from Research to Action
&
from Local to International

Carel IJsselmuiden

C O H R E D
Council on Health Research for Development

Strengthening health systems in southern Africa – celebrating 15 years

Health Systems Trust, 10-11 October 2007
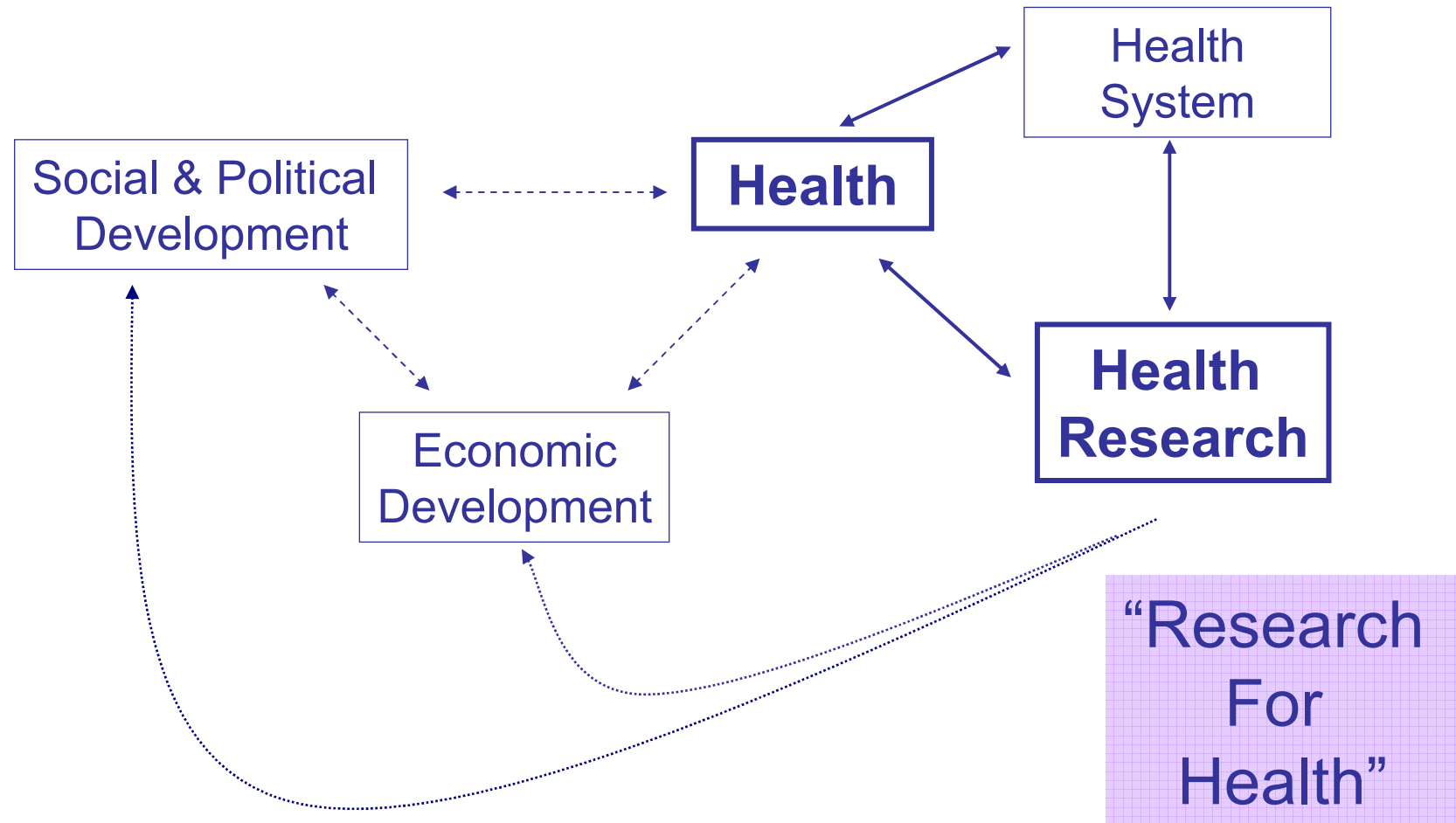
overview

- setting the scene
- issues in 'research to action'
- issues in 'internationalisation' of HST
- where to from here ?

an example …

- South African Vitamin A Consultative Group
- **Anthropometric, vitamin A, iron and immunisation coverage status in children 6-71 months in South Africa, 1994**
- S Afr Med J 1996; **86**: 354-7

setting the scene ...

Health System

Social & Political Development

Health

Economic Development

Health Research

"Research For Health"

- Global Development

- Global Health

  Priority Diseases & Conditions

  ADI
  ALRI
  Child Health
  HIV/AIDS
  Malaria
  Poor Nutrition
  Reproductive & Maternal Health
  Tuberculosis
  Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
  Other Infectious Diseases

  Breakthrough Science
  Other Initiatives

- United States

- For Grant Seekers

- Newsroom

- Grantee Profiles

- About Us

Priority Diseases and Conditions

Fighting Diseases of the Developing World
We support efforts to prevent and treat diseases and conditions that meet three criteria: (1) they cause widespread illness and death in developing countries; (2) they represent the greatest inequities in health between developed and developing countries; and (3) they receive inadequate attention and funding.

setting the scene ...

Breakdown of Research Topics Makerere Univ Health Sciences Joint Reseach Day Sept 2007		
	n	cum%
Malaria	14	13
infectious Diseases	14	27
HIV / AIDS	12	38
health services	11	49
Tuberculosis	10	58
pharmacology	8	66

COUNCIL ON HEALTH RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT (COHRED)

Home / Health Research Web

Health Research Web –
Continents and Countries

A growing resource

Africa
Americas & the
Caribbean
Asia and Pacific
Europe
Middle East

COUNCIL ON HEALTH RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT (COHRED)

Health Research Web / Africa / Uganda

Print format fonction

Health Research Web –
Continents and Countries

Health Research Web - Country Page

Africa
Americas & the
Caribbean
Asia and Pacific
Europe
Middle East

Uganda

1. Research for health — national priorities
2. Research for health — policies and governance
3. Key Institutions
4. Research Financing and Partnership
5. Resources
6. Country Background

1. Research for health - national priorities

· Health Research Priorities (2005-2010),
Health Research and Development. Uganda National Health Research
Organization (UNHRO)

2. Research for health - policies and governance

In this section we will provide links to national policies
relevant to health research where these exist. We are in the
process of compiling this information, which will be posted in
the next phase.

★ Capital City   ★ Regional Capital City
● Significant City   · Important City - Town
□ Attraction - Landmark   ⊔ River   △ Highest Point

3. Key Institutions

national health research systems –
functional definition

1. **Governance & Stewardship**

    Research priorities; ethical guidelines and standards; monitoring and evaluation; outcome definition; impact assessment

2. **Financing**

    Secure research funding; allocation according to priorities; accountability; donor alignment & harmonization; mode of access

3. **Capacity building**

    human resources; facilities; communication; collaboration; partnership negotiation; … many other aspects

4. **Knowledge generation and translation**

    Scientific outputs, translational research … the 'research process'

5. **Knowledge utilisation**

    Process of ensuring that research informs health policy, health practice, and public opinion; use of research to develop drugs, vaccines, devices and other applications to improve health

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national health research systems –
operationalisation

National Health Research Systems (NHRS):

• Political commitment to *research (for health)*

1) Have credibly set & regularly updated **health research (system) priorities**

2) Have a **research policy framework**

3) Have a **national research management structure**

national health research systems –
operationalisation

National health research systems :

4) Need to address **Human Resources for Health Research (HR-HR)**
* Including for ethical review of research, communication,..

5) Have a stable **Research Financing strategy** … sufficiently high in relation to objectives

e.g. Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness; incentives to focus on national health & dev. goals

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national health research systems –

National health research systems :
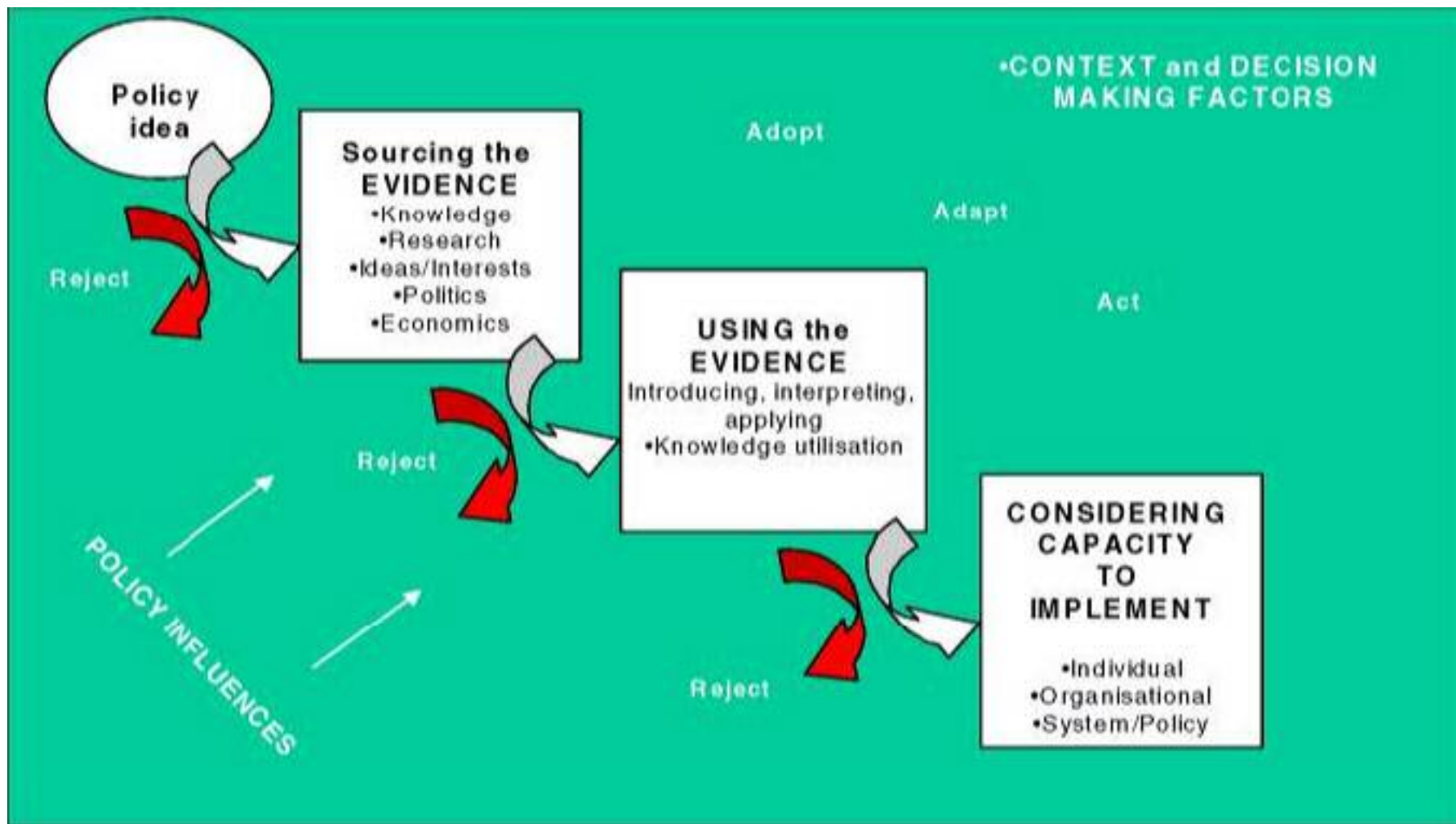
6) **Optimising the system**:

• health **equity**
• **negotiation ability** to deal with other sectors, sponsors, private research
• finding **external research expertise** and **partnerships**
• stimulate **alignment & harmonization**
• **Institution strengthening**
• **monitoring & evaluation**

7) **International linkage**
• networks & networking
• regional, international

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'research to action'

Pathways to "Evidence-Informed" Policy and Practice: A Framework for Action.
Shelley Bowen* and Anthony B Zwi. PLoS Med. 2005 July; 2(7): e166.

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'research to action'

- *is not an 'event' or 'operation'*

- think 'complexity'
- think 'process'
- think 'system'
- think 'long term'
- think 'communication'
- think 'trust'
- think 'expertise'
- think 'ownership'
- think 'networks / networks'

Global Forum for Health Research | AMREF | ACOSHED | EQUINET | COHRED | IDRC | AFRICAN HEALTH RESEARCH FORUM

Welcome to the page of 'HR-HR' Human Resources for Health Research – an African Perspective

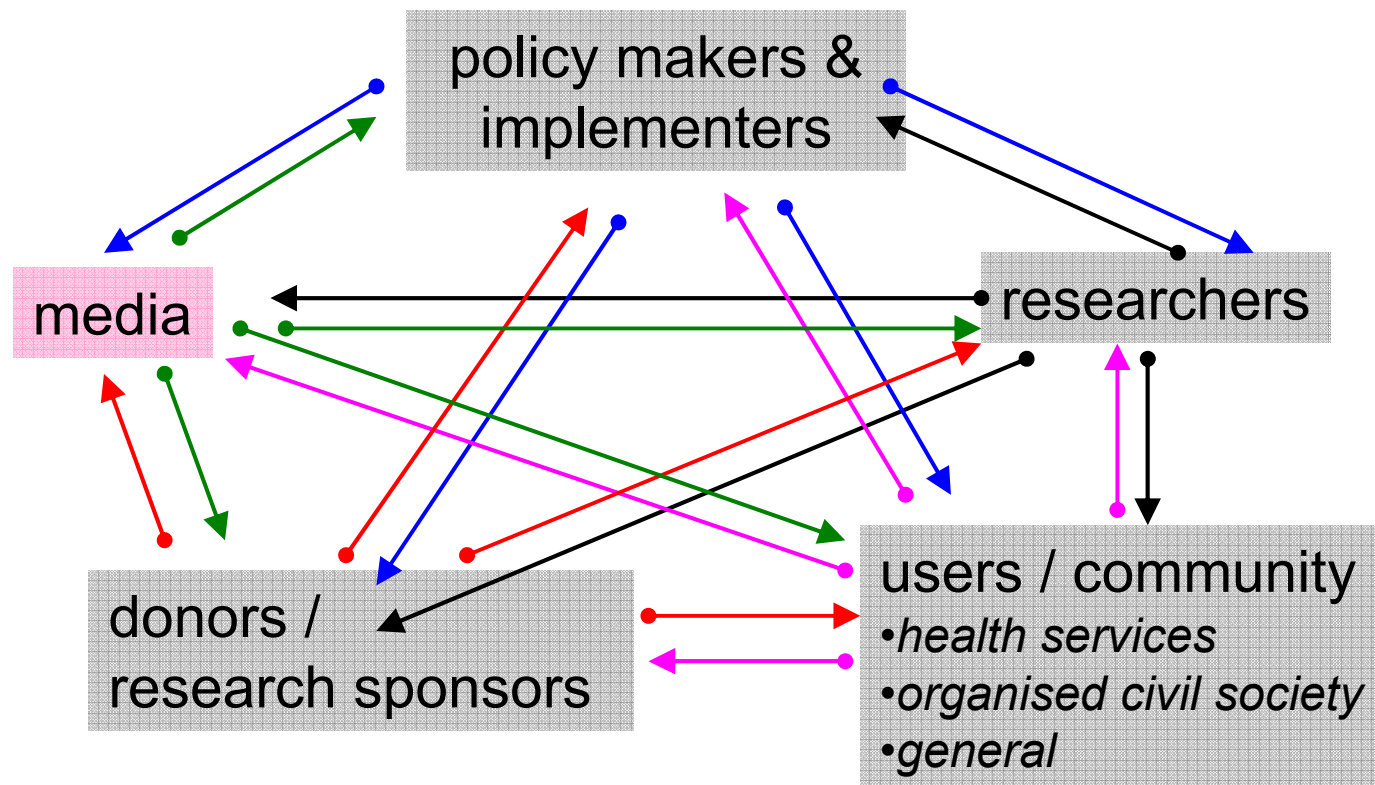### 'HR-HR' Human Resources for Health Research: an African Perspective

The HR-HR Africa process aims to provide an action-oriented and holistic look at human resources needs in a health research context. The HR-HR expert meeting (Nairobi, July 2-5, 2006) will consider important facets of human resources that are generally not considered. Four multi-country teams will generate new thinking around four core themes:

- **General human resources issues.** The general human resources environment in Africa.
- **Communities influencing research agendas.** How communities can influence health research agendas at local and at national levels to focus on health priorities.
- **The power of networks.** How 'networking' can strengthen health research.
- **Communication and Knowledge Sharing for impact.** What skills are needed in health research systems and organizations to optimize the use of research communication and knowledge sharing.

The consultation process of the four themes started in early 2005. The partners will take stock of the work in progress at an expert meeting in Nairobi in July. Here, some 60 experts in the thematic areas will meet in Nairobi to review their findings. The meeting is expected to generate new thinking, and plans for future work, programmes and initiatives on the thematic areas. New alliances and professional communities are expected to result from these rich exchanges.

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'research to action'

- think 'communication'

PLoS MEDICINE

Policy Forum

Grand Challenges in Global Health: Engaging Civil Society Organizations in Biomedical Research in Developing Countries

Anant Bhan', Jerome A. Singh, Ross E. G. Upshur, Peter A. Singer, Abdallah S. Daar

This is 1 of 4 articles on ethical, social & cultural issues in the Grand Challenges program

Civil society organizations (CSOs) are nonprofit organizations that aim to further the interests of

with communities and CSOs, and being sensitive to their respective needs and perceptions.

In October 2005 the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced an approximately US$450 million sponsorship of 44 innovative projects under the auspices of its Grand Challenges in Global Health (GCGH) initiative. As described in the opening article in this series, we serve as an

which is involved in health services provision throughout the country, has in recent years founded a university, including a public health school to train public health researchers and practitioners. CSOs can be divided into five types:

Nongovernmental organizations. Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) work outside the direct control of governments. They can be

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World Health Organization

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Evidence-Informed Policy Network

Advisory committee

Expert advisory panels

Research Policy and Cooperation

WHO > Programmes and projects > Research Policy and Cooperation

EVIPNet - EVIDENCE-INFORMED POLICY NETWORK

What is EVIPNet?

EVIPNet (Evidence-Informed Policy Networks) is an innovative program to promote the use of health research in policy- and decision-making and practice. Ultimately, EVIPnet is a partnership between policy- and decision-makers and researchers to facilitate decision-making and policy implementation through the use of the best quality and safest scientific evidence available globally and locally.

The mandate from the 58th World Health Assembly

EVIPNet builds upon one of the key recommendations from the WHO's Ministerial Summit on Health Research (November, 2004) to translate knowledge into action to improve health. This resolution was endorsed by the 58th World Health Assembly in May, 2005:

"to establish mechanisms to transfer knowledge in support of evidence-based public health and health-care delivery systems, and evidence-based health-related policies".

RPC NEWS

International Clinical Trials Registry Platform
New standards for registration of human medical research
More Information
News release

Research for Health
A Position Paper on WHO's Role and Responsibilities in Health Research. Last update: 16 May 2006
The report [pdf 218kb]

The 58th World Health Assembly
The 58th World Health Assembly approved the resolutions emanating from the Mexico Summit Statement on Health Research
The text [pdf 18kb]

ZonMw

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ZonMw
the Netherlands organisation for
health research and development

News

August 2, 2007
Public involvement at ZonMw
ZonMw is keen for the public to become involved in scientific research, and undertakes various activities to this end. They include training for secretaries, afternoon workshops for patients and researchers, and the establishment of a database of individuals with practical expertise.

June 26, 2007
Eurocan+Plus, reducing fragmentation in European cancer research
ZonMw is a partner in the European Commission-funded project Eurocan+Plus, launched to reduce the fragmentation in European cancer research.

May 21, 2007
Evaluation of Termination of Life on Request and Assisted Suicide (Review Procedures) Act
The number of cases of euthanasia and assisted suicide was lower in 2005 than in 2001.

May 21, 2007

Grants

May 21, 2007
Call for submission of pre-proposals for the ZonMw Clinical Fellows programme
Deadline: September 4, 2007

May 21, 2007
Call for submission of pre-proposals for the Efficiency Studies programme
Deadline: September 11, 2007

January 1, 2007
Continuous call for proposals for international exchange and collaboration grants in Electromagnetic Fields and Health
Deadline: December 31, 2007

COHRED – *Council on Health Research for Development*

Method

🖨 Print deze pa

From commission to programme

Government ministries, the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) and other organisations commission ZonMw to find solutions to certain problems or to boost work in particular areas. Together with experts from the field, ZonMw analyses the current state of play, the problems that exist, the priorities and where to look for solutions. We then incorporate our findings into a programme – a plan of action that sets out the direction for developments in scientific research and health care. The programme gives scientific and health care institutions the opportunity to conduct research or to develop, test and implement innovations on a project basis. ZonMw's main commissioning bodies are the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) and NWO.

Quality and innovation

ZonMw's chief priority is high-quality scientific research and health care. Clear selection criteria mean only the best proposals are considered for grants.
Innovations in health care practice are introduced only once their effectiveness and practicability have been proven.
Proposals for research and practical innovations must be in with one of our programmes. Some programmes are designed mainly to boost scientific standards or developments in certain areas of science. In others, the emphasis is on developing and testing innovations within particular focus areas or for certain groups. And in other programmes, ZonMw directs improvement processes, coordinating the large-scale introduction of tried and tested innovations.

'research to action'

- think 'system'
- think 'complexity'

individual
institutional
research system
socio-economic & political environment
… and international

OECD High Level Forum
Strengthening policies to improve availability of medicines for neglected and emerging infectious diseases

Developing countries propose complementary agenda to strengthen the southern perspective

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HIGHLIGHTS

☐ **OECD countries endorsed the 'Noordwijk Medicines Agenda'**, aimed at building political support for improving the availability of drugs, vaccines and diagnostics for neglected and emerging infectious diseases that affect developing countries.

☐ Several developing countries at the forum welcomed the Noordwijk Agenda and recommended sharing it more broadly with other developing countries.

☐ **Cameroon proposed to host a follow-on meeting** to bring a stronger southern perspective to the initiative.

Background:

The High-Level Forum on Medicines for Neglected and Emerging Infectious Diseases[1] brought together over 200 participants, mostly from OECD countries and some from developing countries. It included representatives from government, industry, donor agencies, academia, philanthropic foundations, international agencies and non-governmental organisations. Expert groups met in two preparatory workshops – *"Accelerating Neglected Diseases Drug Discovery"*

'research to action'

- think 'ownership'

    - who asks the question about lack of research implementation ?
    - 'research question' vs 'problem that needs research'
    - 'vertical' vs 'horizontal' action
    - 'probability' vs 'dichotomy'
    - time, trust, win-win

rivm

Research for man and environment

National Institute
for Public Health and
the Environment

Research   Publications   Search   Pressreleases

Health and Disease ▼

Infectious diseases

Chronic diseases

Radiation

Product safety

Poisons

Environment and health

Health of the Dutch in focus

Prevention and Care

Food, Nutrition and Water

Accidents and Disasters

Environment and Chemicals

About RIVM

/ Health and Disease

printable version

Health and Disease

▸ **Health, illness and disease**

What are the measures taken in the Netherlands to prevent outbreaks of serious infectious diseases? What are the risk factors related to coronary heart disease? What is the average life expectancy in the Netherlands? Does health differ according to socio-economic group?

The role of the RIVM in health and disease covers research and advice on new infectious diseases, protection against infectious diseases through vaccination and risks due to poisonous substances and exposure to radiation. RIVM also examines the most common causes of death in the Netherlands.

RIVM functions as a research institute and centre of expertise in the Netherlands to support policy-makers and professionals in various fields of work. The institute monitors national and international data on infectious diseases, making it possible to signal potential epidemics in an early phase (early warning). Extensive information on health, illness and disease, risk factors, and care and prevention has been complied into RIVM's National Atlas for Public Health and Healthcare (in Dutch only).

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On Bioethics in Research

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- Resources

THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

About GFBR

Partners

Who are the Forum's current partners?

- Aga Khan University (AKU)

- Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED)

- Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)

- Health Research Council of New Zealand

- Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM)

- Medical Research Council-United Kingdom (MRC UK)

- National Institutes of Heath-Fogarty International Center (NH-FIC)

- The Wellcome Trust (WT)

- World Health Organisation (WHO)

Latest News

- Call for Applications for Fellowship Programme (more...).

- Call for Applications to Host GFBR10 in 2009 (more...).

- Newsletter (more...).

- 9th GFBR annual meeting set for New Zealand, December 2008.. (more...).

internationalisation ...

2008 Global Ministerial Forum on Research for Health

Bamako, Mali: 17-20 November 2008

Strengthening Research for Health, Development and Equity

Organized by

COHRED · Global Forum for Health Research · World Health Organization · The World Bank · UNESCO

internationalisation ...

- why would you want to do that ?
- is it your mission or mandate ?
- is there a need ?
- are there opportunities for … what ?
  - *funding*
  - *helping transformation*
  - *growth*
- what are possible problems & risks ?
  - *who else is out there ?*
  - *funding … may also go down*

HEALTH SYSTEMS TRUST

Better Health for All in Southern Africa

About the Health Systems Trust

Our Vision

Health systems supporting health for all in southern Africa

Mission

To contribute to building comprehensive, effective, efficient and equitable national health systems by supporting the implementation of functional health districts in South Africa and the region.

Principle Objective

To promote scientific research into health systems in South Africa with the principle objective of designing and planning programmes and evaluations thereof towards restructuring of the health system and the development of a comprehensive National Health System based on equity

HST Trust Deed, 1992

Since 1992, the Health Systems Trust (HST) has been contributing to the development of a comprehensive, equitable and effective national health system in South Africa. More recently HST has begun to work more widely within the SADC region.

Our core activities are health systems research, health systems development, advocacy, capacity development and information dissemination. These activities are implemented through core programmes of Research, the Initiative for Sub-District Support (ISDS), Community Development and HealthLink.

internationalisation ...

on the positive side:

- *equity = 'poverty reduction' / MDGs*
- health systems research has some funding
  - Mexico 2004
  - Alliance for Health Systems and Policy Research
  - Dutch Health Systems Research centre
- *'System'-thinking is making a bit of a come-back*
- tie to 'vertical' programmes : eg COHRED's RVP: 'Responsible Vertical Programming'
- *check Doris Duke Charitable Foundation call for PHC development*

internationalisation ...

on the other side:

- health systems research is almost past 'sell-by' date: move towards <u>implementation research</u>'

- *Gates remains unconvinced …*

- Health systems research is (often) yet another 'vertical' programme

- *funding is tight – (but …)*
  - *especially for international NGOs/CSOs*
  - *especially in research*

where to from here …

with 'research to action'

- *as major player, HST needs to have a comprehensive plan …*
- *and match it with resources*
- *engage in (local & international) partnerships*
- *think long-term & monitor action*

where to from here ...

with 'internationalisation'

- *be clear why you want do this*

- *find partners for different activities*

- *use current calls for proposals to get 'projects' going*

- *consider modifying HSTs core : from district to national health systems*