

# STRATEGIC FUNDING MODEL FOR SCALE UP

## THE EXPERIENCE OF THE INNOVATION STRATEGY



### ASSESSING SCALE UP READINESS

PHAC's Innovation Strategy created and applied a Scale-up Readiness Assessment Tool (SRAT) to assess the level of scale-up readiness of a funded project.

The SRAT includes identifying predictors of success for the scale-up of effective population health interventions, organized into eight common characteristics. They are:

- |                                          |                                        |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1. intervention evidence and evaluation, | 5. system readiness,                   |
| 2. reach and scale,                      | 6. community context,                  |
| 3. organizational capacity,              | 7. cost factors, and                   |
| 4. partnership development,              | 8. knowledge development and exchange. |

View the complete tool in a published journal article:

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.17269/s41997-021-00517-4>

### PHASES OF FUNDING

**1** initial design, development and testing of interventions (12–18 months)

**2** implementation, scale up readiness assessment, and evaluation of interventions (4 yrs)

**3** scale up effective population health interventions (3 years)

### WHAT IS SCALE UP?

**Scale up** is the gradual and deliberate effort to increase the reach (serve more people and communities) and impact of proven projects, toward long-term, sustained benefit at individual, community and systems levels.

Scaling up requires long-term significant investment of resources, time and understanding of the context in which interventions are implemented.

### SUPPORTING SCALE UP THROUGH THE INNOVATION STRATEGY FUNDING MODEL

The goal of the strategic funding program was to build capacity and create opportunities to scale locally driven projects to serve additional populations and impact the broader determinants of health.

Accomplishments of scale up include:

- > 1700+ communities and 2,070,920 individuals reached
- > 1400+ multi-sectoral partnerships established
- > More than \$30 million in supplementary funds leveraged
- > 90% of the projects influenced or changed policy and public health practice

**82%**

of Innovation Strategy projects were able to sustain their work through obtaining funding from partners or by becoming integrated into an existing system through scale up activities.

### NOT EVERY INTERVENTION SHOULD BE SCALED UP:

**A proven intervention alone cannot create or sustain a change in population health**

### AN ITERATIVE PROCESS:

**Scale-up is not linear. Assessing readiness at the organizational and systems level requires a point-in-time analysis combined with a plan to address gaps against the domains of scale for the future. The Innovations Strategy proved that the SRAT can support this iterative planning and capacity building process towards scale up.**

### LESSONS LEARNED

The Innovation Strategy generated lessons learned for effective scale up and adjusted its funding model to support future scale up.

- > Provide flexible and extended funding of up to 10 years
- > Require extensive evaluation that is culturally appropriate for the intervention and population
- > Ensure sufficient time and money to build relationships across sectors
- > Focus on systems change
- > Enhance communication and collaboration among projects through a program-funded, arms-length knowledge hub