COHRED Tech is the technical arm of The COHRED Group, specialised in providing technical support aimed at strengthening research and innovation systems for health in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), with the ultimate goal of improving health, equity and development in these countries.

We provide services to interested parties be these governments, research and academic institutions or funding agencies requesting technical support services. Our focus is on ensuring a comprehensive approach to research and innovation system strengthening, making full use of a country's abilities and resources, enhancing its global competitiveness as well as its ability to strengthen its own development through research and innovation.

We work with in-house experts, as well as with a group of external consultants, mostly from low- and middle-income countries, that can reinforce skills and expertise needed to fit the needs of our partners.

Products and services

We provide services in the following areas:

- Management and coordination to advance national research oversight;
- Priority setting to provide stakeholder input into the establishment of research agendas;
- Policy development to provide vision for national research development;
- Financing strategy to develop a focused research funding plan;
- Human resources strategy development to scale-up research capacity;
- Research ethics review to ensure that the research implemented meets standard criteria;
- Fair research contracting to enable fair funding opportunities for southern institutions;
- Monitoring and evaluation to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of research investments; and
- E-based management information systems for research and innovation.
Institutions and countries interested in partnering with COHRED Tech can do so at various levels of intensity depending on their own capacity, resources and needs. COHRED Tech provides on-line support or can place experienced professionals on-site for periods of time if requested. Besides technical support, working with COHRED Tech also provides access to tools, communication opportunities and a network of people working towards research and innovation system development.

All services can be provided as stand alone modules. However, the aim of COHRED Tech is to work with partners in overall research and innovation system strengthening. This often requires more than one technical area to be addressed.

Every new partnership starts with a needs assessment to ensure the services provided are tailored optimally to the identified priorities. COHRED Tech works at a cost-recovery and not-for-profit rate. If a partner is not able to pay for the requested services, COHRED Tech will work with the institution to secure third-party funding.

COHRED Tech works with Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mozambique, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Tanzania on strengthening their national research and innovation systems for health. Support services are targeted to strengthening research governance and management structures; defining research agendas and research policies; developing national research for health management information systems; and providing advice on other system strengthening components that reinforce health and development. COHRED Tech also promotes learning and networking between countries across Africa. The support is provided through a range of technical and political partnerships with national and regional organisations, such as the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the West African Health Organisation (WAHO), national ministries of health and science and technology, and national research institutes.

In Latin America, the focus of COHRED Tech is on developing and providing web-based research governance training courses targeted towards country research managers. The training is developed and provided through a partnership with the Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública (INSP) in Mexico and the Red Iberoamericana Ministerial de Aprendizaje e Investigación en Salud (RIMAIS) network.
The COHRED Group focuses on strengthening the governance and management of systems of low and middle-income countries (LMICs) in their efforts to use research, science and technology and innovation to improve health, equity and development. As such, the Group partners with LMICs in providing technical support on research and innovation systems for health. The Group works to share its experiences from the LMICs with high-income countries and their institutions, business and citizens - for the purposes of creating real health change in the LMICs. The Group is also proactive in connecting, advocating and monitoring progress towards health, equity and development through research and innovation at the national, regional and global levels.

As the technical arm of the COHRED Group, COHRED Tech provides support, technical expertise and tools to LMICs to help them strengthen their research and innovation systems for health. COHRED Tech plays a backstopping role at the local and national levels of research for health and innovation.

If you are interested in the activities of COHRED Tech, please contact:
Mexico Francisco Becerra, becerra@cohred.org
Geneva Gabriela Montorzi, montorzi@cohred.org
Kathy Douglas, douglas@cohred.org