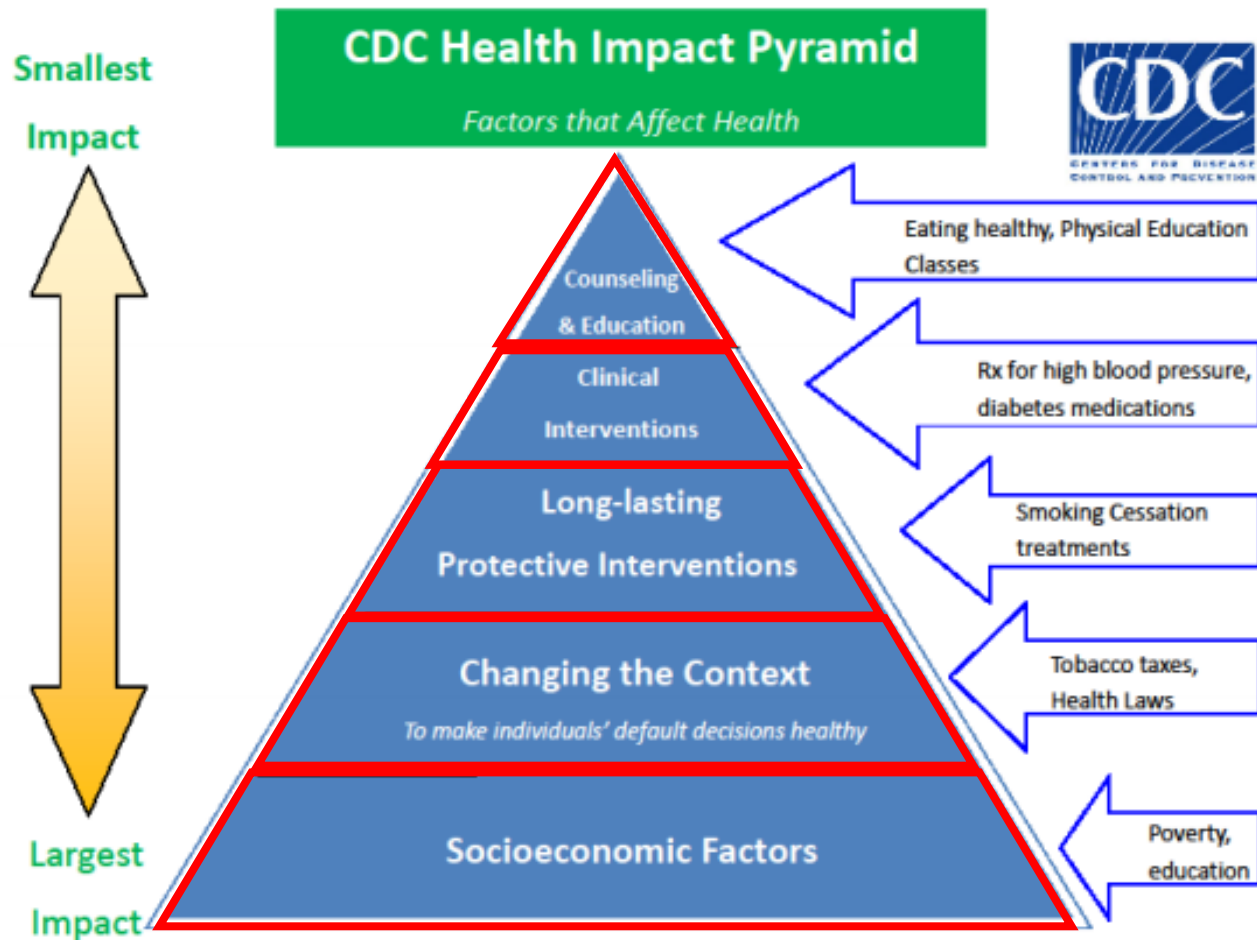
Assess Health
Impact

Assess Budgetary
Impact (Cost)

Assess Economic
Impact (cost-
effectiveness)

Assess Feasibility

Public Health Impact



Feasibility

Political

Operational



Political Feasibility

Political

Operational

- What are the current political forces?
- Who are the stakeholders?
- What are the potential social, educational, and cultural perspectives?
- What are the potential impacts of the policy on other high priority issues?

Operational Feasibility

Political

Operational

- What are the needs developing, enacting, and implementing the policy?
- How much time is needed?
- How scalable, flexible, and transferable is the policy?
- What is needed to inform the public about the new policy?

Budgetary Impact



- **How much does it cost?**
- **Will there be any revenue generated?**

Economic Impact



- How do costs compare to benefits?
- How are costs and benefits distributed?
- What is the timeline for costs and benefits?
- Where are there gaps in the data/evidence-base?

Policy Analysis Table

Criteria	Public Health Impact	Feasibility (Political)	Feasibility (Operational)	Budgetary Impact	Economic Impact
Scoring Definition	Low: small reach, effect size, and impact on disparate populations Medium: small reach with large effect size or large reach with small effect size High: large reach, effect size, and impact on disparate populations	Low: No/small likelihood of being enacted Medium: Moderate likelihood of being enacted High: High likelihood of being enacted	Low: No/small likelihood of being enacted Medium: Moderate likelihood of being enacted High: High likelihood of being enacted	Less favorable: High costs to implement Favorable: Moderate costs to implement More favorable: Low costs to implement	Less favorable: costs are high relative to benefits Favorable: costs are moderate relative to benefits (benefits justify costs) More favorable: costs are low relative to benefits
Policy 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Policy 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Policy 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

Case Study

Case Study Exercise

- **Return to the case study to answer questions 5 & 6:**
 - Question 5: What are possible policy solutions to the problem of ongoing motorcyclist deaths associated with low-quality helmets (or no helmets)?
 - Question 6: What information will you need to help you evaluate and compare policy options?

Did You Answer the Case Study Questions?



Case Study Exercise

- **Question 5: What are possible policy solutions to the problem of ongoing motorcyclist deaths associated with low-quality helmets (or no helmets)?**
 - There are several options, some of which are below:
 - Random stops by police to check helmet quality and fines for not wearing certified helmets / wearing properly
 - District subsidy to offset the cost of certified helmets and encourage their purchase and use
 - Mass media campaigns to inform people about risks of uncertified helmets
 - Prohibition of and/or fines for sales of uncertified helmets or helmets with counterfeit CR stickers
 - Yearly quality checks at helmet manufacturing and importation companies
 - Government incentive to develop low-cost, certified helmets

Case Study Exercise

- **Question 6: What information will you need to help you evaluate and compare policy options?**
 - Political feasibility of the options: would they be supported by politicians and ministries?
 - Operational feasibility of the options: how easy or difficult would they be to implement?
 - Budgetary impact of policy options: how much would each one cost?
 - Health impact of policy options: how many lives might be saved by each option?
 - Economic impact of policy options: cost per life saved

Conduct Literature Review

Finding Evidence for Policy Options

Finding Evidence to Support Policy Options

Literature Search Objective:



What policies that addressed poor-quality helmet use had already been shown to reduce motorcycle-related deaths?



Key Literature Resources to Evaluate Policy Options

- **World Health Organization (WHO) NCD Action Plan**
 - http://www.who.int/nmh/events/ncd_action_plan/en/
- **The Center for Global Development**
 - <http://www.cgdev.org/page/case-studies>
- **SUPPORT Summaries**
 - <http://www.supportsummaries.org/>
- **WHO Package of Essential NCD Interventions**
 - http://www.who.int/cardiovascular_diseases/publications/pen2010/en/
- **Cochrane Reviews**
 - <http://www.cochrane.org/cochrane-reviews>
- **CDC Prevention Status Reports**
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/psr/>
- **The Guide to Community Preventive Services**
 - www.thecommunityguide.org
- **U.S. Preventive Services Task Force**
 - <http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/>

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SUPPORT Summaries

Evidence of the effects of health system interventions
for low- and middle-income countries

SUPPORT structured summaries of systematic reviews

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One reason for slow progress in achieving the health Millennium Development Goals in low- and middle-income countries is the difficulty policymakers and others have in accessing high quality information about potentially effective interventions to improve health systems. We are searching global databases for systematic reviews of ways to organise, finance and govern the delivery of effective healthcare interventions. To make this information more accessible to policymakers and other stakeholders we are preparing structured summaries of relevant reviews.

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**Alliance**
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and Systems Research**Norad**

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August, 2008 - SUPPORT Summary of a systematic review | [print this article](#) |

Do conditional cash transfers improve the uptake of health interventions in low- and middle-income countries?

Over the past few years, several Latin American countries have introduced programmes that provide monetary transfers to households on the condition that they comply with certain health behaviours. The rationale is that the transfers can potentially increase the use of health services by low-income individuals by providing funds to help overcome some financial barriers to access.

Key messages

- Six studies of conditional cash transfer programmes carried out in low and middle- income countries found an increase in the use of health services and mixed effects on immunisation coverage and health status.
- The capacity of each health system to deal with the increased demand should be considered, particularly in low-income countries where the capacity of health systems may not be sufficient.
- The cost-effectiveness of conditional cash transfer programmes, compared with supply-side strategies and other policy options, has not been evaluated.



Who is this summary for?

People making decisions concerning the use of conditional cash transfers to improve the uptake of health interventions.

! This summary includes:

- Key findings from research based on a systematic review
- Considerations about the relevance of this research for low and middle-income countries


X Not included:

- Recommendations
- Additional evidence not included in the systematic review
- Detailed descriptions of interventions or their implementation

This summary is based on the following systematic review:

Lagarde M, Haines A, Palmer N. Conditional cash transfers for improving uptake of health interventions in low and middle- income countries: a systematic review. JAMA 2007; 298:1900-10.

Search in: The Cochrane Library


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Yoga for asthma
Cochrane Review in support of World Asthma Day
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Highlighted ReviewsEditorialsSpecial Collections

Yoga for asthma
Zu-Yao Yang, Hui-Bin Zhong, Chen Mao, Jin-Qiu Yuan, Ya-Fang Huang, Xin-Yin Wu, Yuan-Mei Gao, Jin-Ling Tang
27 April 2016

Bortezomib for the treatment of multiple myeloma
Kathleen Scott, Patrick J Hayden, Andrea Will, Keith Wheatley, Imelda Coyne
20 April 2016

Personal protective equipment for preventing highly infectious diseases due to exposure to contaminated body fluids in healthcare staff
Jos H Verbeek, Sharea Ijaz, Christina Mischke, Jani H Ruotsalainen, Erja Mäkelä, Kaisa Neuvonen, Michael B Edmond, Riitta Sauni, F Selcen Kilinc Balci, Raluca C Mihalache






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Additional Sources of Information


- CDC Prevention Status Reports (<http://www.cdc.gov/psr/>)


PSR Prevention Status Reports





The Prevention Status Reports (PSRs) highlight—for all 50 states and the District of Columbia—the status of public health policies and practices designed to address 10 important public health problems and concerns. Learn more about the PSRs.


 Alcohol-Related Harms


 Food Safety


 Healthcare-Associated Infections


 Heart Disease and Stroke


 HIV

 Motor Vehicle Injuries

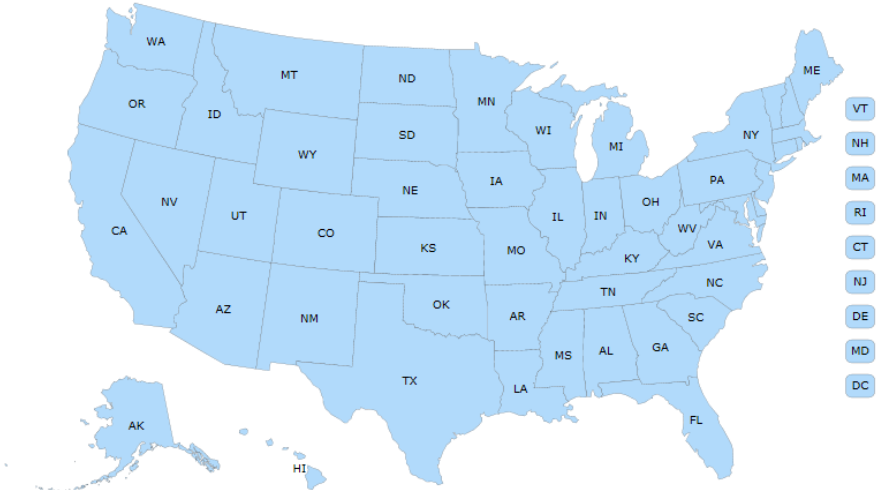
 Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity

 Prescription Drug Overdose

 Teen Pregnancy

 Tobacco Use

View Reports by State



Additional Sources of Information

- Center for Global Development (<http://www.cgdev.org/page/case-studies>)

The screenshot shows the Center for Global Development website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Center for Global Development logo, social media icons (Facebook, Twitter, RSS, YouTube), a 'Contribute' button, and a search bar. Below the navigation bar is a teal banner with the text 'Ideas to Action: Independent research for global prosperity'. The main navigation menu includes 'Our Work', 'About CGD', 'Blogs', 'Publications', 'Watch & Listen', 'Events', 'Impact', and a highlighted 'GET UPDATES' button. The page title is 'Case Studies'. Below the title are social sharing buttons for Twitter, Facebook (41 likes), Google+ (0), and a 'Share' button, along with a 'Print' button. The main content area features three case studies: 'Eradicating smallpox.', 'Preventing HIV and sexually transmitted infections in Thailand.', and 'Controlling tuberculosis in China.'. Each case study has a brief description. On the right side, there is a sidebar with a list of case studies, including 'Overview', 'Case Studies', and seven individual case studies (CASE 1 through CASE 7), each with a right-pointing arrow.

Center for Global Development

Ideas to Action: Independent research for global prosperity

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Millions Saved - Editions 1 and 2

Case Studies

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Eradicating smallpox.

A massive global effort spearheaded by the World Health Organization eradicated smallpox in 1977 and inspired the creation of the Expanded Programme on Immunization, which continues today.

Preventing HIV and sexually transmitted infections in Thailand.

In Thailand, the government's "100 percent condom program" targeting commercial sex workers and other high-risk groups helped prevent the spread of HIV relatively early in the course of the epidemic. Thailand had 80 percent fewer new cases of HIV in 2001 than in 1991 and has averted nearly 200,000 new cases.

Controlling tuberculosis in China.

To address the problem of tuberculosis (TB) patients' early dropout from treatment, a national TB program in China implemented the directly observed treatment, short-course (DOTS) approach in which a health worker "watches" patients with TB daily for six months as they take their antibiotic treatment. The program helped reduce TB prevalence by 40 percent between 1990 and 2000 and dramatically improved the cure rate in half of China's provinces.

Overview >

Case Studies >

CASE 1: Eradicating smallpox >

CASE 2: Preventing HIV and sexually transmitted infections in Thailand >

CASE 3: Controlling tuberculosis in China >

CASE 4: Reducing child mortality through vitamin A in Nepal >

CASE 5: Eliminating polio in Latin America and the Caribbean >

CASE 6: Saving mothers' lives in Sri Lanka >

CASE 7: Controlling

Deliverable 4: Draft Policy Options

1. Write down each of the policy options under consideration for your issue
2. Be specific about who, what, and where you plan for the option to be implemented
3. For each option, write down what you already know, and what you need to determine about:
 - The operational feasibility
 - The political feasibility
 - The budgetary impact
 - The economic impact

Output: Draft of policy options

END