



Planning Worksheet: Creating a Climate that Supports Sustainability

This worksheet is designed to assess the degree to which the climate of your coalition and partnering organizations is ideal to support the sustainability of strategies. This tool may be paired with the planning worksheet “Is It Worth Sustaining”. For example, once you identify overall strategies worth sustaining, this worksheet will help you determine what needs to be done to create, or maintain a climate needed for sustainability.

Strategy:

Use the ratings below to indicate the extent to which each statement is true. Respond to as many items as possible. If you truly feel you are not able to answer an item, select “N/A”.

Characteristics of the Strategy: “The Strategy...”	Response Categories							
	Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	To a great extent	Not able to answer
Is flexible/adaptable to a wide range of audiences.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Can be implemented with little training or expertise.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Is based on sound scientific research on effectiveness.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Is currently supported by a wide range of funding sources.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A

Organizational Capacity of Lead Partners: “The organization primarily responsible for the strategy has...”	Response Categories							
	Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	To a great extent	Not able to answer
Internal champions that will fight for the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
A mission and procedures that closely align with the tasks associated with the strategy that they oversee.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Key staff or volunteers that believe in the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A

Organizational Capacity of Lead Partners: “The organization primarily responsible for the strategy has...”	Response Categories							
	Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	To a great extent	Not able to answer
Strong organizational capacity and leadership.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
A strong sense of ownership for the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Enthusiastic supporters not directly linked to the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Key staff that will take risks for the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A

Community: “The community has...”	Response Categories							
	Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	To a great extent	Not able to answer
Existing partnerships that can be leveraged for nonmonetary resources to support the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Monetary funding potential to support the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Professionals, not directly involved with the strategy, who see the strategy as appropriate.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Sympathy for the issue or cause the strategy is addressing.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Overall support for the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A

Primary Funders: “The current primary funder(s):”	Response Categories							
	Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	To a great extent	Not able to answer
Promote cooperation between current and potential funders that might offer resources to support the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Help to actively promote the importance of the strategy to the community and stakeholders.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A

Primary Funders: “The current primary funder(s):	Response Categories							
	Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	To a great extent	Not able to answer
Provide assistance for increasing the capacity of the coalition to carry out the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Make the coalition accountable for sustainability of the strategy early on in the funding cycle.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Make an effective sustainability plan a requirement for funding to support the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A

The Coalition: “The coalition currently...”	Response Categories							
	Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	To a great extent	Not able to answer
Is involved in lobbying (or advocacy) efforts to influence (or educate) local, state, and/or federal public policy to support the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Actively engages in building partnerships to carry out the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Promotes the use of public pressure to promote the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Actively pursues formal commitments for future funding of the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Uses reliable evaluation findings as a communication tool to promote broad support for the strategy.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A

Total Sustainability Score: _____

This tool was adapted from the Program Sustainability Assessment Tool (PSAT), developed by the Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri by Global Evaluation Solutions as part of its ongoing free webinar series. The original document can be accessed here:

https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2015/docs/15_0133_Appendix.docx