

Table 1: Coding guide and sample coded text

Code	Definition	Sample Text
Barriers	Challenges or obstacles encountered by the participant	<i>“I think it can be overwhelming to think about how much you have to bring in to solving a problem”</i>
Crossing Sectors and Silos	Practices or approaches that cross boundaries/jurisdictions of sectors, organizations, or other silos	<i>“I would say that each project has a core group of stakeholders – that group of stakeholders is rarely within the context of one discipline or one sector”</i>
Environment	Discussion of the environment - defining it, environmental health issues, its connection to public health	<i>“It’s kind of a systems focus on how changing one piece changes all of those nested hierarchies of environments that are sitting within each other”</i>
Equity	Discussion of issues of equity especially around health	<i>“Photovoice was a really powerful way of hearing the most vulnerable within our community. And really engaging them as well. Not just hearing them but helping them to develop skills and advocacy”</i>
Governance	Discussion of current and possible models of governance, and their implications to public health	<i>“So there are a lot of times, as a community our hands are tied [...] So sometimes we can’t do anything because of bureaucracy”</i>
Health	Discussion of health - defining it, important health issues	<i>“if we’re focusing on human health and well-being, often we forget about broader ecosystem and ecological issues [...] sustainability issues, energy”</i>
Important Need	An identified need or important issue for public health practice	<i>“a real recognition that we need to reach out to stakeholders and other jurisdictions if we have a broader systems based approach and learn how to work with them and learn how to bring them into the tent”</i>
Indicators	Discussion around measurement tools or indicators for health	<i>“People across North America have been struggling with this idea about how do you develop indicators for a so-called healthy</i>

		<i>food system or community food security”</i>
Methods	Discussion of innovative or interesting approaches in public health	<i>“deliberative policy analysis [...] it’s the idea that through reflection and deliberation on policy issues, we actually develop some policy learning and that’s what can move change forward”</i>
Participatory Approaches	Discussion of participatory approaches in public health practice. Also includes peer research, community-based research, community engagement and community involvement.	<i>“Community engagement - how do we have those conversations with community members for them to understand and be a part of this process?”</i>
Perspectives, Context	Discussion of other perspectives or other contexts, and their role in public health.	<i>“What we’re really trying to do is to have those sectors that we haven’t traditionally partnered with. I think traditionally [...] we’ve had like-minded people at the table and so those people who have a different point of view from us, not necessarily are we hearing their voices”</i>
Support System	Support systems or facilitators for the work of the participant.	<i>“There’s been lots of support definitely within the community”</i>
Sustainability	Discussion of sustainability, self-sustaining systems, or visioning for the future.	<i>“So what are we doing to our biophysical environment both in terms of resource use, resource extraction? So how much are we consuming that we are taking away from future generations?”</i>
Systems Thinking	Consideration of smaller/larger systems, drawing connections, recognizing nested scales	<i>“a broader understanding that if you’re thinking from an ecosystem perspective, if you’re changing something in any of those environments, it’s going to affect what’s happening in the others”</i>
Inter- or Transdisciplinary	Practices which engage multiple disciplines and/or transcends disciplinary thinking to explore	<i>“It’s a wide variety of evidence. It’s qualitative and quantitative. It’s peer-reviewed literature but also policy literature</i>

Practices	different types of knowledge and ways of knowing	<i>[...], it includes stakeholder perspectives on the issue, it includes gathering evidence about the experience of jurisdictions“</i>
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