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Summit 2023  
9-11 October

Melbourne, Australia & Online



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## #367 - Increasing the evidence base around scaling for mental health programs designed to support men and boys: Early findings from Scaling What Works

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### Objectives/aims

Men and boys experience elevated rates of mental health-related harm and suicide than women and girls, yet few effective interventions to promote or improve male mental health have been developed and scaled. In an effort to a) increase the reach and impact of programs designed to support the mental health of men and/or boys which had demonstrated considerable promise; and b) learn more about the factors associated with successful scaling, the Movember Foundation developed the Scaling What Works funding program. The aims of the current presentation are to:

1. Discuss what motivated Movember to develop the SWW fund and how the findings will be used;
2. Describe the 'scale up pathways' taken by the 17 projects included in the fund; and
3. Use the Intervention Scalability Assessment Tool to explore how 'scalable' the 17 programs funded by SWW were at baseline: Common strengths, opportunities for improvement and the implications of these going forward.



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## Methods

### Participating projects

Seventeen projects designed to support or improve the mental health of men and boys funded as part of Movember's Scaling What Works program were included in the current study. Projects were located in Australia (n=7), the United Kingdom and Ireland (n=8) or Canada (n=2).

### Data collection

The Intervention Scalability Assessment Tool (ISAT) (Milat, 2019) was completed by the evaluation team for each funded project, drawing on the following qualitative data sources: 1) detailed funding applications for SWW completed by the project teams; 2) other written project information submitted by teams (including previous evaluations, peer reviewed journal articles); and 3) structured interviews with project leaders designed to confirm the accuracy of data collected and fill in any missing information required by the ISAT. Completed ISATs were sent to project teams for checking prior to analysis.

### Analysis

ISAT ratings were independently applied to completed forms by a minimum of two coders. Inter-rater reliability was assessed and discrepancies in ratings were discussed and resolved by the broader evaluation team. Pathways to scale up were mapped in line with the framework developed by Indig et al (2018) and quantitative and qualitative data ISAT data was triangulated to identify and explore common strengths in relation to the assessed scalability of the programs and key opportunities for improvement.

### Main findings

The pathways to scale up taken and current scalability strengths and opportunities for improvement will be described for the 17 SWW projects. Implications of these findings will be discussed.