

Stage of the policy process	Description	Evidence Issues	Example Question
Agenda setting	Prioritizing an issue and raising awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a comprehensive understanding of the specific situation before proceeding with formulation</li> <li>• Key considerations include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ links between activities and outcomes</li> <li>○ projected intervention cost</li> <li>○ projected intervention impact</li> <li>○ quantity of evidence</li> <li>○ credibility of evidence</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are priorities for new strategic plan?</li> <li>• What is magnitude of problem?</li> <li>• Which focus areas or populations for new policies?</li> <li>• Which geographic areas of highest need? **</li> </ul>
Formulation	1) Determining the policy options 2) Selecting the preferred option*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use evidence to identify new problems or the magnitude of a problem</li> <li>• Emphasize the importance of a problem to relevant policy actors using evidence</li> <li>• Ensure the evidence is 1) credible, and 2) effectively communicated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which services would make the greatest impact?</li> <li>• Details of options? Options comprehensive? Cost?</li> <li>• What are options/interventions?</li> <li>• Which options are best? **</li> </ul>
Implementation	Practical activity actualization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve implementation effectiveness through operational evidence</li> <li>• Ensure the evidence is relevant to practical application in various contexts. Examples include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ analytic work</li> <li>○ systematic learning around technical skills expert knowledge</li> <li>○ practical skills</li> <li>○ action research</li> <li>○ pilot projects</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What's the practical experience?</li> <li>• How to improve initiative? Operations?</li> <li>• What are the information needs for specific context or campaigns? **</li> </ul>
Evaluation	Monitoring and assessing the process and impact of an intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop monitoring mechanisms first</li> <li>• Implement a comprehensive evaluation procedure to determine the implemented policy's effectiveness</li> <li>• Use M&amp;E to ensure objective, thorough, and relevant evidence</li> <li>• Communicate M&amp;E results to effectively inform the continuing policy process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which strategies increase impact of specific services? Is program meeting its process objectives? – e.g., training the stated number of providers</li> <li>• How to increase coverage of program? What learnings to apply?</li> <li>• Is policy effective? **</li> </ul>

\*See: Young & Quinn (2002). \*\*Adapted from: Sutcliff, S. (2005).