

Towards stronger public health with and for Victoria's multicultural communities

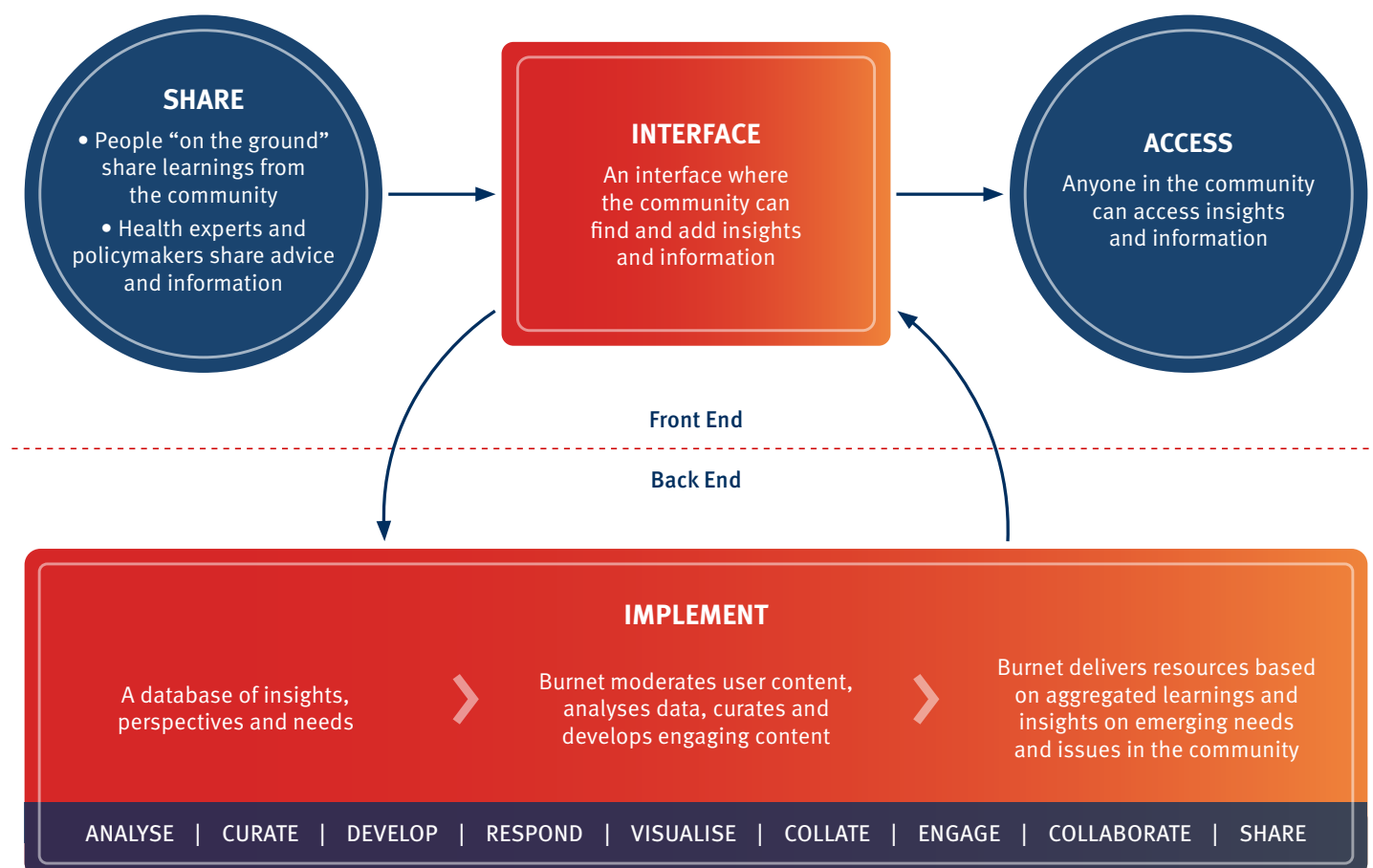
VOICE: AN ONGOING INITIATIVE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Inequitable engagement with multicultural communities and limited culturally appropriate service provision are not new issues; however, the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted and exacerbated these inequities. Multicultural communities in Australia faced almost triple the rates of morbidity and mortality from COVID-19 than those born here*.

Service providers working with Victoria's multicultural communities need open communication with one another and with government. As we transition to pandemic recovery, there is a window of opportunity to build better systems and approaches which support collaboration and innovation.



Burnet Institute, in partnership with service providers and government, are building a strong platform to improve multicultural community engagement. VOICE will ensure that service providers can meaningfully collaborate, share information and expertise. This will mean concerns and emerging issues are rapidly surfaced with government, ensuring multidisciplinary responses are built rapidly and effectively.



*People born overseas saw 6.8 deaths per 100,000 people from COVID-19, compared to 2.3 for those born in Australia



Our team

We are a multidisciplinary team with skills and experience in research, evaluation, community engagement, communications, content development, design, young people's health, digital engagement and mental health. Our leadership team includes some of the most highly regarded public health, epidemiology and infectious disease experts in Australia.

We are partnering with multicultural community members, key health and community service providers and the award-winning design agency, Today, to co-design and build our digital platform and engage in a range of other activities.

We are seeking funding to develop VOICE beyond the set-up and pilot phase.

Funding will support:

- Ongoing development of our digital platform with Today to meet the needs of service providers, government and other stakeholders.
- Burnet's team working to moderate user content, analyse data, curate and develop engaging content, delivering insights on emerging needs and issues in the community.
- Collaboration with community partners and stakeholders on focused pieces of work in the community to address needs, and document and share best practices to work towards better systems and health outcomes for multicultural communities.
- Documentation and sharing of best practice to work towards better systems and health outcomes for multicultural communities.

**Join us in working towards
a more equitable community**