PACIFIC ISLANDS
HIV AND STI RESPONSE FUND
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SPC
Secretariat
of the Pacific
Community

Burnet Institute
Medical Research. Practical Action.

Process 9.
The Objectives Tree.

Resources for developing National Strategic Frameworks
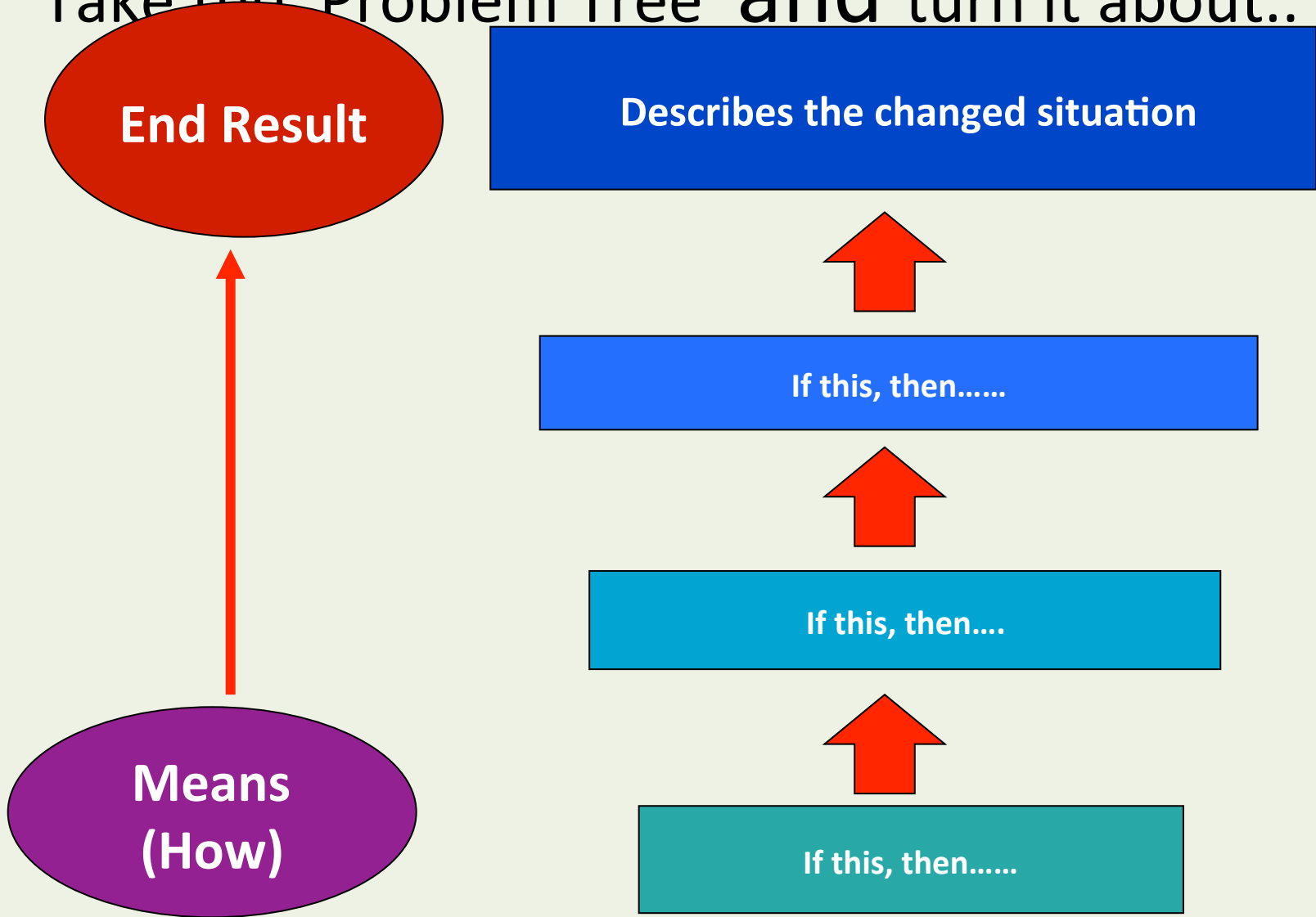
The Objectives Tree

Using your problem analysis to decide what to do about the problem – moving to the future:

Next Step: Setting Objectives – or Outcomes:
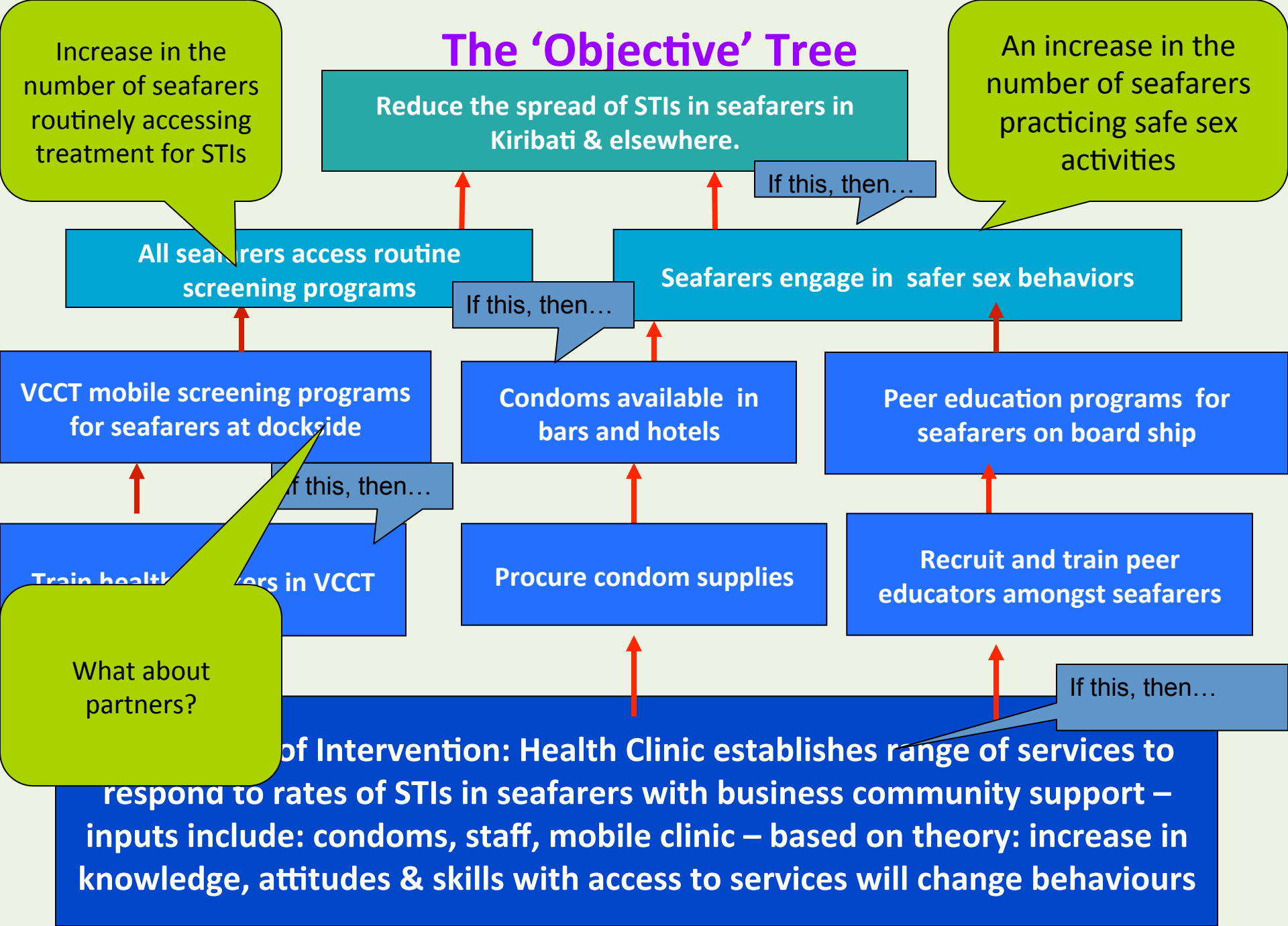
Turn your problems upside down – the Objectives Tree

Take the 'Problem Tree' and turn it about..

End Result

Describes the changed situation

↑

If this, then……

↑

If this, then….

↑

If this, then……

Means (How)

The 'Objective' Tree

Reduce the spread of STIs in seafarers in Kiribati & elsewhere.

Increase in the number of seafarers routinely accessing treatment for STIs

An increase in the number of seafarers practicing safe sex activities

If this, then…

All seafarers access routine screening programs

Seafarers engage in safer sex behaviors

If this, then…

VCCT mobile screening programs for seafarers at dockside

Condoms available in bars and hotels

Peer education programs for seafarers on board ship

If this, then…

Train health workers in VCCT

Procure condom supplies

Recruit and train peer educators amongst seafarers

What about partners?

If this, then…

of Intervention: Health Clinic establishes range of services to respond to rates of STIs in seafarers with business community support – inputs include: condoms, staff, mobile clinic – based on theory: increase in knowledge, attitudes & skills with access to services will change behaviours

Developing the Objectives tree

Using your problem tree as a guide

1. Develop a positive or 'Outcome' statement to match each level of your problem tree

2. Your 'outcome statements' should reflect a causal relationship hierarchy of 'interventions' to address the problem at each level….

3. Consider:

   - Does it identify who is affected at each level?

   - Does it reflect priorities amongst your outcomes ?

   - Does the program's logic grow out of your assessment of the situation – the problem, context & stakeholders?

   - Does it reflect your organisation's theory of how change happens?

Some critical questions once you develop your 'problem' tree

- **How will you determine your priority for the point of intervention?**
  - **What resources do you have?**
  - **What areas can you influence – and for what are you responsible?**
  - **Is this your 'line of control'?**
  - **Does this reflect how you think change happens - in this context?**
  - **Would (should) anything else influence your choice of priorities?**

Handy Hints for Developing Objective tree

- **Remember your causal relationship –**
  - **If…then…**

- **You may find it easier to start at the 'end result' and work down…..**

Test your causal relationships again and again…
  - **Why…? because…**