Supporting Laboratory Systems Strengthening

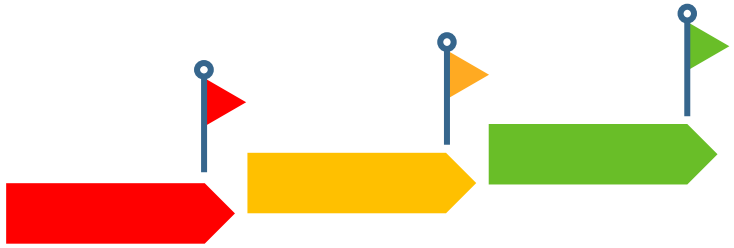
The Global Fund

Identified Challenge

Countries **regularly** undertake various readiness and system maturity assessments…

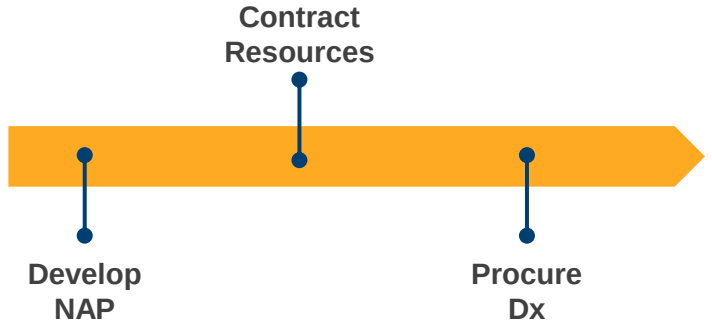
- **LABNET Assessment**
- **GHSA** Survey
- **Joint External Evaluation** (WHO)
- **WHO AFRO** Survey
- **Health Facility Assessments** (HFAs)
- **Program Reviews**

Identifying limitations of national laboratory infrastructure…



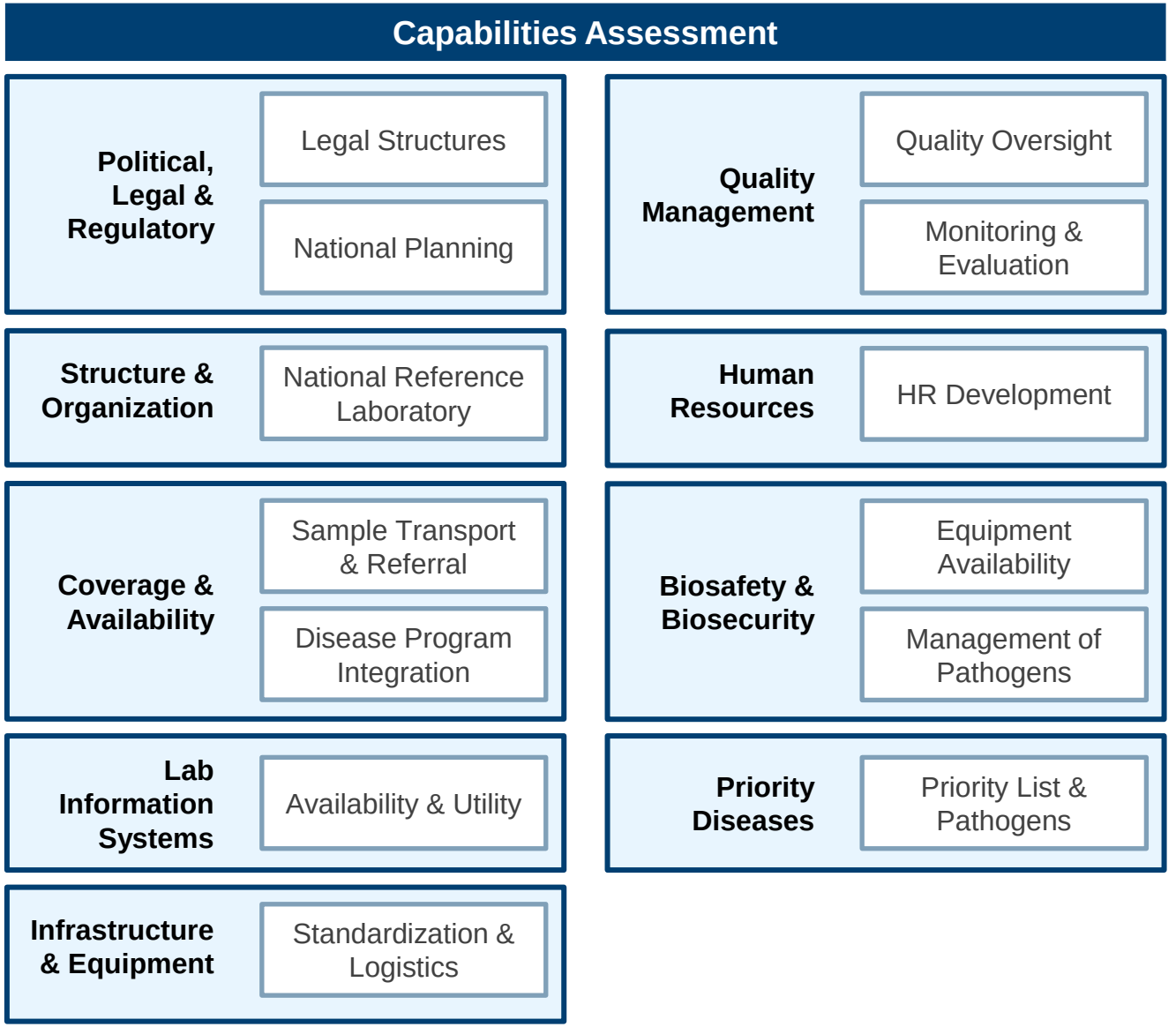
Output: What needs to be implemented to achieve the next level of functionality of each core capability?

With resulting outputs **under-leveraged** due to **insufficient downstream utility** of the tools



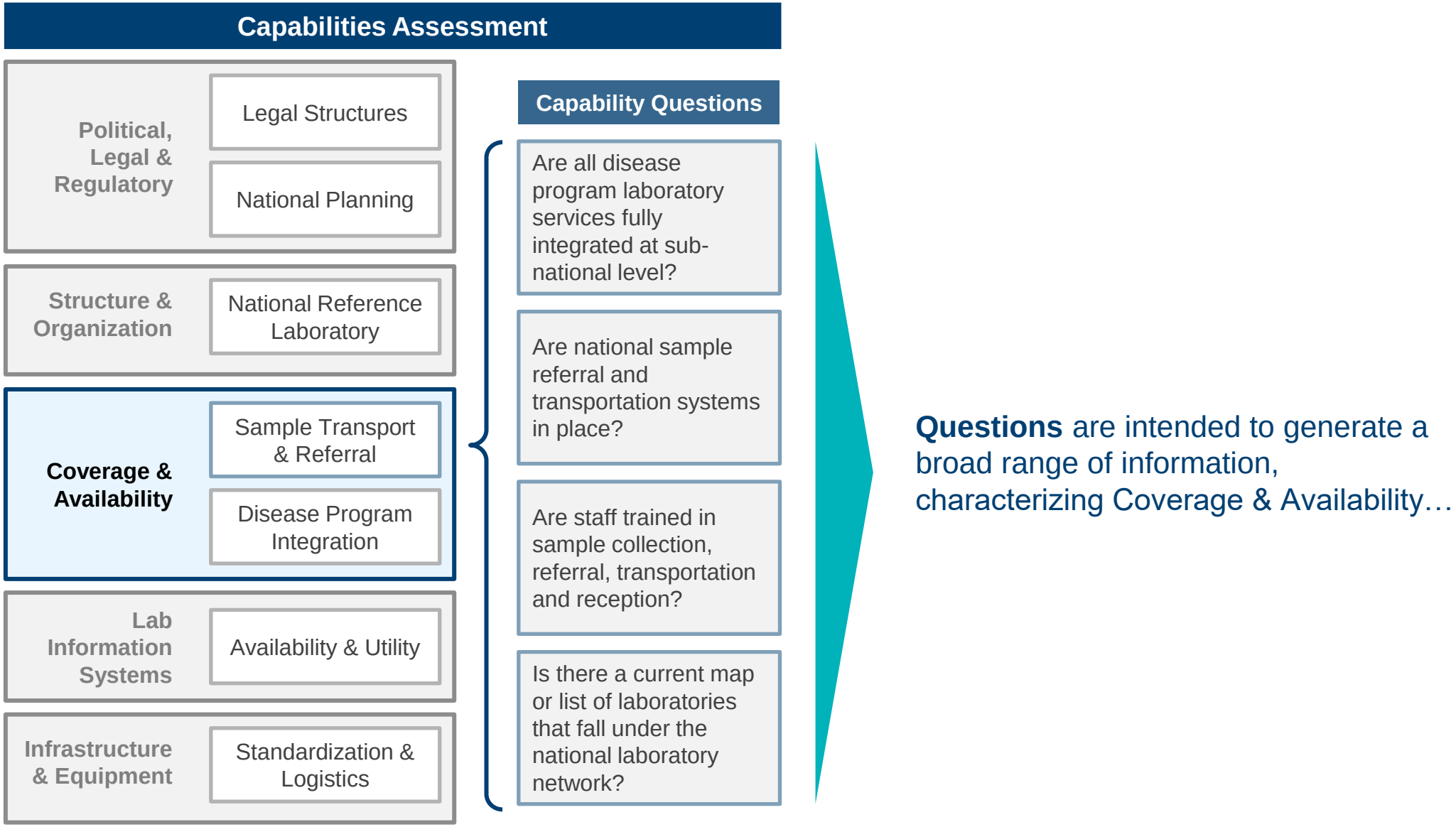
Milestones and core functionalities do not detail the **steps required** to drive system readiness forward

Readiness-based approach: 9 Lab Readiness System Core Capabilities



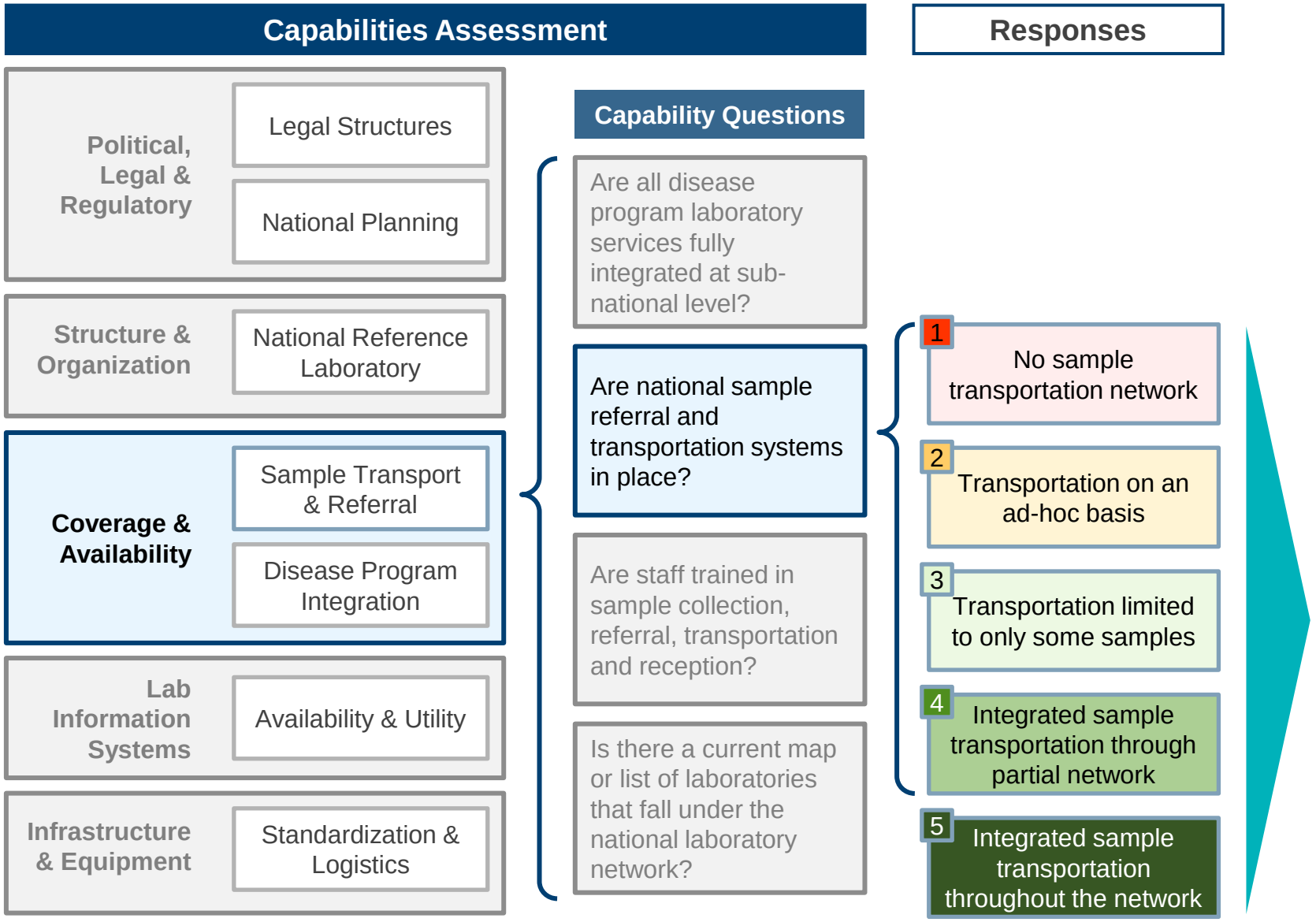
Building blocks to guide the stepwise implementation of laboratory capability to prevent, detect and act upon existing and emerging diseases.

Readiness-based approach



Questions are intended to generate a broad range of information, characterizing Coverage & Availability…

Readiness-based approach



Responses provide a more detailed understanding of system readiness

Readiness-based approach

NEW

Capabilities Assessment

- **Political, Legal & Regulatory**
  - Legal Structures
  - National Planning
- **Structure & Organization**
  - National Reference Laboratory
- **Coverage & Availability**
  - Sample Transport & Referral
  - Disease Program Integration
- **Lab Information Systems**
  - Availability & Utility
- **Infrastructure & Equipment**
  - Standardization & Logistics

Capability Questions

- Are all disease program laboratory services fully integrated at sub-national level?
- Are national sample referral and transportation systems in place?
- Are staff trained in sample collection, referral, transportation and reception?
- Is there a current map or list of laboratories that fall under the national laboratory network?

Responses

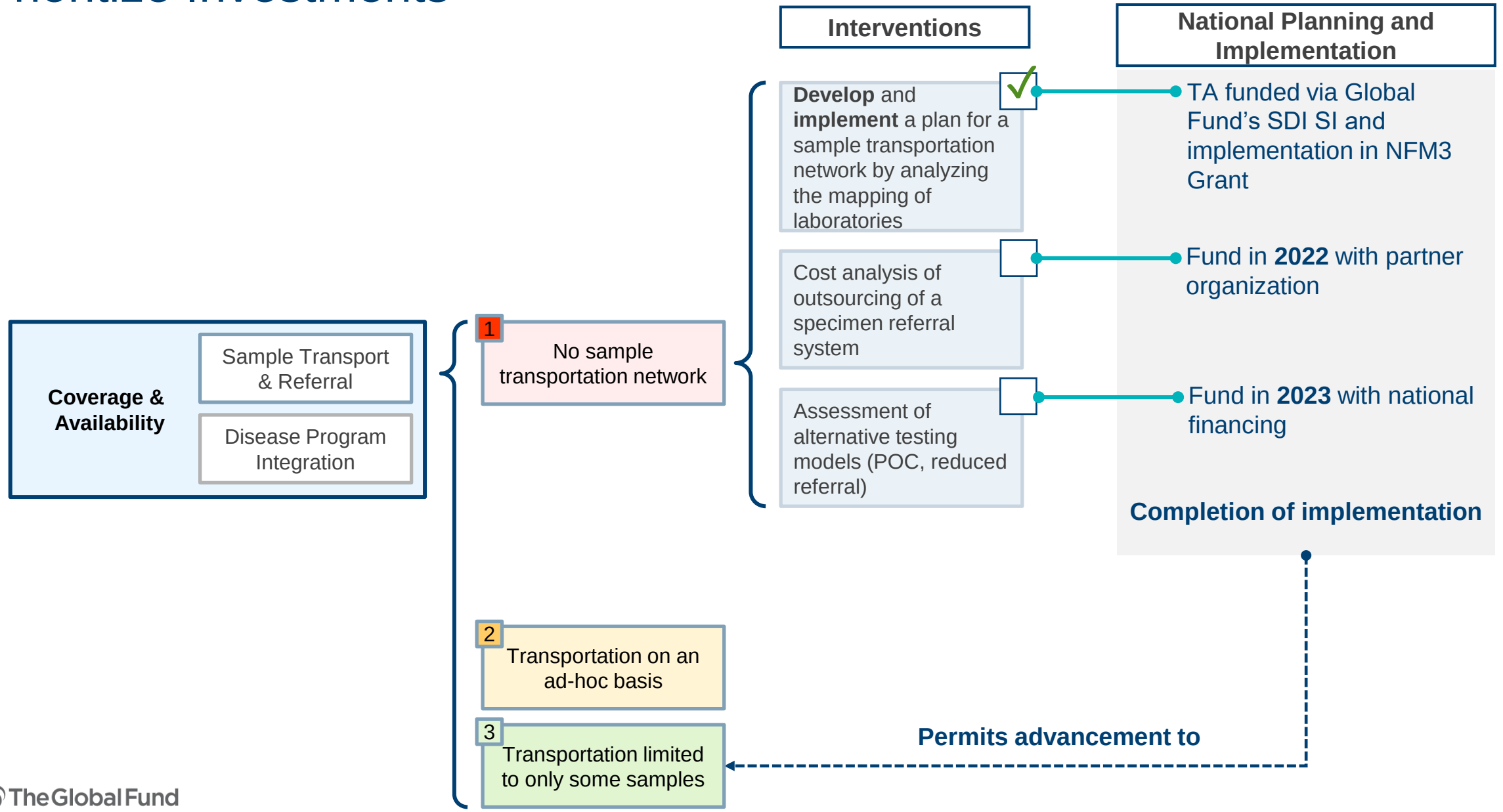
1. No sample transportation network
2. Transportation on an ad-hoc basis
3. Transportation limited to only some samples
4. Integrated sample transportation through partial network
5. Integrated sample transportation throughout the network

Interventions

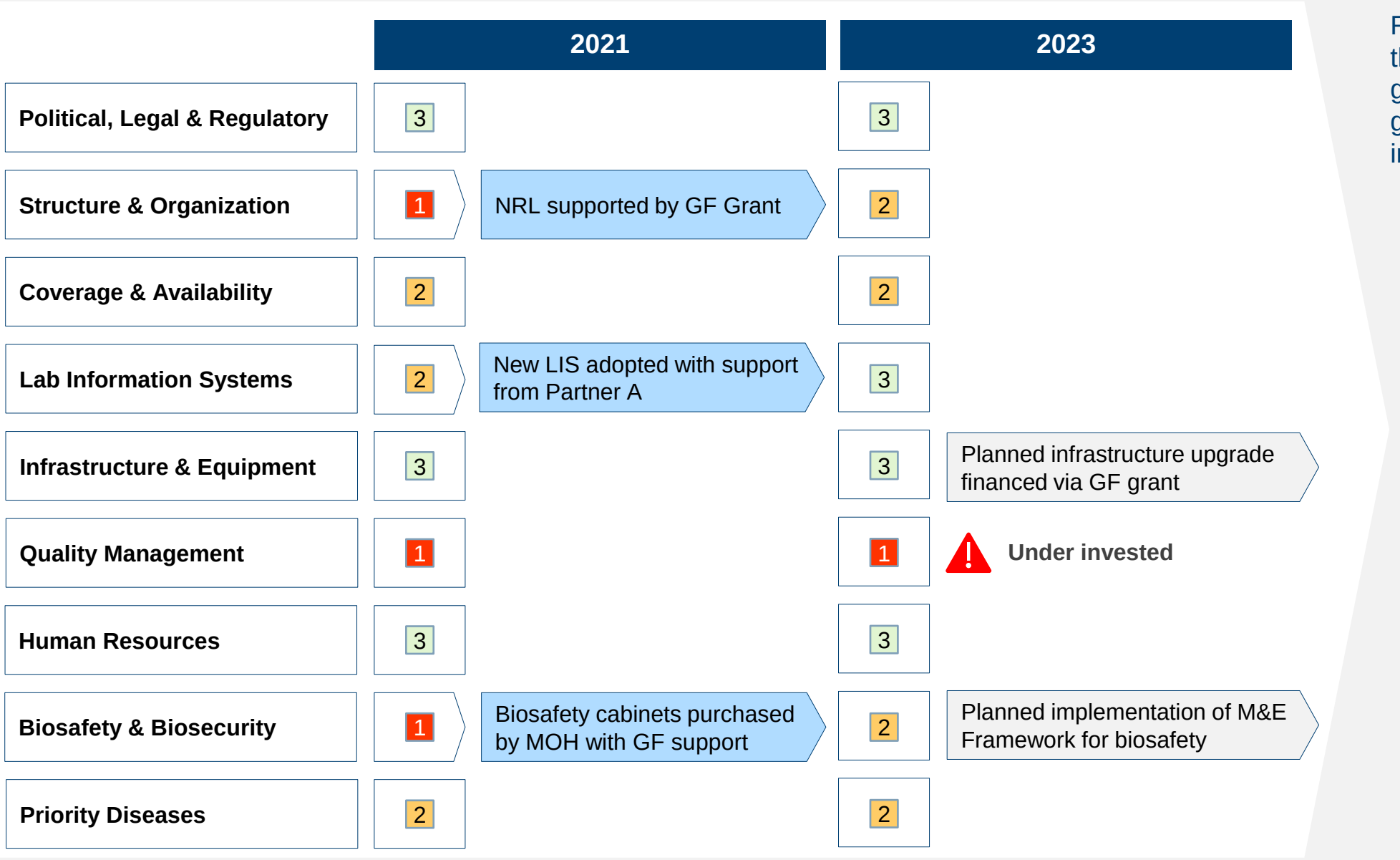
- ✓ Develop a plan for a sample transportation network by analyzing the mapping of laboratories
- Cost analysis of outsourcing of a specimen referral system
- Assessment of alternative testing models (POC, reduced referral)
- ***Country and partner suggestion***

Develop TORs

Prioritize Investments



Integration to the RSSH Dashboard



Results will be integrated into the RSSH dashboard, generating more advanced and granular visibility over country investments