
DEVELOPMENT OF A PRIORITISED HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA FOR VANUATU: WORK IN PROGRESS

2ND VANUATU HEALTH RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

24 SEPTEMBER 2021

PORT VILA



OVERVIEW

- WHY A PRIORITISED HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA?
- SCIENCE AND RESEARCH
- RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND RESEARCH AREAS
- HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA
- DRAFT HEALTH RESEARCH STRATEGY
- WAY FORWARD

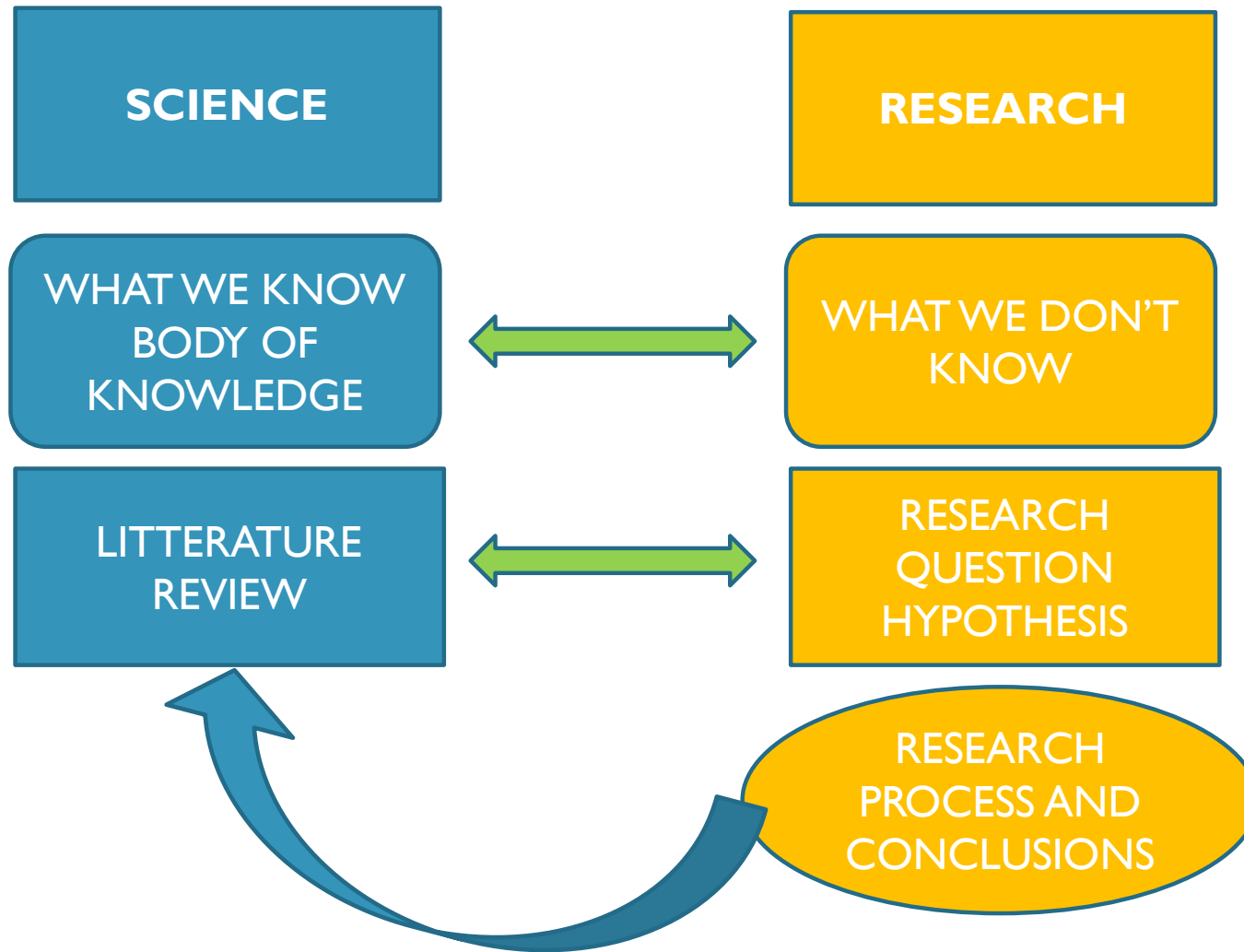


WHY A PRIORITISED HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA?

- To ensure that research conducted in vanuatu is aligned with national health priorities and issues
- To guide allocation of research resources: health workforce, education, training, funding
- To guide and channel overseas researchers and institutions

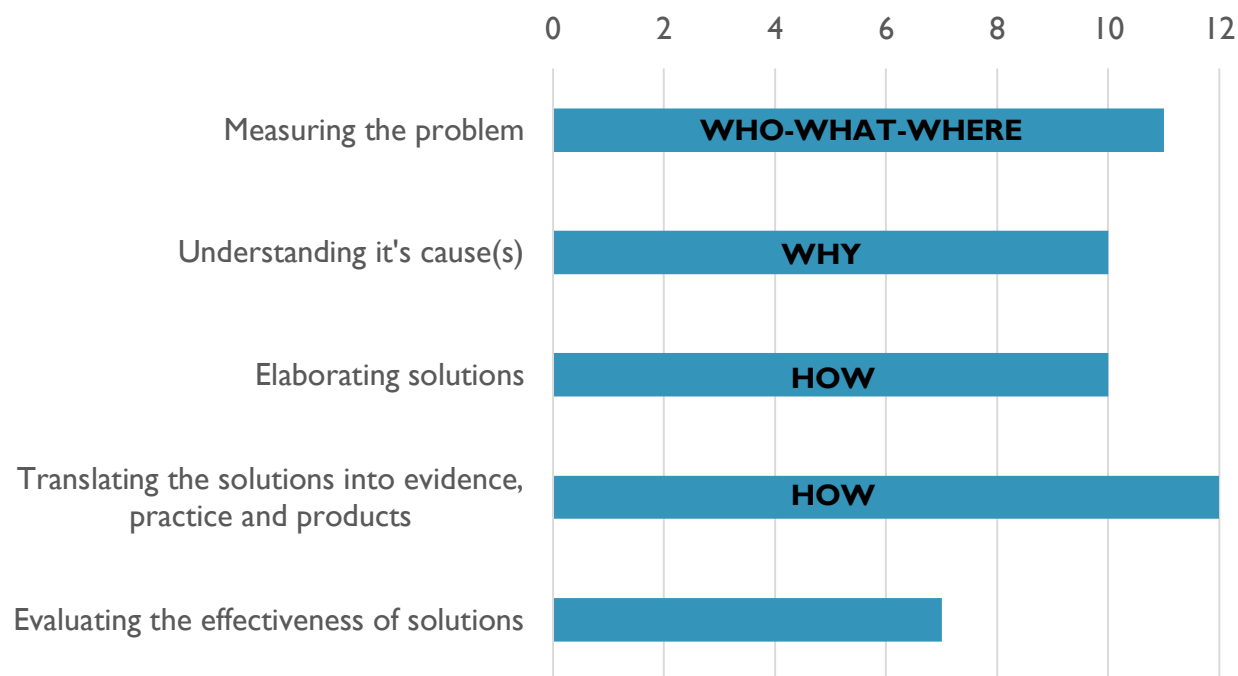


SCIENCE AND RESEARCH



RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND RESEARCH AREAS

AREAS OF ACTIVITY



Example: MDR-TB:

- WHO is affected by MDR-TB and WHERE in Vanuatu?
- WHY is there MDR-TB in Vanuatu?
- HOW can we prevent and manage MDR-TB cases?



HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA

- PRIORITY RESEARCH QUESTIONS BASED ON:
 - DISEASE BURDEN: MAIN CAUSES OF MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY
 - AREAS OF ACTIVITIES: WHO-WHAT-WHERE-WHY-HOW
 - EMERGING HEALTH THREATS: COVID-19-MDR-TB-LEPTOSPIROSIS-ARBOVIRUSES-NCD
 - HEALTH TOPICS:
 - EMERGENCY MEDECINE
 - HEALTH SYSTEMS
 - MCH
 - NCD
 - CD



HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA

■ HEALTH RESEARCH FIELDS:

- MEDICAL
- PUBLIC HEALTH
- NURSING

■ RELATED RESEARCH FIELDS :

- SOCIAL SCIENCES
- ONE HEALTH:
 - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
 - ANIMAL HEALTH
- DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE
- CLIMATE CHANGE



DRAFT HEALTH RESEARCH STRATEGY

- **GOAL:** Research conducted in vanuatu led by ni-vanuatu researchers to inform policies, strategies and health interventions to improve the health of the population
- **OBJECTIVES:**
 - To develop a prioritised health research agenda
 - To develop research capacity in country-health workforce plan
 - To develop a network with academic institutions, in country and overseas for collaboration, mentoring, education, scholarship
 - To support and conduct research based on national health research priorities
 - To ensure sustainable funding for research activities



WAY FORWARD

- Establish a health research working group/committee?
 - Use existing and expand to, such as htag, vmda?
 - Medical-public health-nursing
- Stock-taking of published and grey literature in Vanuatu
- Health workforce development plan for research
- Consultative approach to develop health research strategy and agenda
- Communicate health research agenda to partners and academic institutions

