



APPROACHES & MODELS HEALTH PLANNING



UNDER SUPERVISION

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Definition of Approaches of Health Planning

Health planning is defined as a systematic process of identifying health needs, setting priorities, allocating resources and designing interventions to achieve improved health outcomes



According to the World Health Organization(WHO, 2021), health planning involves a continuous cycle of assessment, policy formulation, implementation and evaluation. It is fundamental to ensuring effective, equitable and sustainable health systems.

Comparison of Approaches of Health Planning

Approach	Source of Decisions /Plans	Advantage	Limitation
1- Top-down Approach	Higher levels (e.g., Ministry, central authority)	quick and Organized	May overlook community needs
2- Bottom-up Approach	Community or local levels, then moves upward	Reflects real community needs	Time-consuming, requires more effort
3- Integrated Approach	Combination of Top-down and Bottom-up	Balanced, realistic, and supported by leadership	Needs coordination between levels
4- Situational Approach	Based on current situation (epidemic, disaster,	Flexible and adaptive	Often short-term

Comparison of Health Planning Models

Model	Main Focus	Key Feature	Limitation
Rational Model	Step-by-step logical process	Clear, simple, structured	Not flexible in complex settings
Strategic Model	Long-term goals & vision	Uses SWOT, sets future directions	Time-consuming, needs expertise
Epidemiological Model	Health data & statistics	Data-driven, identifies real health needs	May ignore social factors
Community Model	Community participation	People-centered, increases acceptance	Slower, depends on cooperation
Comprehensive Model	Integration of all approaches	Holistic and realistic	Complex, requires more resources

Objectives of planning outcome

- * Define clear and measurable goals.
- * Guide actions and decision-making.
- * Improve resource utilization and efficiency.
- * Anticipate future needs and challenges.
- * Coordinate efforts across individuals or teams.
- * Monitor progress and evaluate results.
- * Reduce risks and uncertainties.
- * Enhance accountability and responsibility



What's in a SWOT analysis?

The good

The not-so-good

What we've got

Strengths

What resources can we deploy?

What are our advantages?

What's working well?

Weaknesses

What abilities are we lacking?

Where are we starting to struggle?

How can we overcome these?

What's out there

Opportunities

Who might most value our strengths?

What trends work in our favour?

What prizes are within reach?

Threats

What headwinds do we face?

Who might challenge us?

What could go wrong?