

COM's Mission

“an academic centre of excellence in the training of doctors and other health professionals in clinical service and **medical research**, responsive to the health needs of Malawi and its neighbours in the southern African region.”

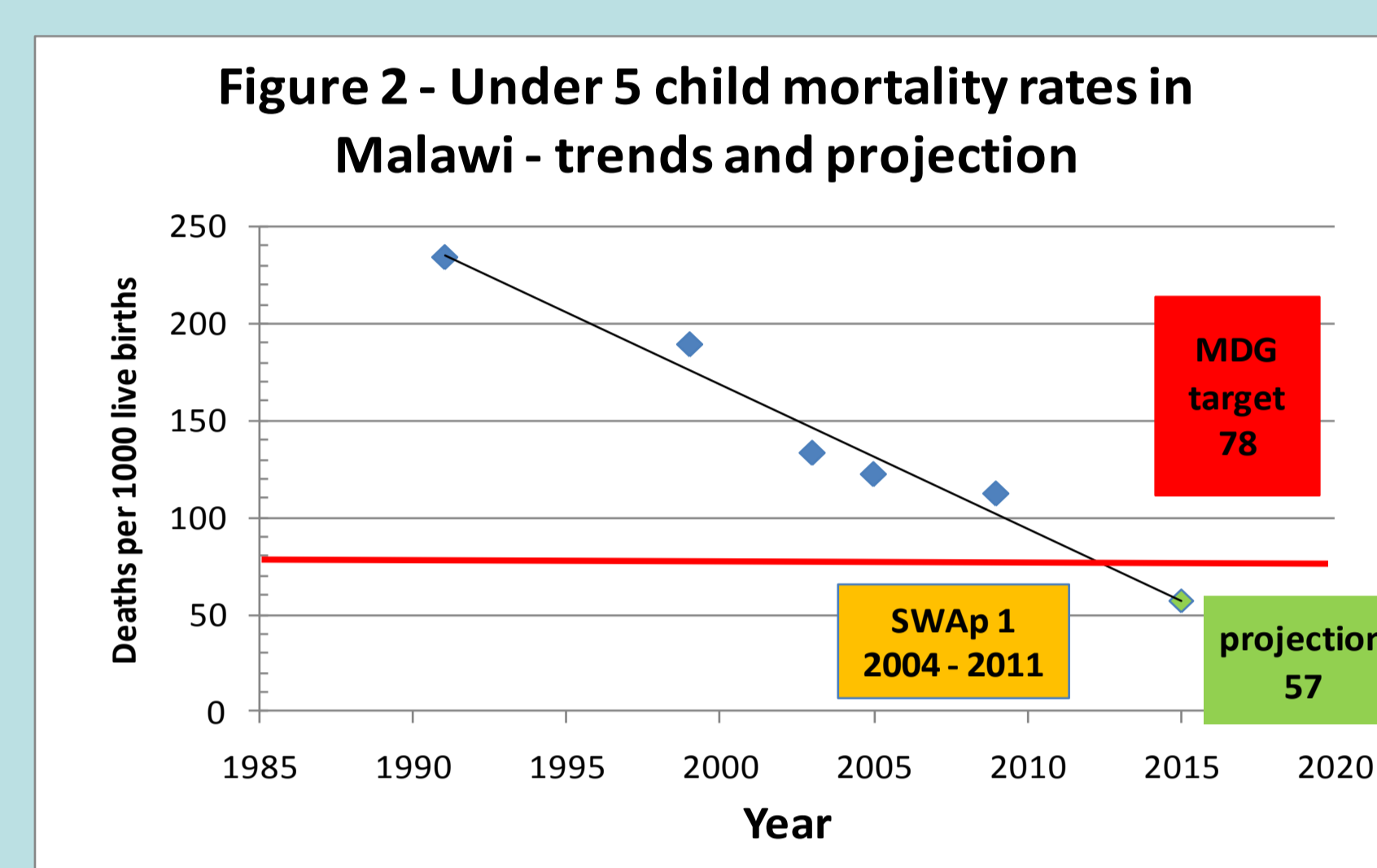
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VISION OF THE MALAWI HEALTH SECTOR

“...to achieve a state of health for all the people of Malawi that would enable them to lead an quality and productive life....”

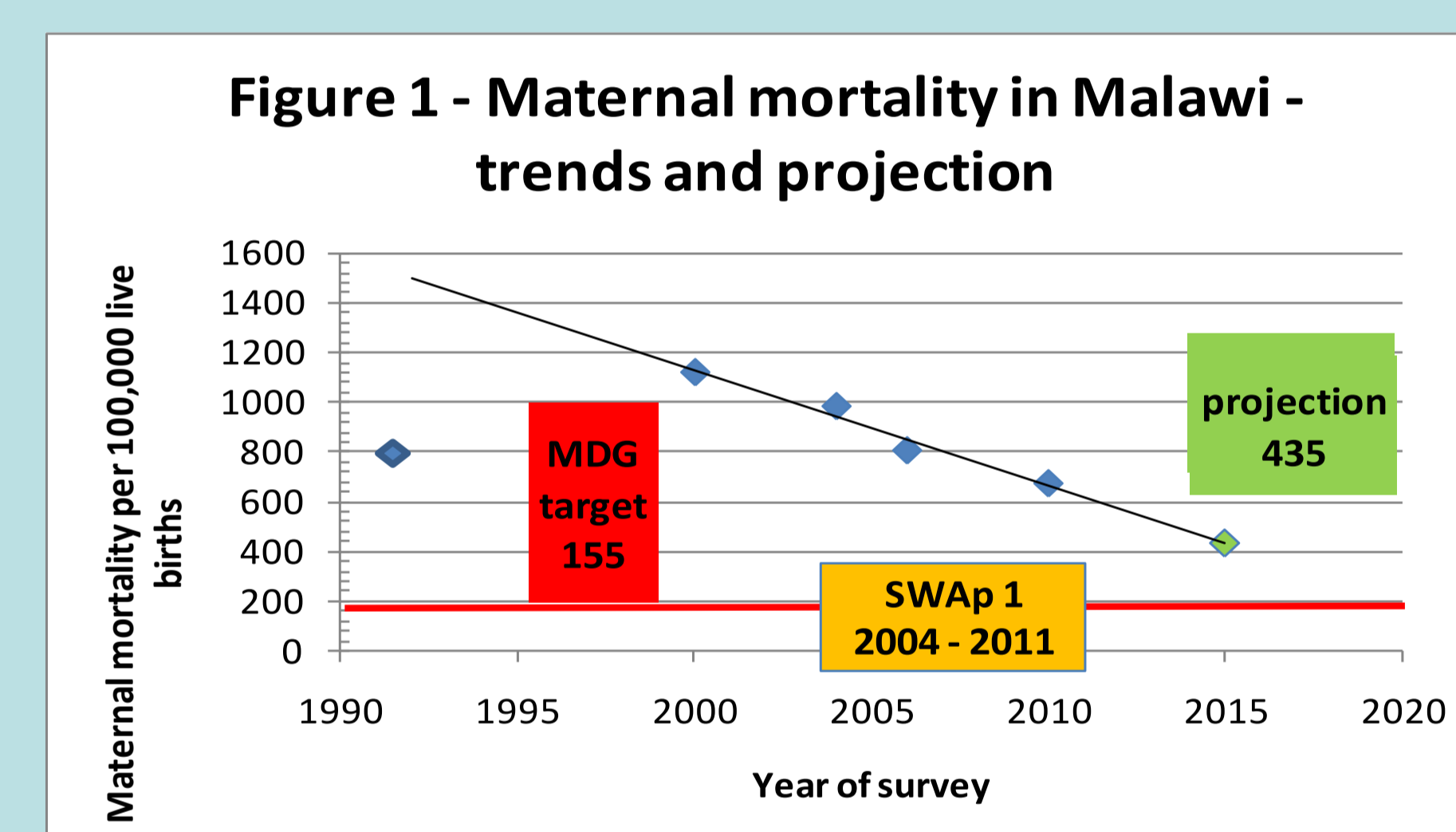
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE HEALTH SECTOR

- Reduction in child mortality rate
- Reduction in adult mortality rates and improvement in life expectancy at birth
- High coverage of antiretroviral treatment

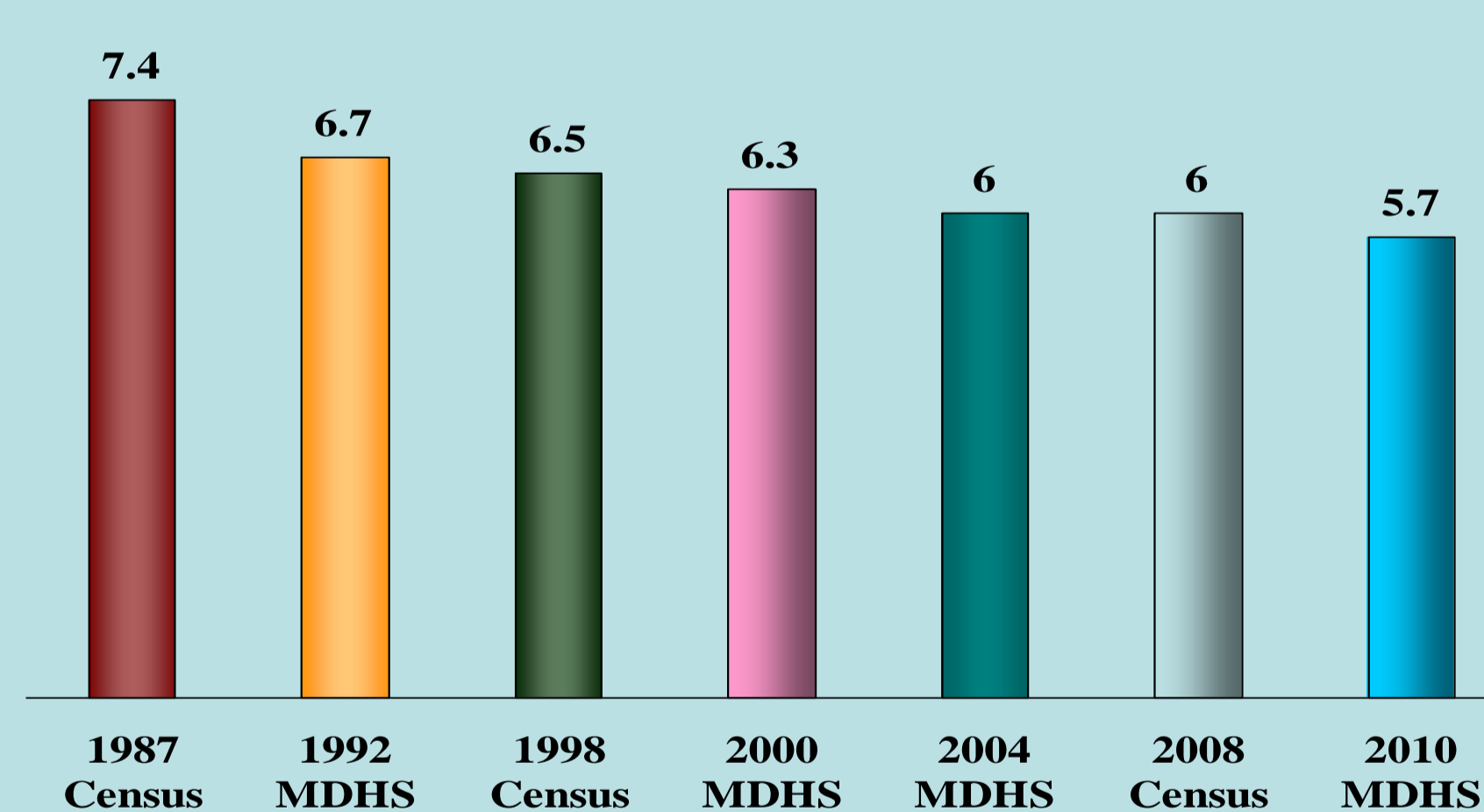


MAJOR CHALLENGES IN THE HEALTH SECTOR

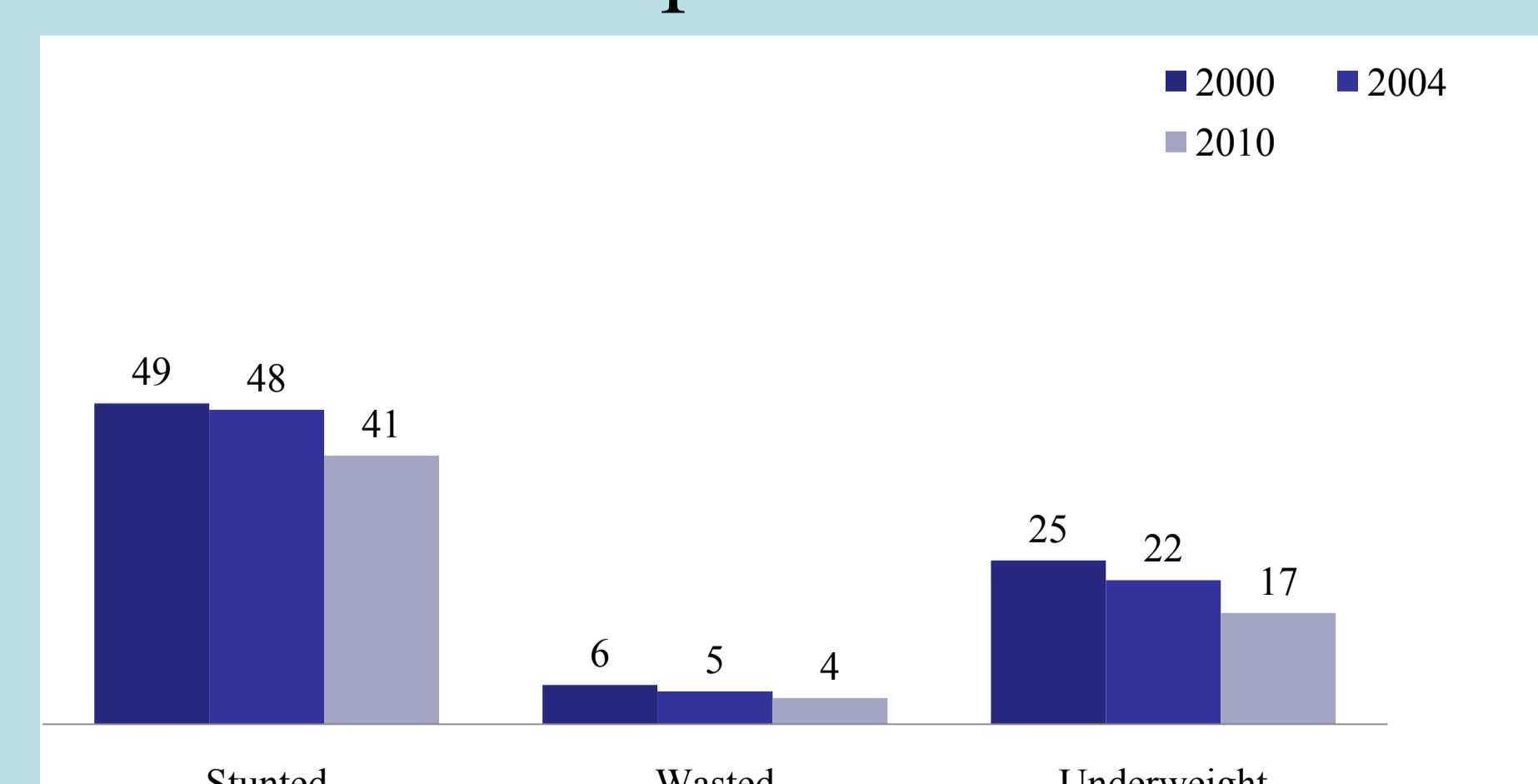
- Slow decrease in Maternal Mortality Ratio



- Slow decrease in Total Fertility Rates



- Slow decrease in prevalence of malnutrition



- Continual transmission and high burden of infectious diseases including HIV, malaria and TB
- High burden of non-communicable diseases
- Sub-optimal performance of the health system

ROADMAP TO SOLUTIONS

Evidence-based health policies, strategies and programmes.

COM'S STRATEGY

- **Building critical mass of research experts in major research themes**



- **Maintaining a conducive research environment**

Structures

- Strengthen Research Support Centre & Research and Ethics Committee



- Strengthen Clinical Trial Lab and Pharmacy

- Effective utilization of field research sites (urban & rural)



- **Critical appraisal of research projects & idea**

- Promote interaction of scientists through Journal Clubs and Research-in-Progress meetings

- **Networking with local & international research partners**



- **Policy and Public Engagement**

- Technical Working Committees
- Health Sector Strategic Plan meetings
- Health Sector Review meetings
- Local and national research dissemination conferences
- Regional and Global Policy Development Fora

COM's AGENDA

Focusing on health-related conditions listed in the Ministry of Health Essential Health Package (EHP)

Prioritizing areas in which CoM has local expertise and a network of research collaboration

Ensuring the multidisciplinary research collaboration;

- Pathogenesis
- Diagnostics
- Clinical care
- Public Health (Epidemiology, Social Sciences, Health System)
- Programme Implementation

• **Research areas that CoM has adequate strength**

- HIV
- Malaria
- Malnutrition
- Tuberculosis
- Adverse maternal and neonatal conditions
- Health systems

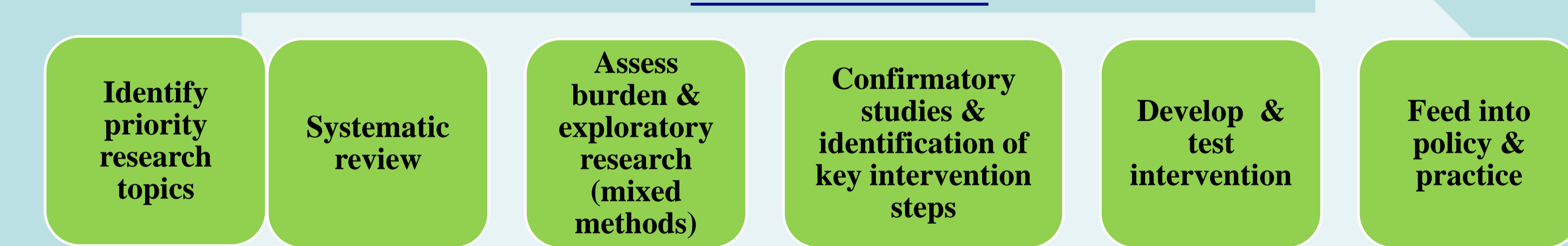
• **Emerging/developing research areas**

- Neglected Tropical Diseases
- Non-Communicable Diseases and Trauma
- Cancer
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases

• **Research areas that CoM needs further development**

- Mental Illness
- Non-Communicable Diseases and Trauma
- Vaccine preventable diseases

PROGRESSION RESEARCH IDEAS TO POLICY & PRACTICE



COM's STRENGTHS

- **Existing** institutional commitment to research career development
- **Vibrant and successful** national and international research collaboration
- **Successful** local research leaders –role models
- **Established** research intensive programme (MPhil/PhDs)
- **Strong links** with national authorities

FUNDING AGENCIES

