

Key findings

Throughout the evaluation, several key themes emerged. These are outlined below.

Reach and partnerships were extensive

The reach of activities funded by the program was extensive throughout the three years. It included:

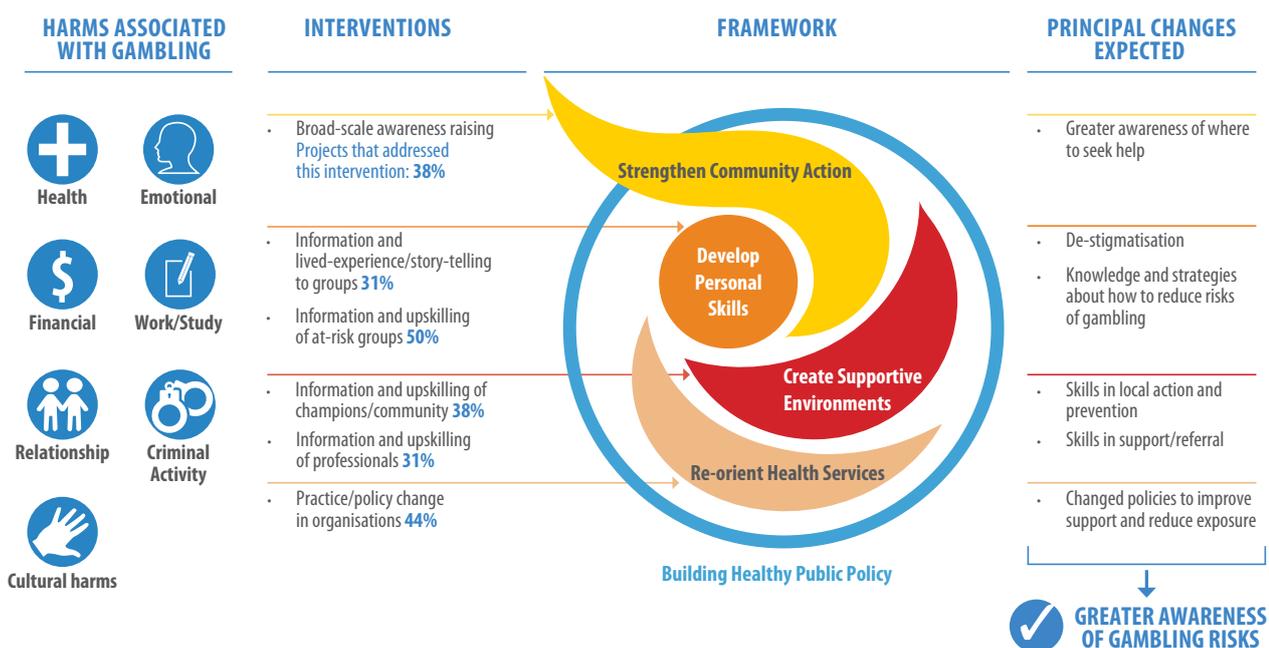
- 1,300 people engaged through high-intensity activities, such as the development of organisational policies, and training sessions for community champions and future change agents
- 35,100 people attending information sessions or similar speaking events
- an estimated 3.5 million people (based on circulation and distribution figures) reached through broadscale awareness-raising activities such as mass media.

The number of project partners was consistently high, with 134 organisations involved across 158 different partnership arrangements. There was also clear evidence that funded projects collaborated – sharing information and resources throughout delivery. The levels of collaboration increased in the last 18 months of the program.

Project managers stated that 80 per cent of these partnership arrangements were critical, or very important, to achieving their objectives, suggesting that most partners had a key role in the delivery, reach or facilitation of project activities.

Taking a public health approach

Consistent with good public health practice, the activities funded through the program demonstrated alignment with the Ottawa Charter*. Project activities tended to target multiple action areas of the Ottawa Charter, with the only exception being those projects that were mainly focused on upskilling professionals (four out of the 17 projects).



* The Ottawa Charter was developed in 1986 to identify health promotion mechanisms to achieve 'Health for All' by the year 2000 and beyond. The Ottawa Charter incorporates five action areas: strengthen community action, develop personal skills, create supportive environments, re-orient health services and build healthy public policy.