

List of Regional Health Research Organisations

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1. JOINT HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH PROGRAMME FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (HSR)

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1.1 MAIN OBJECTIVE OF NETWORK

To improve PHC by empowering policy-makers and health managers at all levels in decision-making on the basis of HSR results.

1.2 MAJOR AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Health sector reforms/policy
- Disease control
- Management of health systems
- Reproductive health issues, including HIV/AIDS, STD, MCH, FP, etc.
- Nutrition

1.3 TRAINING/CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMMES

Two types of training:

- (1) Proposal writing and report writing, accomplished in three stages over a period of six months
 - * Proposal writing (3 weeks)
 - * Data collection (4.5 to 5.5 months)
 - * Report writing (2 weeks)
- (2) Training of trainers
 - Criteria: People who have had training in (1).
 - Period: 12 days

Capacity Building:

For health professionals and managers and health-related sectors
Health institution lecturers
Health-related NGOs.

1.4 FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Originally, funding was basically through the Dutch Government.

As of 1996, WHO/HSR has a basket of donors. In a resource mobilisation meeting in 1995, a group of donors pledged funds for Phase III (1996–2000). So far, not all the pledges have been honoured. It is expected that this will happen in the near future. It is only then that we can have a complete list of supporters.

1.5 PUBLICATIONS (MAX. FIVE), INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS, IF ANY

Volume 1: Availability, provision and use of drugs.

Volume 2: Factors associated with maternal mortality.

Volume 3: Factors contributing to the underutilisation of out-patient services among TB patients.

Volume 4: Factors influencing the functioning of primary health care at village level.

Volume 5: Low coverage and usage of pit latrines in rural communities.

1.6 HSR PROJECT ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE 1996 – MAY 1997

- Preparation of HSR promotion materials (January 8–19, 1996)
- Country Support Mission to Mauritius (January 15–19, 1996)
- Backstopping / Country visit Namibia (February 5–9, 1996)
- Country Support Mission to Comoros (February 12–15, 1996)
- Data analysis NGOs (February 12–23, 1996)
- Country Support Mission to Sao Tomé (February 26–1 March, 1996)
- Country Support Mission to South Africa (March 11–15, 1996)
- Training of Trainers Madagascar (March 11–20, 1996)
- Consultative meeting Tanzania/Zanzibar (April 8–12, 1996)
- Data analysis workshop Cameroon & University Madagascar (April 15–26, 1996)
- HSR proposal development multicentre studies (April 22–May, 1996)
- Inventory HSR curricula (May 1–August 31, 1996)
- Country Support Mission to Lesotho and Swaziland & Consultative meetings (June 3–7, 1996)
- Development of modules on participatory research methods and on computer analysis (June 17–28, 1996)
- Country Support Mission to Uganda (July 8–12, 1996)
- Intercountry Training of Trainers (August 12–21, 1996)
- Development of Publication HSR curricula (September 1–13, 1996)
- HSR Training of Trainers Malawi (September 9–20, 1996)
- Proposal development policy linked research, Universities Zimbabwe (September 2–18, 1996)
- HSR proposal development multicentre studies (September 16–October 2, 1996)
- HSR Proposal development Mozambique (October 7–23, 1996)
- TAC meeting (November 11–13, 1996)
- HSR Managers Training (November 14–22, 1996)

1.7 PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Angola	Swaziland
Botswana	Republic of South Africa
Guinea Bissau	Seychelles
Kenya	Sao Tomé and Príncipe
Lesotho	Tanzania
Madagascar	Uganda
Malawi	Zambia
Mauritius	Zimbabwe
Mozambique	
Namibia	

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2.1 MAIN OBJECTIVES

- to create communication channels in order to improve the flow of information and ideas concerning health issues in Africa;
- to identify and facilitate opportunities for research and training in SSH for African scientists and institutions;
- to increase collaboration and cooperation between governmental and other agencies dealing with SSH activities;
- to establish linkages between SSH scientists and practitioners with policy and decision makers and the community;
- to strengthen the contribution and application of SSH in policy formulation and Implementation.

2.2 MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN 1996

- 3rd International Conference held in Harare, Zimbabwe
- Meeting of the Deans and Heads of University Departments
- Symposium on SSH at the African Health Sciences Congress
- Publishing the 2nd Edition of the Directory
- Publishing issue No. 4 of the Newsletter
- Publishing the 1995 annual report
- Establishment of chapters
- Recruitment of members
- The Second Proposal Development Workshop

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3.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE AMVTN

- To collect and publish information on potential field sites; to include background data, epidemiological information, infrastructure current activities and future prospects;
- To set criteria, guidelines and standards for future field trials and to promote the establishment of local scientific and ethical review boards;
- To facilitate the planning and conduct of future trials to ensure comparability between different African countries;
- To design training courses relevant to malaria vaccine trials, particularly for African scientists who may be involved in future trials;
- To create a forum for exchange of experience: regarding operational logistical difficulties;
- To provide a forum for Scientific discussions on the progress of malaria vaccine trials.

Organisation of the AMVTN

The AMVTN arose from a meeting that was held in Arusha, Tanzania in February 1995. The network which is non-exclusive is open to membership from all those interested within African research institutions. The Arusha meeting, which drew participants from 15 African countries, established a Working cum Contact Group (For names and addresses, see under **Contact Persons.**)

3.2 MAJOR AREAS OF RESEARCH

Malaria vaccines field trials.

3.3 TRAINING/CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMMES

The following activities are planned over the next six months:

- Workshop on Design and Methodology of Malaria Vaccine Trials — early December, 1996
- Workshop on Data Management in Malaria Vaccine Trials — first half of 1997.

3.4 FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

The European Commission has provided a grant (ECU 205,000) to establish the Network.

WHO/TDR has pledged US\$30,000 for the two workshops mentioned above.

WHO-AFRO has pledged US\$10,000 for one of the Workshops.

Two proposals have been submitted to other donors; they are under consideration.

3.5 PUBLICATIONS (MAX. FIVE), INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS, IF ANY

- AMVTN Newsletter, maiden issue scheduled for January 1997
- Directory of potential malaria vaccine trial sites, scheduled for March 1997.

3.6 MAJOR PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 1996/1997

- Site visits to and needs assessment of potential vaccine testing sites.
- Completing questionnaires on potential vaccine testing sites, collating data, and publishing a directory.
- Convene a meeting of the Coordinating Committee.
- Prepare proposal for funding the network's training activities.

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4.1 MAIN OBJECTIVE

To create capacity for health policy analysis oriented towards resource issues with the aim of enabling effective and equity-oriented health policies. The programme finances health policy analysis and development groups and offers career development fellowships.

4.2 MAJOR AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Allocation and use of health programme resources
- Financing of health programmes
- Contribution of NGO and private health services
- Health implications of policies outside the health sector
- Health consequences of institutional behaviour
- Adoption and implementation of effective health policies

4.3 TRAINING/CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMMES

- Award of career development fellowships for health policy analysis and development groups
- Annual meetings of research groups and policy-makers to discuss findings

4.4 FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Research grants
- Research training fellowships
- Authors' workshop
- Electronic communications
- Dissemination

4.5 PUBLICATIONS (MAX. FIVE), INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS, IF ANY

- Working papers
- Reprints of articles authored by supported researchers

4.6 MAJOR ACTIVITIES 1996/1997

Follow-up of country programmes in research and training activities.

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5.1 OBJECTIVES

- assist member countries to determine their health needs;
- to harmonise cooperation between health administrations and international health organs;
- cooperate in research and provide training for research;
- publish and disseminate research results.

5.2 MAJOR AREAS OF RESEARCH

Reproductive Health

5.3 MAJOR ACTIVITIES 1996/1997

- i. Capacity Building
 - Training in Research and Programme Development
 - Dissertation Awards
- ii. Developing Quality Improvement Systems
 - Establishing Regional Quality of Care Infrastructure
- iii. STD/HIV Initiatives
 - Regional Committee for setting agenda and priorities
- iv. Research, Policy and Programme Development
- v. Reproductive Health Programme Steering Committee Meeting
- vi. Administering Research Grants
- vii. Monitoring and Evaluation of Research Projects

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6.1 AIM

To improve health care through research capacity building in faculties of medicine using a multidisciplinary approach to health issues.

6.2 MAJOR AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Pharmacoepidemiology
- Infectious diseases
- Reproductive health
- Maternal and child health
- Environmental and occupational health
- Injuries and degenerative diseases
- Policy research
- Emerging and re-emerging infections

6.3 TRAINING/CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMMES

- Clinical epidemiology resource training centres (CERTCs)
- Training to master's level (social sciences, clinical epidemiology, health economics)
- Annual international (INCLLEN) and regional (AFRICLEN) meetings
- Short courses and workshops organised by CEUs
- Training of medical students in research

6.4 FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Rockefeller Foundation and INCLLEN
- WHO, USAID, World Bank, NIH, IDRC
- National governments

6.5 PUBLICATIONS (MAX. FIVE), INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS, IF ANY

- INCLLEN newsletter
- Proposed supplement in East African Med. Journal
- Individual CEU newsletter
- Journal articles
- Annual CEU reports

6.6 MAJOR ACTIVITIES 1996/1997

- AFRICLEN Conference 1997, Addis Ababa
- International INCLEN Conference 1997 — Penang, Malaysia
- Development of AFRICLEN common research agenda
- Publication of supplement, East African Med. Journal
- CEU research projects by country
- Continuation of collaborative projects, e.g. IBIS
- Consultancies and commissioned research

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7.1 OBJECTIVES

- Improved reproductive health services
- Health care reforms facilitated
- Capacity building in health systems research
- Communication and collaboration within the region strengthened

7.2 FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

through GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit) secured up to the end of 1998.

7.3 ACTIVITIES

- Training of Trainers and Service Providers in health systems research
- Financial and technical support to research studies
- Dissemination of research results
- Support implementation of research recommendations
- Improve communication through electronic media

7.4 PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Angola	Mozambique	Tanzania
Botswana	Namibia	Zambia
Lesotho	Seychelles	Zimbabwe
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in the future:
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8.1 OBJECTIVES

- to advocate, facilitate and promote ENHR in Africa;
- to facilitate networking of the research networks in Africa;
- to pool available technical and human resources within the region and assist less developed countries;
- to promote cooperation in health research in the region;
- to advise COHRED Board as necessary.

8.2 MAJOR AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Essential research done in the countries by various research networks, institutions and individuals.

8.3 TRAINING/CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMMES

- Sharing of consultants from the region
- Training workshops, e.g. research management

8.4 FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- National governments
- COHRED
- Variety of donors to individual country programmes (Carnegie Corporation, IHPP, USAID, World Bank)

8.5 PUBLICATIONS (MAX. FIVE), INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS, IF ANY

- Annual meeting reports

8.6 MAJOR ACTIVITIES 1996/1997

- Technical support to countries
- Advocacy to countries not in network
- Facilitation of country priority-setting exercises
- Documentation of country experiences

- Preparation of human resource inventory for region
- Distribution of list of health training programmes
- Launching of AFRONETS
- Support of countries in self-evaluation
- Brokerage role for country programmes.

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