

Research for Health Africa

SUPPORTING COUNTRY RESEARCH GOVERNANCE AND INNOVATION

April 2013



THREE INSTITUTIONS IN MOZAMBIQUE are working together to implement web-based systems within their organisations for the management of research projects, research proposals and ethical review processes. Although each organisation will each adopt a stand-alone system, their forward-thinking approach means that by collaborating today, they will see their efforts grow and form the basis of a harmonious national standard in years to come.

The institutions will be using COHRED's web-based information management system – RHInnO (www.RHInnO.net) and planning got off to a great start during the first workshop in Maputo in February. To ensure the project's success, Researcher Marta Cassocera has been contracted to liaise between the institutions, the National Ethics Committee and COHRED's Web4Development team - supported by the R4HA programme.

The R4HA team aims to facilitate knowledge sharing and learning across countries and welcomed a representative from Malawi National Commission for Science and Technology at the workshop to see first hand the approach taken by Mozambique. Contact Kathy (douglas@cohred.org) if you are interested in taking part in a similar visit.

Creating a Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

R4HA team member, Emanuel Souvairan, facilitated a three-day workshop for R4HA partner COSTECH in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in March. The practical workshop aimed to use the time as productively as possible to create a ready-to-use framework for COSTECH staff to monitor and evaluate its activities.

The hands-on approach of the workshop saw attendees - from both COSTECH and partner organisations – use 'Outcome Mapping' to learn that by monitoring the progressive changes in the action and interaction of partners directly working with them, they can evaluate the influence of COSTECH's activities to create change.

Armed with the information from the workshop, COSTECH's staff is already reviewing current methods and processes to adopt the new learning.

RHInnO Progresses in Senegal

Implementation of RHInnO is ongoing in Senegal, the finalised platform is undergoing testing before rolling out to researchers in Senegal by June.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Knowledge Sharing Workshop

Following the knowledge sharing workshop held in Tanzania in November 2012 – reported in the December issue of R4HA NEWS, the meeting report is now available <u>online</u>.



R4HA Group of Advisors Meeting

The R4HA team had the opportunity to join the Group of R4HA Advisors at a recent meeting in Geneva. The meeting focused on the future of the programme and how it can be expanded to provide a range of technical services and training to other countries.

The meeting coincided with the COHRED colloquium on the theme of sustainable investments into research and innovation for health. For more information on COHRED Colloquium 2013 click here.



The team has welcomed the support of colleagues from COHRED Africa – Boitumelo Mokgatla-Moipolai and Mary Kasule – both specialists in Research Ethics. Boitumelo and Mary have been using their extensive knowledge to guide and develop the tailored RHInnO Ethics software currently being produced for Tanzania and Mozambique.

Impact Grants Available

Readers may be interested to hear that TDR is offering grants to researchers and health professionals who want to improve specific skills to ensure their work impacts on local health needs. For more information click here.