

Appendix 1. Public health practices across five areas of public health.²⁻⁴

10 Essential Public Health Services (2008)	11 Essential Public Health Functions (2008)	10 Essential Public Health Operations (2012)
Monitoring and evaluation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor health status to identify community health problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring, evaluation, and analysis of health status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveillance of population health and well-being
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveillance, research, and control of the risks and threats to public health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and response to health hazards and emergencies
Health promotion and protection		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health promotion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health promotion including action to address social determinants and health inequity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise community partnerships to identify and solve health problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social participation in health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy, communication and social mobilisation for health
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of the impact of emergencies and disasters on health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health protection including environmental, occupational, food safety and others • Disease prevention, including early detection of illness
Healthcare service delivery		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality assurance in personal and population-based health services 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation and promotion of equitable access to necessary health services 	
Health system		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts • Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of policies and institutional capacity for public health planning and management • Strengthening of public health regulation and enforcement capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assuring governance for health and well-being • Assuring sustainable organisational structures and financing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assure a competent public health and personal health care workforce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resources development and training in public health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assuring a sufficient and competent public health workforce
Research		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research in public health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing public health research to inform policy and practice

Appendix 2. Detailed search strategy.

Database	Search terms	Search restrictions	Number of records
Public health evaluation frameworks			
Pubmed	("public health" OR "population health") AND (apprais* OR assess* OR evaluat*) AND (interven* OR *strateg* OR polic* OR program* OR practice* OR plan*) AND (tool* OR framework*)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only free text available Only in English Only for articles involving humans 	1798
Global Health Library		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only in English 	936
Best practice selection			
United Nations agencies			
WHO Headquarters	With at least one of the words: "best practice", "best practices", "good practice", "good practices"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only records in English Only records on who.int domain 	810
WHO Regional Office for Africa	"Best practice" and "good practice" searched separately due to maximum 20 characters in search terms		69
WHO Regional Office for the Americas	"Best practice*" OR "good practice*"		98 (limited by search engine)
WHO Regional Office for Europe	"Best practice*" OR "good practice*"		98 (limited by search engine)
WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean	Best practice good practice		96
WHO Regional Office for Western Pacific	"Best practice*" OR "good practice*"		34
WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia	With the exact phrase: best practice, best practices, good practice, good practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only records in English Only records on searo.who.int domain 	61
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	("Best practice*" OR "good practice*") AND ("public health" OR "population health")		59
The World Bank		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only records in English or en 	576
Technical organisations			
United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC)	("Best practice*" OR "good practice*") AND ("public health" OR "population health")		524
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)			179
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)			13
Financial organisation			
The Global Fund to Fight AIDS,	("Best practice*" OR "good practice*") AND ("public health"		100 (limited by search

Tuberculosis and Malaria	OR "population health")		engine)
Databases/search engine			
WHOLIS	("Best practice*" OR "good practice*") AND ("public health" OR "population health")		173
IGO			100 (limited by search engine)

Appendix 3. Inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Inclusion criteria	Exclusion criteria
Articles explaining or applying public health evaluation frameworks	Articles not focused on public health evaluation or selection of best practices from implemented programmes Articles focusing on best practices outside the scope of public health
Articles stating definitions, methodology and/or criteria for selection of best practices	Articles listing best practices without clearly stated criteria or justification
	Articles not in English Articles without full text available online

Appendix 4. Records included in the qualitative synthesis.

No.	Title	Reference no.
Source: Pubmed®		
1	Strengthening chronic disease prevention programming: the Toward Evidence-Informed Practice (TEIP) Program Assessment Tool	48
2	An ethical framework for the prevention of overweight and obesity: A tool for thinking through a programme's ethical aspects	199
3	Public health program capacity for sustainability: A new framework	174
4	An overview of ethical frameworks in public health: Can they be supportive in the evaluation of programs to prevent overweight?	51
5	Evaluating a traditional medicine policy in South Africa: Phase 1 development of a policy assessment tool	193
6	An evaluation framework for obesity prevention policy interventions	93
7	The Assessment, Development, Assurance Pharmacist's Tool (ADAPT) for ensuring quality implementation of health promotion programs	132
8	Evaluating large-scale health programmes at a district level in resource-limited countries	123
9	Reaiming RE-AIM: Using the model to plan, implement, and evaluate the effects of environmental change approaches to enhancing population health	110
10	Assessing sustainability of Lifestyle Education for Activity Program (LEAP)	165
11	Removing user fees for health services in low-income countries: a multi-country review framework for assessing the process of policy change	72
12	The equity-effectiveness loop as a tool for evaluating population health interventions	204
13	Evaluation of a workplace intervention to promote commuter cycling: A RE-AIM analysis.	111
14	A review of frameworks for developing environmental health indicators for climate change and health	160
15	Efficacy to effectiveness transition of an Educational Program to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening (EPICS): Study protocol of a cluster randomized controlled trial	112
16	Normalisation process theory: A framework for developing, evaluating and implementing complex interventions	172
17	Evaluating the technical feasibility of aflatoxin risk reduction strategies in Africa	206
18	Costs and efficacy of public health interventions to reduce aflatoxin-induced human disease	179
19	Promoting fruit and vegetable consumption among members of black churches, Michigan and North Carolina, 2008–2010	113
20	An agenda for research on the sustainability of public health programs	170
21	Evaluating an insurance-sponsored weight management program with the RE-AIM Model, West Virginia, 2004-2008.	114
22	A new evaluation tool to obtain practice-based evidence of worksite health promotion programs	137
23	Towards evidence-based, quality-controlled health promotion: The Dutch recognition system for health promotion interventions	88
24	Exploring implementation and sustainability of models of care: Can theory help?	173
25	Using a realist approach to evaluate smoking cessation interventions targeting pregnant women and young people	89
26	Evaluating the public health impact of health promotion interventions: the RE-AIM framework.	108
27	The value of hygiene promotion: Cost-effectiveness analysis of interventions in developing countries	176
28	Development of web-based computer-tailored advice to promote physical activity among people older than 50 years	115
29	Evaluation of national malaria control programmes in Africa	76

30	Evaluating prevention programs with the Results Mapping evaluation tool: A case study of a youth substance abuse prevention program	158
31	Increasing community capacity to prevent childhood obesity: Challenges, lessons learned and results from the Romp & Chomp intervention	192
32	Using the RE-AIM Framework to evaluate the statewide dissemination of a school-based physical activity and nutrition curriculum: "Exercise Your Options"	116
33	Evaluation designs for adequacy, plausibility and probability of public health programme performance and impact	126
34	Measuring performance: A strategy to improve programs	127
35	Evaluating the impact of health promotion programs: using the RE-AIM framework to form summary measures for decision making involving complex issues	117
36	Beyond effectiveness: Evaluating the public health impact of the WISEWOMAN program	118
37	A framework for developing evaluation tools used in Washington State's Healthy Communities Project	183
38	Research steps in the development and evaluation of public health interventions	79
39	The concept of sustainability and the use of outcome indicators. A case study to continue a successful health counselling intervention	169
40	Evaluating health-promoting schools in Hong Kong: Development of a framework	85
41	Draft framework for evaluating syndromic surveillance systems	107
42	An ethics framework for public health	195
43	Benchmarks of fairness for health care reform: A policy tool for developing countries	201
44	From efficacy to effectiveness: Insecticide-treated bednets in Africa	162
45	A conceptual framework to measure performance of the public health system	102
46	Evaluating community coalition characteristics and functioning: A summary of measurement tools	182
47	A conceptual framework for the OECD Health Care Quality Indicators Project	100
48	Comparison of mosquito control programs in seven urban sites in Africa, the Middle East, and the Americas	133
49	AIDS and ethics: An analytic framework	194
50	Measuring family planning sustainability at the outcome and programme levels	5
51	Partnership synergy: A practical framework for studying and strengthening the collaborative advantage	187
52	Advancing a theoretical model for public health and health promotion indicator development	84
53	An evidence-based approach to benchmarking the fairness of health-sector reform in developing countries	202
54	Conceptual and methodological challenges to measuring political commitment to respond to HIV	207
55	Sustainability of health care: A framework for analysis	171
56	Reorienting health services with capacity building: A case study of the Core Skills in Health Promotion Project	191
Source: Global Health Library		
57	Childhood obesity: A framework for policy approaches and ethical considerations	197
58	A framework to evaluate the development and implementation of a comprehensive public health strategy	94
59	Looking ahead: Addressing ethical challenges in public health practice.	196
60	The cost-effectiveness of public health interventions	178
61	Community participation and voice mechanisms under performance-based financing schemes in Burundi	184

62	An ethical analysis of mandatory influenza vaccination of health care personnel: Implementing fairly and balancing benefits and burdens	200
63	Assessing public health policy approaches to level-up the gradient in health inequalities: The Gradient Evaluation Framework	205
64	A community resilience approach to reducing ethnic and racial disparities in health	203
65	The gradient in health inequalities among families and children: A review of evaluation frameworks	92
66	Mapping public policy options responding to obesity: The case of Spain	136
67	Evaluating community engagement in an academic medical center	185
68	Challenges and strategies in applying performance measurement to federal public health programs	91
69	Evaluation of program performance and expenditures in a report of performance measures (RPM) via a case study of two Florida county tuberculosis programs	177
70	Vaccines – but not as we know them: An ethical evaluation of HPV vaccination policy in Australia	198
71	A sustainability assessment of a health equity fund initiative in Cambodia	168
72	A framework for the evaluation of activities and programs with harm-reduction objectives	81
73	Partial examination of the public health impact of the People with Arthritis Can Exercise (PACE) program: Reach, adoption, and maintenance.	119
Source: WHO Headquarters		
74	Implementing best practices in reproductive health: Our first 10 Years	69
75	The independent Expert Review Group (iERG)	152
76	Best practices for dengue prevention and control in the Americas	64
Source: WHO Regional Office for Africa		
77	Best practices In HIV/AIDS response In Eritrea	211
78	Guide for documenting and sharing “best practices” in health programmes	43
Source: WHO Regional Office for the Americas		
79	Competition on best practices that integrate equality and equity in gender and interculturalism in health	149
80	Malaria champions of the Americas	148
81	Public Health Agency of Canada: Best practice portal	74
82	Safe motherhood initiative: Best practices contest	146
83	First Hispanoamerican and Interamerican contest Of good practices in urbanism and health	141
84	Working to achieve health equity with an ethnic perspective: What has been done and best practices	65
Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe		
85	Best practices in prevention, control and care for drug-resistant tuberculosis	41
86	Health in Prisons Programme best practice awards 2005-2011	143
87	Report of the meeting on community initiatives to improve nutrition and physical activity Berlin, Germany, 21–22 February 2008	142
88	Good practices in nursing and midwifery: From expert to expert	75
89	Evaluation in health promotion	30
Source: WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean		
90	Success stories for community based initiatives	66
Source: WHO Regional Office for Western Pacific		
91	Healthy cities recognition and awards	147
Source: UNDP		
92	MDG good practices	140
Source: The World Bank		
93	Sparing lives: Better reproductive health for poor women in South Asia	212
94	China road traffic safety: The achievements, the challenges, and the way ahead	213

95	Assessment of the best practices in HIV/AIDS harm reduction programs among civilian population and prisoners in the Russian Federation.	181
Source: US CDC		
96	CDC Best Practices Workgroup-Definitions, criteria, and associated terms	70
97	Best practice approach report: School-based dental sealant programs	62
Source: WHOLIS		
98	HIV and sexually transmitted infection prevention among sex workers in Eastern Europe and Central Asia	44
99	The faces, voices and skills behind the GIPA Workplace Model in South Africa	180
100	Ancient remedies, new disease: Involving traditional healers in increasing access to AIDS care and prevention in East Africa	214
101	InfoDev: Facilitating communications in response to HIV/AIDS in SEA	215
102	Innovative approaches to HIV prevention-selected case studies	155
103	Collaboration with traditional healers in HIV/AIDS prevention and care in Sub-Saharan Africa-A literature review	154
104	Comfort and hope: Six case studies on mobilizing family and community care for and by people with HIV/AIDS	153
Source: IGO		
105	Good practice appraisal tool for obesity prevention programmes, projects, initiatives and interventions	145
106	EMCDDA best practice portal	73
107	Lessons from reforms in low- and middle-income countries: Good practices in health financing	156
108	Knowledge sharing for health: Scaling up effective solutions for improved health outcomes	54
109	The European Commission database of good practices, policies and tools in mental health and well-being	150
110	Review of best practice in interventions to promote physical activity in developing countries	68
Source: Handsearching reference lists		
111	Linking science and practice: Toward a system for enabling communities to adopt best practices for chronic disease prevention	60
112	Best practices in health promotion: A scan of needs and capacities in Ontario	49
113	An exploration of best practices in health promotion	50
114	Expanding the evidence for health promotion: Developing best practices for WISEWOMAN	17
115	The interactive domain model of best practices in health promotion: Developing and implementing a best practices approach to health promotion	121
116	Welcome to IDM Best Practices	122
117	Best practice programs for injury prevention	216
118	Health promotion evaluation: Recommendations to policy-makers	78
119	Quality in health promotion	134
120	Re-AIM website	120
121	A framework for testing and promoting expanded dissemination of promising preventive interventions that are being implemented in community settings	217
122	Seeking best practices: A conceptual framework for planning and improving evidence-based practices	58
123	Integrating individual and public health perspectives for treatment of tobacco dependence under managed health care: A combined stepped-care and matching model	109
124	Evaluating health promotion: Progress, problems and solutions	80
125	Measuring health program effectiveness in the field: An assessment tool	163

126	Broadening participation in community problem solving: A multidisciplinary model to support collaborative practice and research	186
127	Using empowerment theory in collaborative partnerships for community health and development	188
128	Identifying and defining the dimensions of community capacity to provide a basis for measurement	190
129	Conceptual frameworks for health systems performance: A quest for effectiveness, quality, and improvement	138
130	How well do health systems perform? (The World Health Report 2000 - Health systems: Improving performance)	129
131	A framework for assessing the performance of health systems	128
132	Measuring results of health sector reform for system performance: A handbook of indicators	101
133	Introduction to health services research and policy analysis (Evaluating the healthcare system: Effectiveness, efficiency, and equity)	104
134	Health outcomes in OECD countries: A framework of health indicators for outcome-oriented policymaking	106
135	National healthcare quality report 2005	97
136	Crossing the quality chasm: A new health system for the 21st century	131
137	First report and recommendations of the Commonwealth Fund's International Working Group on Quality Indicators	139
138	The ECHI project: Health indicators for the European community	161
139	Performance measurement and performance management in OECD health systems	130
140	National health performance framework report	103
141	Health indicators 2013	105
142	Health care Quality Indicators Project conceptual framework paper	99
143	The quality of care: How can it be assessed?	98
144	Health promotion effectiveness: The questions to be answered	83
145	Methods of defining best practice for population health approaches with obesity prevention as an example	67
146	Best practice principles for community-based obesity prevention: Development, content and application	71
147	Project quality rating by experts and practitioners: Experience with Preffi 2.0 as a quality assessment instrument	87
148	Millions saved: Proven successes in global health	175
149	What Is a Southern Development Solution?	144
150	FAO good practices	47
151	Dubai international award for best practices to improve the living environment	151
152	SDC Knowledge Management Toolkit- Good practices	159
153	European Quality Instrument for Health Promotion	86
154	Review of best practice and recommendations for interventions on physical activity	61
155	Supporting knowledge into action: The Canadian Best Practices Initiative for health promotion and chronic disease prevention	42
156	Manual on best practices HIV/AIDS programming with children and young people	56
157	Advance Africa's approach to best practices	55
158	UNDP Good practices in gender mainstreaming and implementing the Beijing Platform for Action	157
159	UNESCO MOST Clearing House	59
160	A methodological approach to 'best practices'	33
161	UNICEF Innovations, lessons learned and good practices	57
162	Planning for the sustainability of community-based health programs: Conceptual frameworks and future directions for research, practice and policy	166

163	Translating and disseminating research- and practice-based criteria to support evidence-based intervention planning	31
164	Is sustainability possible? A review and commentary on empirical studies of program sustainability	167
165	Identifying and promoting effective practices	40
166	Towards a framework for the evaluation of health-related policies in cities	77
167	An evaluation framework for health promotion: Theory, quality and effectiveness	82
168	Nothing as practical as good theory: Exploring theory-based evaluation for comprehensive community initiatives for children and families	124
169	Applying a theory of change approach to the evaluation of Comprehensive Community Initiatives: Progress, prospects, and problems	125
170	Multiplying health gains: The critical role of capacity-building within health promotion programs	189
171	Evidence for success in health promotion: Suggestions for improvement	164
172	Experience with a structure, process and outcome framework for evaluating an information system	96
173	Managerial process for national health development	135
174	Evaluation framework for health promotion and disease prevention programs	90
175	Framework for program evaluation in public health	95
176	Development and testing of a framework for assessing the effectiveness of health promotion	63

Appendix 5. Individual aspects for evaluation of public health interventions.

Category	Aspects for evaluation
Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the problem from needs assessment (e.g. nature, severity, distribution, priority and perception by stakeholders) • Understand characteristics of environment, target group and stakeholders • Document available resources, existing structures, support (from political leaders, public, opinion leaders) and contextual factors • Respond to expectations and needs and design activities appropriate to context and target group (relevance, responsiveness, appropriateness)
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach the problem creatively (innovation) • Guided by health promotion principles, theories and/or evidence • Define SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound) objectives • Address environmental determinants of health (comprehensiveness) • Facilitate policy changes supporting healthy lifestyles (comprehensiveness)
Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use locally accessible resources and expertise or incorporate into existing structures (feasibility) • Engage target community throughout process of programme development and implementation (community participation) • Build capacity of community (community empowerment) • Involve appropriate partners (stakeholder collaboration) • Widely known among the community (visibility) • Reach extensive and representative proportion of target group (provision, utilisation, coverage, reach) • Accepted by community and promote local ownership (acceptability, adoption) • Implemented as planned (implementation, integrity) • Document programme to allow replication (replicability) • Avoid harm to individuals (safety) • Minimise financial, physical or psychological barriers (accessibility) • Possess technical and cultural capabilities (competence) • Provide smooth arrangement of care within and across providers (continuity of care) • Provide care within beneficial time period (timeliness)
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve desirable health outcomes (effectiveness) • Achieve positive impact on non-health areas • Deliver programme efficiently (cost-effectiveness, efficiency) • Maintain programme over the long term (sustainability) • Distribute access, burden of paying and outcomes in an equitable manner (equity)
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct pilot testing/ formative evaluation • Conduct process evaluation and/or outcome evaluation • Conduct studies to produce evidence of the causal links between the intervention and outcomes (quality of evidence)

Appendix 6a. Criteria for best practice selection from peer-reviewed articles (columns 1-7) and a book (column 8). The peer-reviewed article⁴² on the Canadian Best Practice Initiative (column 4) is also supported by an organisational source⁷⁴ on the same initiative. Sources in the column headings are followed by their reference number.

Criterion	Best practices in chronic disease prevention ⁶⁰	Best practices for WISEWOMAN programmes ¹⁷	Promising practices in community settings ²¹⁷	Canadian best practices initiative ^{42,74}	Practice-based criteria from expert interviews ³¹	Best practices in population-based obesity prevention ⁶⁷	Best practices in community-based obesity prevention ⁷¹	Success stories in global health ¹⁷⁵
Context								
Relevant to needs and context				✓	✓			✓
Supported by political or community leaders	✓				✓			
Content								
Innovative								
Guided by theories, evidence or principles	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Set clear or SMART objectives					✓		✓	
Comprehensive								
Process								
Integrate into local context/ mobilise local resources	✓						✓	
Engage the community	✓				✓		✓	
Empower the community							✓	
Involve right stakeholders	✓				✓	✓	✓	
Extensive reach/ scale					✓	✓		✓
Visible in the community	✓							
Accepted by the community					✓			
Ethically sound								
Consider/ include vulnerable or different groups								
Implemented as planned/ well-implemented		✓			✓	✓	✓	
Replicable/transferable/ adaptable	✓	✓		✓	✓			

Outcomes								
Effective	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Cost-effective/ efficient	✓	✓						✓
Sustainable	✓				✓		✓	✓
Equitable								
Evaluation								
Provide high quality supporting evidence	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Conduct monitoring and evaluation	✓						✓	
Other								
Specific criteria								
Other criteria			Evaluable, well documented	Submitted by a credible source	Evaluable, simple, publicise tools and protocol		Conduct problem analysis, conduct pilot testing, respond to new evidence, set clear guidelines for funding and governance, disseminate findings from evaluation	

Appendix 6b. Criteria for best practice selection from organisational sources, including WHOLIS (column 1), WHO Regional Office for Africa (columns 1-2), and WHO Regional Office for the Americas (columns 3-7). Where distinction is made with regard to the importance of the criteria, ✓✓ indicates first-tier, compulsory criteria while ✓ specifies second-tier, optional criteria. Sources in the column headings are followed by their reference number.

Criterion	UNAIDS best practices in HIV control ^{44,153-155,180,211,214,215}	Best practices in health programmes ⁴³	Best practices in integration of gender and cultural equality into health ¹⁴⁹	Best practices in malaria control ¹⁴⁸	Best practices in reproductive health ¹⁴⁶	Best practices in urbanism and health ¹⁴¹	Best practices in incorporation of ethnic considerations into health ⁶⁵
Context							
Relevant to needs and context	✓	✓✓					
Supported by political or community leaders		✓				✓	
Content							
Innovative			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Guided by theories, evidence or principles							
Set clear or SMART objectives							
Comprehensive					✓		✓
Process							
Integrate into local context/ mobilise local resources							
Engage the community		✓			✓		
Empower the community			✓	✓	✓		✓
Involve right stakeholders		✓		✓		✓	✓
Extensive reach/ scale							
Visible in the community							
Accepted by the community							
Ethically sound	✓	✓					
Consider/ include vulnerable or different groups			✓		✓	✓	
Implemented as planned/ well-implemented							
Replicable/transferable/ adaptable		✓			✓		

Outcomes							
Effective	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Cost-effective/ efficient	✓	✓✓					
Sustainable	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Equitable							
Evaluation							
Provide high quality supporting evidence							
Conduct monitoring and evaluation						✓	
Others							
Specific criteria				Different themes for the award each year e.g. practices targeting high risk groups in 2010		Take place in an urban setting	
Other criteria							

Appendix 6c. Criteria for best practice selection from organisational sources, including WHO Regional Office for Europe (columns 1-3), UNDP (column 4), and The World Bank (columns 5-7). Where distinction is made with regard to the importance of the criteria, ✓✓ indicates first-tier, compulsory criteria while ✓ specifies second-tier, optional criteria. Sources in the column headings are followed by their reference number.

Criterion	Best practices in control of drug-resistant tuberculosis ⁴¹	Best practices for health within prisons ¹⁴³	Good practices in nursing and midwifery ⁷⁵	Good practices in achievement of Millennium Development Goals ¹⁴⁰	Good practices in reproductive health in South Asia ²¹²	Good practices in road safety management ²¹³	Best practices in HIV harm reduction programmes ¹⁸¹
Context							
Relevant to needs and context	✓✓	✓	✓				
Supported by political or community leaders	✓						
Content							
Innovative					✓		
Guided by theories, evidence or principles			✓				
Set clear or SMART objectives/targets						✓	
Comprehensive						✓	
Process							
Integrate into local context/ mobilise local resources							
Engage the community	✓						
Empower the community							
Involve right stakeholders	✓						✓
Extensive reach/ scale							
Visible in the community							
Accepted by the community							
Ethically sound	✓✓		✓				
Consider/ include vulnerable or different groups							
Implemented as planned/ well-implemented		✓					
Replicable/transferable/ adaptable		✓	✓	✓	✓		

Outcomes							
Effective	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cost-effective/ efficient	✓✓		✓			✓	
Sustainable	✓						✓
Equitable	✓						
Evaluation							
Provide high quality supporting evidence		✓					
Conduct monitoring and evaluation			✓				
Others							
Specific criteria							
Other criteria	Potential to be scaled up						

Appendix 6d. Criteria for best practice selection from US CDC (columns 1-2), IGO search engine (columns 3-6) and handsearching reference lists (columns 7-8). Where distinction is made with regard to the importance of the criteria, ✓✓ indicates first-tier, compulsory criteria while ✓ specifies second-tier, optional criteria. Material from the CDC best practice workgroup report⁷⁰ (column 1) was also more recently published in a peer-reviewed article⁵⁸. Sources in the column headings are followed by their reference number.

Criterion	US CDC best practices workgroup^{58,70}	Best practices in dental health⁶²	Good practices in obesity prevention^{142,145}	Good practices in health financing¹⁵⁶	Best practices in public health⁵⁴	European Commission best practices in mental health¹⁵⁰	Best practices in health promotion⁵⁰	UNESCO best practices⁵⁹
Context								
Relevant to needs and context	✓✓		✓					
Supported by political or community leaders								
Content								
Innovative					✓	✓		✓
Guided by theories, evidence or principles			✓			✓	✓	
Set clear or SMART objectives/targets			✓					
Comprehensive			✓					
Process								
Integrate into local context/mobilise local resources		✓						
Engage the community			✓		✓		✓	
Empower the community			✓					
Involve right stakeholders		✓	✓					✓
Extensive reach/ scale	✓		✓	✓✓				
Visible in the community								
Accepted by the community					✓			
Ethically sound	✓✓							
Consider/ include vulnerable or different groups			✓				✓	
Implemented as planned/ well-implemented	✓		✓			✓		
Replicable/ transferable/ adaptable	✓			✓✓	✓✓	✓		✓

Outcomes								
Effective	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓
Cost-effective/ efficient	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓		✓	
Sustainable	✓	✓	✓		✓✓	✓		✓
Equitable								
Evaluation								
Provide high quality supporting evidence	✓		✓					
Conduct monitoring and evaluation			✓					
Others								
Specific criteria								
Other criteria			Conduct pilot study, well-documented				Demonstrate sensitivity to power	

Appendix 6e. Criteria for best practice selection from handsearching reference lists (columns 1-8). Where distinction is made with regard to the importance of the criteria, ✓✓ indicates first-tier, compulsory criteria while ✓ specifies second-tier, optional criteria. Sources in the column headings are followed by their reference number.

Criterion	Best practices in injury prevention¹⁸⁴	Effective southern development solutions¹⁵⁷	FAO good practices⁵³	Best practices in improvement of the living environment¹⁵¹	Best practices in HIV/AIDS programmes for children and youths⁵⁶	Best practices in HIV/AIDS programme⁵⁵	UNDP good practices in gender mainstreaming¹⁵⁷	Effective practices by non-profit organisations⁴⁰
Context								
Relevant to needs and context								✓
Supported by political or community leaders		✓					✓	
Content								
Innovative		✓		✓			✓✓	
Guided by theories, evidence or principles					✓			
Set clear or SMART objectives/targets		✓						
Comprehensive							✓✓	
Process								
Integrate into local context/mobilise local resources		✓		✓				
Engage the community		✓	✓					
Empower the community				✓				
Involve right stakeholders		✓		✓✓			✓	
Extensive reach/ scale							✓	
Visible in the community								
Accepted by the community								
Ethically sound					✓			
Consider/ include vulnerable or different groups			✓	✓				
Implemented as planned/ well-implemented			✓					
Replicable/transferable/adaptable		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓

Outcomes								
Effective	✓		✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓
Cost-effective/ efficient					✓			
Sustainable		✓	✓	✓✓	✓		✓✓	
Equitable		✓						
Evaluation								
Provide high quality supporting evidence	✓					✓		✓
Conduct monitoring and evaluation					✓			
Others								
Specific criteria			Reduce risks of crisis				Take a lifecycle approach in tackling inequalities	
Other criteria								

Appendix 7. Number of reviewed records citing each criterion in selection of best practices.

Criterion	Peer-reviewed articles (n=8)	Book (n=1)	Organisational sources (n=39)	Total (n=48)
Context				
Relevant to needs and context	3	1	17	21
Supported by political or community leaders	2	-	5	7
Content				
Innovative	-	-	11	11
Guided by theories, evidence or principles	5	-	6	11
Set clear or SMART objectives	2	-	4	6
Comprehensive	-	-	6	6
Process				
Integrate into local context/ mobilise local resources	2	-	3	5
Engage the community	3	-	9	12
Empower the community	1	-	7	8
Involve right stakeholders	4	-	13	17
Extensive reach/ scale	3	1	5	9
Visible in the community	1	-	-	1
Accepted by the community	1	-	1	2
Ethically sound	1	-	13	14
Consider/ include vulnerable or different groups	-	-	7	7
Implemented as planned/ well-implemented	5	-	6	11
Replicable/ transferable/ adaptable	5	-	19	24
Outcomes				
Effective	6	1	37	44
Cost-effective/ efficient	3	1	20	24
Sustainable	4	1	27	32
Equitable	-	-	2	2
Evaluation				
Provide high quality supporting evidence	5	-	7	12
Conduct monitoring and evaluation	2	-	5	7