

PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

to integrating gender and equity considerations
in antimicrobial resistance research

Co-creating a toolkit for AMR researchers

ReAct Africa-South Centre
Annual Conference
15 August 2023



PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

Background

- Growing awareness of interplay between gender, equity and AMR
- Yet very little published research and no guidance for AMR sectors
- IDRC and ICARS supported project, aimed at:
 - Developing a practical resource to better equip AMR researchers, with specific relevance to LMICs



**SOUTH AFRICA &
THAILAND**



Project sectors
Human and animal



Project partners
Human Sciences
Research Council
(HSRC), South Africa

Jive Media, South
Africa

The Mahidol Oxford
Tropical Medicine
Research Unit
(MORU) at Mahidol
University, Thailand



PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

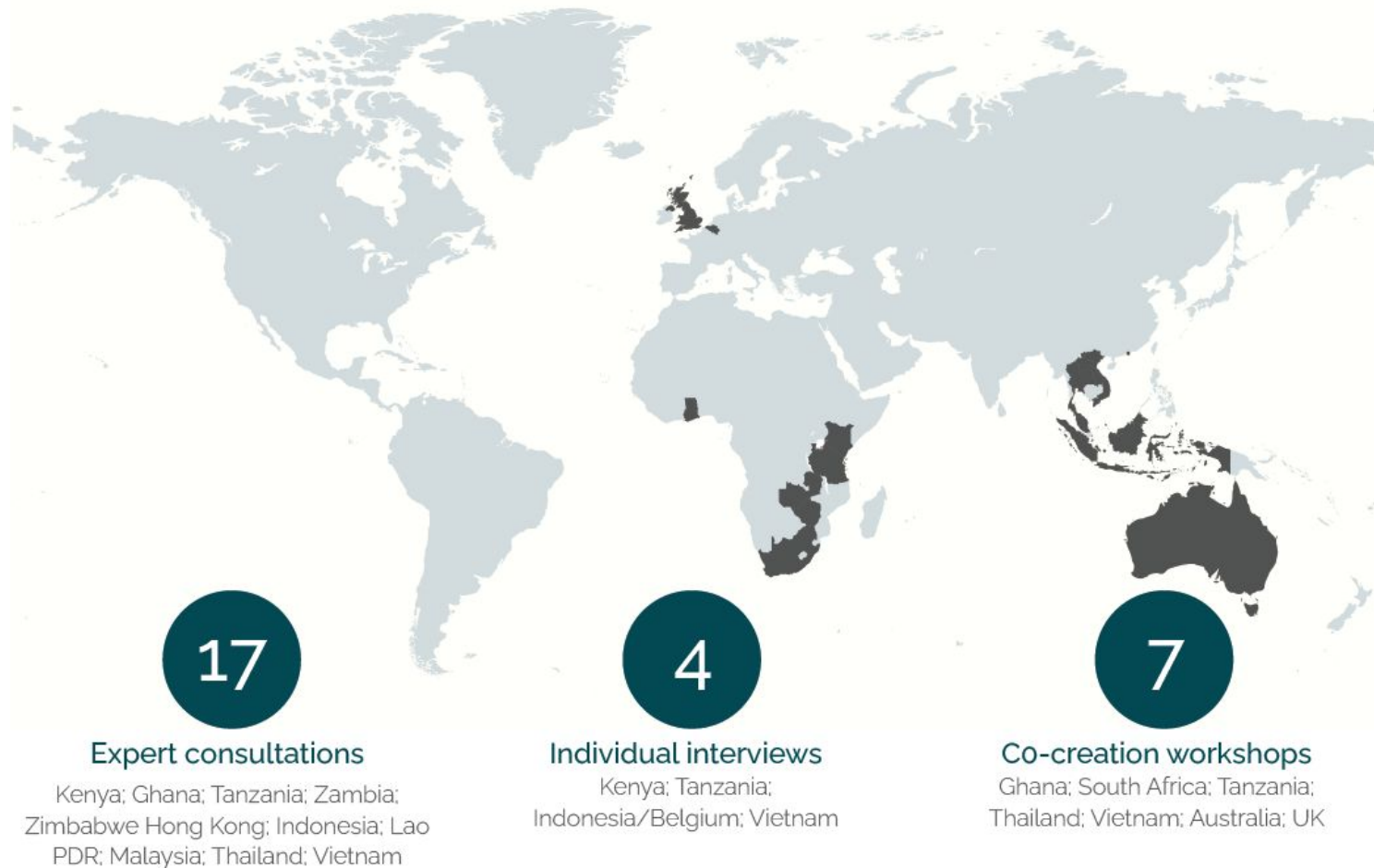
Developing this resource

Systematic scoping review

- Research on gender and AMR
- LMICs
- Animal and human health

Participatory consultation process

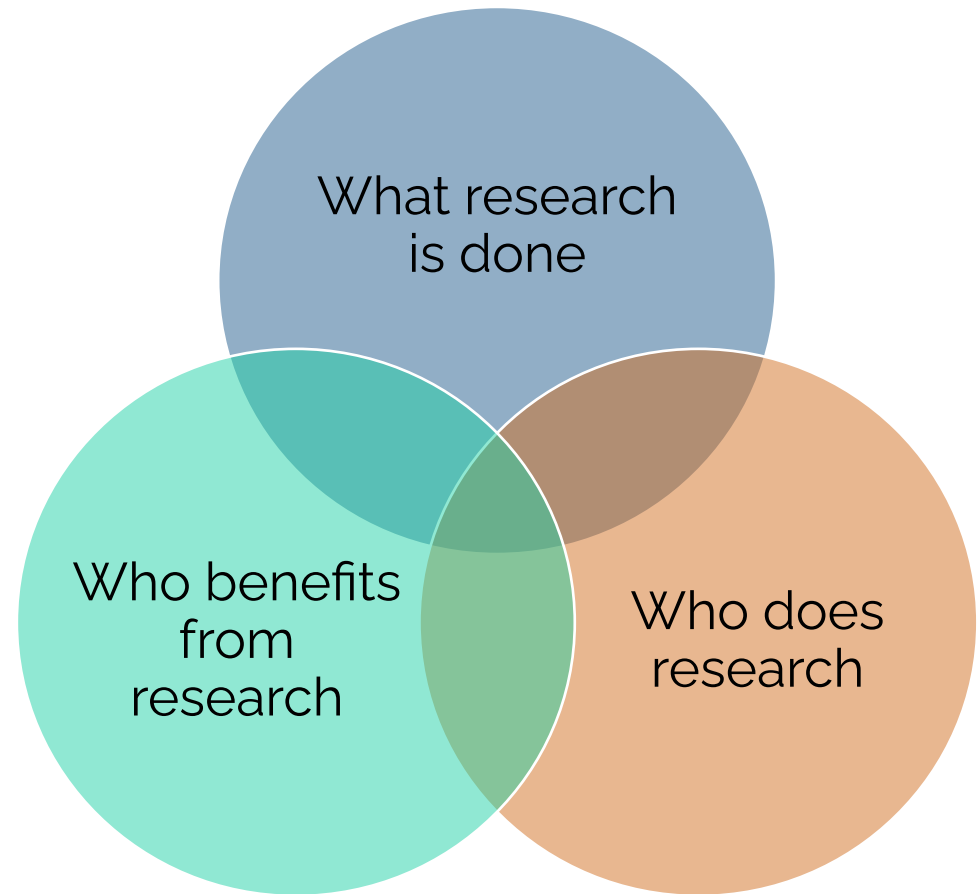
- LMIC gender and AMR research community
 - Expert consultations
 - Individual interviews
 - Co-creation workshop



PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

Is this resource relevant to all AMR projects?

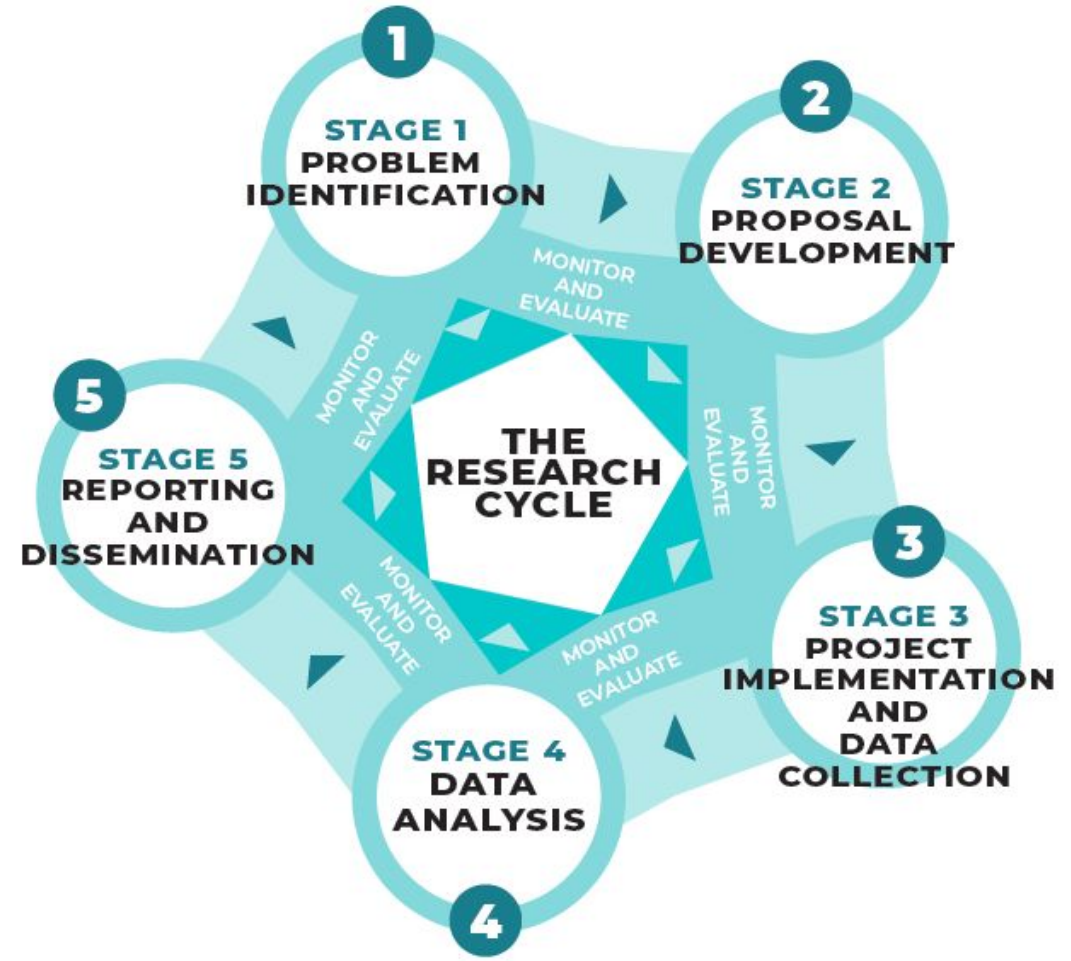
- Gender-specific research
- Gender-relevant research
- Basic research / developing technologies or innovation products



PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

Outline of the resource

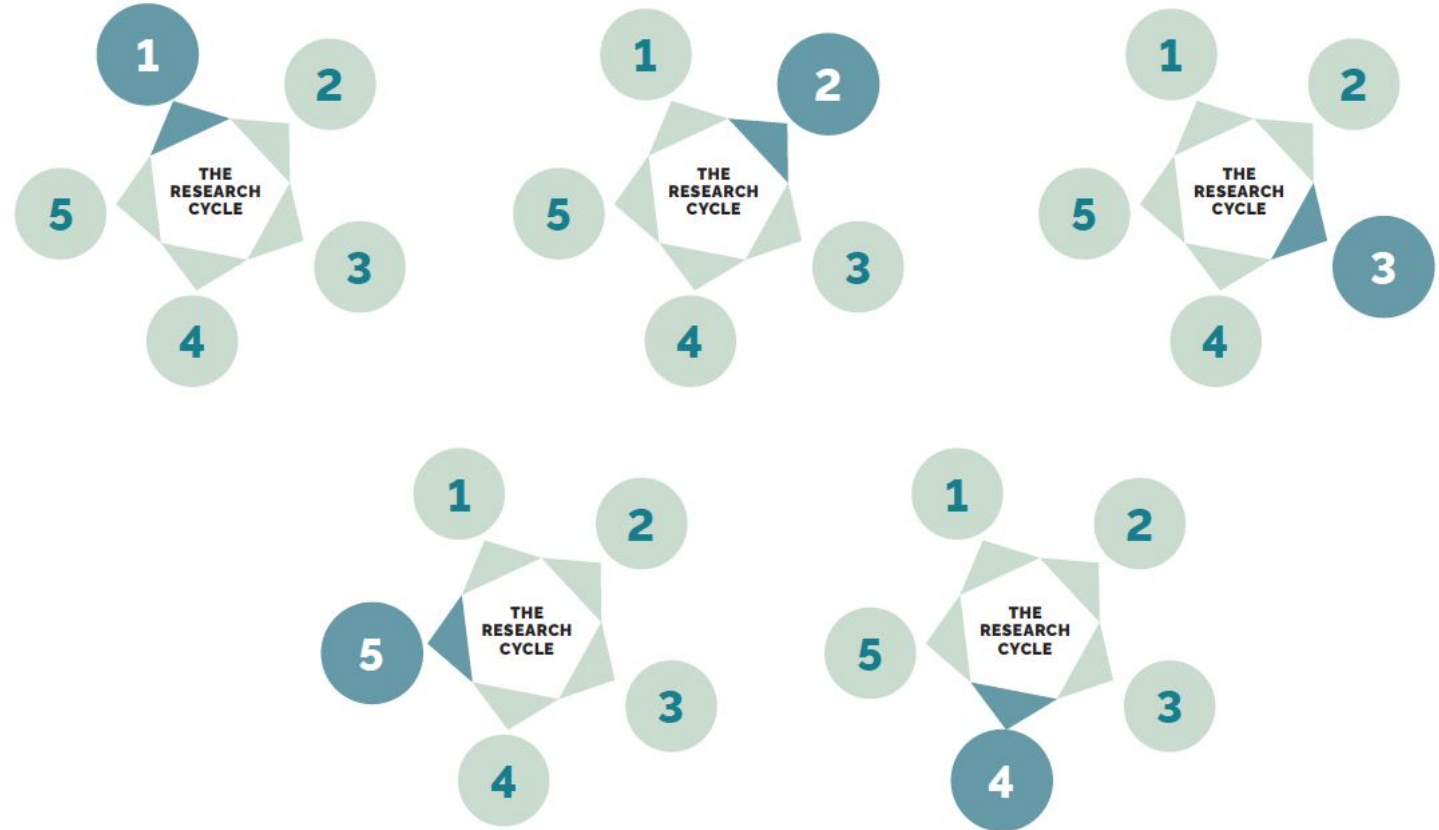
- Introduction
- Part 1: Foundation
- Part 2: Practical application
- Tool library
- Glossary



PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

Outline of the resource

1. Problem identification
2. Proposal development
3. Project implementation
4. Data analysis
5. Reporting and dissemination



PRACTICAL

PATHWAYS

Case studies

Community-acquired UTIs and antimicrobial use among women in Zambia

- AMR and human health
- SSA country setting
- Gender-relevant study



PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

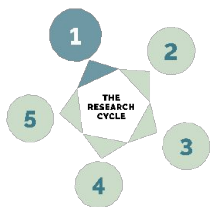
Case studies

Development and future implementation of an aquaculture vaccine in Indonesia

- AMR and animal health
- SEA country setting
- Product development



PRACTICAL PATHWAYS



Conducting a gender and equity analysis

- Systematically assesses how gender and equity considerations interact with a project topic
- A matrix that distills theory into a user-friendly tool
- Guidance on how to complete it and apply findings across the research cycle

	TOPIC SPECIFIC DOMAINS		
	Vulnerability to disease / illness	Ability to prevent exposure	Response to illness / treatment
GENDER ANALYSIS DOMAINS			
Access to resources			
Distribution of labour, practices, roles			
Norms, values, beliefs			
Decision-making power, autonomy			
Policies, laws, institution			
BIOLOGICAL & SOCIAL STRATIFIERS			
Sex			
Age			
Occupation			
Disability			

PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

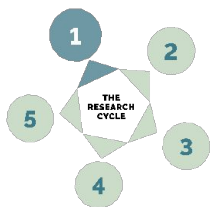


Conducting a gender and equity analysis

- Topic domains in the matrix depend on the study's focus
- E.g., if interested in AMR risk among women with UTIs:
 - Vulnerability to disease
 - Ability to prevent exposure
 - Response to treatment

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PRACTICAL PATHWAYS



Conducting a gender and equity analysis

- Gender analysis domains
 - Who has what?
 - Who does what?
 - How are values determined and what are their impacts?
 - Who decides?
 - What formal structures influence rights and opportunities?

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PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

Community-acquired UTIs and AMU among women in Zambia

- Who has what?

“Women, especially in female-headed and rural households, report having to borrow money, sell items, or displace household consumption to meet healthcare needs”

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PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

Community-acquired UTIs and AMU among women in Zambia

- Who decides?

“Two-thirds of married women do not have a say in how household income is spent or how they address their own healthcare”

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PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

Community-acquired UTIs and AMU among women in Zambia

- Values and their impact?

“UTIs can be stigmatising, causing women to delay treatment or opt for unprescribed antibiotics”

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PRACTICAL PATHWAYS

Community-acquired UTIs and AMU among women in Zambia

- Not limited to gender
- Also biological and social factors relevant to the project focus and setting
 - E.g. sex, age, area of residence, disability, occupation

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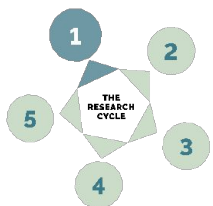
Community-acquired UTIs and AMU among women in Zambia

- Area of residence

“Only 44% of rural women have access to clean water compared to 86% in urban areas”

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PRACTICAL PATHWAYS



Conducting a gender and equity analysis

Practical steps to apply findings of analysis to refining research problem:

- Identify areas of inquiry related to gender analysis domains
- Identify relevant social and biological factors beyond gender
- Identify gaps in current evidence

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Final thoughts

- Not prescriptive
- Intention is to stimulate systematic reflection to identify what applies to own project
- Thereby increasing social relevance, research quality and impact of AMR research
- **QR code:** Sign up for the newsletter and to receive Practical Pathways once launched!

