

Health Research for Policy, Action and Practice Training Modules

**(Version 1)
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The Collaborative Training Program is supported and coordinated
by

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Council on Health Research for Development
Global Forum for Health Research
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Prologue

These modules are the result of a collaborative venture of four international organizations that share the objective of enhancing capacity in health research. We realized that we had common areas of interest in developing tools and training methods for priority setting, knowledge management and advocacy and leadership. More importantly, we recognized that by taking pro-active steps to collaborate we could produce synergies in reaching our objectives. We therefore decided to pool a significant amount of our resources in the "**Health Research for Policy, Action and Practice: a Collaborative Training Program**".

The goal of this program is to support strategies to increase the impact of health research on policy, programs and practice through training and institutional development. The modules focus on practical experience and best practices regarding health research priority setting, knowledge management and advocacy and leadership. The modules are designed in a flexible manner and are tailored to the needs and interests of diverse constituencies. We hope that many people interested in increasing the impact of health research will benefit from the modules. In particular, research managers, policy analysts within ministries of health and research and continuous education officers may find that training in these subject areas will be a valuable investment.

The modules are the product of the expertise of a wide range of individuals. A **Steering Committee** was formed by the secretariats of each of the collaborating organizations. This committee endeavored to produce a set of training resources that could be readily utilized in a diverse set of countries and development situations and whose content would be found to be methodologically sound, well tested and of the highest quality and relevance. Efforts were made to identify and review methods and lessons available worldwide and to integrate them into a coherent framework. The methods and materials developed by each organization were reviewed and brought together, thus hopefully enhancing their value.

An **Advisory Committee** was invited to collaborate in providing general guidance as well as detailed reviews. This body was made up of representatives from the participating organizations or individual experts currently working on similar endeavours. It provided invaluable guidance to the overall design and content of the modules, enabling the authors to focus on the real issues and challenges. A **Working Group** was established to develop the modules under the co-ordination of Victor Neufeld, a renowned health research and development specialist, and with the editorial assistance of Nancy Johnson. Victor Neufeld, Chris Zielinski, Yvo Nuyens and Eric Osei acted as lead authors of the various module units, while a number of other individuals including Miguel Gonzalez-Block, Dennis Batangan, James Galvez Tan, Andres de Francisco, Mary Ann Lansang, Nancy Johnson and Sylvia de Haan played important roles in the development of the modules' content.

These Version 1 modules have been designed to be field tested by the participating organizations and by any others interested. Training-of-trainers workshops and extensive reviews are being planned. Evaluation of these will help refine and develop the modules into a Version 2. Your comments will be most welcome. Please

forward these to Miguel Gonzalez-Block at blockm@who.int or the Alliance address listed on Page 2.

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