UN Research Roadmap for the COVID-19 Recovery

Building back better after COVID-19

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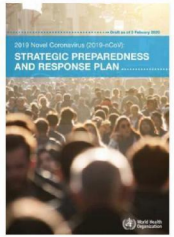
Canadian Institutes of Health Research

July 27 & 28, 2020
UN Research Roadmap Steering Groups

The United Nations'
response to COVID-19

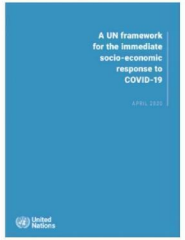
Response Efforts

Three key parts to the United Nations' comprehensive response to COVID-19

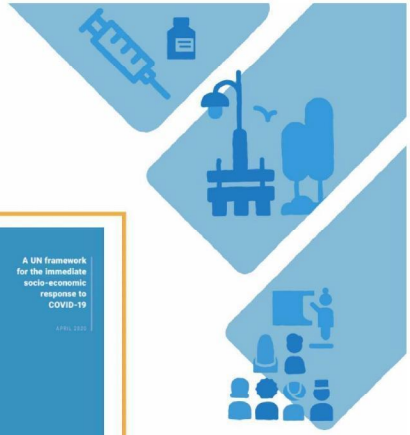


Health

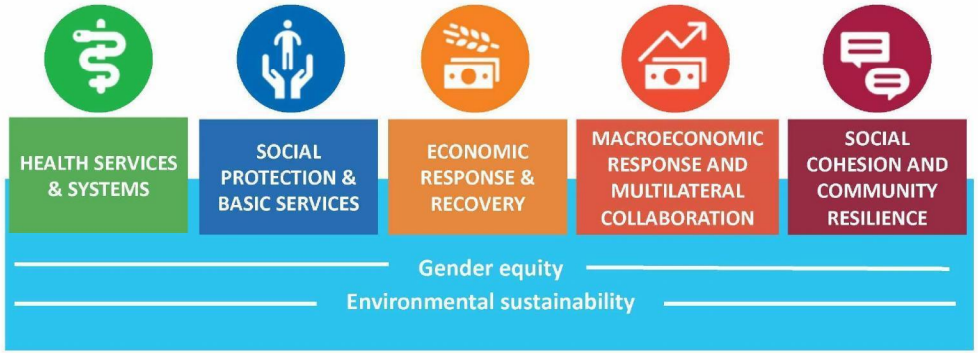
Humanitarian



Development



A UN framework for the socio-economic recovery from COVID-19



Integrating key elements

Sustainable Development Goals

Gender equity

Environmental sustainability

Research
roadmap
for recovery

Mandate from the UN Deputy Secretary-General

"Our hope is to catalyse a worldwide learning recovery effort, one where national and international strategies are informed by rigorous social scientific evidence generated in anticipation of, and during, the COVID-19 recovery period."

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL

15 June 2020

Dear Professor Hoffman,

It has been a pleasure learning about your work through the United Nations Office of Partnerships on the important task we have ahead in building back better from the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

To inform recovery efforts, the United Nations recently published a United Nations Framework for the Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19. This document sets out the framework for the United Nations urgent socio-economic support to countries and societies in the face of COVID-19, putting in practice the Secretary-General's Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity report on the same subject. It is one of three critical components of the United Nations efforts to save lives, protect livelihoods and recover better, alongside the health response, led by the World Health Organization (WHO), and the humanitarian response, as detailed in the United Nations-led COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan.

We believe the world's efforts would be further strengthened at this time with the development, publication and widespread dissemination of a United Nations Research Roadmap for the COVID-19 Recovery. We would like you to lead this participatory process for its successful implementation. We believe having a research road map for the socio-economic recovery to COVID-19 will ensure that we can learn during, and from, this extraordinary pandemic event and that we can apply these learnings during and following the pandemic to recover better for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Our hope is to catalyse a worldwide learning recovery effort, one where national and international strategies are informed by rigorous social scientific evidence generated in anticipation of, and during, the COVID-19 recovery period. Unless we specifically plan for research at the outset, we risk leaving learning to fate and happenstance. It is also crucial to link urgent research initiatives to a unifying global framework to avoid duplicating activities.

Professor Steven J. Hoffman
Scientific Director
Canadian Institute for Health Research - Institute of Population & Public Health
Global Strategy Lab
York University
Toronto

Yours sincerely,

Amina J. Mohammed

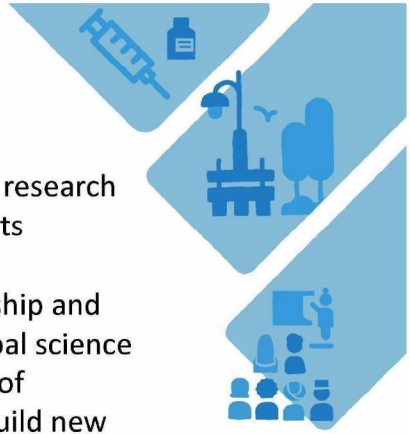
Roadmap objectives

Transform the UN framework into a "rapid learning initiative"

1. Ensure the COVID-19 recovery is informed by the best available research
2. Use learnings from early response efforts and apply them to later recovery efforts
3. Bring renewed focus to systemic issues highlighted by COVID-19 and the marginalized populations most affected
4. Enable international scientific collaboration through a unifying global framework

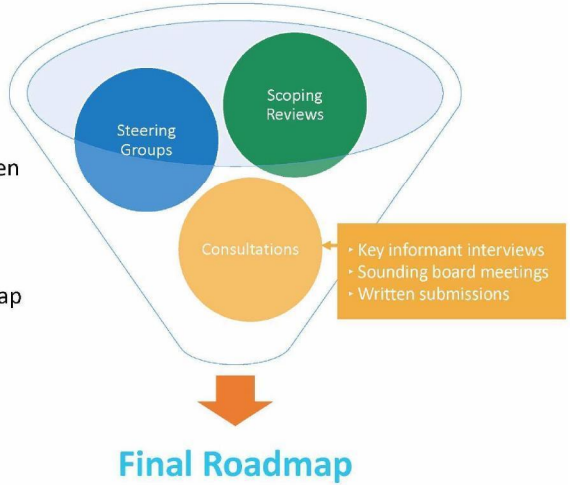
A rare opportunity

1. Bring attention to the critical role for research in informing COVID-19 recovery efforts
2. Support the world's recovery effort
3. Visibly demonstrate scientific leadership and the important role in stewarding global science
4. Align the pandemic response efforts of international research funders and build new global partnerships

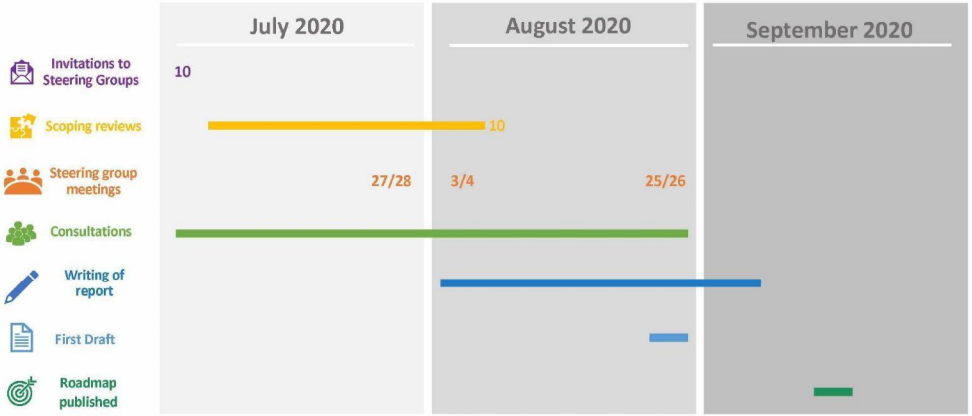


Our roadmap to the Roadmap

- Three separate processes undertaken in parallel
- The information collected through each process will inform the final content of the UN Research Roadmap for the COVID-19 Recovery



Creation of the Roadmap



Steering Groups

Membership list

Health Services	
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	Wellcome Trust
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	South African MRC
(10)(2e)	INSERM (France)
(10)(2e)	Health Systems Research Institute Thailand
(10)(2e)	Indian Council of Medical Research
(10)(2e)	National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia
(10)(2e)	National Institute of Health Carlos III (Spain)

Social Protection	
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	European Research Council
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	Indian Council of Social Sciences Research
(10)(2e)	African Academy of Sciences
(10)(2e)	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
(10)(2e)	Health Foundation
(10)(2e)	São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP)
(10)(2e)	Grand Challenges Canada

Membership list

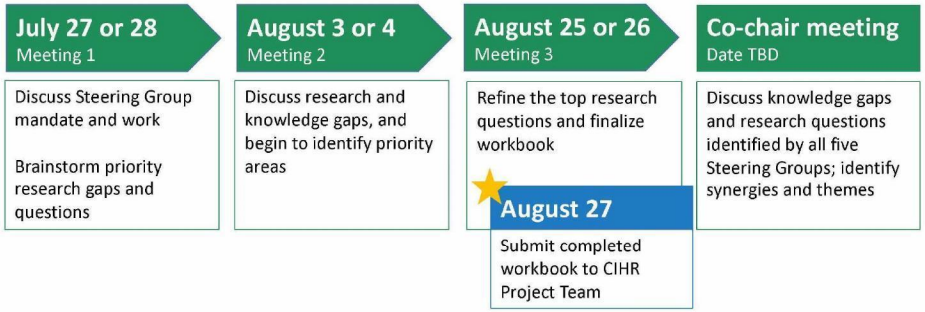
Economic Recovery	
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	FIOCRUZ (Brazil)
(10)(2e)	Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) (France)
(10)(2e)	Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnolgia (CONACYT) (Mexico)
(10)(2e)	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) (Germany)
(10)(2c)	Secretariat of Government of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, Argentina

Membership list

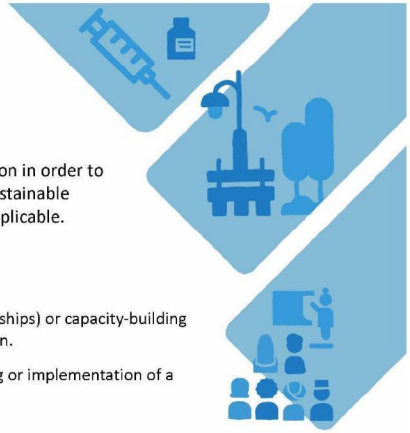
Macroeconomic Response	
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	Research Council of Norway
(10)(2e)	UKRI Economic and Social Research Council (UK)
(10)(2e)	Israel Science Foundation
(10)(2e)	Swiss National Science Foundation
(10)(2e)	National Research Foundation of Korea
(10)(2e)	Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMw)

Social Cohesion	
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	National Science Foundation (USA)
(10)(2e) (10)(2e)	Agencia Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo (Chile)
(10)(2e)	International Development Research Council (Canada)
(10)(2e)	Health Research Council of New Zealand
(10)(2e)	Hewlett Foundation

Steering Group meetings



Steering group focus



Over the next five weeks, each steering group will work through the following questions

1. What are the **3 to 5 most pressing questions** that require attention in order to accelerate socio-economic recovery and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? Include relevant sub-questions, if applicable.

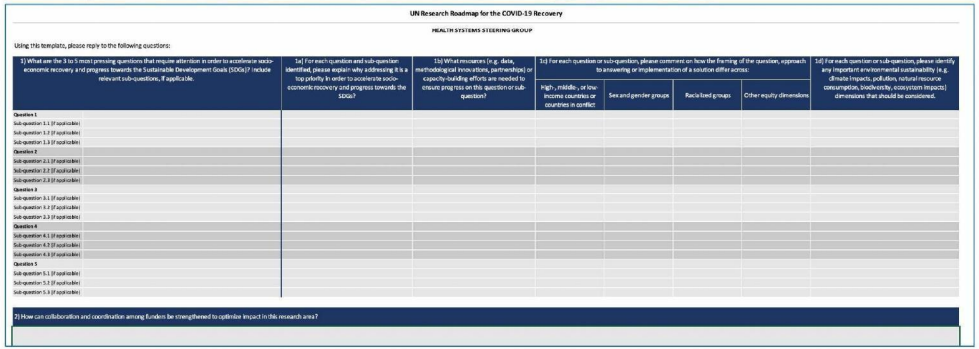
   For each question and sub-question,

- Explain why addressing it is a top priority
- Identify the resources (e.g. data, methodological innovations, partnerships) or capacity-building efforts are needed to ensure progress on this question or sub-question.
- Comment on how the framing of the question, approach to answering or implementation of a solution differ across:
  - High-, middle-, or low-income countries or countries in conflict;
  - Sex and gender groups;
  - Racialized groups;
  - Other equity dimensions.
- Identify any important environmental sustainability (e.g. climate impacts, pollution, natural resource consumption, biodiversity, ecosystem impacts) dimensions that should be considered.

Steering group focus

2. How can **collaboration and coordination among funders** be strengthened to optimize impact in this research area?

The template below demonstrates the format of the worksheet steering groups will be using



UN Research Roadmap for the COVID-19 Recovery

HEALTH SYSTEMS STEERING GROUP

Using this template, please reply to the following questions:

1) What are the 3 to 5 most pressing questions that require attention in order to accelerate socio-economic recovery and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? Include relevant sub-questions, if applicable.	1a) For each question and sub-question identified, please explain why addressing it is a top priority in order to accelerate socio-economic recovery and progress towards the SDGs?	1b) What resources (e.g. data, methodological innovations, partnerships) or capacity-building efforts are needed to ensure progress on this question or sub-question?	1c) For each question or sub-question, please comment on how the framing of the question, approach to answering or implementation of a solution differ across:				1d) For each question or sub-question, please identify any important environmental sustainability (e.g. climate impacts, pollution, natural resource consumption, biodiversity, ecosystem impacts) dimensions that should be considered.
			High-, middle-, or low-income countries or countries in conflict	Sex and gender groups	Racialised groups	Other equity dimensions	
Question 1							
Sub-question 1.1 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 1.2 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 1.3 (if applicable)							
Question 2							
Sub-question 2.1 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 2.2 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 2.3 (if applicable)							
Question 3							
Sub-question 3.1 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 3.2 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 3.3 (if applicable)							
Question 4							
Sub-question 4.1 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 4.2 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 4.3 (if applicable)							
Question 5							
Sub-question 5.1 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 5.2 (if applicable)							
Sub-question 5.3 (if applicable)							

2) How can collaboration and coordination among funders be strengthened to optimize impact in this research area?

Thank you!
(10)(2e)
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