

FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPING A NATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH SYSTEM

USING HEALTH RESEARCH TO IMPROVE POPULATION HEALTH, HEALTH EQUITY, AND DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ The starting point for strengthening a country's health research system is a clear picture of the current state of health research – and the areas where development should be targeted
- ▶ Using this view, countries can apply various approaches, tools and methods to implement a strategy of system strengthening
- ▶ Building support and ownership from all stakeholder groups is essential to successful system strengthening

Stage of development	Actions needed
Building the socio-political environment	
Political commitment to health research	Advocacy, awareness, data and discussion targeting policy makers and other influential stakeholders.
Political & socio-economic climate	Respect for human rights & investment friendly.
Level 1 needs – The foundations of a health research system	
Health research <u>priorities</u>	Credible priority setting regularly updated
Health research <u>policy framework</u>	Develop policies/policy framework for research and health research
<u>National research management</u>	Establish mechanisms and structures appropriate to countries' existing structures and aspirations for research.
Level 2 needs – Initial policy goals	
Human Resources for Health Research	Develop a medium-long term human resources strategy and plan aligned with priorities.
Stable, predictable research financing	Develop a medium-long term health research financing strategy, including donor alignment and harmonisation.
Level 3 needs – Optimising the health research system	
Improving health research system components	for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research ethics. - Research communication, including evidence to policy & practice. - Peer review vs committee review. - Merit-based promotion system. - Community demands for research. - Monitoring & evaluation of impact. - Health systems research needs. - Good research contracting. - Technology transfer arrangements. - Intellectual property rights. - Institution building.
Integrating the system	
International collaborative arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bilateral - regional - international organisations - donors / research sponsors
Linking to other sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Science, technology and innovation - Education - Business and economic development - Social services - Agriculture