Considerations when Conducting Research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)

Alignment with national and local priorities of settings for research. *"Strengthening the capacity for conducting socially relevant research should be a specific aim of the partnership"* (Afsana et al 2009)	a. How does this study address local research and policy priorities? b. How were local researchers involved in study design? *"By adopting a participatory population perspective that emphasizes the social influences on health and disease, epidemiology is in a position to reassert its public health roots by (1) extending the search for causes from the individual to the community and to sociopolitical systems, (2) broadening the methodologies to include qualitative and participatory research methods, and (3) integrating lay knowledge into scientific knowledge."* (Leung 2004)
Integration of local teams in data interpretation and knowledge production.	a. How will research staff who conduct the data collection be acknowledged? b. To what extent will all members of the research partnership have access to study data? c. How will research partners collaborate in interpreting the study data? *"Shifting power is partly about providing the right tools for the job, such as appraisal tools developed through First Nations peoples' world views."* (Lock et al 2021) *"When we decide to prioritize rigorous, reproducible results, our group has found that we are often forced to relegate a vast diversity of local resources, individual skillsets, and community perspectives to the sidelines of engagement as incidental confounders. Yet, in our experience, when we step back and acknowledge the contextualized relevance of these 'confounders', surprising conclusions and solutions have also emerged."* (Salmen et al 2022) d. How will the leadership, contribution, and ownership* of this research by LMIC researchers be recognized within the authorship of related publications? *"Substantive representation of both HIC and LMIC partners, including first and senior authorship positions for LMIC collaborators, should reflect the fairness of opportunity and leadership in the process."* (Morton et al 2021) **"Ownership means that each partner co-owns the outputs of the partnership. Ownership can be shared equally by all partners, or all partners can agree on a specific, equitable designation of ownership for certain outputs."* (Larson et al 2022) e. Gender equity*: How will gender balance be addressed within authorship? **"Within the partnership there are opportunities for all genders to voice their opinion in a considered, fair, respectful and open manner. All genders can expect to fully participate within the partnership."* (Larson et al 2022)

Capacity-building*. *"Consider how work, once started, will be maintained over the long term. The ideal goals of a global health partnership should be to improve the capacity of all partners, rather than developing short-term solutions." (Amisi et al 2023)* *"Capacity building is the strengthening of competencies, at the individual, community, organization or system level. It can also occur in a bidirectional way." (Larson et al 2022)*	a. How will funding for this study be used to support the local research team? b. How will the project contribute to training of LMIC researchers?
Results dissemination to national and local audiences. *"This is the communication, exchange, and application of knowledge by relevant stakeholders to ultimately improve people's health. It helps accelerate the benefits of global and local innovation in strengthening health systems." (Larson et al 2022)*	a. How will research products be shared to address local needs?

Resources:

- [Afsana et al 2009](): Afsana, K., Habte, D., Hatfield, J., Murphy, J., & Neufeld, V. (2009). Partnership assessment toolkit. *Ottawa: Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research*.
- [Hodson et al 2023](): Hodson, D. Z., Etoundi, Y. M., Parikh, S., & Boum, Y. (2023). Striving towards true equity in global health: a checklist for bilateral research partnerships. *PLOS Global Public Health*, *3*(1), e0001418.
- [Huria et al 2019](): Huria, T., Palmer, S. C., Pitama, S., Beckert, L., Lacey, C., Ewen, S., & Smith, L. T. (2019). Consolidated criteria for strengthening reporting of health research involving indigenous peoples: the CONSIDER statement. *BMC medical research methodology*, *19*, 1-9.
- [Larson et al 2022](): Larson, C. P., Plamondon, K. M., Dubent, L., Bicaba, F., Bicaba, A., Minh, T. H., ... & Gyorkos, T. W. (2022). The equity tool for valuing global health partnerships. *Global Health: Science and Practice*, *10*(2).
- [Leung et al 2004](): Leung, M. W., Yen, I. H., & Minkler, M. (2004). Community-based participatory research: a promising approach for increasing epidemiology's relevance in the 21st century. *International journal of epidemiology*, *33*(3), 499-506.
- [Lock et al 2021](): Lock, M. J., Walker, T., & Browne, J. (2021). Promoting cultural rigour through critical appraisal tools in First Nations peoples' research. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, *45*(3), 210-211.
- [Monette et al 2021](): Monette, E. M., McHugh, D., Smith, M. J., Canas, E., Jabo, N., Henley, P., & Nouvet, E. (2021). Informing 'good' global health research partnerships: a scoping review of guiding principles. *Global health action*, *14*(1), 1892308.
- [Morton et al 2022](): Morton, B., Vercueil, A., Masekela, R., Heinz, E., Reimer, L., Saleh, S., ... & Oriyo, N. (2022). Consensus statement on measures to promote equitable authorship in the publication of research from international partnerships. *Anaesthesia*, *77*(3), 264-276
- [Pratt et al 2018](): Pratt, B., & Hyder, A. A. (2018). Designing research funding schemes to promote global health equity: an exploration of current practice in health systems research. *Developing World Bioethics*, *18*(2), 76-90.
- [Salmen et al 2022](): Salmen, C. R., Magerenge, R., Ndunyu, L., & Prasad, S. (2022). Rethinking our Rigor Mortis: Creating space for more adaptive and inclusive truth-seeking in community-based global health research in Kenya. *Global Public Health*, *17*(12), 4002-4013.