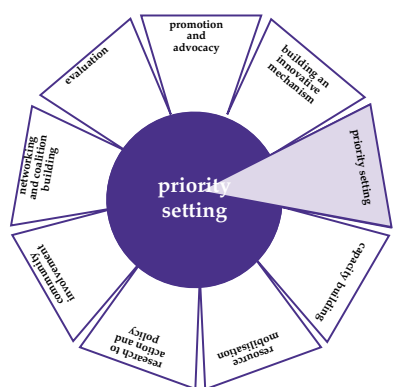


# Learning Brief



## ENHR priority setting – lessons from Nepal

COHRED's Working Group on Priority Setting published the booklet *Essential National Health Research and Priority Setting: Lessons Learned* in June, 1997. As the booklet was used by various countries for their own priority setting work, the group looked for opportunities to obtain feedback from these countries regarding the booklet itself, and about the priority-setting process as a whole. An event in Nepal provided such an opportunity.

A conference on setting health research priorities for Nepal was held from 12-14 August 1998, with 29 participants. Dr Mary Ann Lansang (Philippines), chair of COHRED's Working Group on Priority Setting, served as facilitator. In addition, there were 2 observers from Indonesia in anticipation of a similar exercise in Indonesia. The COHRED monograph, along with a short questionnaire, was distributed to conference participants. Dr Mary Ann Lansang also prepared a facilitator's report containing her observations and recommendations about this event and the lessons learned.

Some highlights from the participants' feedback concerning the monograph include the following:

- ◆ More country examples are needed (particularly from Asia)
- ◆ The equity issue should be elaborated, particularly in relation to imbalances in health status and research capacity, not only *between* countries, but also *within* a particular country

From the facilitator's report, the following key point should be noted:

- ◆ The participants recognised that several groups were not represented at the conference, including community groups and people's organisations, as well as policy makers and planners.

### Further Reading:

The following are recommended for **further information** on this topic:

1. *Essential National Health Research and Priority Setting: Lessons Learned*, COHRED document 97.3, Geneva, Switzerland.
2. *The Journal of Essential National Health Research Nepal* (September 1998, 1.1) contains the detailed proceedings of the Nepal Conference.
3. *Facilitator's Report on the Conference on Prioritisation of the ENHR Agenda*, Nagarkot, Nepal, 12-14 August 1998.

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