



Going Glocal: contextualising qualitative evidence for guideline development in Africa.

Experiences from the Global Evidence - Local adaptation (GELA) Project

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EDCTP

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To the best of my knowledge, I declare that I, and any of my co-authors, and any of my close family members, have not had employment, received research support or other funding from, or had any other professional relationship with, an entity directly involved in the production, manufacture, distribution or sale of tobacco, tobacco products, weapons or arms, or have represented the interests of any such entities in any way.

I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation.

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“We did not have any local evidence to say 'okay, these people did this, and this is what we found out'. We just know that studies are done elsewhere, but we do not have any other local evidence like this [guideline material].”

GELA guideline panel member

- Acceptability, feasibility, implementation and equity considerations matter when making healthcare decisions
- Evidence often relies on findings from Qualitative Evidence Syntheses (QES)
- Well-conducted, recent, relevant QES aren't always available

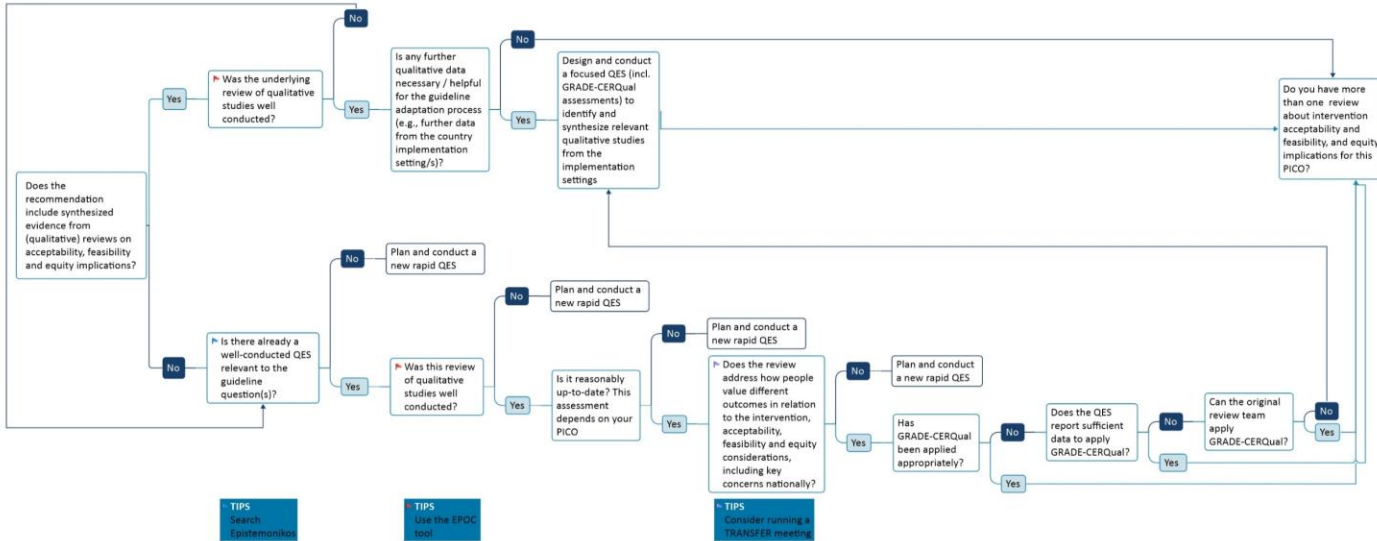
Presenting the key decision moments and important challenges we faced in making qualitative evidence relevant to national decision-making in the GELA project.

The GELA approach

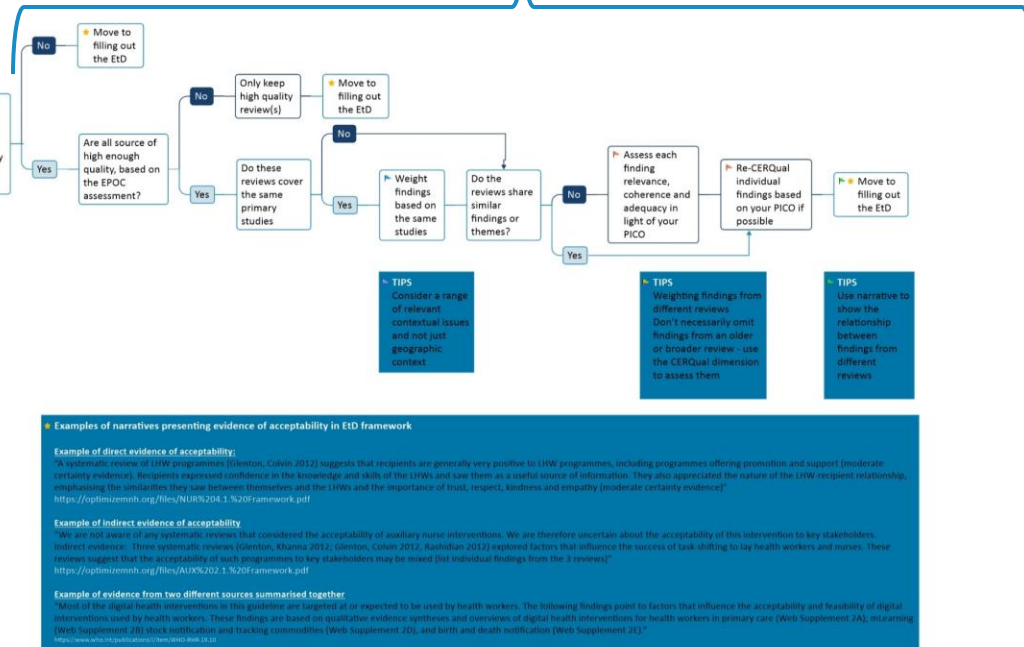
- GRADE evidence-to-decision (**EtD**) framework and **ADOLOPMENT** approach to guide the overall guideline development process
- **GRADE-CERQual** and **Cochrane Qualitative Evidence Synthesis methodologies and tools** to inform evidence synthesis for acceptability, feasibility and equity considerations in each guideline processes
- We provided qualitative evidence to 5 guideline processes under GELA

This process is a constant balancing act between rigorous methods, feasibility and time constraints

ASSESSING QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE



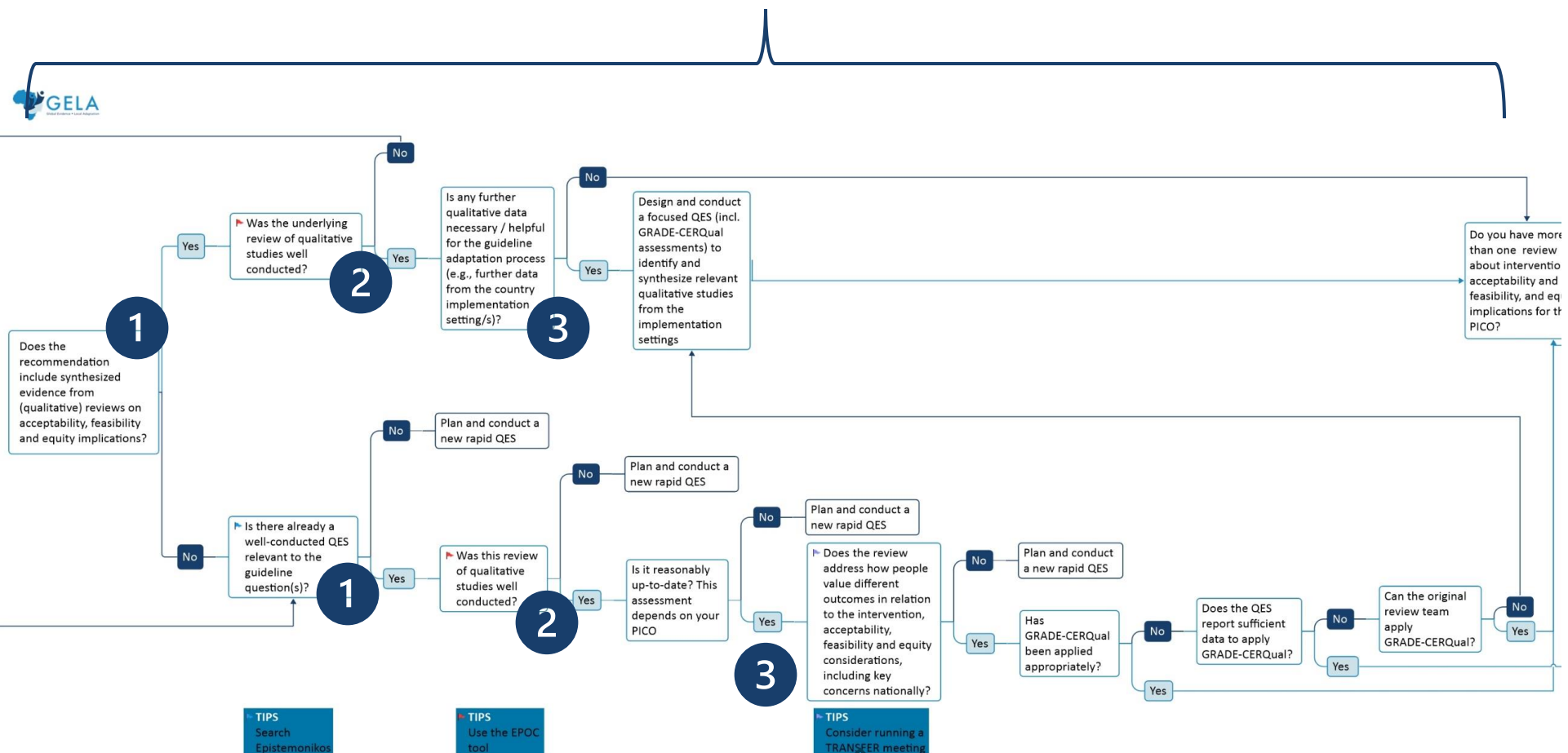
COMBINING QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE



CONTEXTUALISING QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE

Assessing, combining and contextualizing qualitative evidence in a rigorous, timely manner

ASSESSING QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE



1. What is already available?
2. Was it well conducted?
3. Is it enough ?

1. **TRANSFER**

TIPS
Search
Epistemonikos

TIPS
Use the EPOC
tool

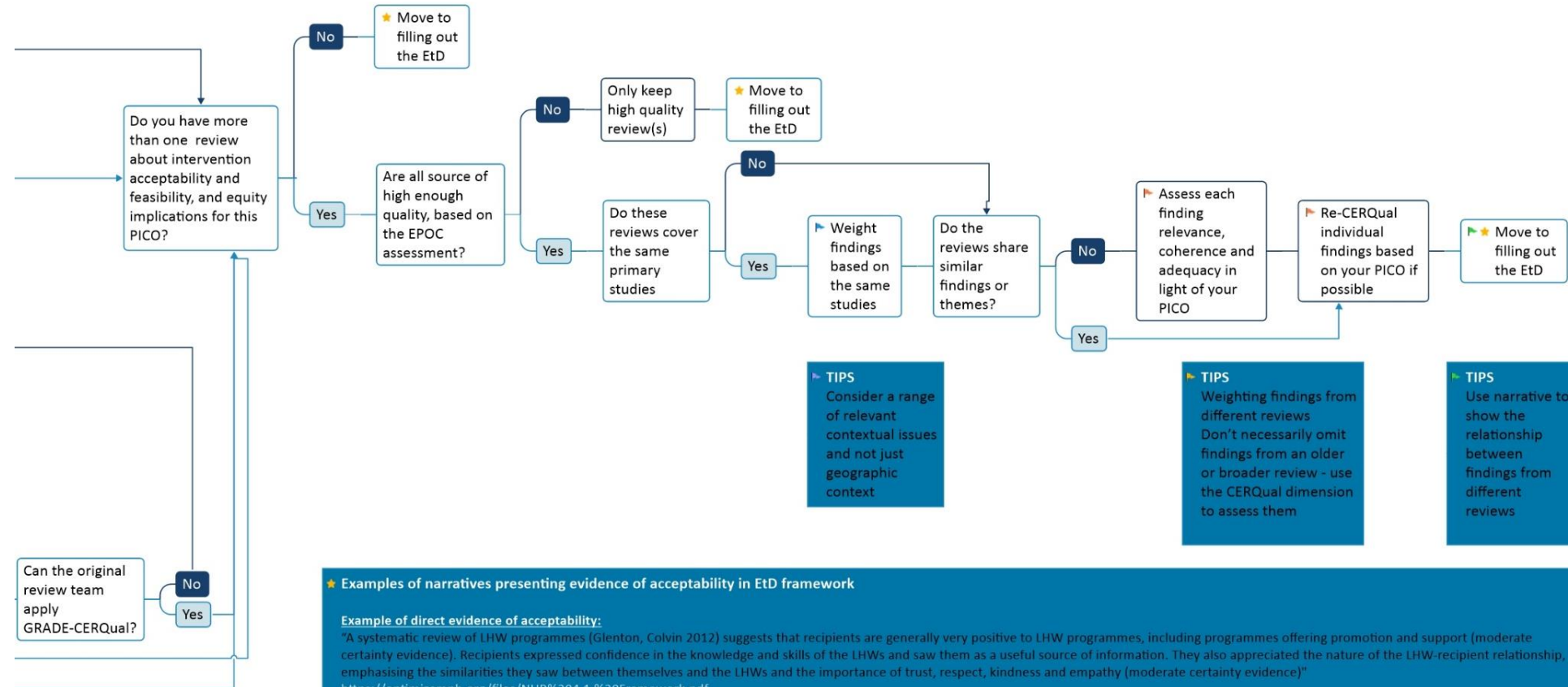
TIPS
Consider running a
TRANSFER meeting

← CONTEXTUALISING QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE →

Assessing, combining and contextualizing qualitative evidence in a rigorous, timely manner

- Synthesize findings from different QES
- 1. Well conducted
- 2. Disagreements
- 3. GRADE-CERQual

COMBINING QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE



CONTEXTUALISING QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE

Conclusion

GELA qualitative evidence development

We used four broad approaches:

- *De novo* evidence
- Combined evidence
- Merged evidence
- TRANSFERred evidence

Lessons learned

- Contextualisation throughout with stakeholder engagement, global/local evidence combination, and confidence assessment (GRADE Cerqual)
- An intensive but important process
- Keys to success:
 - Experienced staff in each country team
 - Exchange of experience between teams
 - Flexibility in the process to provide timely results without compromising rigour.

Thanks

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