



**WZB**

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin  
für Sozialforschung



Deutsche  
AIDS-Hilfe e.V.

# Participatory Quality Development

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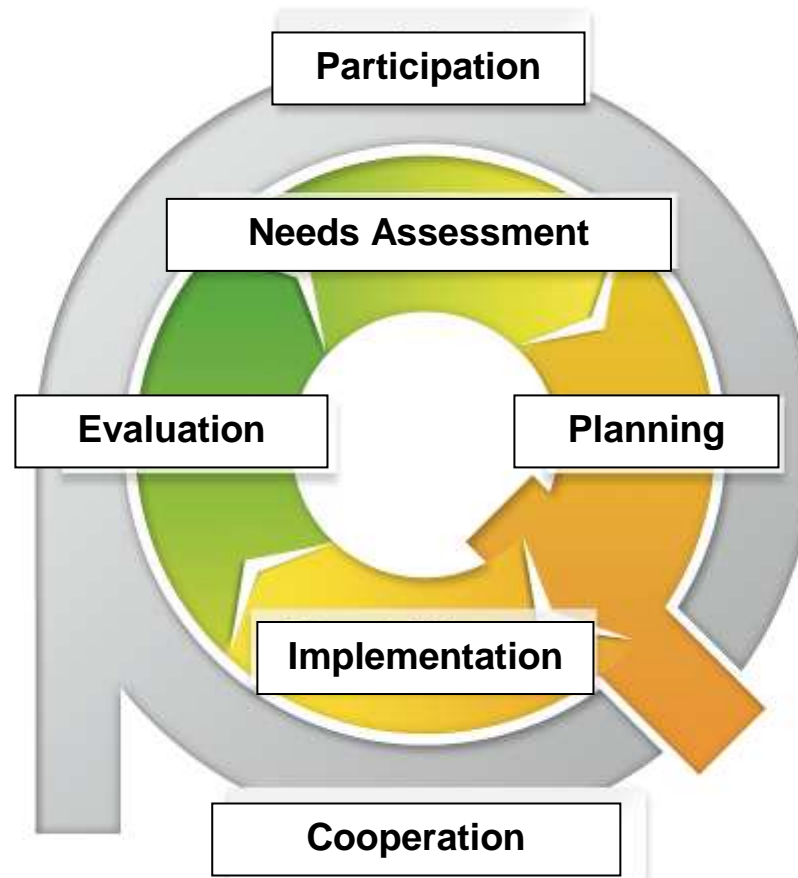
**Berlin-Conference, 23 October 2008**

# National Demonstration Projects to Establish Participatory Models for Quality Assurance

- Filling the structural gap for quality assurance in community work
- Partners: Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe and Gesundheit Berlin
- Funders: Federal Center for Health Education (Ministry for Health); Ministry for Education and Research
- Focus on Quality Assurance, not Evaluation
  - Consensus on supporting processes of quality development
- Approach: community-based research (action research, participatory research)

# Project Components

- Skill-Building Workshops on Participatory Methods
  - participatory curriculum
- Methods Handbook
  - internet based, interactive
- Individualized Consulting
  - project-driven focus
- Peer Review Process
- Good Practice Criteria
  - systematic input from CBOs at the regional level
- Network of Researchers Interesting in participatory methods
  - opening a new discursive space in German



# Participatory Quality Development

- Ongoing process of improvement
- Participation of target groups and front line workers in decision-making regarding quality
- Identifying and expanding local knowledge
- Quality measures which are:
  - Customized
  - Feasible
  - Useful
  - Participatory
  - Reliable

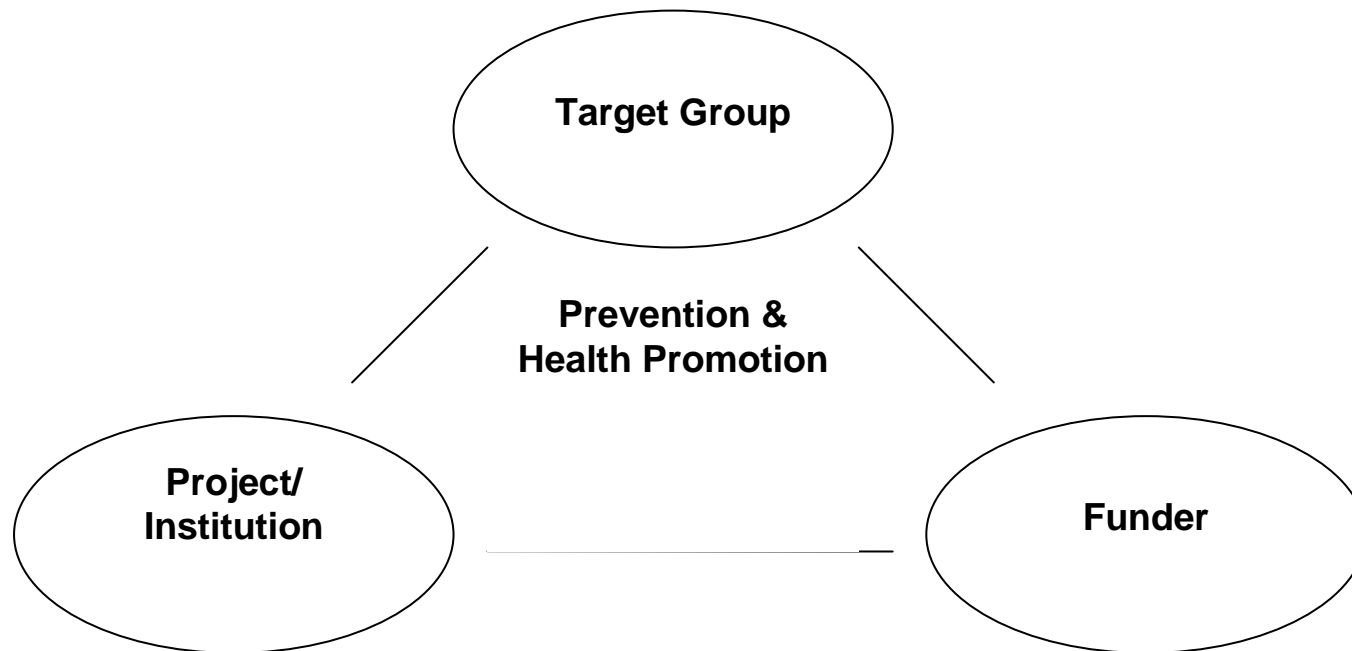
## Practice-Based Evidence

- As a complement to evidenced-based practice
- Evidence generated from the structures and the logic of the practical work
- Role of science is supportive, not privileged
- Local evidence in focus:
  - What works at a specific point in time, in a specific place, in a specific context

## Local Knowledge/ Local Theory

- The knowledge of local actors
  - Most often implicit
- Local experts play a central role
- On the basis of this knowledge, forming local explanations (local theories)
  - Making knowledge explicit
  - Structuring local knowledge
- By testing local theories, the local knowledge is expanded
  - What works at a specific point in time, in a specific place, in a specific context

# Collaboration





# Participation

- Decision-making power at all stages
  - Including defining the problem
- Emphasis on target groups and front line staff
  - They have the local knowledge
  - Their learning is most important
- Not either/or, but a developmental process
  - Dependent on local characteristics

# Stages of Participation

<b>Stage 9</b>	<b>Self-Organization</b>	<b>Goes beyond participation</b>
<b>Stage 8</b>	<b>Decision-making power</b>	<b>Participation</b>
<b>Stage 7</b>	<b>Partial decision-making power</b>	
<b>Stage 6</b>	<b>Co-determination</b>	
<b>Stage 5</b>	<b>Inclusion</b>	<b>Preliminary Stages of Participation</b>
<b>Stage 4</b>	<b>Hearing</b>	
<b>Stage 3</b>	<b>Information</b>	
<b>Stage 2</b>	<b>Directive</b>	<b>Non-Participation</b>
<b>Stage 1</b>	<b>Instrumentalization</b>	

