

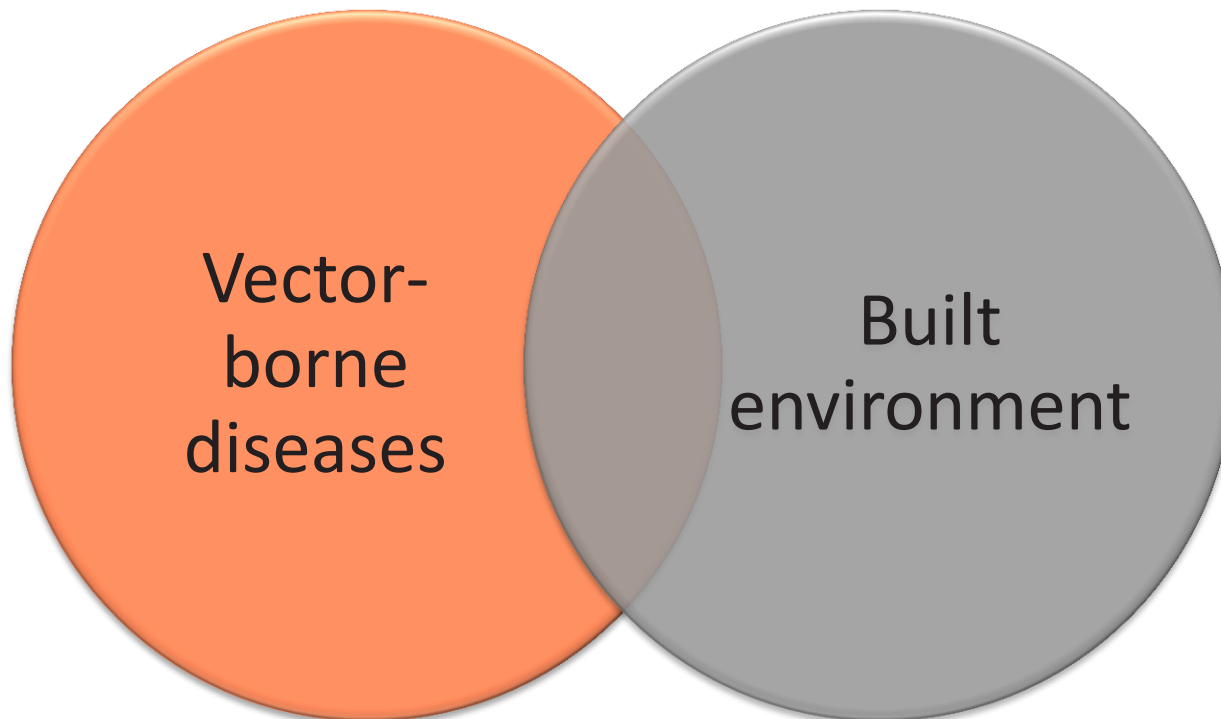
# **BOVA Network - building out insect-borne diseases in sub-Saharan Africa**

**Anne Wilson**

**RBM VCWG, 7-9 Feb 2018**

# What is the BOVA Network?

- Interdisciplinary network of researchers and practitioners working on insect-borne diseases and the built environment
- Aims to establish a new research discipline



# BOVA Network activities

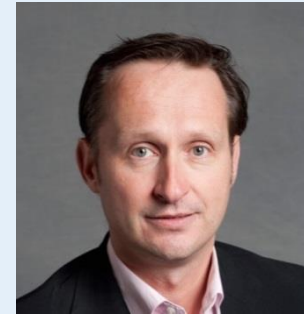
1. Pump-prime funding
2. Global advocacy
3. Yearly open network meetings for information exchange
4. Grant writing workshops

# Who are we?

## Network directors



Prof. Steve Lindsay  
Durham University

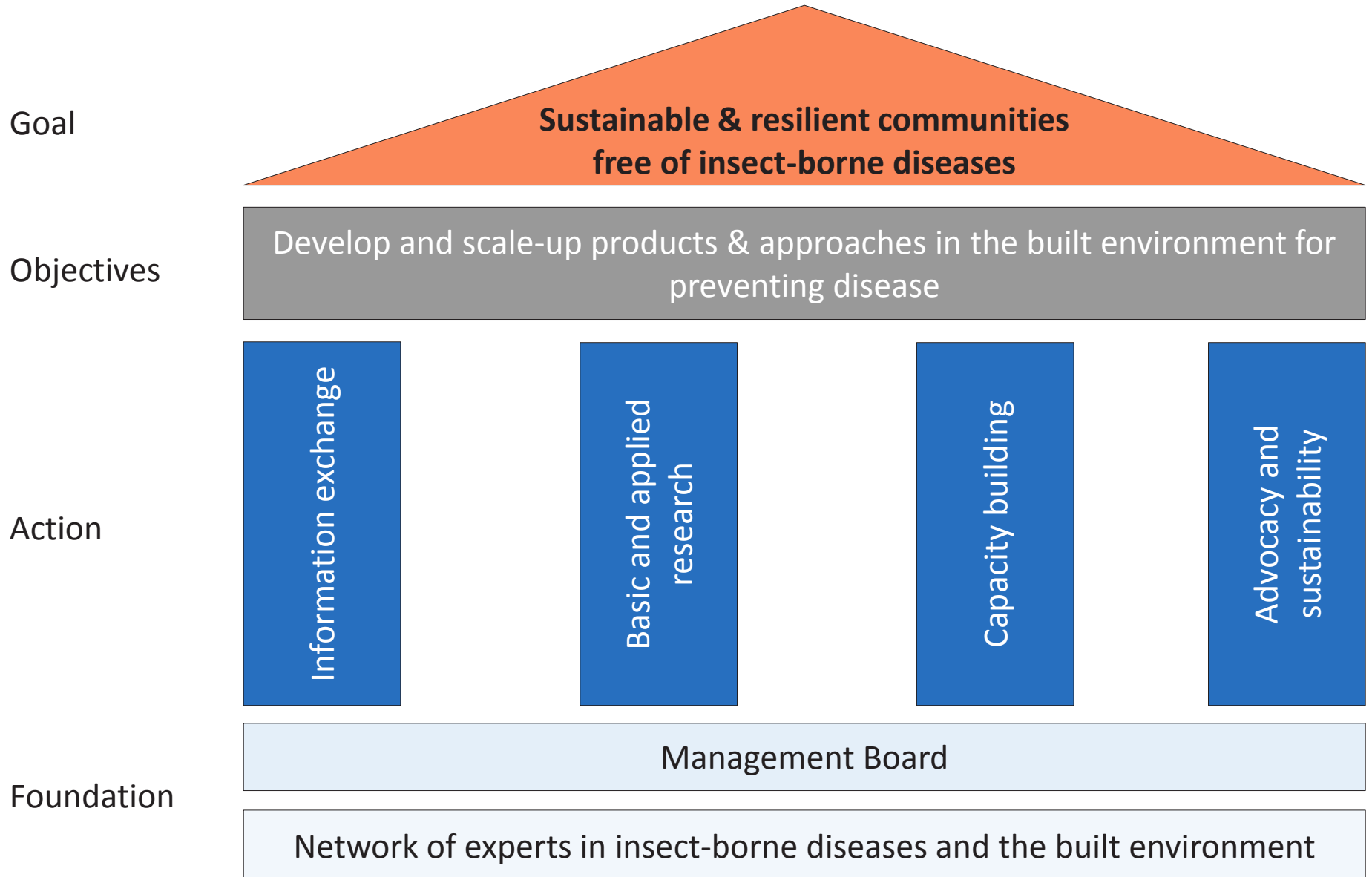


Prof. Mike Davies  
UCL

## Network Management Board

(architects, economists, policy makers, urban planners,  
development practitioners, product developers AND  
entomologists/epidemiologists)

# BOVA Conceptual Framework



# Why the built environment?

- Determinants of vector-borne diseases lie outside the health sector
- GVCR calls for multi-sectoral response
- Need to expand the vector control toolbox



World Health Organization TDR For research on diseases of poverty





# Link between insect-borne diseases & the built environment

Poorly screened houses



Open water containers



Polluted still water



Solid waste accumulation





# What can be done through the built environment?

- Housing improvements
  - Growing evidence this is effective against malaria and *Aedes* borne diseases
- Environmental management
  - Drainage and filling
  - Solid waste management
  - Reliable piped water





# Research gaps

- What is the basic biology of mosquito house entry?
- How can we prevent mosquitoes coming indoors while keeping houses cool?
- How can we amend housing design to prevent other VBDs?
- What are the risk factors for *Aedes* infestation in African cities?
- How can we mobilise communities and stakeholders to do environmental management against *Aedes* in Africa?

**We're having our first network meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> March in London! All welcome! Travel bursaries available**

Sign up to attend via:  
[www.bovanetwork.org](http://www.bovanetwork.org)



@bovanetwork

