From Research to Action: Communicating more effectively with decision makers in Tanzania

Leonard E.G. Mboera, PhD, DIC
National Institute for Medical Research
Effective communication of research findings?

Challya et al. 2010
Motorcycle injuries as an emerging public health problem in Mwanza City, north-western Tanzania.

- (i) protective gear to include a helmet, eye and face protection, long pants, gloves, boots and a durable long-sleeved jacket;
- (ii) restriction of alcohol consumption before operating a motorcycle;
- (iii) strict enforcement of traffic laws and regulations;
- (iv) headlights to be kept on all the time during motorcycle riding; and
- (v) all motorcycle riders' should undertake course before being licensed as motorcyclists.

Motorcycle injuries accounts for 37.5% of road accidents.....
ACT No. 23 of 1979 mandates NIMR to

- establish a system of the registration of, and to register the findings of medical research carried out within Tanzania, and promote the practical application of those findings for the purpose of improving or advancing the health and general welfare of the people.

- establish and operate systems of documentation and dissemination of information on any aspect of the medical research carried out by or on behalf of the institute;
Communication Mechanisms

Major Mechanisms:

- Programme Advisory Board
Submission of technical reports to MoHSW

MALARIA AND AGRICULTURE IN TANZANIA
Impact of land-use and agricultural practices on malaria burden in Mvomero District
Technical Report


April 2007
Conduct seminars and workshops
Annual Joint Scientific Conferences
Feed back meetings to study district and community
Journal publications
Communications Mechanisms, cont..

Minor Mechanisms:

- Television
- Radio
- Newspapers
- Policy briefs
- Research summary
- Fact sheets
- Newsletter
Challenges

- Currently weak capacity to link up health research, health policy and health problems
- Lack of facilitated fora for interaction among researchers, policy makers and implementers
- Poor capacity in policy analysis
- Inadequate resources for research communication
- Lack of culture to utilize evidence among policy and decision makers
Asanteni Sana