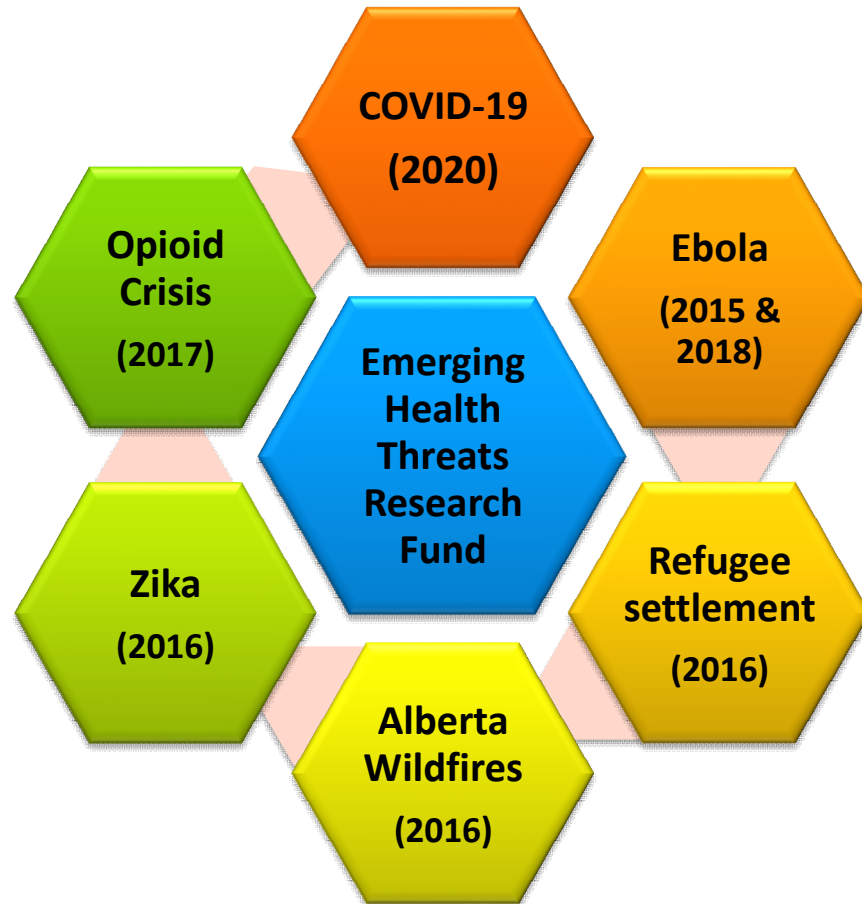# Presentation Overview

- **Some Context**

- **Objectives & Levers**

- **Where we are**

- **Strategic Considerations as we move forward**

- **Next Steps & Discussion**

COVID-19 CIHR Context
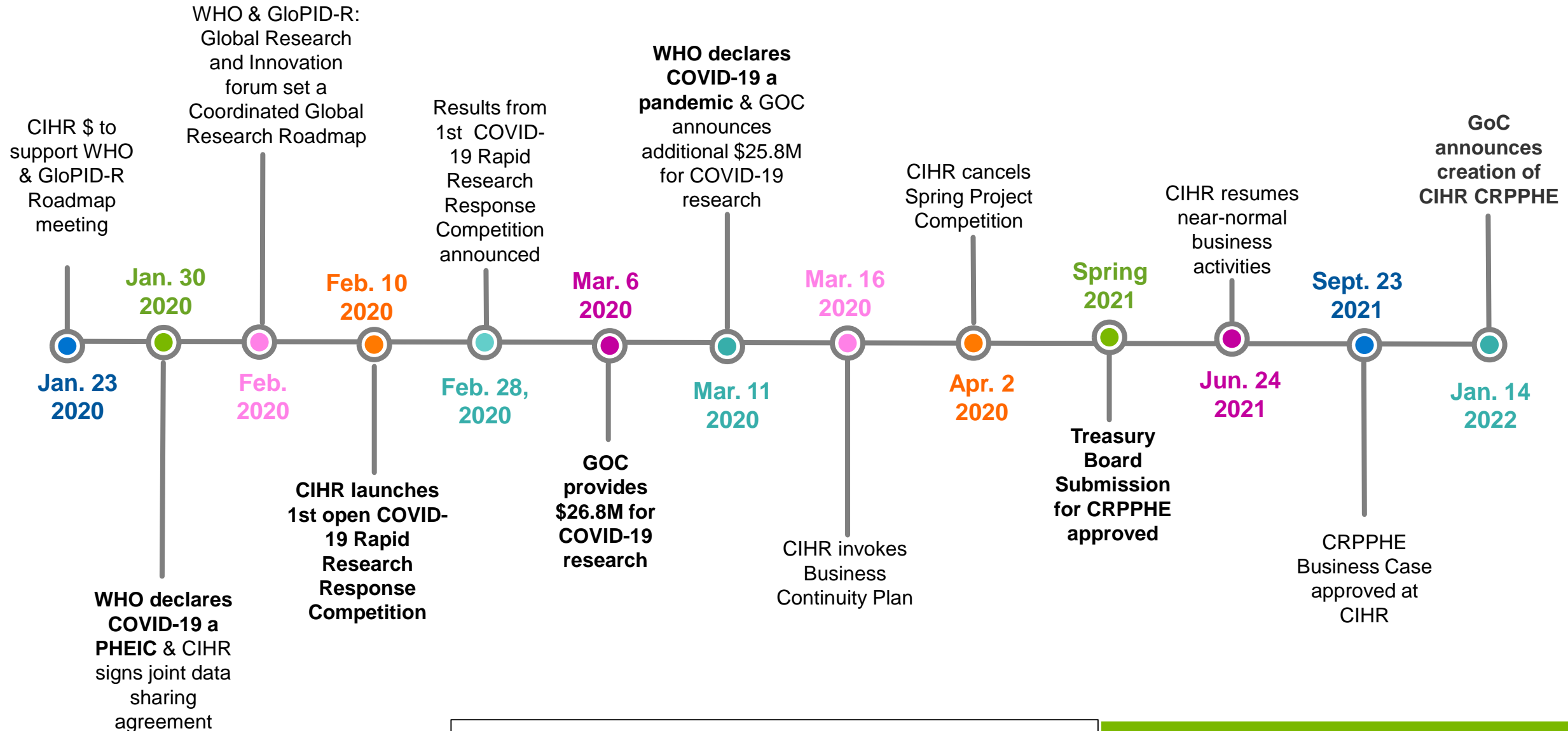
History of CIHR Funding for Pandemics and Emergencies

- Since 2014-15, CIHR has up to $5M a year for research to mitigate the harms and impact of an identified emerging health threat

- Focus on rapid response on urgent health threats

- Specific governance pathway to access EHTF

- CIHR activated these funds during COVID-19

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Timeline: Key Milestones in CIHR's COVID-19 Response

CIHR $ to support WHO & GloPID-R Roadmap meeting

Jan. 23 2020

Jan. 30 2020

WHO declares COVID-19 a PHEIC & CIHR signs joint data sharing agreement

WHO & GloPID-R: Global Research and Innovation forum set a Coordinated Global Research Roadmap

Feb. 2020

Feb. 10 2020

CIHR launches 1st open COVID-19 Rapid Research Response Competition

Results from 1st COVID-19 Rapid Research Response Competition announced

Feb. 28, 2020

Mar. 6 2020

GOC provides $26.8M for COVID-19 research

WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic & GOC announces additional $25.8M for COVID-19 research

Mar. 11 2020

Mar. 16 2020

CIHR invokes Business Continuity Plan

CIHR cancels Spring Project Competition

Apr. 2 2020

Spring 2021

Treasury Board Submission for CRPPHE approved

CIHR resumes near-normal business activities

Jun. 24 2021

CRPPHE Business Case approved at CIHR

Sept. 23 2021

GoC announces creation of CIHR CRPPHE

Jan. 14 2022

CRPPHE = Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies

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COVID-19 Funding Opportunity Timeline

2020

February: First COVID-19 Rapid Research funding competition

March: Canadian Immunization Research Network (CIRN)

April: Supplementary funding: Sex as a biological variable

Second COVID-19 Rapid Research funding competition

Mental health knowledge synthesis grants

Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse (CRISM) urgent guideline activities related to COVID-19

Frailty and COVID-19 in older adults

Canadian Treatments for COVID-19 (CATCO) trial

May: Canadian Venous Thromboembolism Research Network (CanVECTOR) and Canadian Critical Care Trials Group

June: Mental health operating grants

July: Legal frameworks for vaccination

August: Canadian Immunization Research Network – vaccine readiness

September: Strengthening pandemic preparedness in long-term care homes

Indigenous COVID-19 Rapid Research grants

October: Canadian International COVID-19 Surveillance Border Study

Knowledge synthesis network

Evaluation of harm-reduction approaches to address the opioid crisis during COVID-19

November: Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA)

Canadian Network of COVID-19 Clinical Trials Networks

Emerging COVID-19 research gaps and priorities – I

2021

February: Supplementary funding – COVID-19 variants

Network for Emerging Variants

March: Emerging COVID-19 research gaps and priorities - II

Canadian Treatments for COVID (CATCO) trial – supplementary funding

June: Understanding/mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on children, youth and families

COVID-19 vaccine confidence

July: Emerging COVID-19 Research Gaps and Priorities - III

COVID-19 Research Gaps and Priorities

September: Addressing the Wider Health Impacts of COVID-19

October: Extension to the COVID-19 Evidence Network to Support Decision-making (COVID-END)

Indigenous COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity II

December: Drug Safety and Effectiveness Network (DSEN) targeted research

Grant extension for CoVaRR-Net

Respiratory Health Effects of Long COVID

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CIHR COVID-19 Investments

$414.8M
Total investment

965 *
Grants funded

40
Competitions

Investment breakdown

TOTAL
$414.8M

https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52447.html
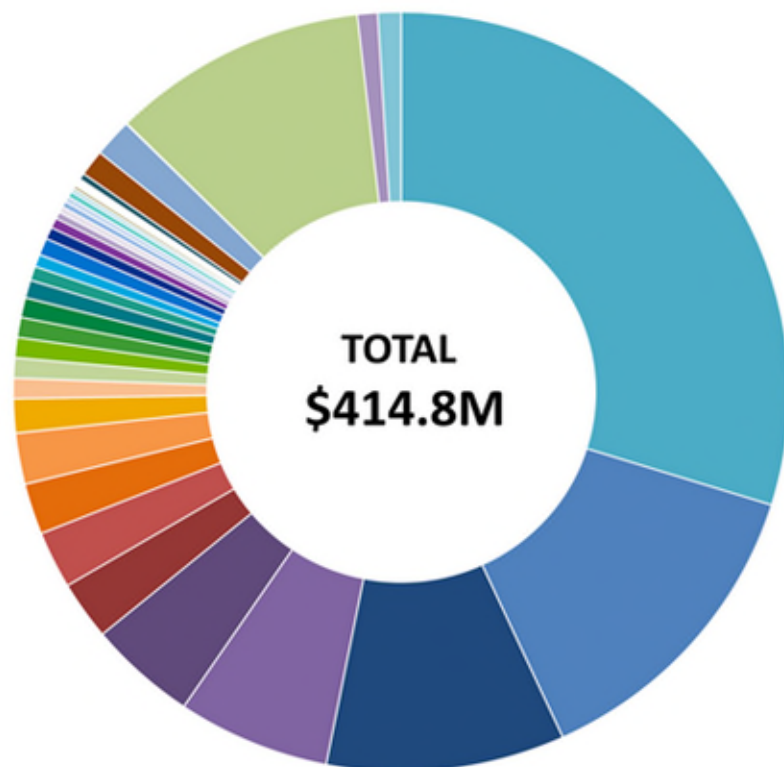
CIHR funded a diverse range of research, for example:

- Identification and evaluation of COVID-19 medical & social/policy countermeasures
- WHO Solidarity Trial Scale-Up COVID-19 Funding Opportunity (CATCO)
- Strengthening Pandemic Preparedness in Long-Term Care
- Evaluation of Harm Reductions Approaches to Address the Opioid Crisis in the Context of COVID-19
- Indigenous COVID-19 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity
- Understanding and mitigating the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children, youth and families
- Building COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence
- Addressing the Wider Health Impacts of COVID-19

* 128+ of which include international collaborations

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pour la vie

Research Centre Mandate, Objectives & Levers

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Search Canada.ca

MENU ⌄

Government of Canada creates Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies

From: Canadian Institutes of Health Research
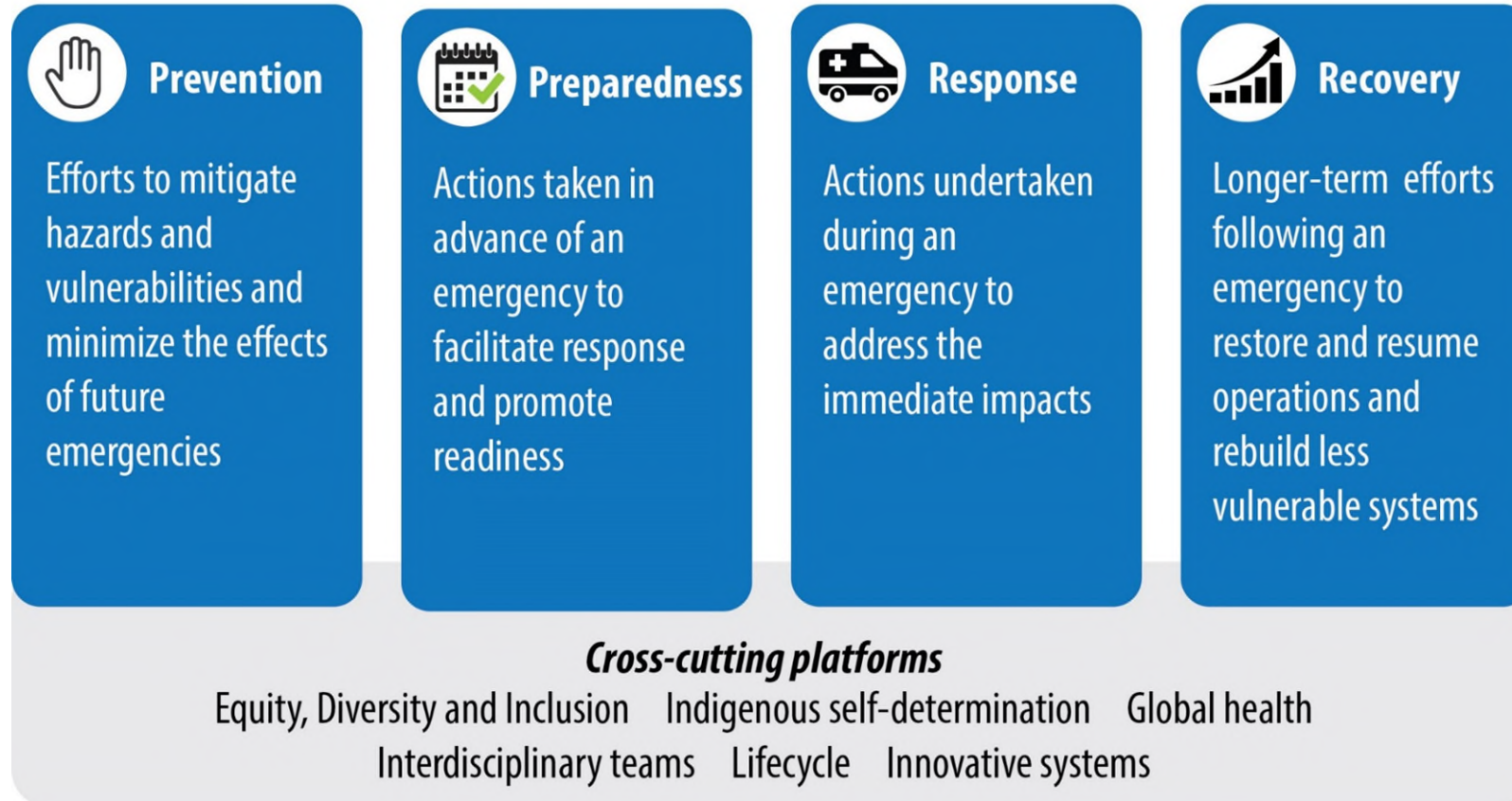
News release

January 14, 2022 — Ottawa, ON — Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Canada's health research community responded quickly to the COVID-19 pandemic from the time the first cases were identified in late 2019. Over the past two years, researchers across the country have rallied together to create new scientific knowledge and provide critical evidence to guide Canada's response to the pandemic and keep Canadians safe.

9

Overall Goal of the Research Centre

Protect the health of all people living in Canada by supporting, coordinating, and mobilizing an emergency-ready health research system that contributes meaningfully to timely, equitable and effective decision-making.

Advance Knowledge   Build Capacity   Knowledge Mobilization

Prevention
Efforts to mitigate hazards and vulnerabilities and minimize the effects of future emergencies

Preparedness
Actions taken in advance of an emergency to facilitate response and promote readiness

Response
Actions undertaken during an emergency to address the immediate impacts

Recovery
Longer-term efforts following an emergency to restore and resume operations and rebuild less vulnerable systems

Cross-cutting platforms
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion   Indigenous self-determination   Global health
Interdisciplinary teams   Lifecycle   Innovative systems

Strengthen coordination and capacity within the health emergency research system to equip decision-makers with the best available evidence, and increased access to highly qualified personnel.
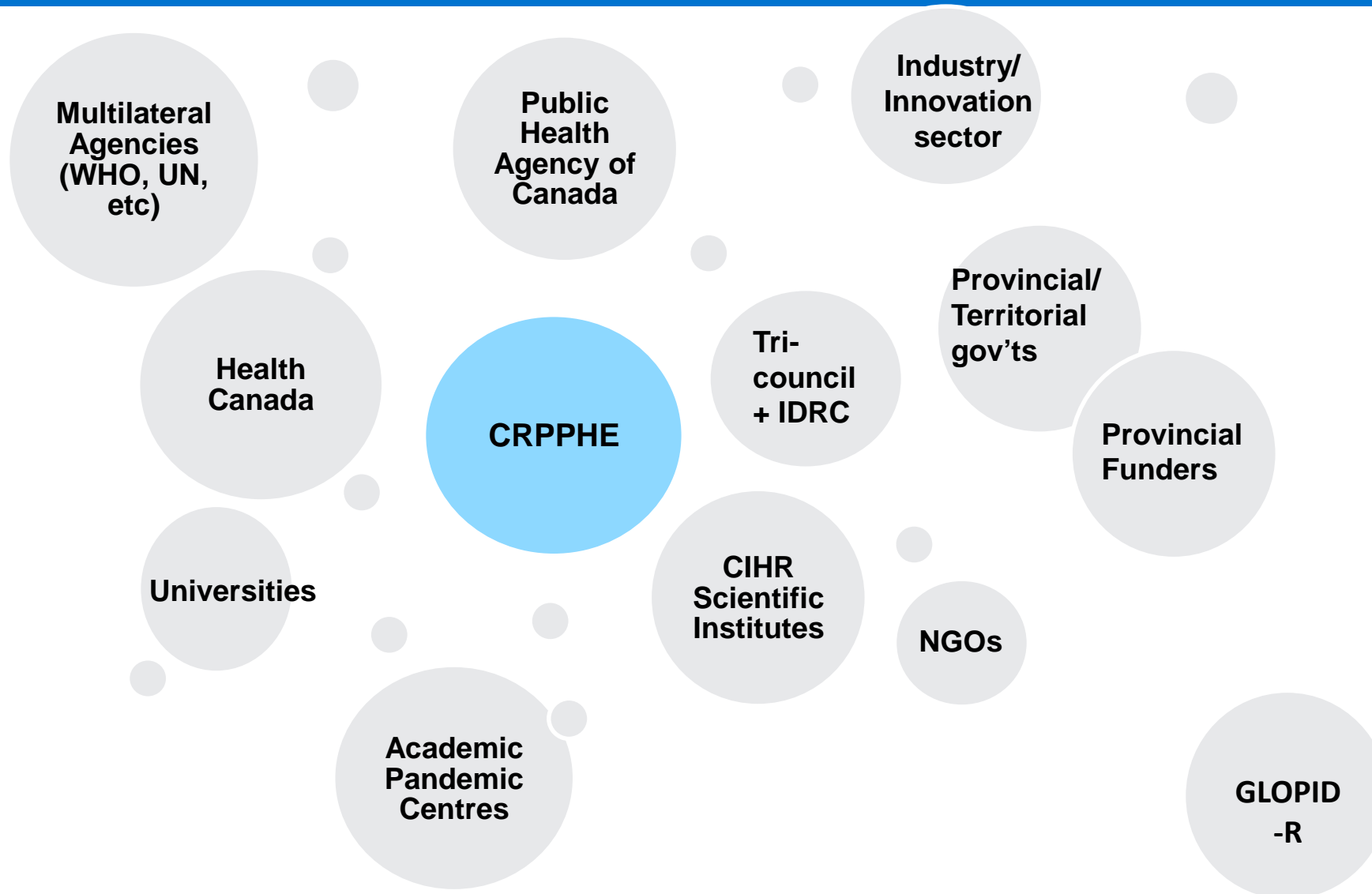
Defining Health Emergencies

The Research Centre is currently using the following working definition for a health emergency:

A present or imminent event or phenomenon, of a temporary, acute nature, with actual or potential significant negative impacts on human health, resulting in:

- A serious disruption of the functioning of a geographic, social or other community, and/or
- The declaration of a state of emergency by a municipal, provincial/territorial, federal or Indigenous government, or international partner/s, and that
- Requires prompt research action to address the immediate/acute health impacts.

Research Centre Levers

There are several levers the Research Centre can use to deliver on its mandate:

Ongoing Funding

$15M annual grants and awards budget (base-funding*)

Federal Mandate

CIHR has a federal mandate for research, capacity building and knowledge mobilization; is part of the Health Portfolio; and has a central position in the research landscape (tri-council, IDRC, CFI, int'l)

Leadership

Track record of supporting Canada's research response during health emergencies; ability to rapidly identify and reach out to most comprehensive database of health researchers in Canada

Established Connections

Connections to research organizations, CIHR Institutes, existing research platforms, and networks within and outside of Canada

*base-funding is subject to increase during health emergencies
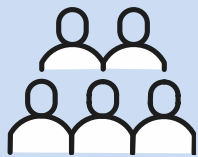
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What will the Centre do?

# Key Achievements in 2022

Research Centre officially launched and staffed with 5 FT and 12 PT
- Hiring and onboarding a team with diverse expertise and cross-organizational experience (including pandemic and global health research, program design, knowledge mobilization, communications, training and career support, partnerships, analytics and finance).

Established and launched governance and coordination structures
- Steering Committee recruited and established (Federal, provincial and local representation)
- Identification of, and participation in, domestic and international working groups and scientific tables
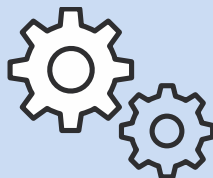
Developed operational processes to support rapid funding and KM
- Communications activities to raise public awareness and promote stakeholder engagement
- Developing knowledge mobilization mechanisms to support sharing of research results
- Continuing to streamline and improve rapid response mechanisms
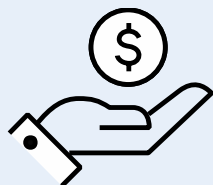
As of October 2022, Funded $26M in research on pandemics and health emergencies
- Rapid funding to respond to public health emergencies and urgent research needs Eg. Monkeypox Rapid Research Response,
- Canadian Post COVID-19 Condition Research Network Funding Opportunity
- Non-emergency funding to fund prevention, preparedness, recovery research Eg. Policy Research for Health System Transformation FO

Collaborated with key partners to identify research priorities and co-develop funding opportunities
- Transforming Public Health: 2021- Chief Public Health Officer of Canada report funding opportunity
- Monkeypox rapid research response with IDRC

Research Centre Steering Committee

The goal of establishing the Steering Committee is to facilitate enduring, mutually beneficial relationships for prioritization, coordination, and KM.

CRPPHE Steering Committee

- Chief Science Advisor of Canada
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- National Advisory Committee on Immunization
- Health Canada
- Global Affairs Canada
- Public Safety
- Indigenous Services Canada
- National Research Council
- CIHR Scientific Institutes
- National Alliance of Provincial Health Research Funders
- Pan-Canadian Public Health Network Council
- Municipal Chief Medical Officer of Health

- 16 members representing F/P/T government, with links to networks and key actors in the pandemic and health emergencies space
- Research funders (SSHRC, IDRC, NSERC)
- Inaugural meeting held on November 10th, 2022

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International collaboration & alignment

Proposed Investment Strategy Streams

Coordination of evidence base and capacity within health emergency research ecosystem

Research

- Proactive research (eg. Building vaccine confidence, Health Human Resource planning)

- Responsive research (eg. COVID-19, PCC, MPx)

Research Infrastructure

- Rapid knowledge mobilization mechanisms
- Rapid funding mechanisms (eg. pre-vetting teams)
- Ethical frameworks for emergency research
- Building a Community of Practice
- Platforms & networks

Training & Capacity Building

- Research Chairs
- Embedded and experiential training opportunities
- Academic-industry partnerships
- Training platforms
- Science Communications
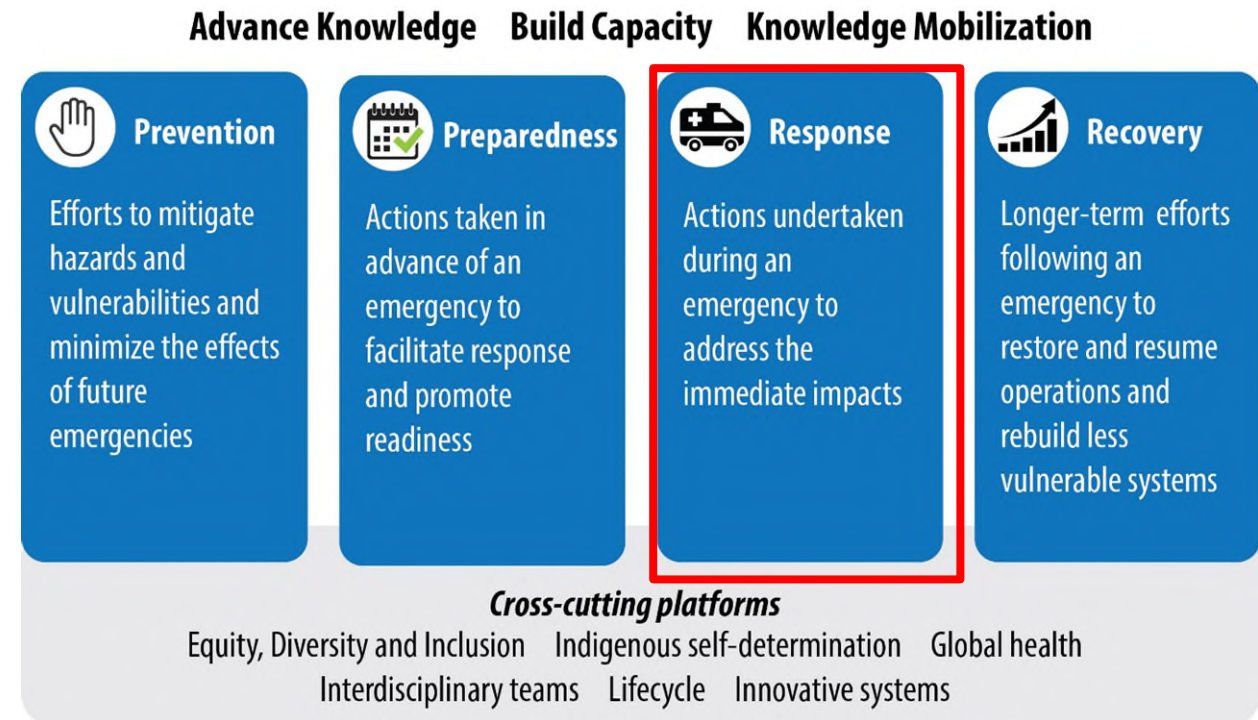- Increasing equity and diversity

Science Policy Considerations (e.g. equity, ethics, & Indigenous self-determination)

Strategic Considerations: Emergency vs 'between times' - 1

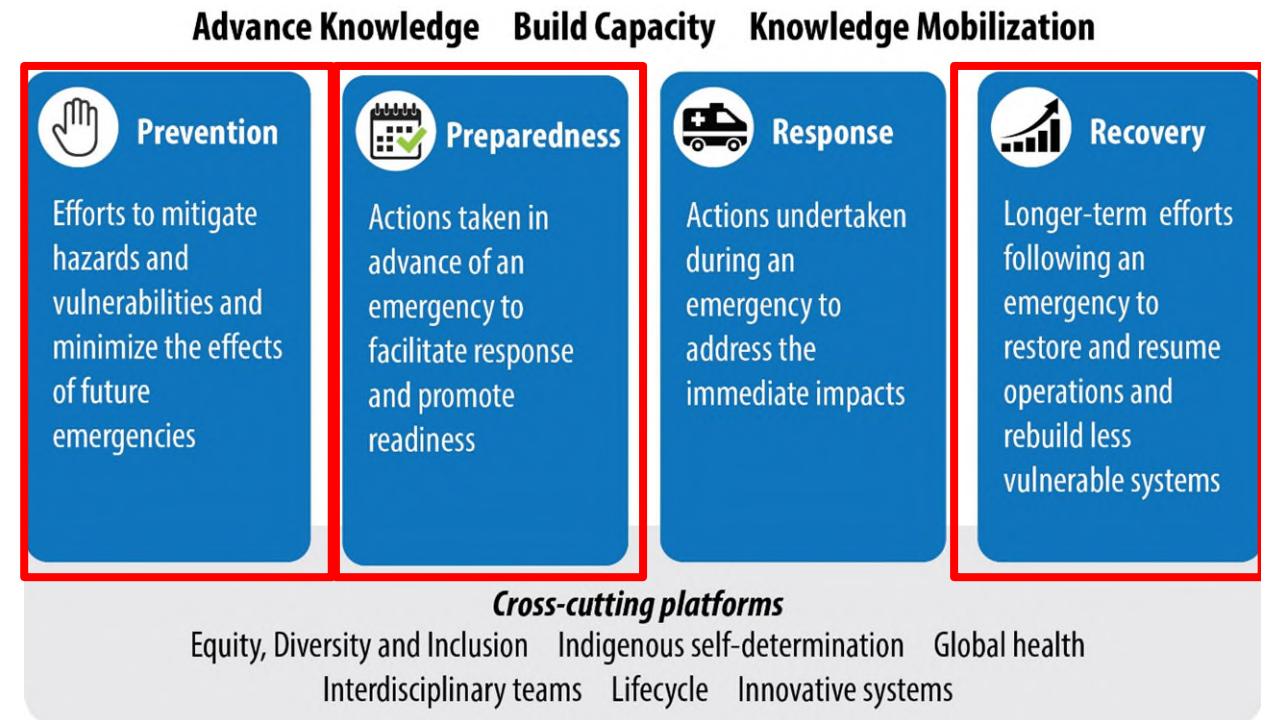**During emergencies, it is necessary to have mechanisms in place to:**

- Identify research priorities
- Ensure context appropriate evidence is available to support emergency response
- Ensure funded research generates timely, rigorous and unbiased results
- Ensure equity and inclusivity across the research enterprise
- Rapidly translate and mobilize knowledge
- Enable rapid knowledge sharing & coordination

Advance Knowledge   Build Capacity   Knowledge Mobilization

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Interdisciplinary teams   Lifecycle   Innovative systems

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# Strategic Considerations: Emergency vs 'between times' - 2

'In between' emergencies, advancing Canada's preparedness posture will rely on:

- Proactive, ongoing investments to build research capacity in key relevant areas

- Advancing methodologies to engage in community-based and community-led research

- Supporting collaborative research teams/networks that build on interdisciplinary insights

- Supporting systems research approaches to tackle complex, interdependent challenges

- Leveraging strengths and opportunities of Canada's innovation sector

- Ensuring that we don't lose the value of investments & learnings during emergencies

Advance Knowledge   Build Capacity   Knowledge Mobilization

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Efforts to mitigate hazards and vulnerabilities and minimize the effects of future emergencies

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What's our Sustainability Plan? – the potential role of networks

- Long-term support for multi-institutional & interdisciplinary research
- Establish/Support a base of expertise and infrastructure that can pivot to address new research challenges
- Build and sustain partnerships and relationships between crises
- Promote responsive, coordinated, and comprehensive knowledge generation, sharing and application
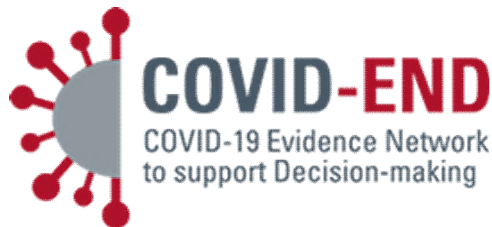
COVID-19 Evidence Network to support Decision-making

Coronavirus Variants Rapid Response Network

WHO has CRPPHE funded? - Geographical location

CRPPHE EXPENDITURES (in M of $)

NUMBER OF CRPPHE-FUNDED APPLICATIONS
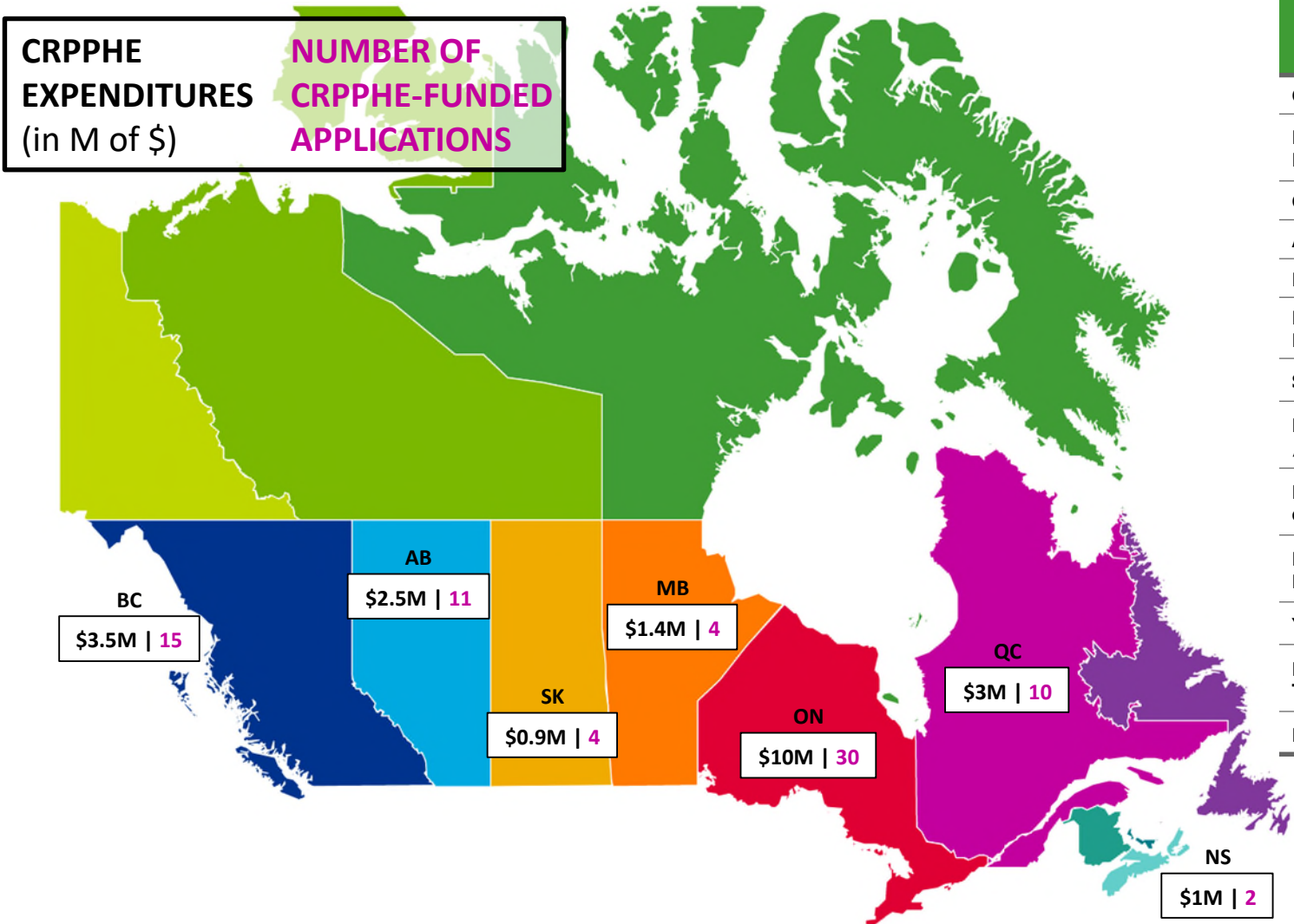
PROVINCE	CRPPHE EXPENDITURES	# OF CRPPHE-FUNDED PROJECTS
Ontario	$9,955,733	30
British Columbia / Colombie-Britannique	$3,474,838	15
Quebec / Québec	$2,965,468	10
Alberta	$2,481,966	11
Manitoba	$1,377,456	4
Nova Scotia / Nouvelle-Écosse	$1,044,647	2
Saskatchewan	$872,415	4
Newfoundland and Labrador / Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador	$0	0
Prince Edward Island / Île-du-Prince-Édouard	$0	0
New Brunswick / Nouveau-Brunswick	$0	0
Yukon	$0	0
Northwest Territories / Territoires du Nord-Ouest	$0	0
Nunavut	$0	0

BC $3.5M | 15
AB $2.5M | 11
SK $0.9M | 4
MB $1.4M | 4
ON $10M | 30
QC $3M | 10
NS $1M | 2

Distribution of CRPPHE funds based on location of institution paid.
All institutions paid by CRPPHE were located within Canada.

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Illustrative Examples: Meaningful knowledge user and stakeholder engagement to improve research impact

Bringing together senior policy makers, researchers, implementation experts and key stakeholders to discuss high-priority, health-related topics to support the integration of research evidence into policy.

Organized in partnership with policy makers at federal, provincial, territorial, multi-jurisdictional and international levels.

Offering tailored #scicomm training to help researchers strategically adapt their communication efforts to meet the diverse needs of public audiences, policy makers, funders and collaborators.

Science strategies for a better recovery

1) Data infrastructure includes the organizations, policies, processes, systems and technologies involved in the collection, storage, management, oversight, distribution and use of data.

2) Implementation science is the study of methods and strategies to promote the uptake of effective interventions into practices, programs and policies.

3) Rapid learning systems use the best available evidence and data to inform decisions and learn from their experiences to enable continuous improvements and contribute to the global evidence base.

4) Knowledge mobilization are efforts designed to promote the use of research evidence to inform choices and generate positive impacts.

5) Science of science is focused on how research is funded, practiced and evaluated, and how research cultures and systems can be made more efficient, open, inclusive and impactful.
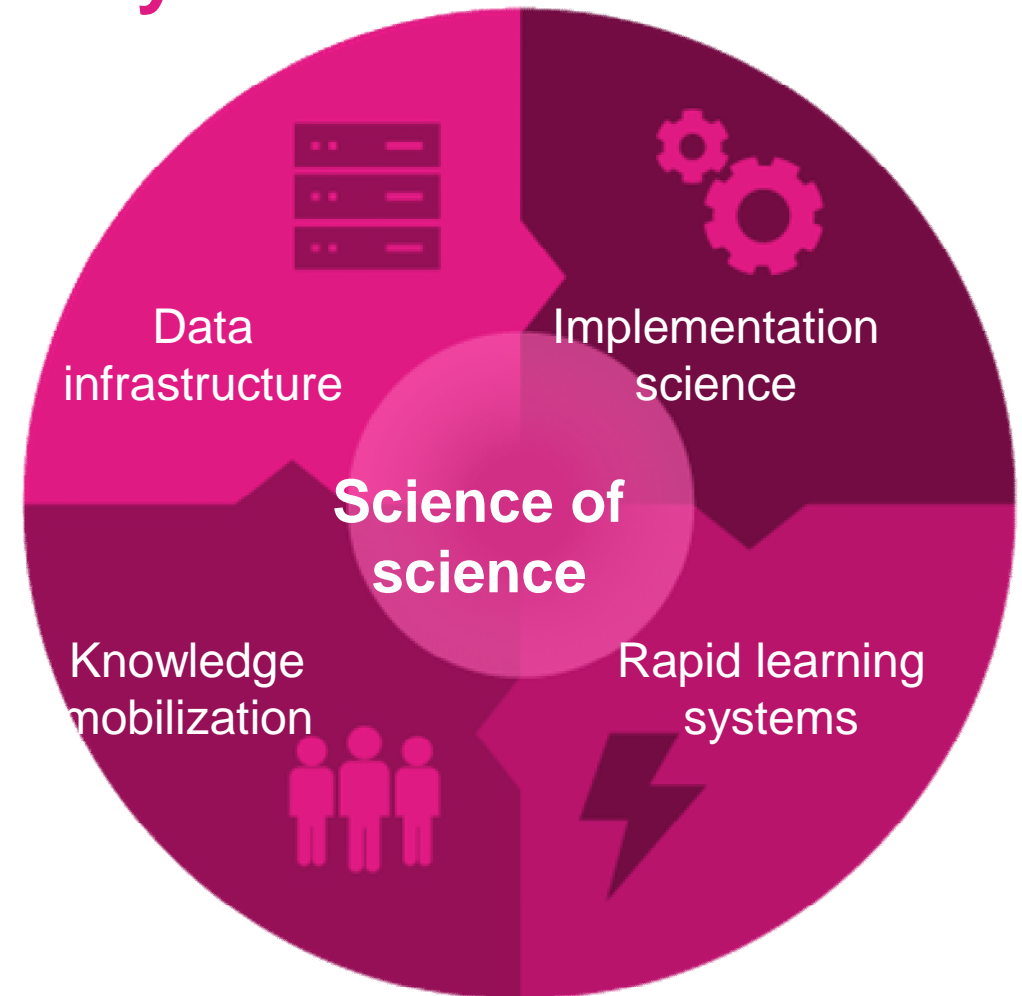
Source: UN Research Roadmap for the COVID-19 Recovery; United Nations, November 2020
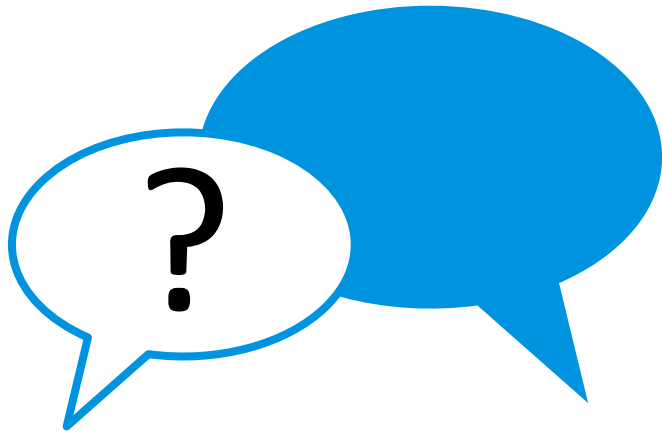
THANK
YOU!