Health Research Web

Access to essential data and information on health research

Join the Health Research Web global community

www.healthresearchweb.org

Responding to user needs.

HRWeb is an interactive platform that gives rapid access to research information on governance and policies, research projects, publications, ethics reviews and much more. It is free of charge for registered users - visit www.healthresearchweb.org to sign up.

A platform for improved health research…and better health

HRWeb is a platform for everyone interested in health research. To interact, share experiences and make their work and ideas more accessible – and their research more relevant. Typical users include health researchers and managers, civil society organisations, government officials, development agencies and global health initiatives and research funders.

HRWeb facilitates:

- Transparency and governance of health research
- Dissemination and review of research results
- Use of evidence to inform policy and practice
- Sharing and building new partnerships
- South-south learning and collaboration
- Support to capacity building and joint learning

Searching information

It surely happens to many of us. When drafting a study protocol urgent information needs arise about projects and their research results. Who is doing what in which country? What has been done so far? Have the results been published? Who to contact for project funding? HRWeb gives rapid access to essential health research information.

the HRWeb interactive platform was started in September 2009, after four years of the first generation HRWeb service. this brochure sketches how HRWeb will evolve as users wolrdwide increase their use of the platform.

Health Research Web: key information for health research management

How does HRWeb work?

Click the interactive map on the main HRWeb page and select your country of interest. For each country, focused information is presented, on: Governance and Policies, national priorities for Health Research, Key Institutions or Networks, Ethics Review, Research Financing and Partnerships, Projects and Publications, and other information resources.

Improving the impact of research

HRWeb worked intensively with countries, institutions, researchers, media, donors and sponsors over the past years, listening to the needs of different stakeholders. The information needs, voiced by users are: basic research management information to enable them to improve their impact, collaboration, and focus.

All this information is downloadable, already aggregated in graphs or spreadsheets for analysis and cross-country comparisons. It permits analyses of national health research priorities – to see which research interventions are most effective in each country.

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The HRWeb interactive platform

Imagine a world where all 'floating'research information can be accessed at the click of a mouse. With this in mind the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) has designed Health Research Web (HRWeb) (www.healthresearchweb.org) as an interactive platform to share all relevant information on health research by country.

Key users and benefits

- Governments – to improve the governance, leadership management or research for health in their countries
- Research institutions – to better address national health needs and be better positioned for partnerships with other institutions and research sponsors.
- Academic institutions – to better support the development of 'human resources for health research'.
- Research sponsors and donors – to align better with the national health research priorities of low and middle income countries, to harmonize their research support for greater impact.
- Civil society organisations and NGOs – to focus research for health on areas of greatest need, and to increase accountability of those involved.
- Researchers in the north and south – to find partners and focus for their research projects and to help maximize impact.
- Media, health and science writers – to better understand how research for health can help solve countries' health problems.
- Informed citizens – to enable them to hold their government agencies and other research sponsors to account.
- All citizens – to enhance the use of research results to influence national and global research agendas to address people's health needs.

A new knowledge base – created by users

HRWeb breaks away from the traditional mode of data collection: 'by a few for the many'. Instead, sharing of HRWeb will evolve around user-driven knowledge. The focus is on users needs, with COHRED's main role is facilitation, platform development and editorial quality.

HRWeb uses 'Wiki thinking' and 'Wiki' technology to make possible – for the first time – the easy sharing and updating of information and experience between all those involved in health research across the world.

All data, information, knowledge on HRWeb is owned and maintained by users. Community interaction and learning spaces are owned and managed by their respective communities. Government information is managed by those with the mandate to provide and update the information on behalf of the government.

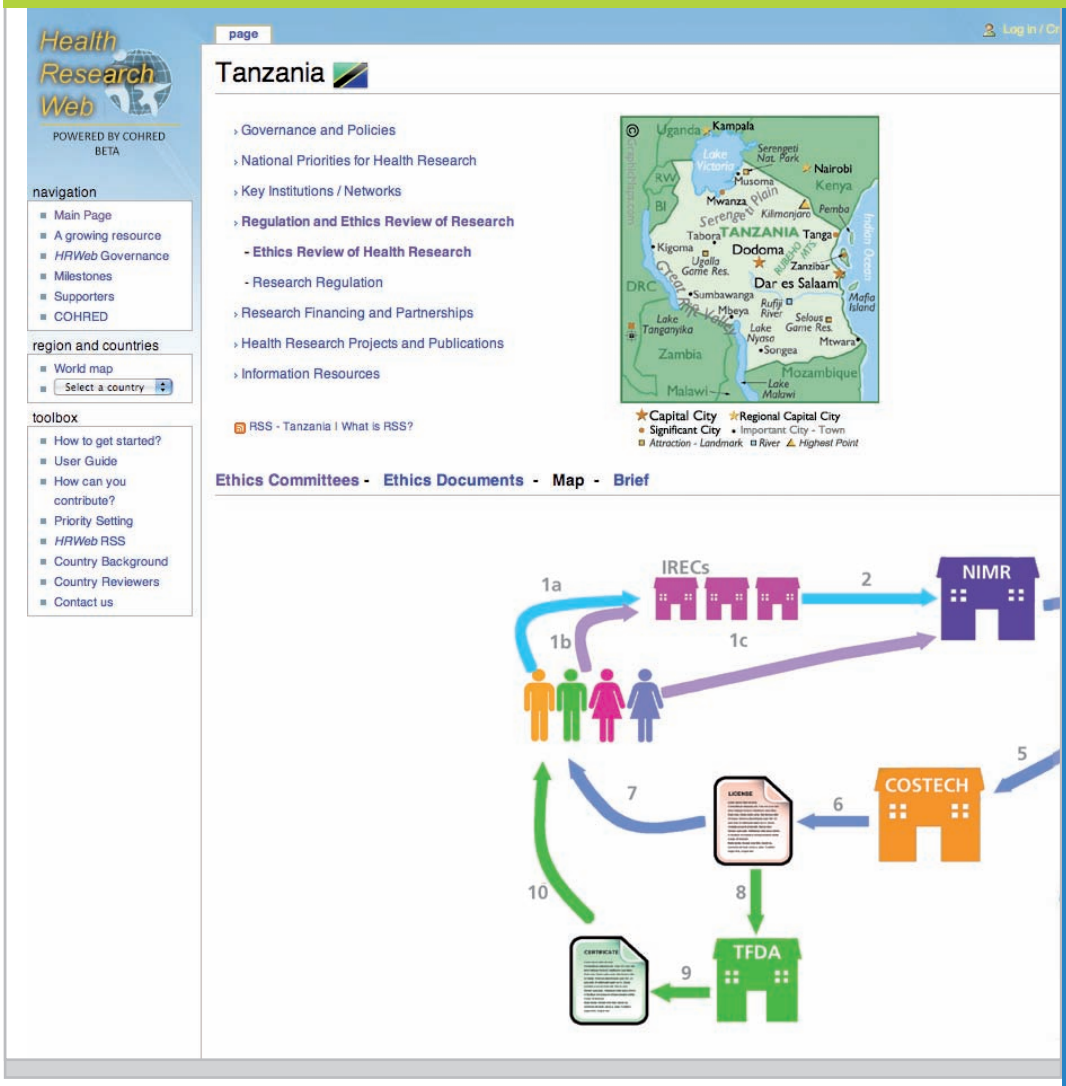
HRWeb will continue to grow as users add information, data and share experiences in the HRWeb wiki spaces. Sharing of useful and topical information will benefit all users...including you!

Access to health research information

Over the last decade, health research has become more relevant in both international and national development. In many low income countries, the overwhelming proportion of research funding (>90 %) comes from many different external sources. This budget is often the only resource available to stimulate the national research and innovation sectors. Therefore, it is not surprising that many national research managers are increasingly interested in having access to systematically collected information on international health research involving their own countries. Yet such information is hard to come by.

Quality and governance of HRWeb information is ensured by:

- Editorial policy.
- Country reviewers
- Board of Experts.



Join the Health Research Web global community

Register at www.healthresearchweb.org

Are you interested in improving health research – for health equity and national development?

Join the health research community.

For more information, contact
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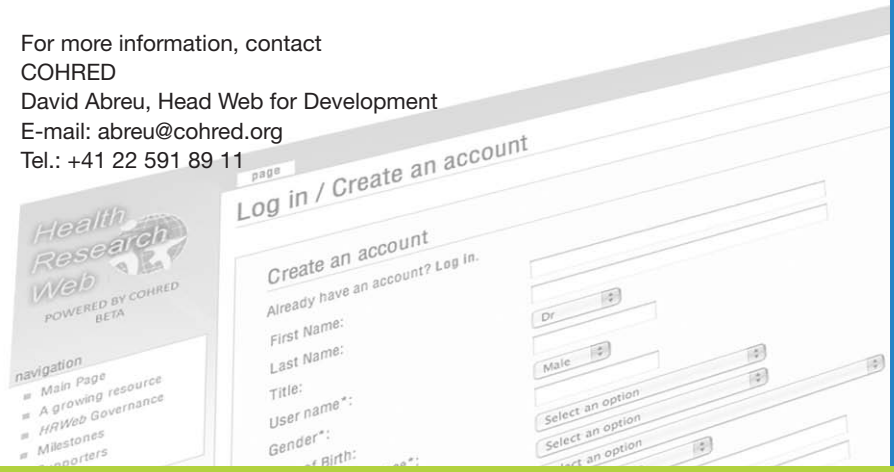

Partners and supporters

- IDRC - The International Development Research Centre (Canada)
- SDC - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- NACCAP – the Netherlands-African partnership for capacity development and clinical interventions against poverty-related diseases
- EDCTP – the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership programme of the European Union
- WHO/EMRO – the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office of the World Health Organization
- Department of Epidemiology, University Hospital Farhat Hached, Sousse, Tunisia
- Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office of the World Health Organization (WHO/EMRO)
- Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
- PCHRD - Philippine Council For Health Research and Development
- School of Psychology, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa
- Training and Resources in Research Ethics Evaluation for Africa (TRREE)
- NIOPH - The National Institute of Public Health, Vientiane, Lao PDR

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