

# UN Research Roadmap for the COVID-19 Recovery

Leveraging the Power of  
Science for a More Equitable,  
Resilient and Sustainable  
Future



United  
Nations



# COVID-19 has eroded progress on the SDGs



**The socio-economic recovery from COVID-19 provides an opportunity for the transformative changes needed to achieve the better and brighter future envisioned by the SDGs.**



# Developing a Research Roadmap

**5**  
Steering groups



**38**  
Research  
funding  
agencies

**25**  
Countries  
and regions

**20**  
Meetings

**250**  
Experts



**47**  
Written  
submissions

**41**  
Participants  
in virtual  
consultations

**8**  
Key informant  
interviews

**5**  
Scoping reviews



**28**  
Written  
submissions

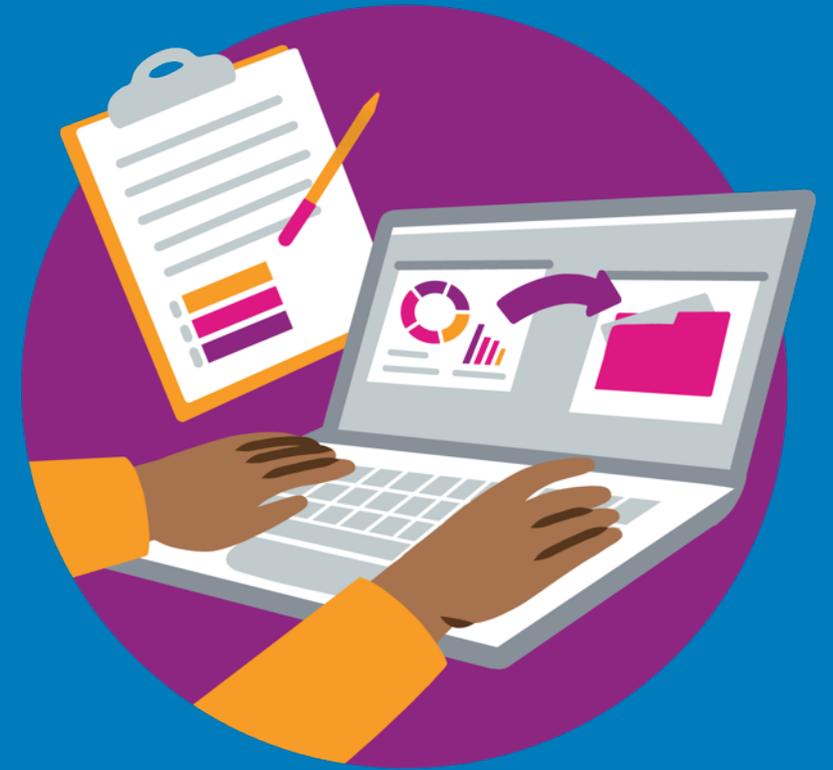
**10,198**  
Initial search  
results

**320**  
Studies  
reviewed

**Research  
Roadmap**

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**The result is 25 research priorities that all help to answer a singularly important question...**



## TOP RESEARCH PRIORITY

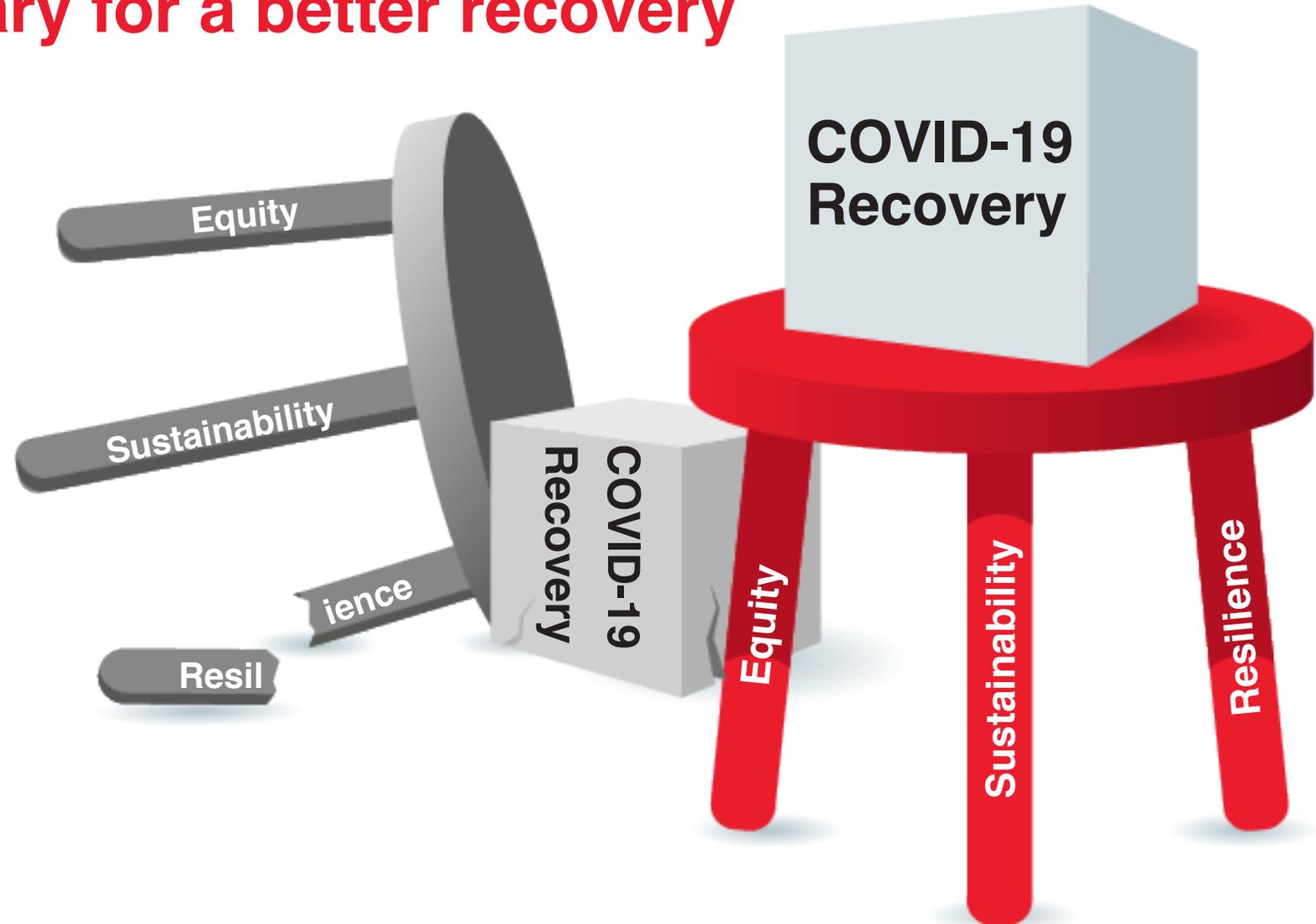
How can COVID-19 socio-economic recovery efforts be purposefully designed to stimulate equity, resilience, sustainability and progress towards the SDGs?



**All people, systems and generations are interdependent – we face shared risks and responsibilities.**



# Equity, resilience and sustainability are each necessary for a better recovery



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**Responses also need to be cultivated within research systems, processes and practices.**



# Science strategies for a better recovery

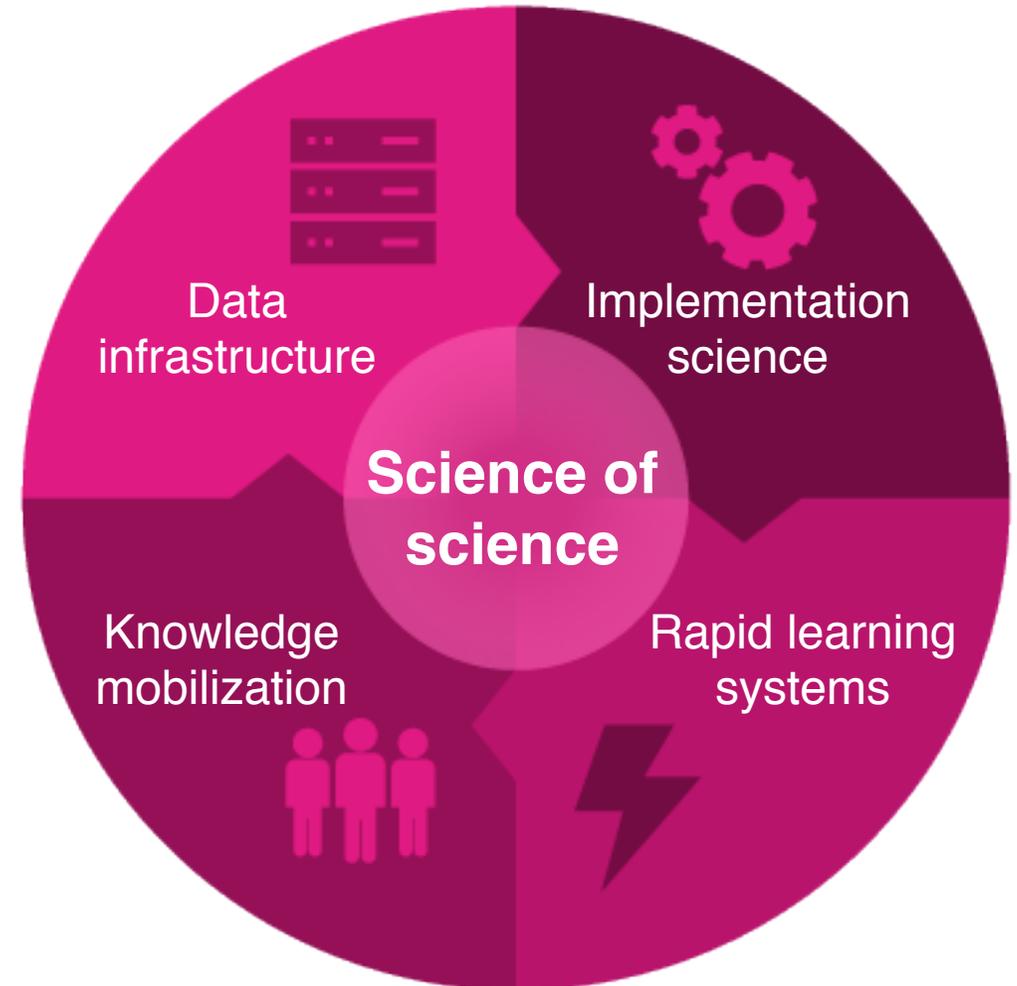
1) **Data infrastructure** includes the organizations, policies, processes, systems and technologies involved in the collection, storage, management, oversight, distribution and use of data.

2) **Implementation science** is the study of methods and strategies to promote the uptake of effective interventions into practices, programs and policies.

3) **Rapid learning systems** use the best available evidence and data to inform decisions and learn from their experiences to enable continuous improvements and contribute to the global evidence base.

4) **Knowledge mobilization** are efforts designed to promote the use of research evidence to inform choices and generate positive impacts.

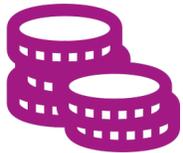
5) **Science of science** is focused on how research is funded, practiced and evaluated, and how research cultures and systems can be made more efficient, open, inclusive and impactful.



# The Roadmap in Action



**Researchers** must tackle the complex research priorities identified and inform transformative solutions for the problems that the COVID-19 pandemic revealed and created.



**Research funding agencies** will need to work together to ensure sufficient and coordinated investment to address these research priorities.



**Governments and civil society organizations** need to ask for the research needed to inform recovery efforts, support it, and institutionalize the use of research in decision-making.

# A choice between business as usual and transformative changes

