



World Health
Organization

Second International MELODI Workshop



WHO Welcome Address

Dr Maria del Rosario Pérez

Public Health and Environment

Paris, France, 18-20 October 2010



- It is a privilege to welcome you on behalf of WHO to this **Second International MELODI Workshop** jointly organized by the IRSN and the CEA.
- I wish to congratulate the organizers for putting together the exciting programme you will develop during the next three days.



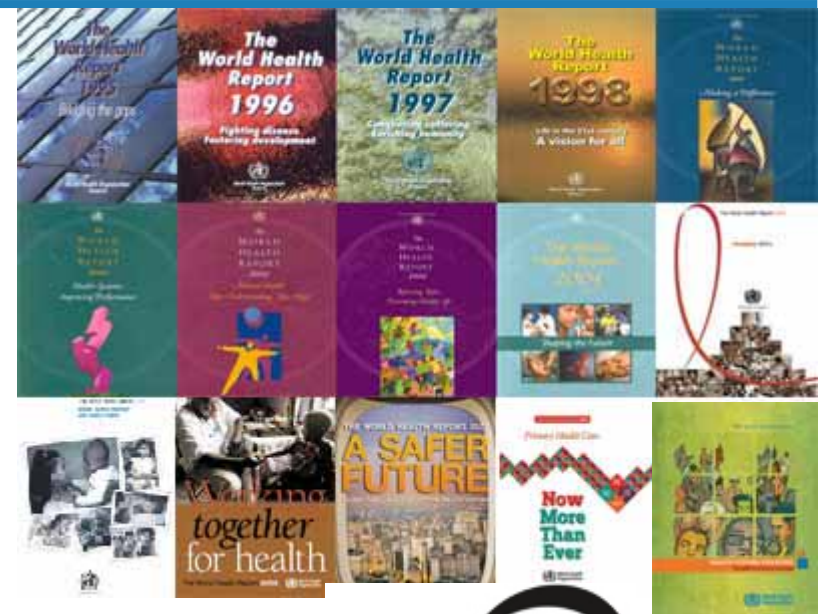
Health and research

- A poorly-informed decision making, coupled with a lack of trust in **research**, are some of the reasons why many countries are unlikely to meet the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- The achievement of MDGs is more likely to be realized through the use of **research** in informing health policies.
- Unfortunately, the reality is that **research** on critical topics is lacking, and health policies are often not well-informed by research evidence.

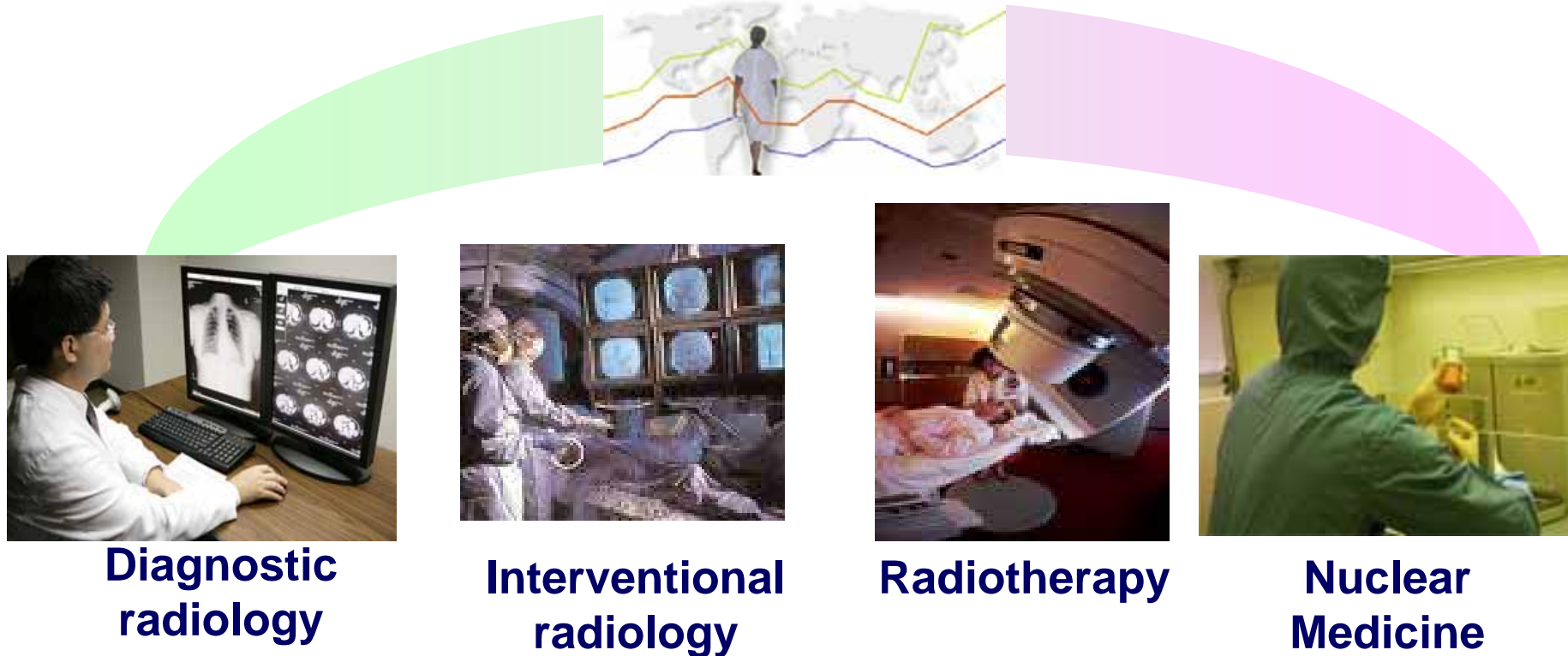


Research in a World Health Report

- Under the theme Research for Health, the World Health Report 2012 will discuss the impact of conducting and translating health **research**.
- The theme was selected in part to meet WHO's core function of "**stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge**", to promote effective and efficient policy options.



WHO Global Initiative on Radiation Safety in Health Care Settings



***Focusing on Public Health aspects related to the risks
and benefits of the use of radiation in health care***

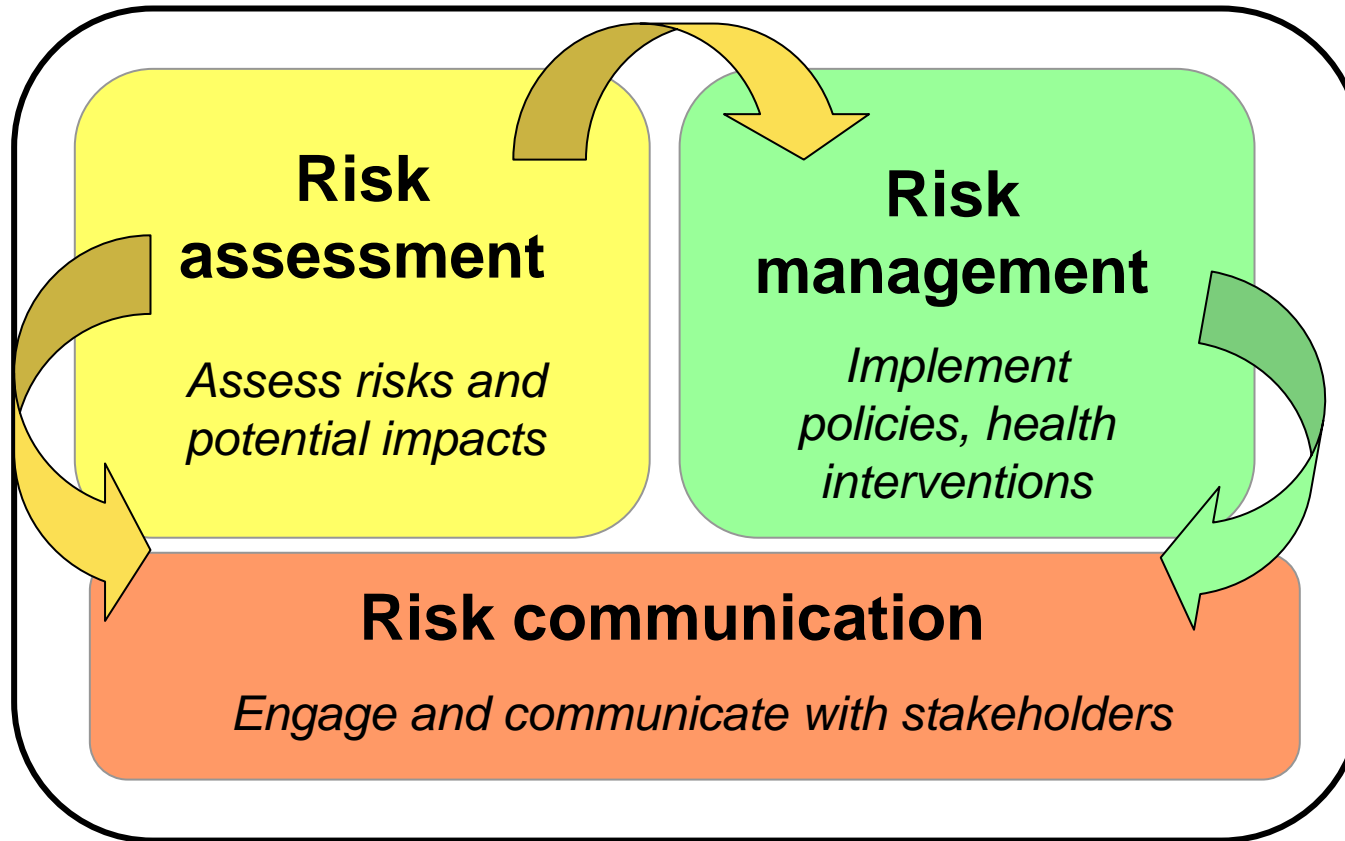
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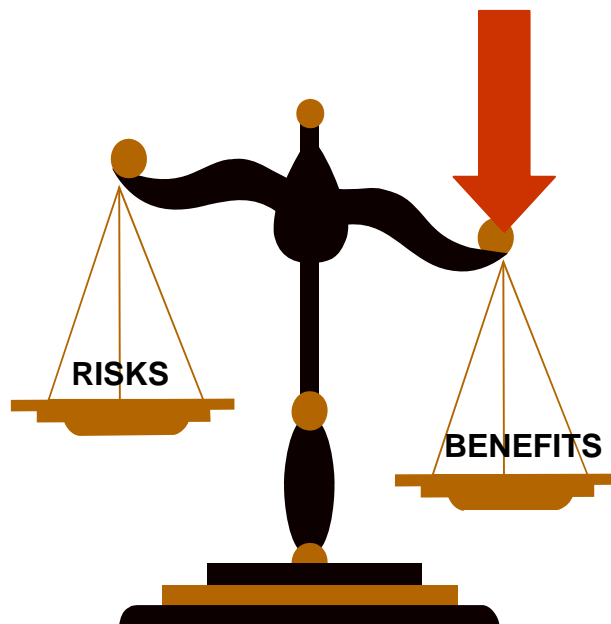
Global Initiative: strategic approach

*Translate the scientific evidence
into policies and programmes*



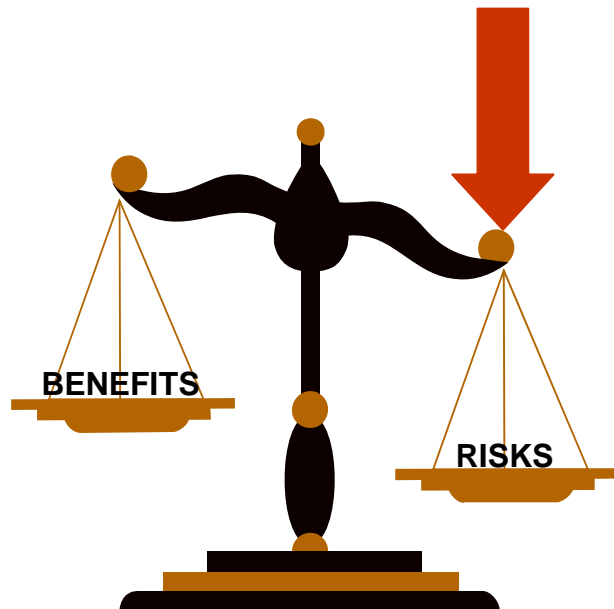
Risk / benefit balance (I)

To control and minimize health **risks**, while maximizing the **benefits**



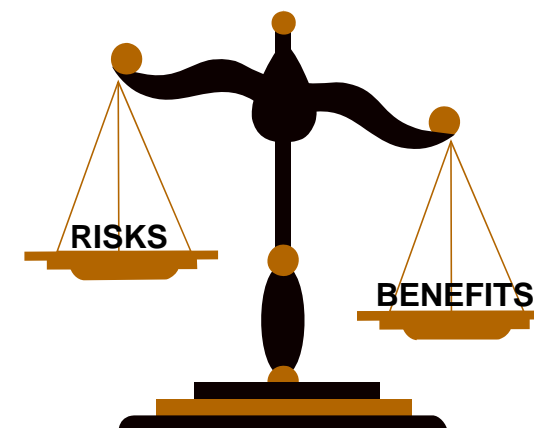
Risk / benefit balance (II)

Sometimes the balance does not favour the **benefits** but the **risks**....



Radiation protection in health care: a major challenge

- The wide use of radiation in medicine calls for a **public health** approach to control and minimize health **risks**, while maximizing the **benefits**
- Recognized need for more focused research to evaluate **health risks following medical exposures**, including cancer and non-cancer effects.
- Most vulnerable populations such as **embryo/fetus, children and young adults** require particular consideration.



Risk assessment in pediatric healthcare

- WHO-NIRS Workshop on "**Radiation Risks Assessment in Pediatric Imaging**" (December 2009, hosted by NIRS, Chiba, Japan)
- Need to move towards a global research agenda agreed among professionals from 8 international organizations and 11 national research and scientific institutions.
- Videoconference with UNSCEAR.
- Meeting report published in J. Radiol. Prot. 30:105-110 (2010).



Photo:

**UNSCEAR, IAEA,
ICRP, IARC, WHO**

J. Radiol. Prot. 30 (2010) 105-110

Meeting reports

WHO Workshop on Radiation Risk Assessment in Paediatric Health Care
National Institute of Radiological Sciences (NIRS), Chiba, Japan, 17 December 2009

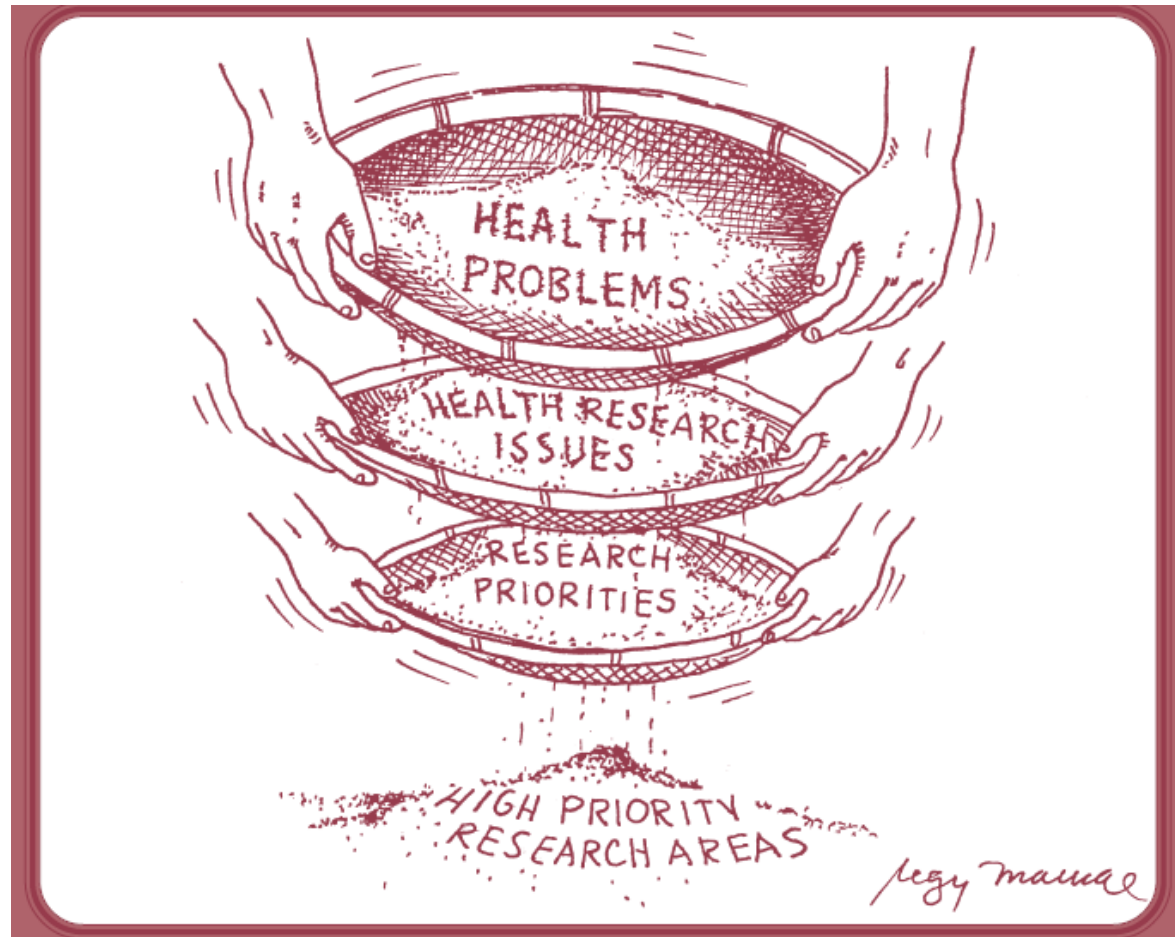
The World Health Organization (WHO) conducted a Workshop on Radiation Risk Assessment in Paediatric Health Care to review current research on radiation risks following medical exposures early in life and to outline a strategy towards the development of a global research agenda. It was held in Chiba, Japan, on 17 December 2009, within the program of the third KIDS Workshop of the National Institute of Radiological Sciences

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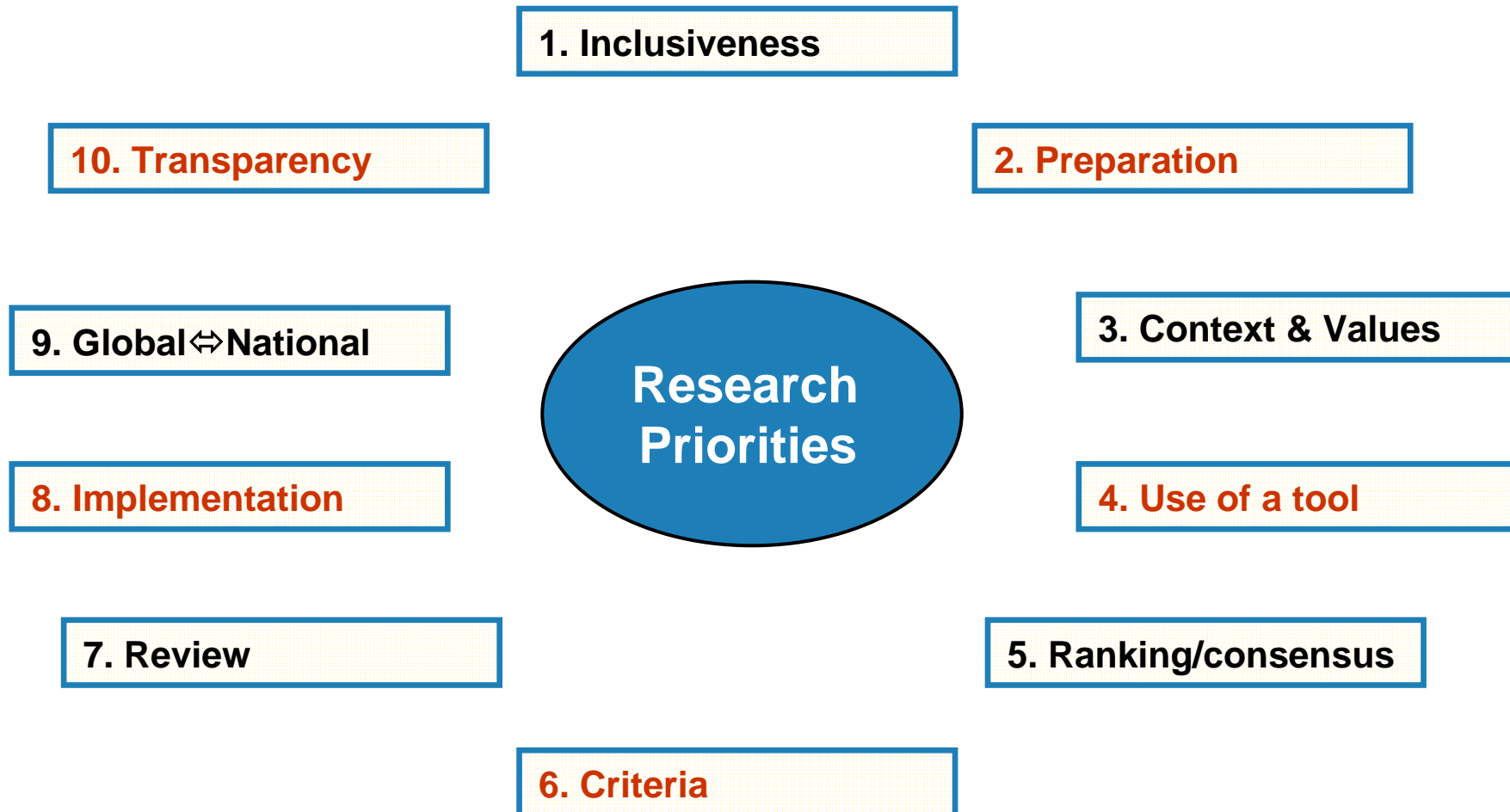


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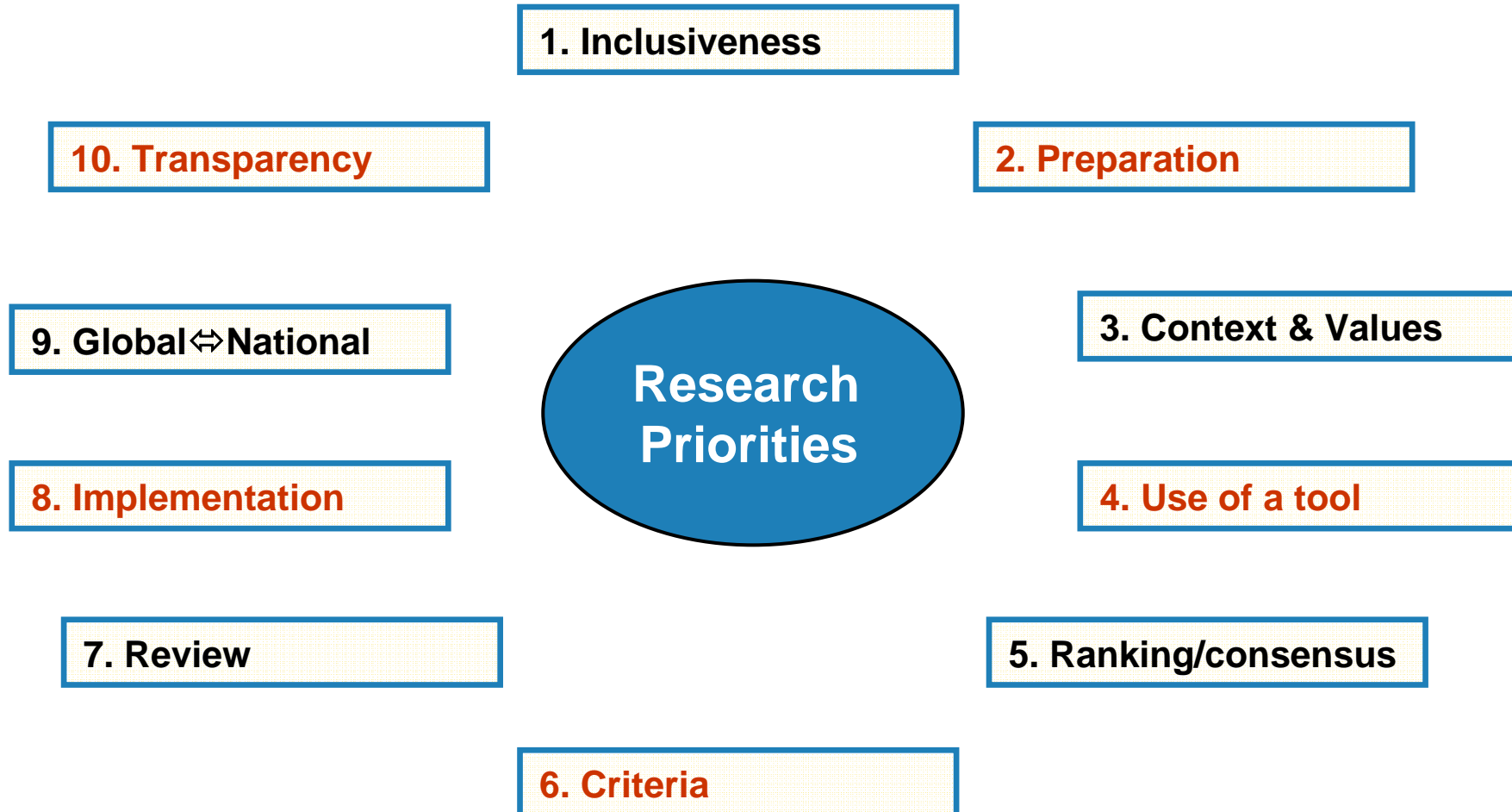
Research priority setting



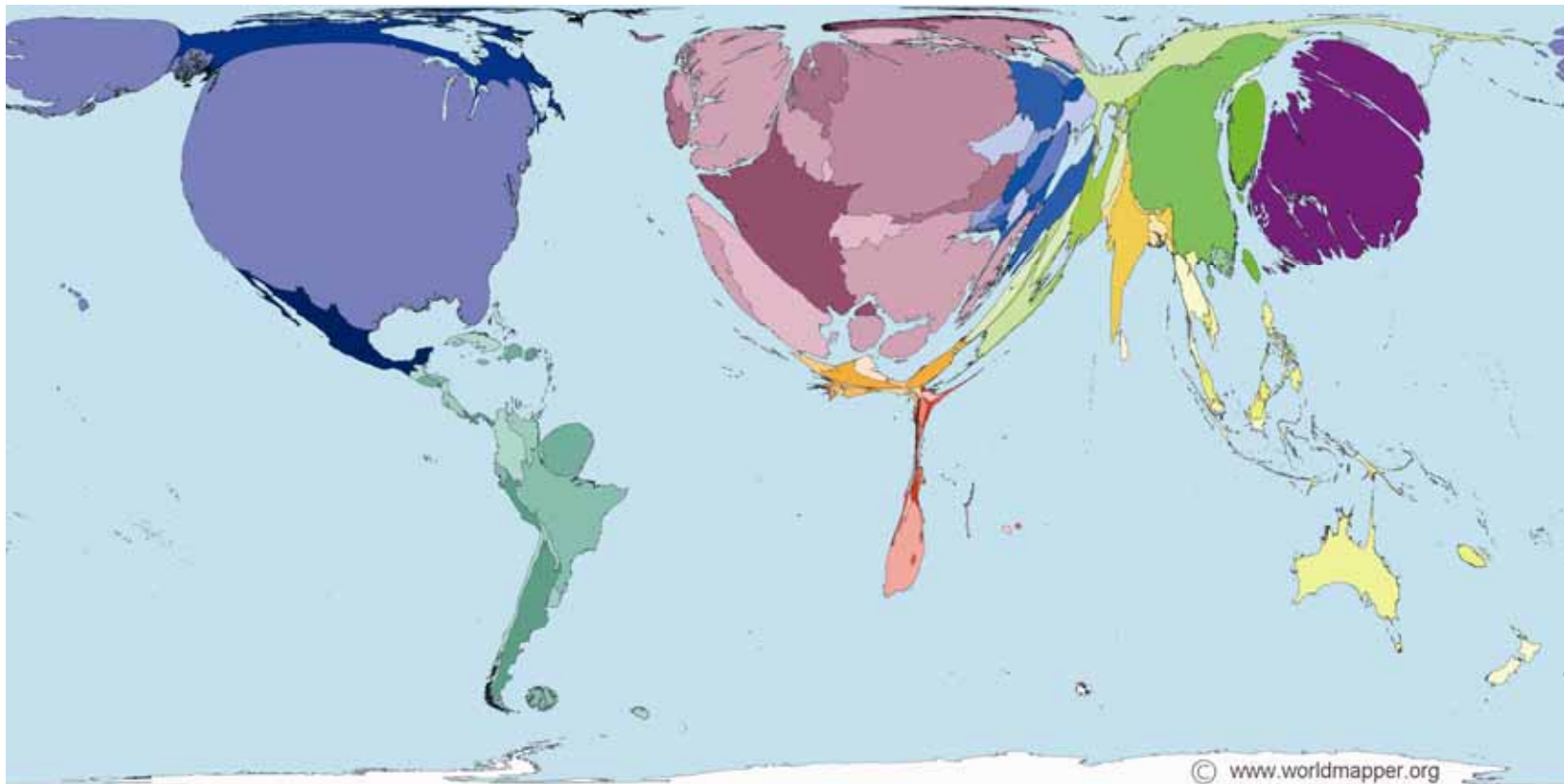
The checklist



The checklist



Huge disparities in health between and within countries and populations are paralleled by huge disparities in access to health research funds and to the benefits of health research.



From health research to research for health

Need for a shift of attention from "health research" to "**research for health**", which is research undertaken in any discipline or combination of disciplines that seeks to:

- understand the impact on health of policies, programmes, processes, actions or events originating in any sector – including, but not limited to the health sector itself and encompassing biological, economic, environmental, political, social and other determinants of health;
- assist in developing interventions that will help prevent or mitigate that impact;
- contribute to the achievement of health equity and better health for all.



Research for Health Strategy

WHO's role in research for health..... and the role of research in WHO...

- WHO strategy on research for health recognizes research as central to progress in global health.
- Identifies how WHO can work with Member States and partners to harness knowledge, science and technology to produce research evidence and tools to improve health outcomes.
- WHO strategy on research for health was approved by the World Health Assembly in May 2010.



WHO Strategy on Research for Health: three guiding principles

Quality - high-quality research that is ethical, expertly reviewed, efficient, effective, accessible to all, and carefully monitored and evaluated.

Impact - priority for research with greatest potential to improve global health security, health-related development, redress health inequities and attain Millennium Development Goals.

Inclusiveness - work in partnership, Member States and stakeholders, multisectoral approach, support and promote the participation of communities and civil society in the research process.



WHO Strategy on Research for Health: main goals

Capacity - building capacity to strengthen health research systems.

Priorities - supporting the setting of research priorities that meet health needs.

Standards - creating good research practice and enable the greater sharing of research evidence, tools and materials.

Translation - ensuring that quality evidence is turned into products and policy.



Second MELODI Workshop



- WHO welcomes this **Second MELODI Workshop** that will facilitate a dialogue for the development and implementation of a long-term strategic research agenda on the effects of low dose of ionizing radiation.
- This event gathers key stakeholders from the EU region as well as from outside Europe. Such integration serves as a powerful catalyst to harmonization and benchmarking and will contribute to the development and promotion of a global low dose radiation research agenda.
- MELODI presents new opportunities for EU to expand the horizons of its achievements globally, therefore contributing to improved radiation protection worldwide.





MELODI

2nd International Workshop

Paris, France 2010

I wish you a productive and successful workshop and an enjoyable stay in this wonderful city of Paris

Thank you very much

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http://www.who.int/ionizing_radiation/en/

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