



Mixed methods' contribution to process evaluation of population health interventions

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Population health interventions

One of their main characteristics

- **Complexity** (Shiell et al, 2008; Hawe & Potvin, 2009)

Recommendations for evaluation

- **Gathering both quantitative and qualitative evidence** (Campbell et al, 2000)



Mixed methods

A framework to conceptualize the combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, beyond juxtaposition

A range of possible designs according to level of integration, priority, timing, where and how to mix both strands (Creswell and Plano Clark, 2011)



Why using mixed methods? Feedback from French health researchers

(Guével et al, in preparation)

- **Looking for explanation**
- **Addressing different questions in a same research project**
- **Addressing complexity from the starting point**
- **Reintroducing complexity emerging during the research project**
- **...**



A more comprehensive picture

(Tashakorri & Teddlie, 2010; Creswell & Plano Clark, 2011; Guével & Pommier, 2012, Guével et al, 2016)



Why using mixed methods?

Feedback from French health researchers

- **Practical aspects**
 - Using it to mobilise various stakeholders with different expectations
 - Initiate an interdisciplinary team work
- **Researcher's commitment**
 - Contribution to decision-making or Transformative perspective
 - Support participation of non-researchers

(Guével et al, in preparation)



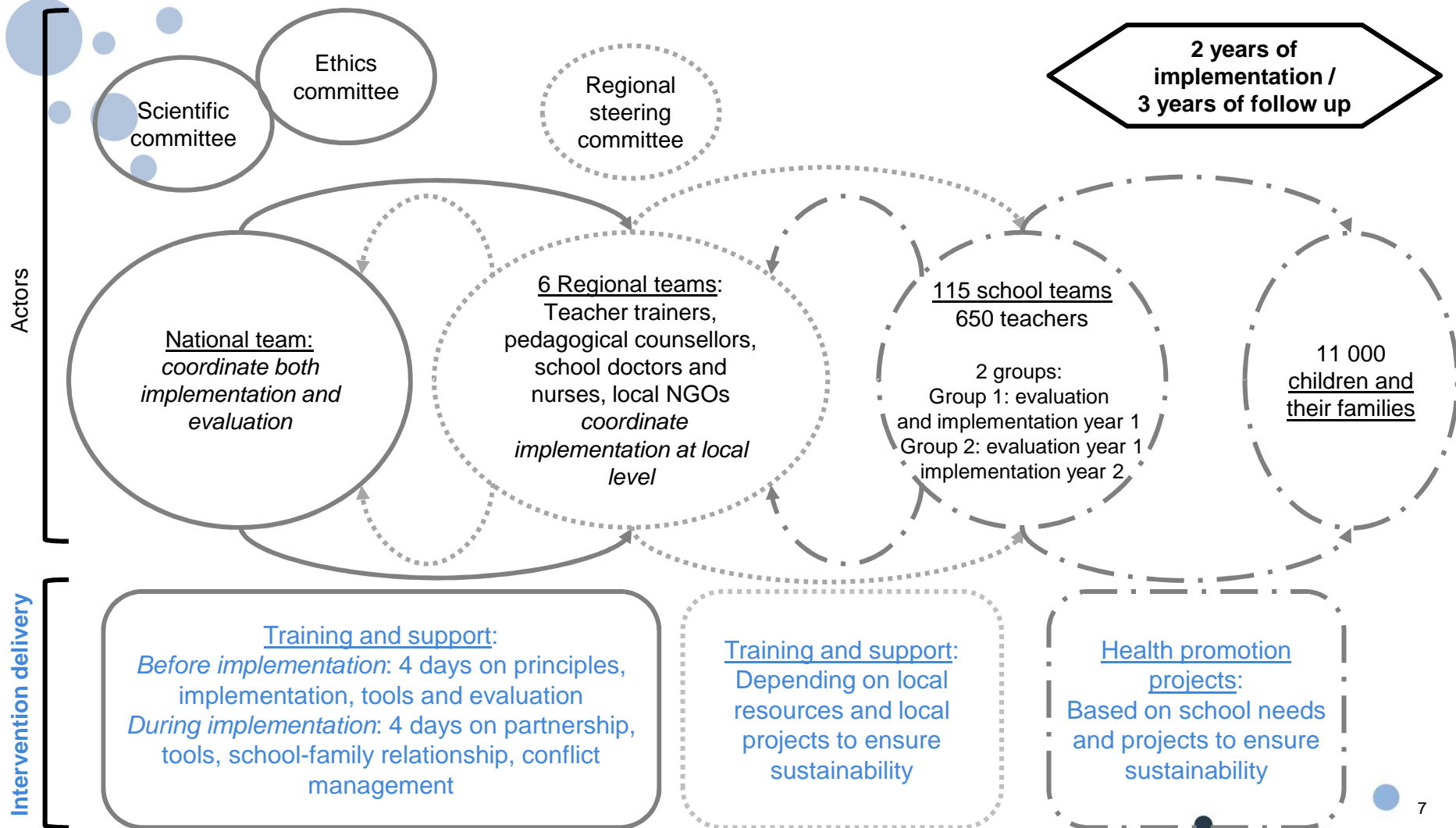
Example from a school health promotion intervention research

(Pommier et al, 2010; Guével et al, 2015)

- **Aimed at changing school environment to promote children' health**
- **Involved regional stakeholders and professionals who developed their own intervention adapted to their local context**
- **Documented both implementation and outcomes**

Implementation design

(Pommier et al, 2010; Guével et al, 2015)

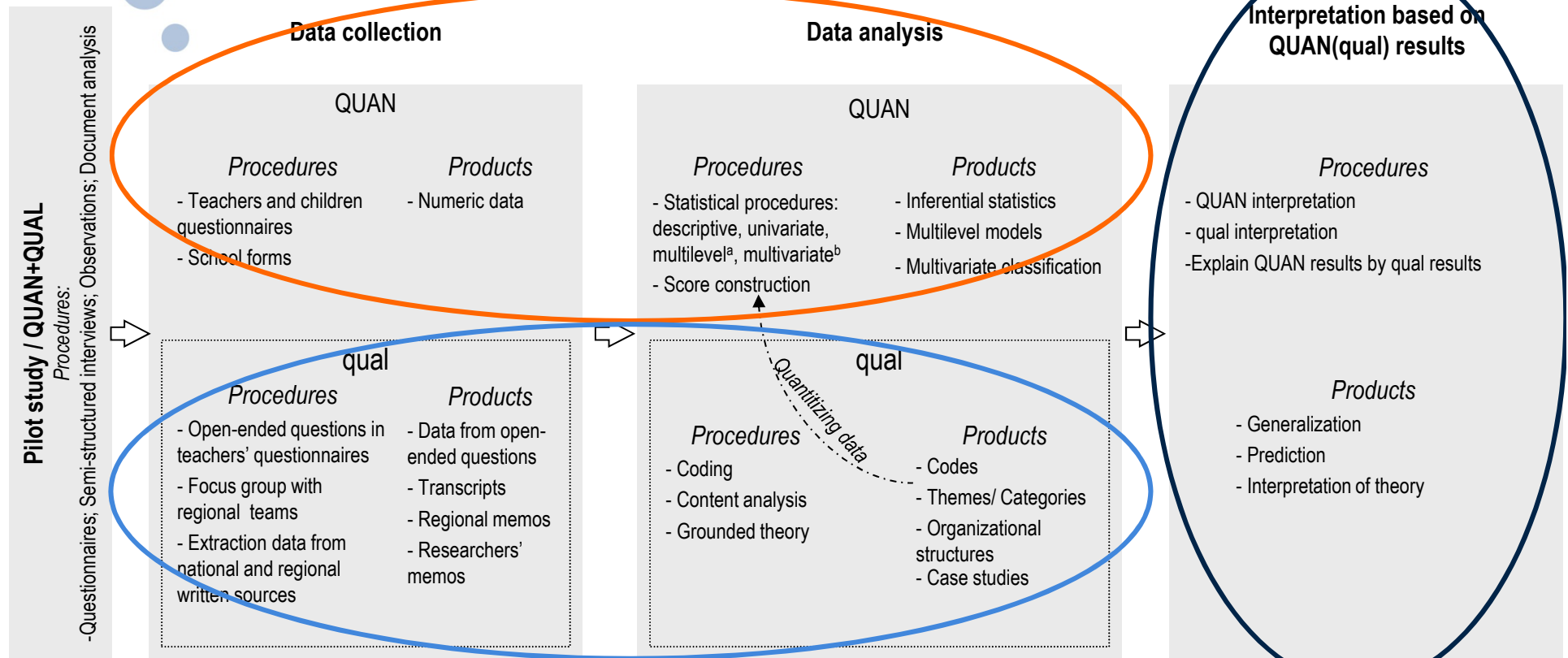


Embedded mixed methods research design

Realist evaluation framework

Better understanding of the intervention

Document outcomes



Document context, mechanisms and outcomes at the regional level



Mixed methods' contribution?

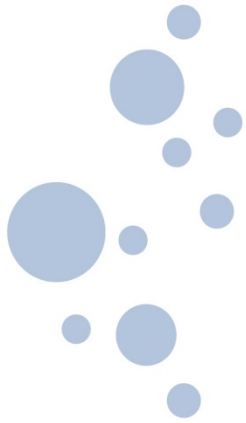
Linking to an underlying theoretical framework

Mixed methods as a tool

- Robust and creative
- Collaboration, interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary
- Strategic use: increase acceptability?
- Iterative process: catching dynamics?

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