



Partnership Health Check

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As part of THET's ongoing approach to quality improvement, we have developed the Principles of Partnership to support health partnerships to improve the quality and effectiveness of what you do. To find out more about them please click [here](#).

There are eight fundamental principles, each broken down into a number of more specific hallmarks that make up the ideal standards that we recommend for effective partnership working.

The Partnership Health Check is a practical tool that will enable your partnership to score itself against the range of standards of good practice set out in the Principles of Partnership. The tool focuses specifically on good practice in partnering, rather than the health workforce strengthening or health system strengthening projects that partnerships implement.

It will help you to improve your impact as a partnership, providing you with a great basis from which to plan future projects, bid for funding and ultimately increase the effectiveness of your work.

1. What is the Partnership Health Check?

There are three components to the Partnership Health Check:

1. Summary.
2. Self-Assessment.
3. Partnership Action Plan.

It is recommended that partnerships carry out the Self-Assessment together to ensure that the score is an accurate reflection of the partnership's work.

The Partnership Action Plan, a tool for continual self-improvement, should be developed and implemented by all members of a partnership to ensure that all views are represented, to agree on feasible objectives, and to set out exactly what support is needed, and how it can be obtained.

2. Why should you complete the Self-Assessment and Partnership Action Plan?

The purpose of completing the Self-Assessment is to identify areas in which your partnership needs strengthening. Understanding how your partnership performs against the Principles will be the first step in your quality improvement journey.

The results from the Self-Assessment will form the basis of your Partnership Action Plan that will outline how you will improve your performance against specific hallmarks, and strive to achieve the Principles of Partnership.

3. How do you complete the Self-Assessment and Partnership Action Plan?

As a Partnership, you will be asked to score yourself against each hallmark of good practice. Your hallmark scores will be added together to give an overall score for the principle.

The Partnership Health Check is intended to be a working document that partnerships can refer to for guidance. We encourage you to revisit it regularly, in particular the Action Plan, to ensure that the objectives are being met.

We encourage partnerships to work together to implement your Partnership Action Plan, and to collaborate to find solutions to challenges. A number of resources and toolkits available on the THET website can support you in this process, for example guidance on monitoring and evaluation and an example MoU. You can find them at <http://www.thet.org/health-partnership-scheme/resources>.

How to Use the Partnership Health Check

The Partnership Health Check an Excel Document s comprised of three components.

1. Summary

- Your score for each Principle.

2. Self-Assessment

- A form for you to score your partnership against each of hallmark in the Principles of Partnerships

3. Partnership Action Plan

- A reflection on how your partnership can work to strengthen your partnership.

How to use each section and navigate between sections is explained below.

1. Summary:

This page provides you with an overview of your Self-Assessment scores once they have been completed. Once you fill out the Self-Assessment, your scores will appear in the summary automatically.

Navigating from the Summary Page to the Self-Assessment and the Partnership Action Plan

- Clicking on each principle will take you to the corresponding section of the Self-Assessment.
- Clicking on your score for each principle will take you to the corresponding section of the Partnership Action Plan.

2. Self-Assessment:

Use this page to fill in your partnership scores. Each Principle of Partnership is broken down into four hallmarks.

To score yourself, choose the score next to the statement that relates best describes your partnership and select the number from the drop-down menu in the corresponding boxes. The total for each principle will be calculated automatically.

To navigate from the Self-Assessment to the Partnership Action Plan;

- Clicking on a hallmark in the Self-Assessment page will take you directly to the corresponding part of the Action Plan.
- You can also use the tabs at the bottom of the page.

3. Partnership Action Plan:

Once you have filled in the Self-Assessment, the next step is to reflect on how you can improve in areas where your partnership not so strong. There is space to complete your Partnership Action Plan next to each Principle of Partnership.

There are five questions at the top of the page to help get you thinking about how you can improve, and you should use them in whatever way works best for you.