

Figure 6.1: How to prioritize IR questions?

The problem is urgent. To know if it's urgent, find out:

- Is the problem severe? Is it widespread?
- What is the worst thing that can happen if the problem is not solved?
- Who is affected by the problem?

The research is feasible. To know if it's feasible, find out:

- Are there sufficient resources to do the study?
- Are there sufficient resources to implement the recommendations?
- Is there support from local or national authorities to participate in the IR and implement recommendations?

The results can be used to make the intervention more effective. To know this, find out:

- Are there any interventions that already effectively addressed this problem?
- Will the results of previous intervention research apply to my context?
- What is the likelihood that recommendations will be adopted?
- How will the findings be used to improve health?
- Can the research be completed quickly (i.e. less than 36 months)?
- Is the research acceptable to relevant stakeholders, including those who will be studied?
- Will the results be shared with the people being studied?