

## General Objectives



To inform the health sector's global and national administrative and legislative policy agenda



To create an equitable and enabling environment for health policy and systems researchers all over the country



To position the Philippines as a contributor to the regional and global health systems knowledge.

## Specific Objectives



To mobilize **financial and non-financial incentives** from within the DOH, attached agencies, other government agencies, development partners and the private sector



To build and maintain **nationally- and locally-representative datasets** and facilitate access to this and other health data sets by health researchers.



To generate **ethical, timely, high quality health policy and systems research** to support systematic sectoral planning, monitoring and evaluation activities.



To **facilitate appreciation and generate demand** for evidence by policymakers, program designers, planners and decision-makers.



To design and support activities that increase **individual, institutional and sectoral capacity** in health policy and systems research, policy and data analysis, research methods innovation, research communication, policy entrepreneurship and research management.



To adopt **streamlined and accountable research management** processes and eliminate red tape.

## Program Components



### RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Program shall provide grants for research projects, which can be categorized as institutional or non-institutional research projects.

#### Institutional Research Projects

Institutions submit a proposal in their field of expertise, with the proposed research topic supporting MTRA (institution/investigator-initiated). These require between 1 to 3 years of completion and have four main components: research implementation, research capacity development, research communication, and policy support.

#### Non-Institutional Research Projects

Institutional submit a proposal based on a specific program-initiated terms of reference. These are narrower in scope - usually tackling only one research question - and require maximum of 9 months to complete.



### CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The program shall deepen the local bench of health policy and systems researchers, develop young and emerging cadre of professional HPSR, and strengthen institutional capacities through partnerships with regional research consortia and international universities and think tanks. Moreover, the program shall have internships for undergraduate students, fellowships for young professionals, scholarships and shall capacitate health R&D regional coordinators.



### RESEARCH DISSEMINATION AND POLICY SUPPORT

The Program shall make available online relevant project documents and research project outputs. It shall also invest in strategic, appropriate, and high-impact research communication activities. Likewise, it shall support projects and activities that facilitate adoption of research output into national policies, plans, programs.

#### National Health Research Forum for Action

A forum hosted by the Department of Health – Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau (DOH-HPDPB) every 2 years. It is a forum that brings together stakeholders involved and interested in research for health policy making, and provides a platform to showcase research studies in relevant fields.



### RESEARCH ETHICS REVIEW

The Program shall facilitate the streamlining of ethics review processes, including the establishment of a joint single review for studies requiring multiple sites and development of public health research-specific ethical guidelines, with the PNHRs Philippine Health Research Ethics Board.



### RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND ALLOCATION

The program shall primarily source its funding from research line item budget and shall tap funds from other sources such as international NGOs, development partners and other philanthropic organizations.



# AHEAD-HPSR

Advancing Health through Evidence-Assisted Decisions  
with Health Policy and Systems Research

## Contact Information

For more information, please call:  
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## The Vision

A vibrant community of health policy and systems researchers and decision-makers committed to producing and using the best available evidence in all policies, plans and programs towards the attainment of health system goals.

