

Increasing our understanding of alcohol and other drug use and potential harms on Norfolk Island



Disclosure of Interest

No conflicts of interest to declare

Project Funded by the Department of
Infrastructure, Transport, Regional
Development, Communications and the Arts

Commissioned by the Department in direct response to concerns voiced by the Norfolk Island community around alcohol and drug use



What are the concerns?

How can we work together to provide a considered response

SUSTAIN

SUSTAINable uptake of evidence
to reduce harms from alcohol and
other drugs in rural and regional
NSW





1



Community led
responses

2



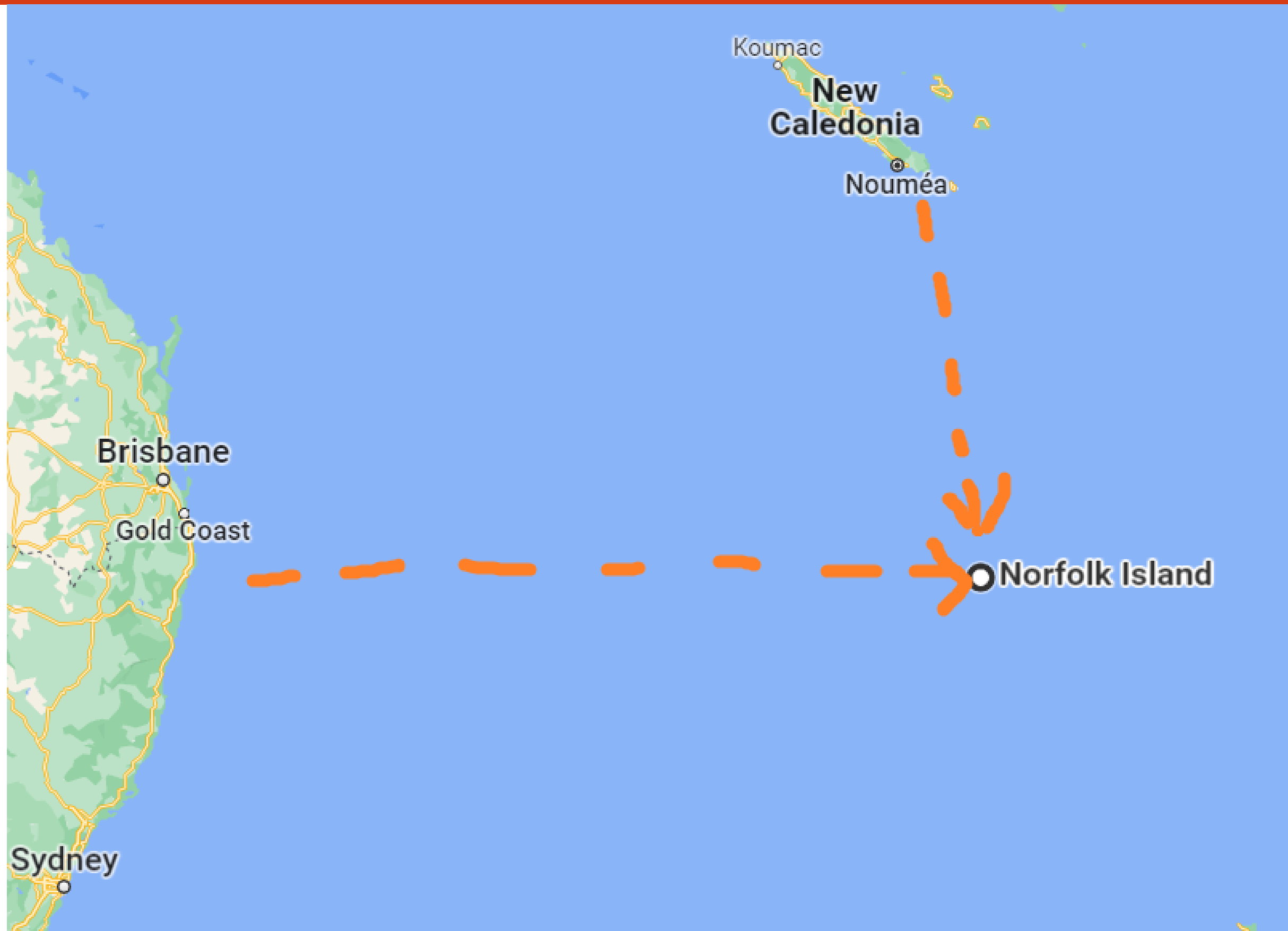
Primary health care
responses

3



Trauma informed
care process

Norfolk Island



Norfolk Island



The SUSTAIN approach to co-design

SUSTAIN

The logo for SUSTAIN is a circular emblem. The top half is a light grey semi-circle containing the word 'SUSTAIN' in a simple, grey, sans-serif font. Below the text is a stylized landscape in shades of grey, featuring rolling hills, a windmill, and a single tree. The bottom half of the circle is a vibrant orange semi-circle with white, swirling, organic patterns that resemble a stylized flame or a traditional Indigenous Australian design.

- ① Identify the evidence base
- ② Partner with local experts to localise and tailor strategies
- ③ Implement strategies into existing practice
- ④ Measure impact with sustainable co-designed outcomes

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Community

"A group of people with shared geography, experience, or heritage"

Schools

Colleges

Suburbs and Cities

Area health districts

Countries!

Community Interventions

Multiple broad components

Community mobilisation, coalitions

Point-of-sale

Policy and policing

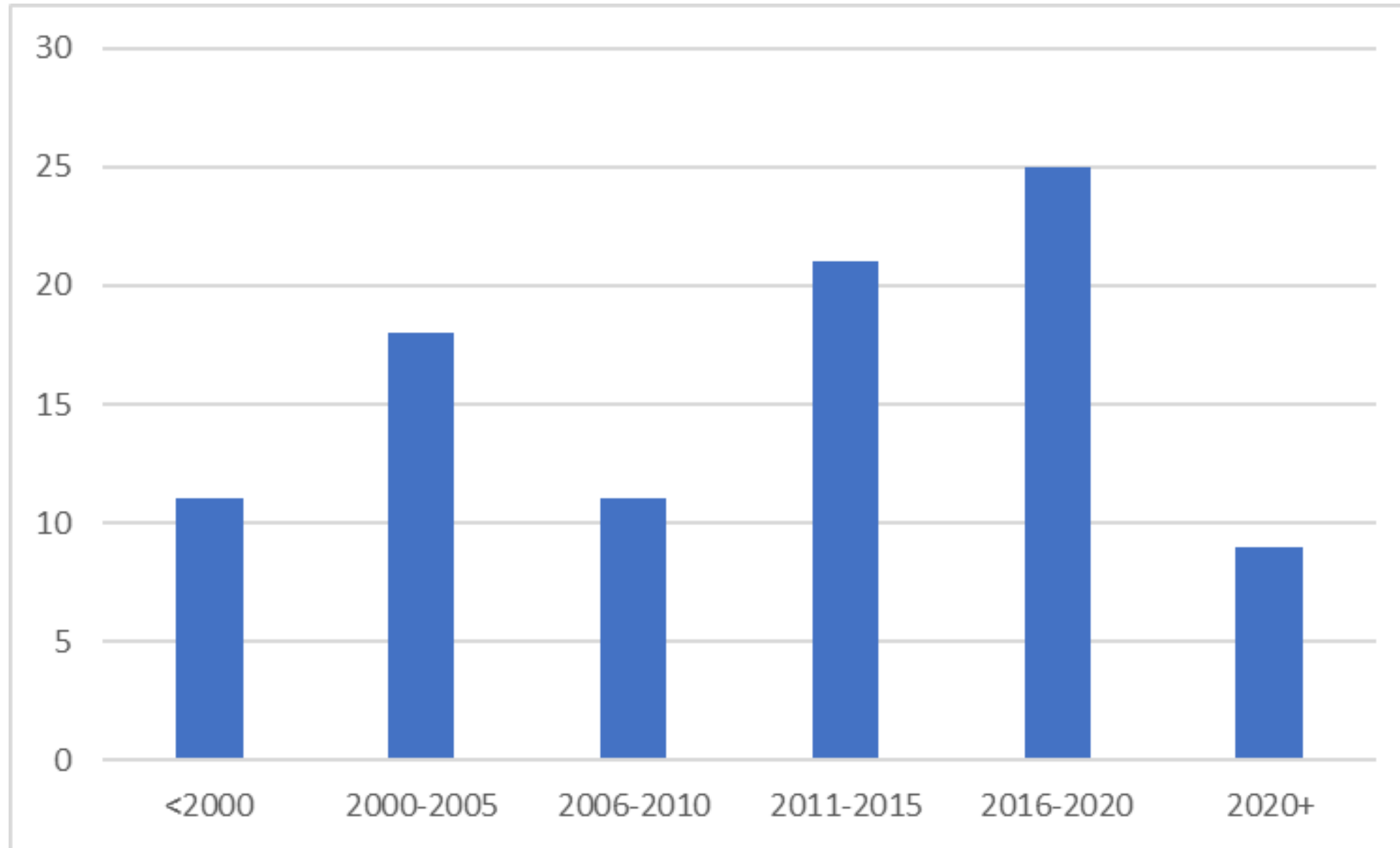
Workplaces

Education and media

Health workers

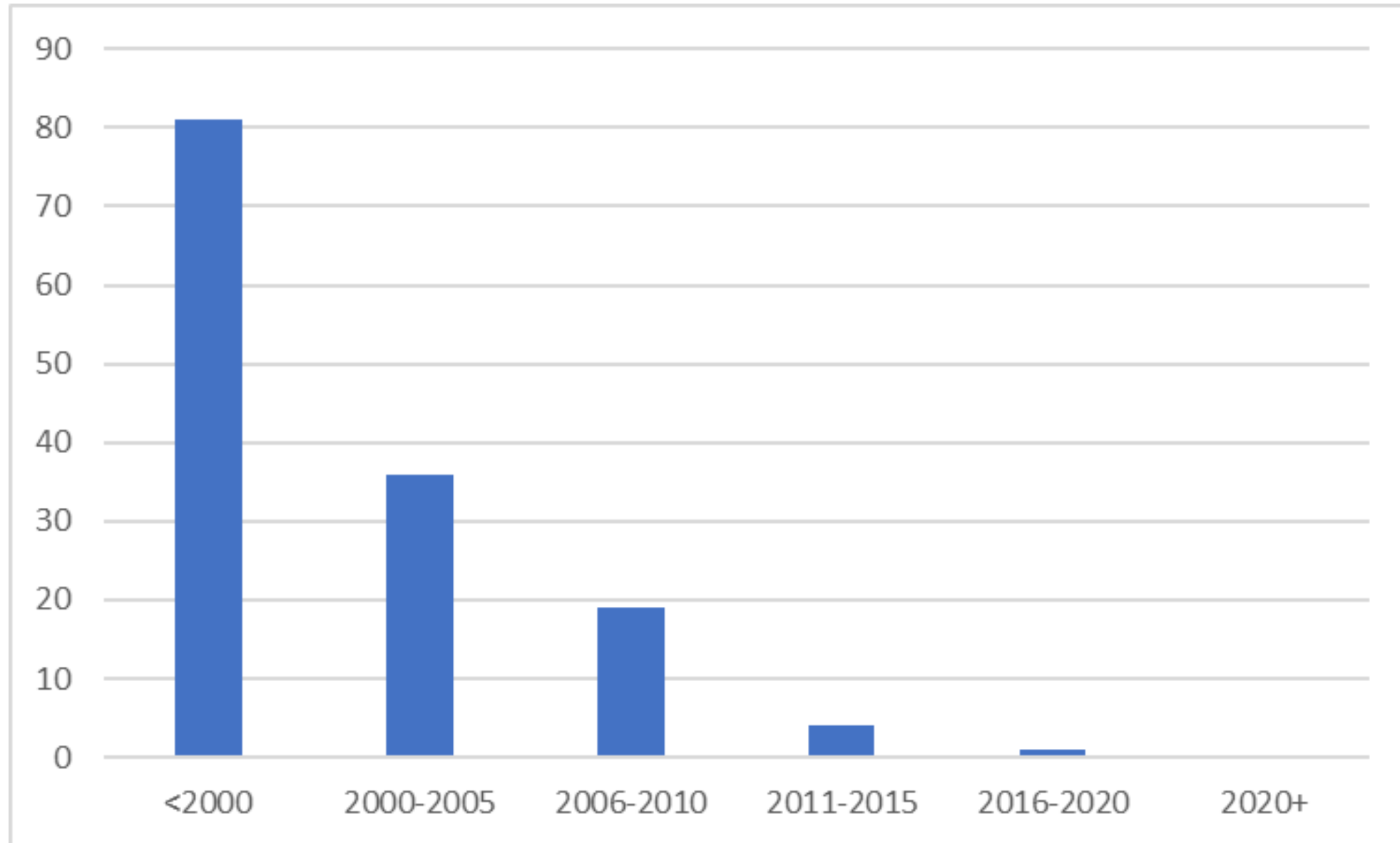
Families

Review of reviews



93 reviews, mostly post 2010

Published evaluations



141 trials, mostly pre 2000

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What is the local situation?

Mixed methods approach



Routinely Collected Data

Community Survey

Interviews

Focus Groups

Routinely Collected Data



Police - RBT, vehicular incidents, arrests/crime



Health - admissions, injuries/mortality, service uptake



Surveys - census, industry, schools/universities



Waste - water, rubbish



Retail & Production - sales, customer bans, importations



Social Media - references



Observations - organised snooping (Neighbourhood Watch)



Institutions - truancy, suspensions, workplace testing

Community Survey

Representation - How to include the whole community?

(News; radio; post; school; institutions; social media)

Validated scales: Use the right language.

Current risk thresholds: was that 4, 6 or 10 drinks?

Survey questions: How to assess concerns?

Interviews

Representation - Who are the key experts?


Resource intensive but gains rich data

Steer the conversation

The SUSTAIN approach

SUSTAIN



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- 

Co-design Focus Groups

3 groups: Health professionals, adult and youth community members

Step 1: Discussion of survey and interview results

Step 2: Review of the evidence for community-wide interventions

Step 3: Prioritising potential solutions

Review of the evidence

SUSTAIN: Supporting Uptake of Sustainable Tailored AoD Interventions in NSW

Intervention Menu

Mobilisation

- 'Dry' community events
- Sporting groups and participation
- After-school activities and groups for youths

Coalition

Point-of-sale

Legislation and Policy

Infrastructure

Education

Law Enforcement

Mass Media

Price Increase

Health workers

Families

Workplace

💡 After-school activities and groups for youths, run by peers/advocates

✓ Add to shortlist

📄 View shortlist

✗ Remove from shortlist

🧩 Potential impact (from previous studies)

Likely
ALCOHOL

- 👤 Use ✓ Likely
- 🚫 Related Harm ✓ Likely
- 👤 Behavioural ✗ Limited

Potential
TOBACCO

- 👤 Use ✓ Probable
- 🚫 Quitting ✗ Limited
- 👤 Behavioural ✓ Likely

Unlikely
CANNABIS

- 👤 Use ✗ Unlikely
- 👤 Behavioural ✗ Unknown

Potential
OTHER DRUGS

- 👤 Use ⓪ Potential

🧩 Previous community-wide studies

22 out of 29 evaluations showed some support for this initiative



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- ④ **Measure impact** with sustainable co-designed outcomes

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Future hopes



*Thank
you*

