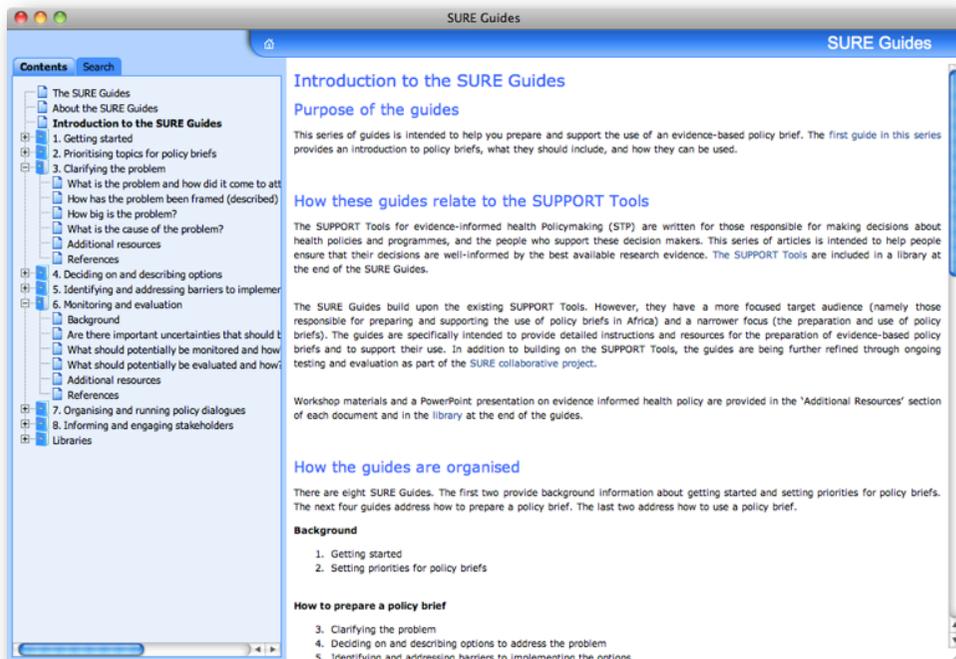


Click to start

The SURE Guides

Getting started



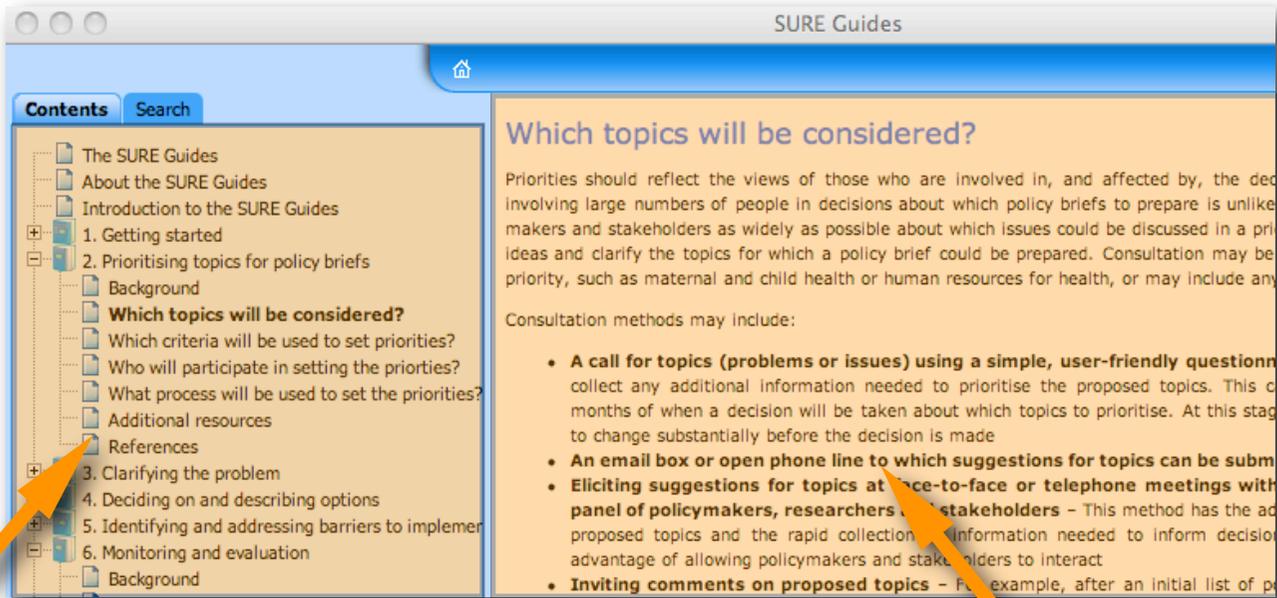
The SURE Guides are intended to help you both produce, and use, an evidence-based policy brief.

This overview will show you how the SURE Guides can help you.

Click the mouse for the next slide, or use the arrow keys to backwards and forwards



Moving around the guides



Navigation

Content

The SURE Guides work like a normal Windows Help system or many websites. The left-hand window is for navigation while the bigger right-hand window shows the content. The navigation window works in the same way as Windows Explorer. There is also a search function.

Click the mouse for the next slide, or use the arrow keys to backwards and forwards



Finding documents with search

Type search word and click 'Search'



SURE Guides

Contents Search

Type in the word(s) to search for:

 Search

- Additional resources
- Background (for priorities)
- What process will be used to set priorities?
- References
- Which topics will be considered?
- Who will participate in setting the priorities?
- What is the cause of the problem?
- What is the problem and how did it come to attention
- Checklists and worksheets
- Examples

What is the problem and how did it come to attention

The starting point for clarifying the problem in a policy brief is to indicate how the problem was identified and how the problem was taken. This should include a description of how the problem came to attention in the policy brief about this particular problem. As a rule, this information should be included in the problem description, which should share some of the same characteristics of a lead sentence (of sentences); it should summarise what the problem is and why the policy brief is needed for the reader to understand the content of the policy brief; and it should motivate the reader to understand the content of the policy brief.

Subsequent iterations and analysis of the problem can lead to clearer descriptions of the causes and, possibly, a better way of framing the problem that will facilitate the identification of solutions.

It is not uncommon for health system problems to be unclear when they first come to attention. A problem is brought to attention by policymakers or advocates without it being made clear what the problem is intended to address. For example, while the issue of task shifting may appear on the surface to be a problem in fact the shortage of health workers, the distribution of health workers, or a combination of these issues. Therefore before appropriate options are identified the problem is.

Sometimes a diagnosis rather than a problem may be brought to attention, but it is not always clear what the problem is. Many countries may have had health reforms to address the poor coordination of health services, but it was thought to be the cause of inefficiency and high costs of ineffectiveness and poor quality of care.

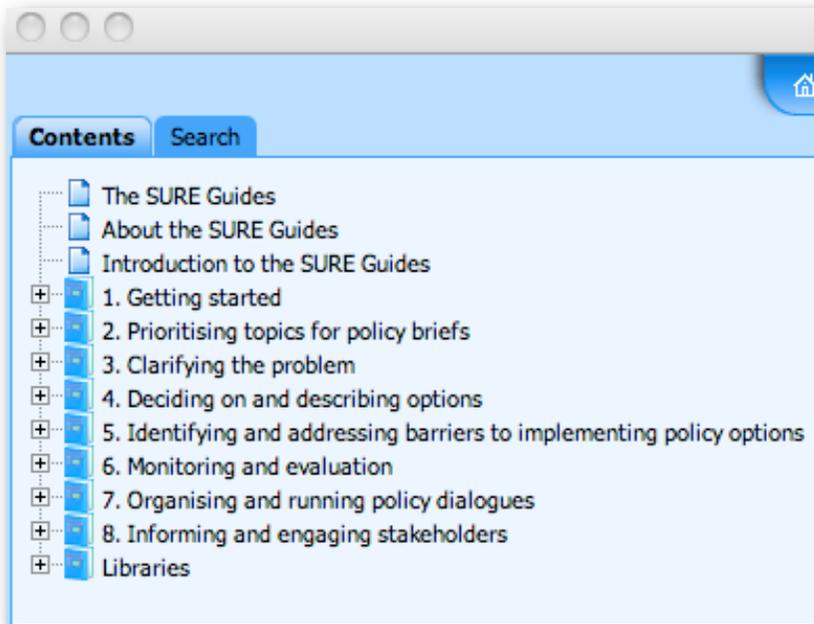
Click on the document on the left that looks most interesting and it is then shown in the right hand window

The search looks at every word in the SURE Guides so it is a powerful way of finding what you are looking for.

Click the mouse for the next slide, or use the arrow keys to backwards and forwards



The eight guides



There are eight guides in the SURE Guides:

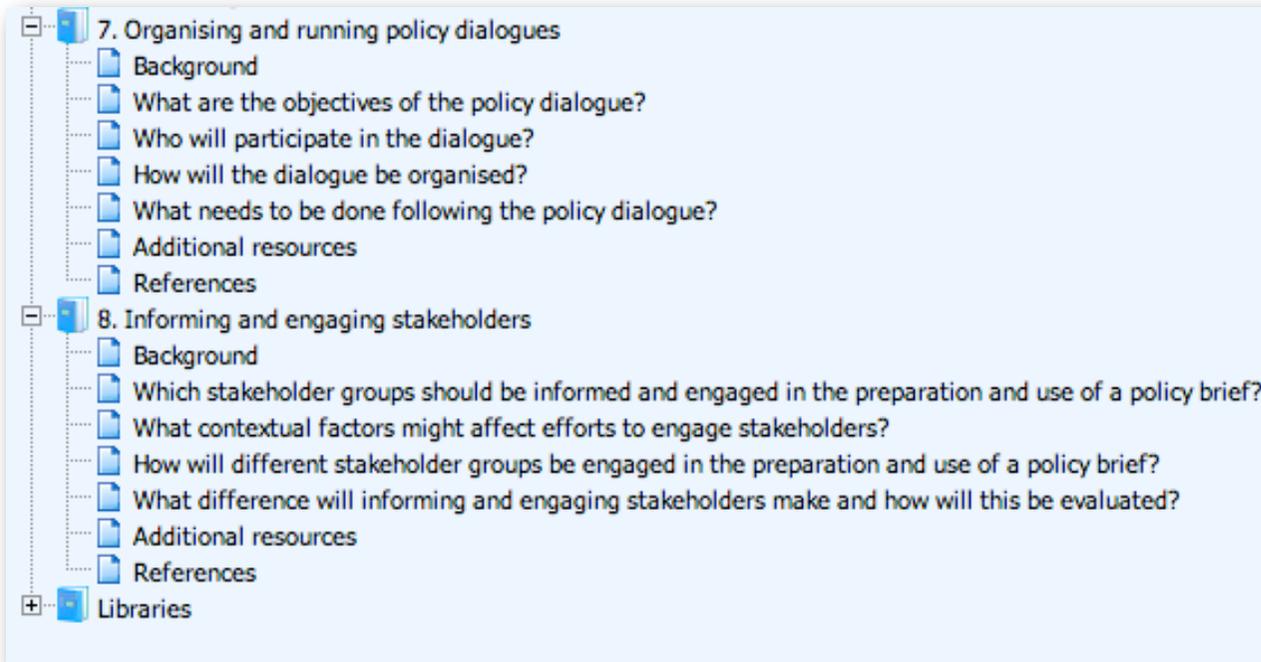
1. Getting started
2. Prioritising topics for policy briefs
3. Clarifying the problem
4. Deciding on and describing options
5. Identifying and addressing barriers to implementing policy options
6. Monitoring and evaluation
7. Organising and running policy dialogues
8. Informing and engaging stakeholders

There is also a Library, which is full of examples, templates, worksheets, articles and audio clips that will help you produce and use an evidence-based policy brief.

Click the mouse for the next slide, or use the arrow keys to backwards and forwards



Each guide contains several sections



Each guide is broken up into a number of sections, usually questions. Additional Resources contains examples, templates, checklists and other materials that might be helpful. Finally there is a list of useful references.

Click the mouse for the next slide, or use the arrow keys to backwards and forwards



Lots of resources

Example of a policy dialogue in Zambia



Lonia Mwape talks about a policy dialogue held in Zambia.



(MP4, 10 minutes 30 seconds) [Can't see video controller?](#) [Play it in your media player.](#)

Box 4.1 Judgements about the applicability of the results of systematic reviews

Decisions about how to apply the results of systematic reviews are always located within specific contexts. This makes it necessary to make judgements about possible differences between where the research that is summarised in a particular systematic review was done and your own setting. For health systems interventions this includes considerations of differences, for example, between:

- The structural elements of health systems (such that an intervention could not work in the same way)
- On-the-ground realities and constraints (that might substantially alter the potential benefits of the intervention)
- Perspectives and influences of health system stakeholders (such that the intervention may not be accepted or taken up in the same way)

In addition, different baseline conditions may result in different absolute effects, even if the relative effectiveness is the same. While this may not lower your confidence in the evidence, it is important to keep this in mind when applying the results of studies from one setting to another.

The text is scattered with examples, which might be tables highlighting key information, checklists or audio clips of someone talking about a particular aspect of the policy brief process. Many of these are in a guide's Additional Resources section.

Click the mouse for the next slide, or use the arrow keys to backwards and forwards



Libraries

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "SURE Guides". The navigation menu on the left includes "Contents" and "Search" tabs. Under "Contents", the "Libraries" section is expanded, showing a list of resources: "A form for evaluating the guides", "Pdf files for each of the guides", "Appendices from the guides", "Checklists and worksheets referred to in the guides", "Templates", "Examples", "Examples of policy briefs", "Examples of policy dialogues", "Other examples used in the guides", "Audio and video recordings", "The SUPPORT Tools for Evidence-informed Policymaking", and "Teaching resources (workshop materials and Powerpoint presentations)".

The main content area is titled "Examples of policy briefs" and contains three entries:

- Task shifting to optimise the roles of health workers to improve the delivery of maternal and child healthcare**
This policy brief was prepared by the Uganda country node of the Regional East African Community Health (REACH) Policy Initiative. The above link is to the full report - there is also an Executive summary.
- Améliorer la gouvernance pour la viabilisation du district de santé au Cameroun (French)**
Cette note d'information stratégique a été rédigée par le Centre pour le Développement des Bonnes Pratiques en Santé (COBPS), une unité de recherche au sein du chapitre camerounais de l'Initiative Evidence Informed Policy Networks (EVIPNet) de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé.
- Mise en œuvre de stratégies porteuses pour la réduction de la mortalité maternelle au Burkina Faso (French)**
Le problème fait l'historique des stratégies de réduction de la mortalité maternelle au Burkina avec les différents engagements internationaux pris pour faire face au fléau et les stratégies développées.

Below these entries, there is a section titled "STRATEGIES DE REDUCTION DE LA MORTALITE MATERNELLE EN REPUBLIQUE CENTRAFRICAINE (French)" and another titled "Strengthening the health system for mental health in Zambia" with the note "This policy brief was prepared by the Zambia Forum for Health Research".

At the bottom of the page, it states: "This page was last updated August 2011."

Libraries contains pdf versions of the guides, checklists, templates and a wide range of examples. A key part of Libraries are the examples of policy briefs.

Click the mouse for the next slide, or use the arrow keys to backwards and forwards



Teaching Resources

The screenshot shows a Macintosh HD desktop with a browser window displaying the SURE Guides website. The website has a blue header with 'SURE Guides' and a search bar. The main content area is titled 'Teaching resources (workshop materials and Powerpoint presentations)'. On the left, there is a 'Contents' sidebar with a search bar and a tree view of the site's structure. The tree view includes sections like 'The SURE Guides', 'About the SURE Guides', 'Introduction to the SURE Guides', and 'Libraries'. The 'Libraries' section is expanded, showing various resources such as 'A form for evaluating the guides', 'Pdf files for each of the guides', 'Appendices from the guides', 'Checklists and worksheets referred to in the guides', 'Templates', 'Examples', 'Examples of policy briefs', 'Examples of policy dialogues', 'Other examples used in the guides', 'Audio and video recordings', 'The SUPPORT Tools for Evidence-informed Policymaking', and 'Teaching resources (workshop materials and Powerpoint presentations)'. The 'Teaching resources' section is highlighted in blue. In the foreground, a PowerPoint presentation titled 'sure 05 clarifying the problem 2011 8.ppt' is open. The presentation is displayed in a slide show view. The current slide is titled 'Clarifying the problem' and contains a bulleted list of questions: 'What is the problem and how did it come to attention?', 'How has the problem been framed (described) and what are the consequences of this?', 'How big is the problem?', and 'What is the cause of the problem?'. The slide also features logos for SURE, REACH, EVIPnet, and ZAMFOHR. The status bar at the bottom of the PowerPoint window shows 'Slide 1 of 38' and '62%' zoom.

The Libraries also contain teaching materials for running courses on evidence-informed policy briefs.

Click the mouse for the next slide, or use the arrow keys to backwards and forwards



What's next?

Hopefully you will now have a feel for how the SURE Guides are organised and how it can help you prepare and use an evidence-based policy brief.

If you would like more information about the SURE Guides, or you would like to give some feedback, please send an email to:

sure.guides@nokc.no



Supporting the Use of Research Evidence

November 2011

**Click to see the overview again,
or select a document to start
using the Trial Protocol Tool**

