

A learning by Doing Approach to HIA

Never Stand Still

Medicine

Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity

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What is HIA?

A **combination** of procedures, methods and tools by which a policy, programme or project may be judged as to its **potential** effects on the health of a population, and the **distribution** of those effects within the population

Source: WHO Gothenburg consensus paper, 1999

Why do HIA?

HIA aims to **inform and influence** decision-making to enhance the positive impacts of any decision and **reduce** (or eliminate) any **negative** impacts.

IMPACT 2005

Local Population Health Department Collaboration

- Goal: Build HIA capacity in organisations in SW Sydney
 - Learn how these other organisations work, how HIA can fit with them, their role and influence on determinants of health.
 - Build relationships with people and organisations with aim of going beyond HIA training



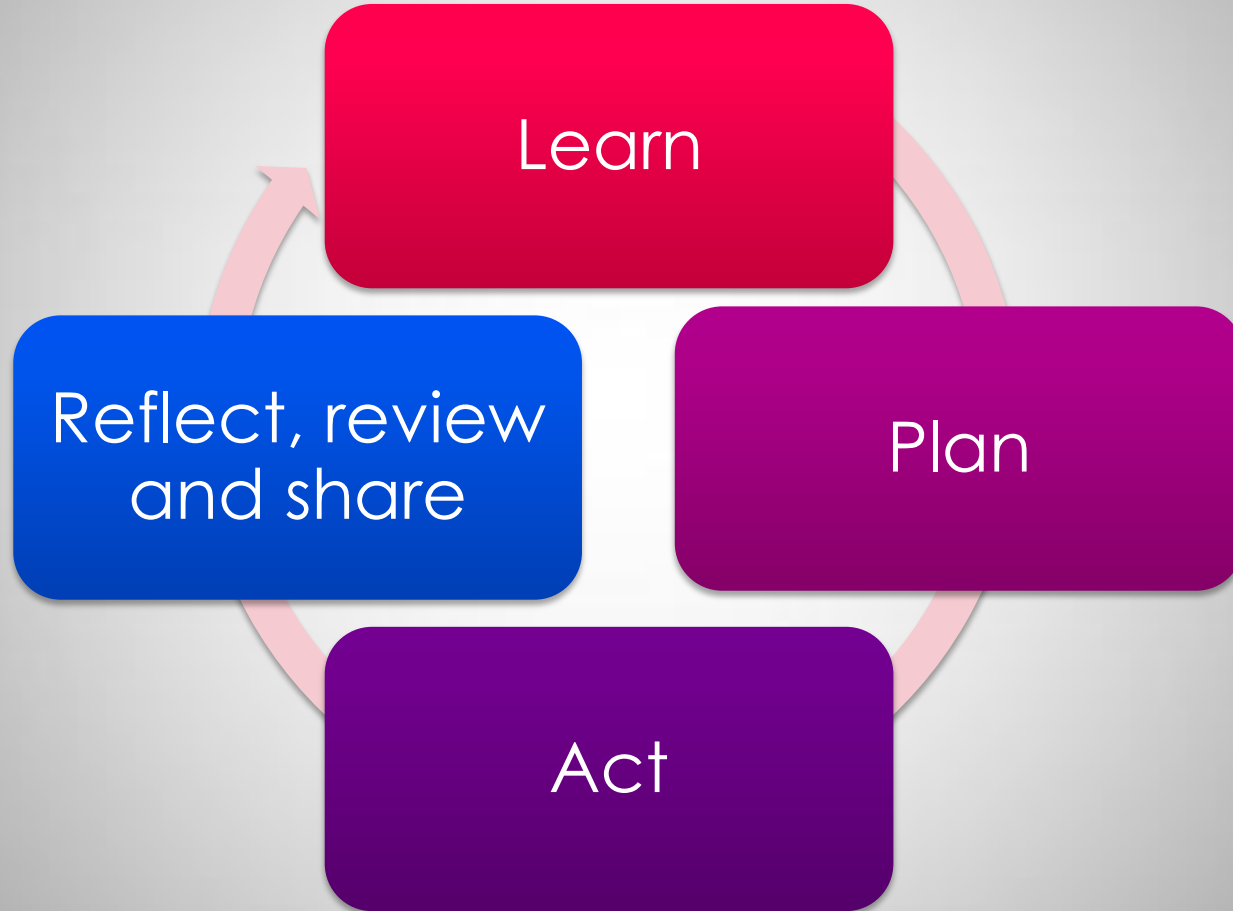
Learning by Doing

Goal: Develop the knowledge and skills of participants in Health Impact Assessment

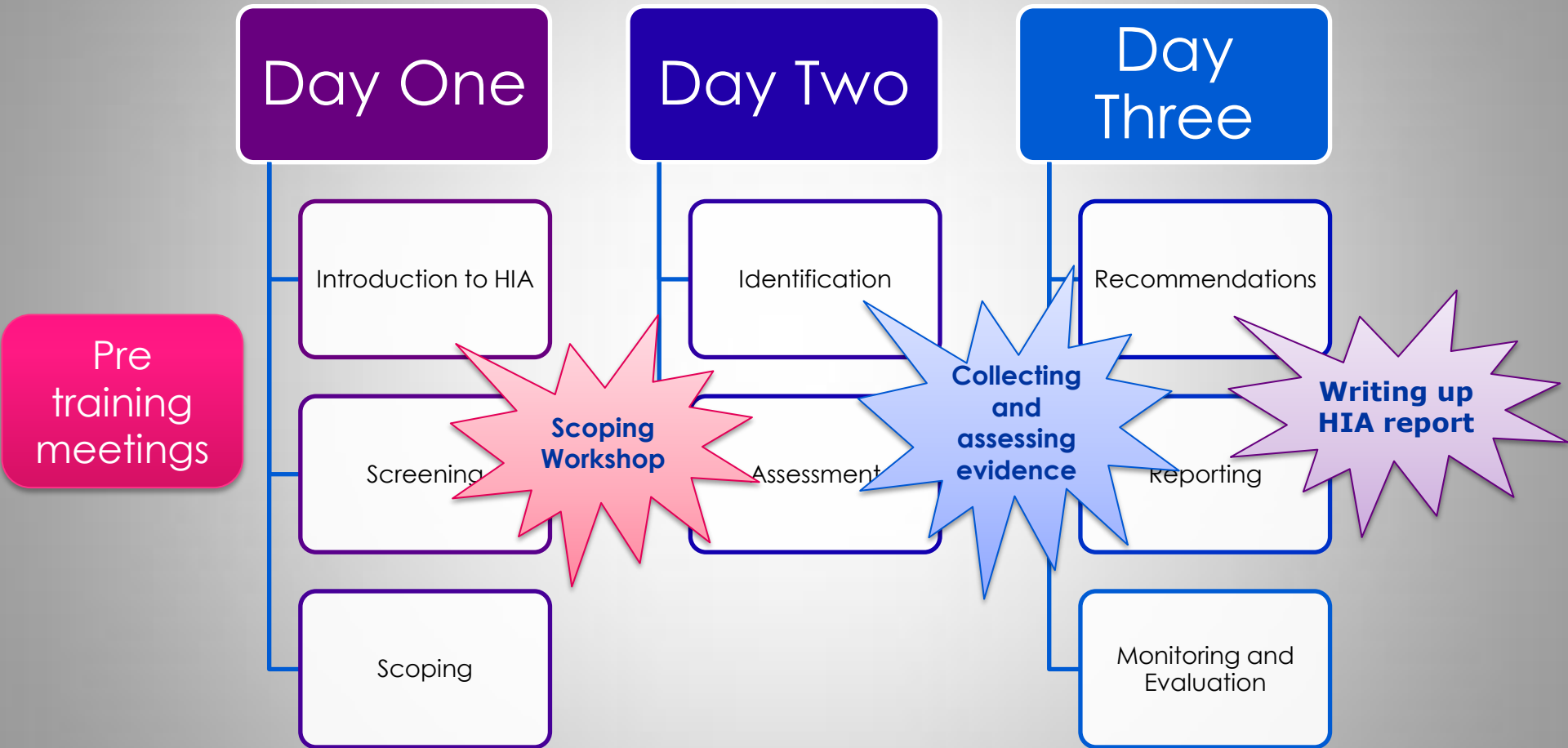
Objectives:

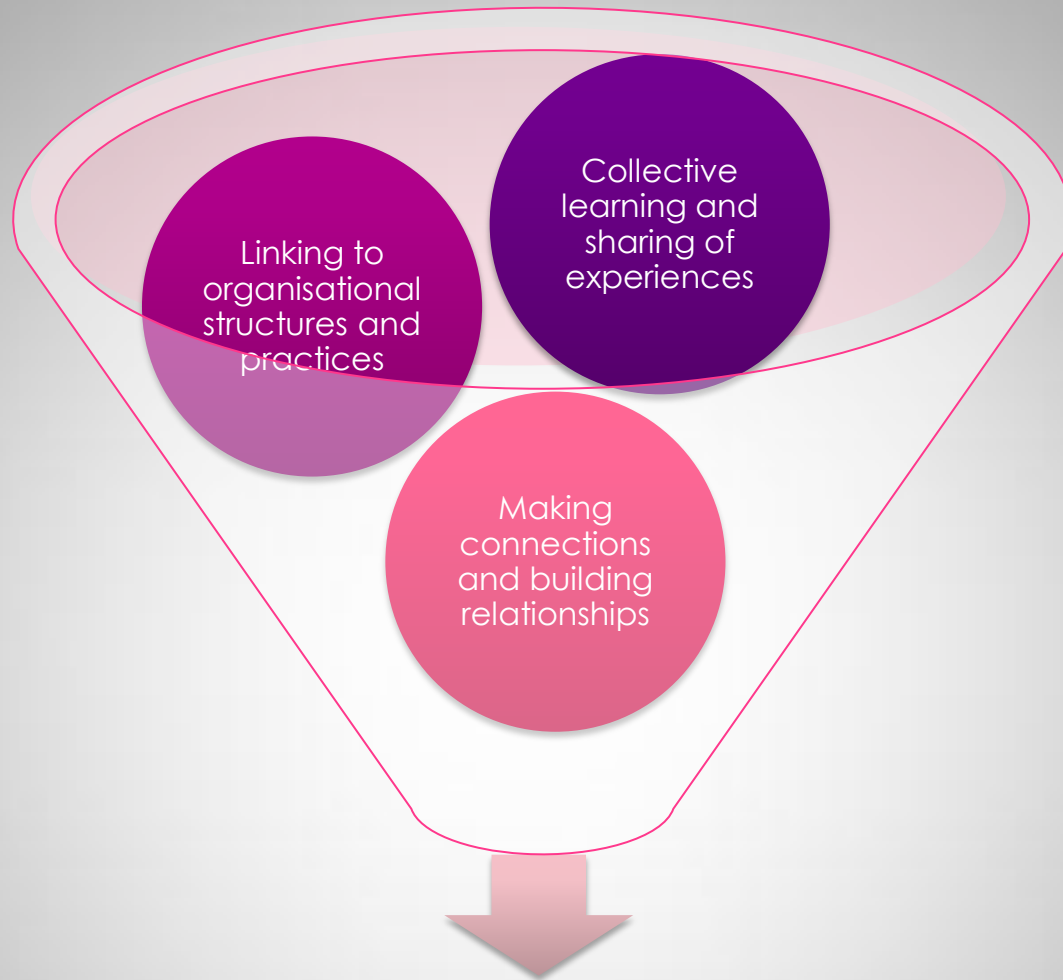
- ✓ Understand each of the steps of HIA and where and how equity is considered
- ✓ Determine when and whether HIA is appropriate
- ✓ Carry out each step and complete an HIA
- ✓ Describe HIA and its roles in improving health and health equity
- ✓ Describe outcomes that can be achieved by carrying out HIA
- ✓ Reflect on how HIA fits with professional practice, organisation and identify future directions

HIA LBD Action Based Learning Approach



Training Outline





Learning about and carrying out an HIA

Why do a Learning by Doing approach to HIA?

- Benefits to participants –increase skills, knowledge and confidence. Also lead to better external and internal partnerships.



Why do a Learning by Doing approach to HIA?

Benefits the process – involvement of stakeholders in HIA process leads to better outcomes



Evaluation of LbD

- Online survey of LbD participants
- Semi-structured interviews with 6 participants

Research Questions:

1. Did participants gain *knowledge* and *skills* from participating in the program?
2. Did the program lead to increased *capacity* for the involved organizations to do HIAs?
3. Which *components* of the program were most important for increasing capacity to do HIAs?
4. Did the training adequately *instruct* participants in HIA?

Evaluation of LbD - Challenges

Expectations about time and capacity



Evaluation of LbD - Challenges

Building trust – planners worry that HIA would only find negative things



Evaluation of LbD – Benefits

Participants gained knowledge, skills and confidence



Evaluation of LbD- Benefits

Improved relationships: within organisation,
with outside partners

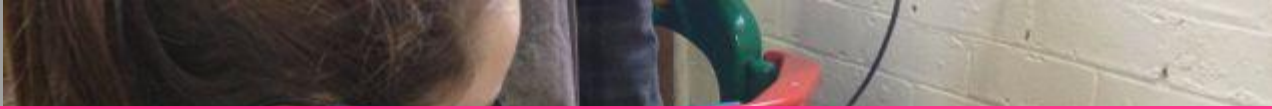


Evaluation of LbD - Benefits

Increased
capacity to do
HIA



Evaluation of LbD - Benefits



Good training

“...it’s not just learning...you know, sitting there, listening to lectures and not applying it. Like, I’m the type of person that I have to apply it straightaway, otherwise I’ll lose it...I wouldn’t do it without the learning by doing path, I wouldn’t ...I don’t think it would stick...unless you apply the skills straightaway, I don’t think people would remember, and they wouldn’t use it. They wouldn’t feel confident.”



Thank you!

Questions?