RESEARCH & INNOVATION FOR HEALTH POLICY DEVELOPMENT

ESTABLISHING THE LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK TO GUIDE RESEARCH FOR HEALTH SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

- Develop a strategy for policy development and implementation through incremental change or major reform
- Assess the level of authority required for each element of the legislative framework (act of parliament, regulation, or policy). Choose the simplest level that is functionally possible.
- Plan the actions required for authorisation of the necessary acts, regulations and policies
- Build ownership using transparent, consultative and participative processes. This is key to successfully developing and implementing the policy framework
- Policy development and evaluation should be based on sound evidence

### STATEMENT OF INTENT

**A POLITICAL STATEMENT OF SCOPE AND PURPOSE - THE HIGHER THE OWNERSHIP, THE GREATER THE COMMITMENT**

Set government aims for research
- Improve population health, reduce health inequities, increase the efficiency, quality and safety of the health system, enhance socio-economic development, generate new knowledge

Outline the values to guide policy
- Ethics, equity, social justice, sustainable development, innovation, excellence

Describe the structures to develop, manage and implement policy
- Directorate in the Health, Science & Technology, or Education Ministries; Academy of Medical Sciences; Inter-Ministerial Commission for Health Research; National Health Research Council or Department

### POTENTIAL POLICY GOALS

**IDENTIFYING THE GOALS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THE POLICY’S AIMS AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES THAT WILL ACHIEVE THEM**

Research for health implementation that addresses national health needs
- Research priorities set and updated
- Human resources for research production and management, aligned with priorities
- Research financing (national and foreign) aligned with priorities and human resource needs

Research conducted in line with locally relevant values
- Establish a system of ethical review
- Design an equity focus into priority setting processes
- Align with international commitments

Effective use of research findings
- Incorporate user demands into priority setting processes
- Enhance systematic review and synthesis capacity
- Develop a system to facilitate communication and uptake of research

A conducive environment for research
- Structured career paths with merit-based promotion
- Open, competitive, peer-reviewed funding mechanisms
- Capacity strengthening at the institution and system levels

Enhance socio-economic development
- Develop innovation and commercialisation capacity
- Create catalysts for technology and knowledge transfer and manage intellectual property rights
- Establish incentives for private sector involvement

### IMPLEMENTATION

**PLANNING AND EXECUTION**

Prioritise policy goals
- Select those likely to have greatest immediate impact and facilitate future research for health system development

Secure human and financial resources
- Long-term commitments to make the proposed changes and establish sustainable structures
- Set a sustained financing mechanism for research for health
- Political commitment - staff and budget are the clearest indicators

Manage strategy implementation
- Engage with stakeholders
- Set clear, achievable targets
- Facilitate the change process

Ensure effective implementation and policy development beyond initial goals
- Establish a monitoring & evaluation system to assess policy effectiveness
- Systematically review policy needs on a regular basis