

Creating Conditions for Scale Up:

Technical Assistance as an Implementation Research Uptake Strategy

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Why do so many research projects remain small-scale or end without uptake?

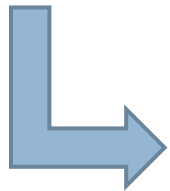
- Funding limited to duration of research (and dissemination) activities
- No requirement that those doing the pilot-testing be engaged in, or responsible for, using the results or scaling-up the intervention
- Expectation of use / scale-up.....by someone else
- No conditions in place for health systems to scale-up innovations demonstrated on a pilot basis

➤ **How to change this paradigm?**

Changing the paradigm: 3 stages to scale-up

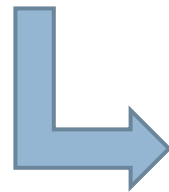
EFFECTIVENESS (operations research)

Pilot-testing intervention; focusing on feasibility and effect, resource needs and implementation procedures



EFFICIENCY (creating conditions)

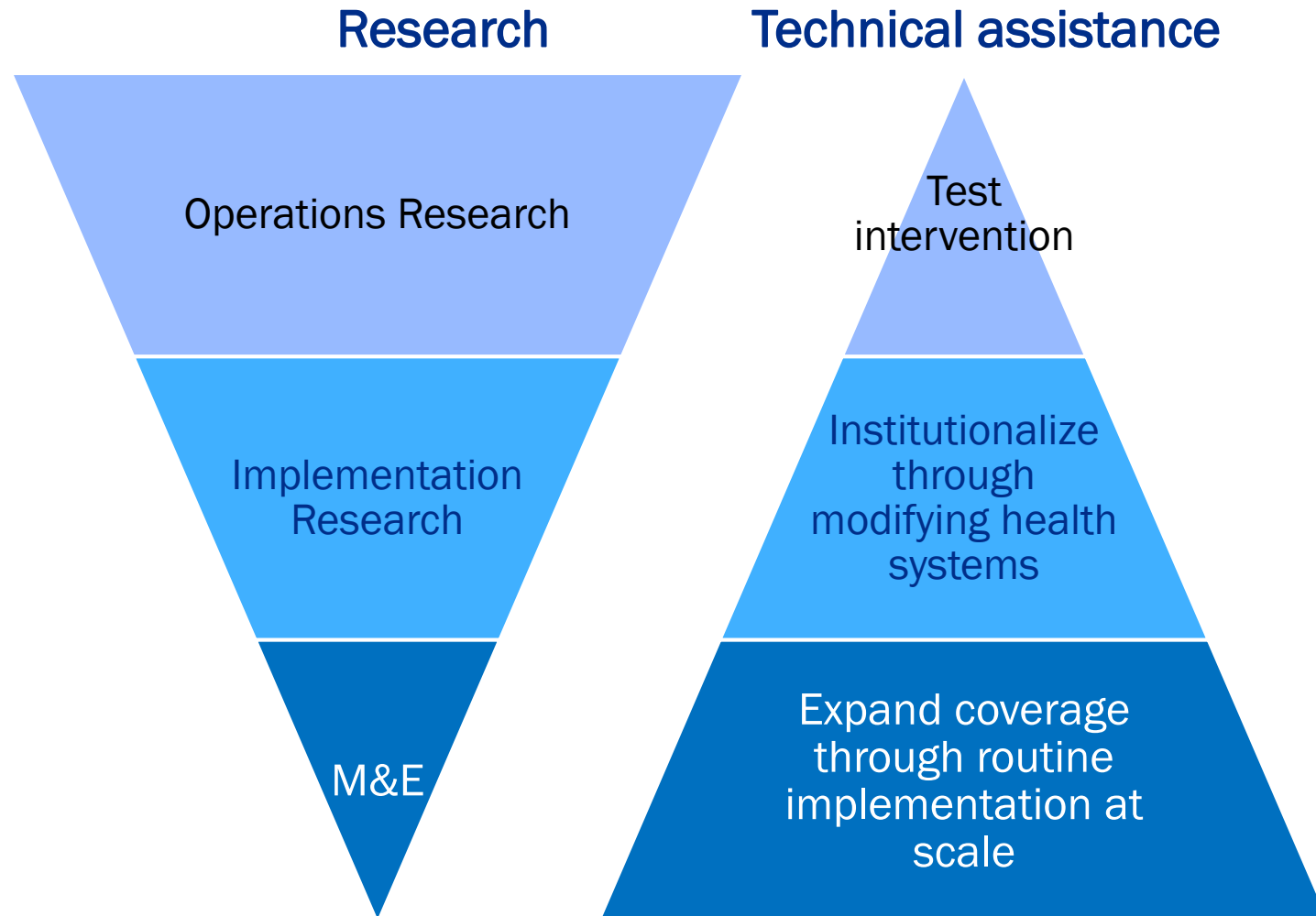
Modify systems to implement intervention at appropriate scale, use implementation research to learn and institutionalize



EXPANSION (scale up)

Introduce and fund standard procedures at scale with M&E

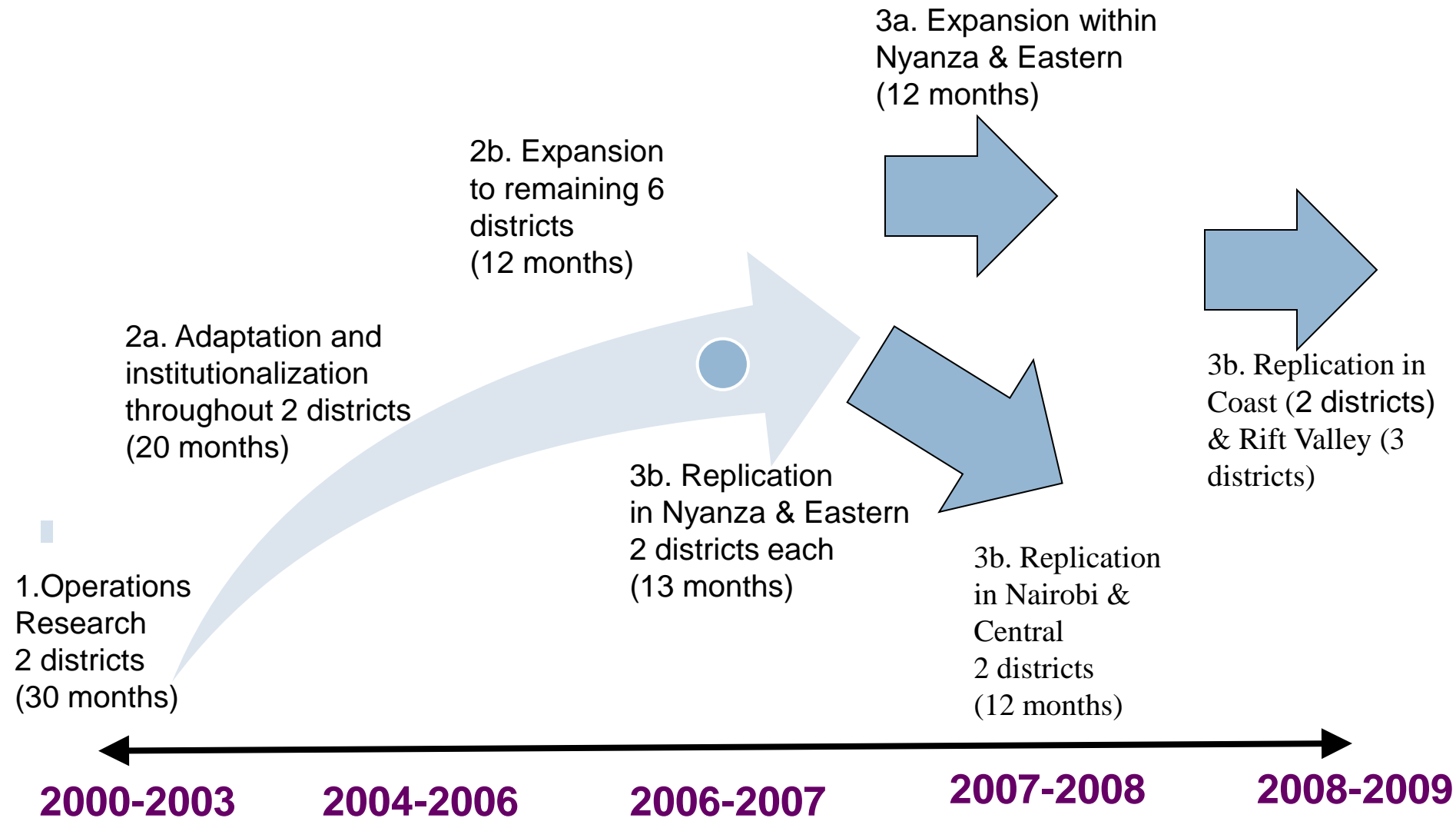
Research and Technical Assistance: An inverse relationship over 3 stages



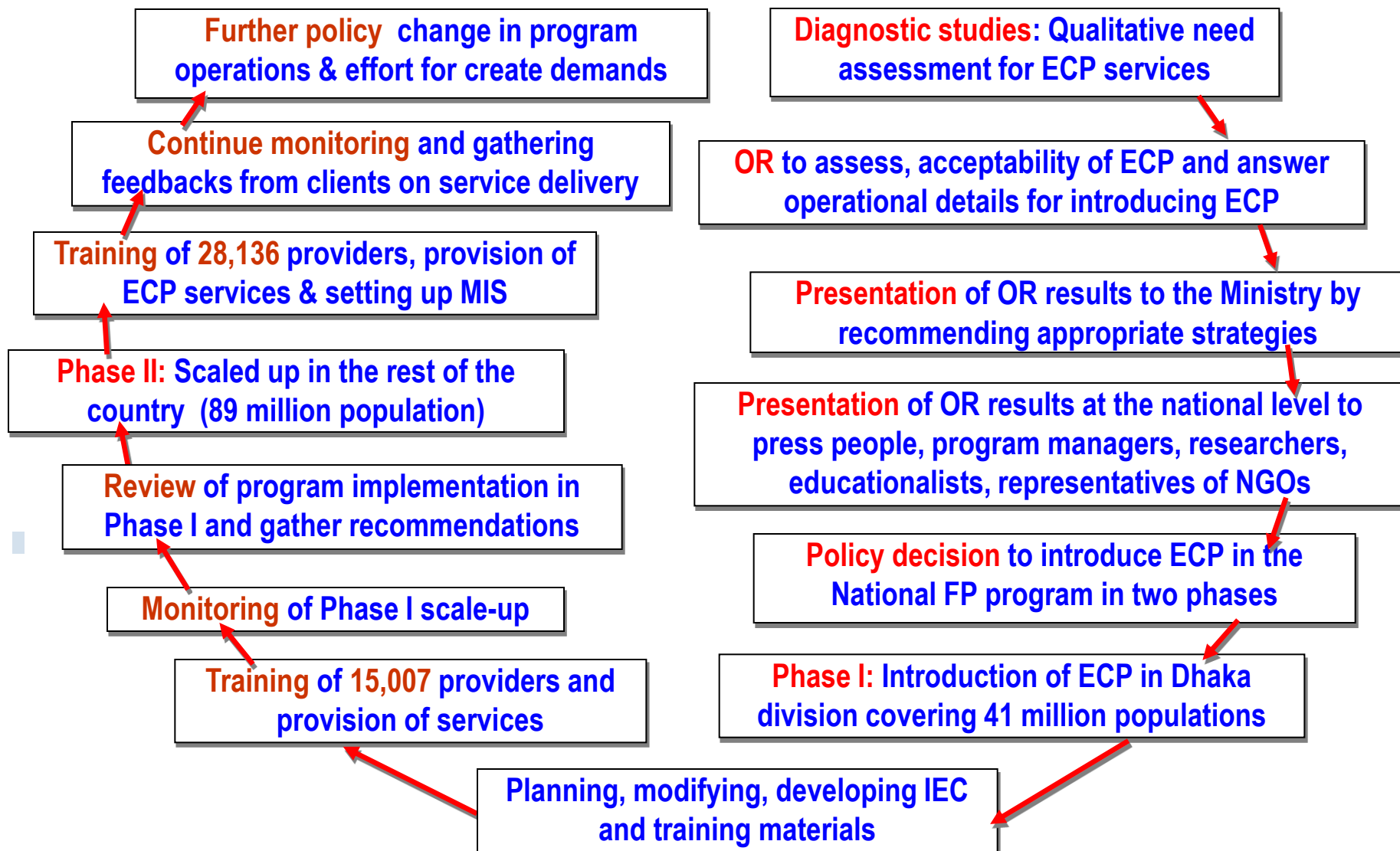
Creating conditions for scale-up

- ✓ Review implementation experiences during pilot project and identify policy / systems modifications needed
- ✓ Technical assistance to modify systems ***on a limited scale***:
 - At most appropriate administrative level for planning and budgeting decisions (e.g. district)
- ✓ Demonstrate through research that the intervention can be institutionalized and sustained:
 - i. Incorporated into and funded through existing systems
 - ii. Embedded as routine procedures
 - iii. Implemented and funded at a sustainable scale
- ✓ Team approach that combines TA with research

Example – Kenya Adolescent Reproductive Health Project (KARHP)



Example: Bangladesh Emergency Contraception



Implications and challenges

1. Implementers committed to modifying systems informed by research-based evidence
2. Donors appreciate and able to fund phased approach and intimate relationship between research and technical assistance
3. Researchers able to organize and implement a multifaceted mechanism to implement this strategy:
 - teams; consortia; coalitions; partnerships

STEP UP

STRENGTHENING EVIDENCE FOR PROGRAMMING ON UNINTENDED PREGNANCY



UKaid

from the British people

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