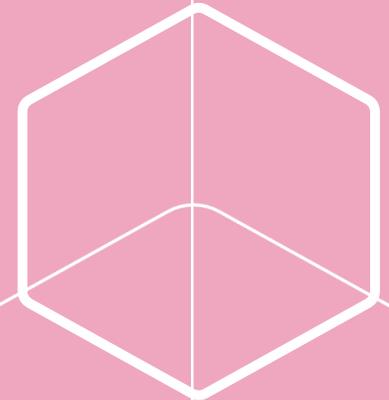




STEP 1
TASK 1.3

Problem statement guide

A guide to help you outline what the intervention will focus on to solve the problem





Overview



Purpose

- Helps you to consolidate the output from the ***Problem reflection tool*** and the ***Context alignment tool***
- Guides you to **produce a problem statement** and goal that will form the focus of the intervention
- Allows you to **prioritise** the most impactful course of action.

Who is involved?

- Core team

What is the output?

- A precise problem statement outlining the core of the problem you set out to address
- A problem statement goal

The problem statement guide

The problem statement guide will help you clearly outline the problem you set out to address.

By having a clearly formulated problem statement, you ensure that all stakeholders are working towards the same goal.

The problem statement outlines WHO needs to do WHAT differently, WHERE and WHEN.

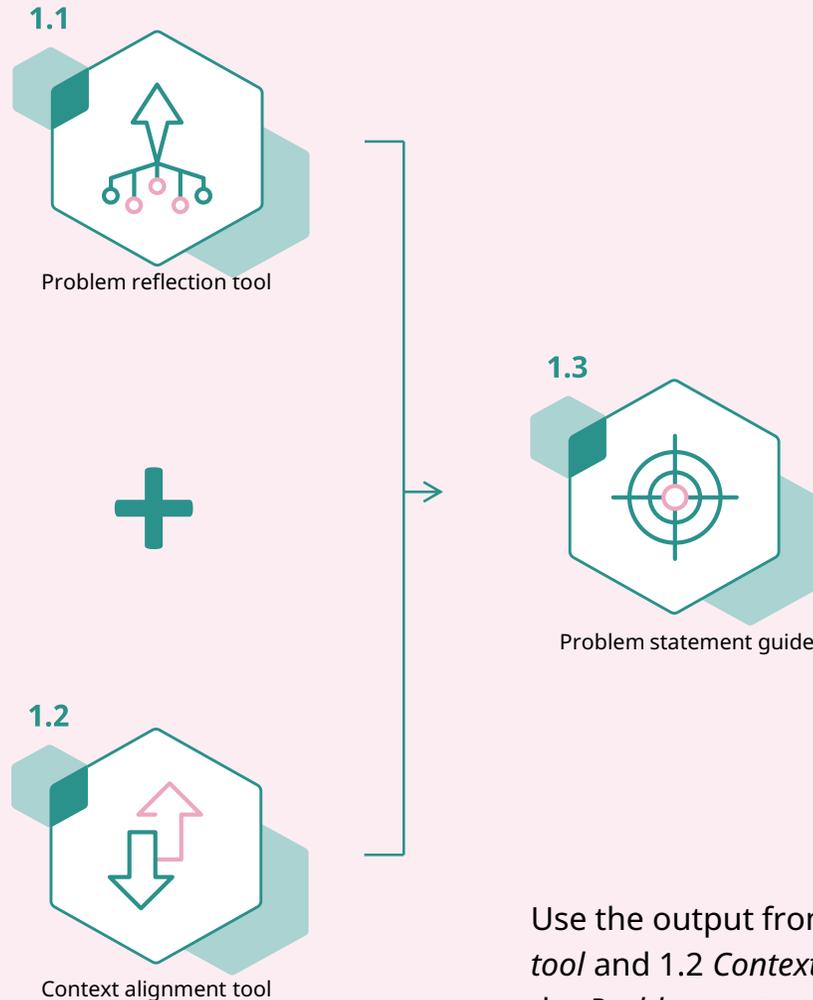
Use the OUTCOME sheets from the Problem reflection tool and the Context alignment tool to formulate your problem statement.



The problem statement should:

- focus on one existing problem
- be no more than one or two sentences long
- include a timeframe
- quantify the problem with data/figures
- not suggest a solution

Summarise your learnings



Use the output from tasks 1.1 *Problem reflection tool* and 1.2 *Context alignment tool* to work with the *Problem statement guide* and develop a precise problem statement.

WORKSHEET 1

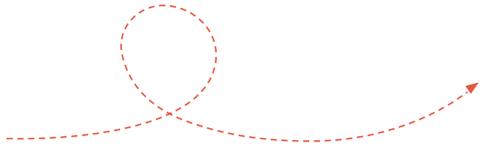
Problem statement

Consolidate the information collected about the problem in the table.

Insert your answers below		
WHAT	<p>What is the problem? What is the scale of the problem?</p>	<p>Levels of adolescent obesity in Sampletown are 30% higher than the national average. Local health authorities have seen an uptick in type 2 diabetes treatment spend and the earlier onset of type 2 diabetes and its complications over the past decade.</p>
WHO	<p>Who does the problem affect? Who is the target group?</p>	<p>The adolescent population aged 12–18.</p>
WHERE	<p>Where does the problem exist geographically or in which setting?</p>	<p>Areas with high levels of relative poverty indicators.</p>
WHY	<p>How long has the problem existed and/or when does it need to be resolved?</p>	<p>Physical activity among 12–18-year-olds has decreased markedly in the last decade, with fewer safe spaces to exercise and digital entertainment replacing traditional 'playtime'.</p>

OUTCOME SHEET

The problem statement and goal



Congratulations, you have completed step 1!

Share a copy of the problem statement and goal with all stakeholders.

Use the problem statement to engage and involve stakeholders in developing an intervention to address the problem.

PROBLEM STATEMENT



Example:

Increasing levels of early onset diabetes and soaring obesity levels have become an unfortunate trend in the city, with levels of obesity 30% higher than the national average. Vulnerable adolescents aged 12–18 from families with limited incomes are particularly affected. With poor access to local physical activity options and limited opportunities for healthy eating, the intervention will focus on the underlying determinants to combat the worrying trends.

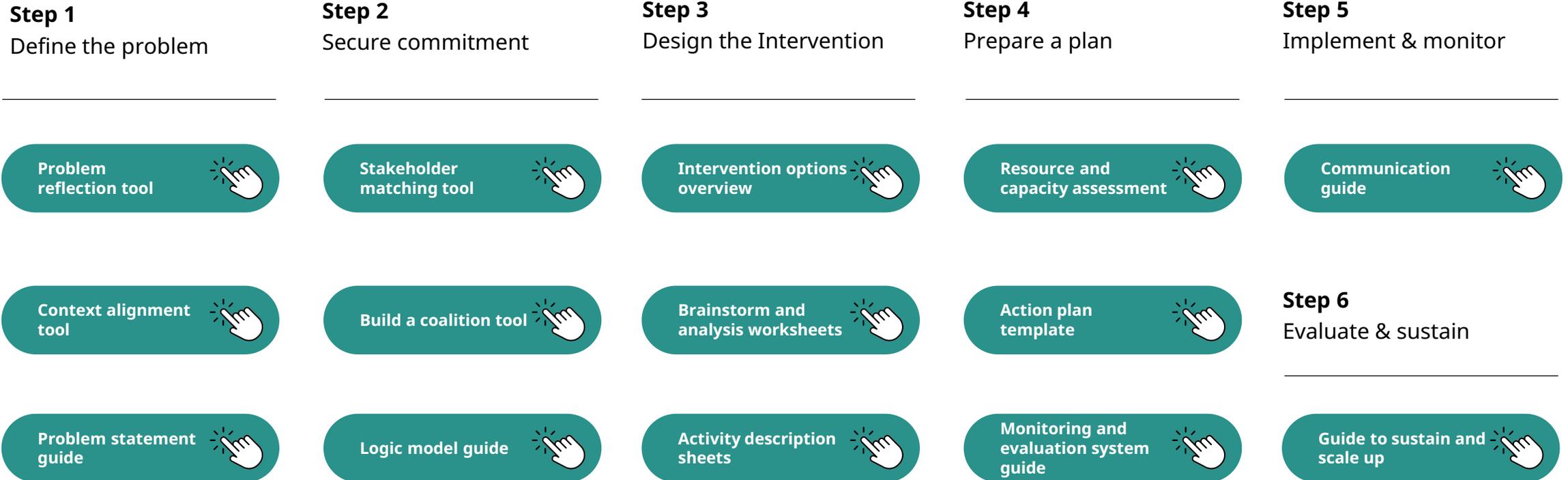
PROBLEM GOAL



Example:

By addressing the dietary habits and lack of physical activity among adolescents aged 12–18 in Sampletown schools, the intervention aims to reduce obesity by 15% within the next five years.

Other tools available from the Urban Diabetes Action Framework



More information and feedback

Please share your experience of working with this tool so that we can develop and improve our tools to support the development of effective interventions.



Get in touch 

Urban Diabetes Action Framework 

citieschangingdiabetes.com





cities changing diabetes

The Cities Changing Diabetes programme works to map the problem of obesity and type 2 diabetes in cities, share learnings and act as a catalyst for meaningful action, which can help bend the urban diabetes curve.

In partnership, we are calling on every city to ask itself:

'What will it take to bend the diabetes curve in our city?'

30+

More than 30 partner cities

150m+

Representing more than 150 million citizens¹

1. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2014). World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision.