

## Revitalising Health for All: Learning from Comprehensive Primary Health Care Experiences

[http://www.globalhealthequity.ca/projects/proj\\_revitalizing/index.shtml](http://www.globalhealthequity.ca/projects/proj_revitalizing/index.shtml)

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### Regional Trainings for Successful Teams, Year 1, Complete

The first round of regional trainings for the successful teams took place in 2008 and early 2009. Specifically, these were:

Bogota, Colombia (for Latin American teams)  
24 September – 5 October 2008

Bangalore, India (for Indian/South Asian teams)  
13 -24 October 2008

Cape Town, South Africa (for African teams)  
3 -14 November 2008

Adelaide, Australia (for Indigenous/Aboriginal teams  
in Canada, New Zealand and Australia)  
14 – 29 March 2009

### Training Overview

A generic program for each of the 10-day training sessions was created by our RHFA training coordinator and then further modified to better suit the local context of each region.

### Course Outcomes

Evaluations of the training by participants and faculty showed that research teams had deepened their understanding of comprehensive primary health care (CPHC) and its practical implementation, and understood better the role of research and evaluation in contributing to a strong evidence base for CPHC. For several teams it was also an important experience in increasing their research and evaluation skills while developing and finalizing a CPHC-related research proposal. The training also

allowed them to produce robust research protocols relevant to CPHC, ready for submission to obtain ethical approval from a local research institution. Another outcome was the creation of successful networks among colleagues in the region conducting CPHC-related research.

### Key Reflections

Facilitators and participants were asked to reflect upon the training sessions and the following important points were presented:

A 10 day training gave teams an excellent opportunity to transform their Expressions of Interest (EOI) into robust and comprehensive research protocols. A participant in the training said:

*"(The) training as well (as) the exchange and sharing of experiences was excellent...we have now more elements to elaborate on (in) a research protocol. The exchange helped a lot and it also enabled us to clarify the principles, values, and concepts of CPHC."*

The use of horizontal learning between the different research teams (in which one team provided another with feedback on their protocol) was seen as particularly innovative and a helpful aspect of the training sessions. Another participant commented:

*"I feel enriched by the course: the collective construction of proposals enabled us to learn more, the organization was excellent. This was an excellent team and we will now continue to develop the proposals through the intranet that will be set-up."*

Other participants commented on the success of the trainings by stating:

*"I think we went well beyond the objectives: all of us – and despite our differences-obtained important new knowledge and skills for work to be done during 2009".*

*"The discussions and presentations clearly highlighted gaps between CPHC theory and what health providers do in practice".*

*"Our research is always difficult with all the different players. I learned through this program that we really need to discuss things before starting with everyone involved. The course gave me a wonderful and rare opportunity to adequately plan for a project and consider implementation before collecting the data".*

### **Future Training Considerations**

In reflecting on what was achieved and what requires further attention in the future, the *Core Hub* has developed and circulated a discussion document for consideration by the four regional RHA project teams in terms of planning the next RHA training session. In essence, some of the key decisions that now need to be resolved include:

- how best the regional facilitators can provide technical support to the teams as they implement their research between the first and second training program;
- how best the regional facilitators can facilitate the exchange of information and experiences between the teams in between training sessions. In this regard the Latin American region, under the guidance of Prof Françoise Barten, has already set up a web-based discussion group.

### **Upcoming Training Dates**

The next training dates have been confirmed:

Montevideo, Uruguay (Training Program and KTE Training and Workshop)

2<sup>nd</sup> week of December 2009

Dhaka, Bangladesh (Training Program)

31 January – 2 February 2010

Dhaka, Bangladesh (KTE Training and Workshop)

3 February – 4 February 2010

The precise dates of the next trainings for our African and Indigenous teams have yet to be confirmed, but the Africa training is likely to take place in the first quarter of 2010.

### **Additional Funding Application Successful**

Following our submission to an IDRC competition, our project was awarded an additional \$40,000 grant for knowledge translation and exchange (KTE). The KTE grant will be used for trainings and workshops on Effective Researcher/Research-user Partnerships. These will immediately follow the regional trainings in Latin America, South East Asia, and South Africa.

The main activity will be to introduce a KTE and outcomes mapping module within and following the scheduled regional trainings in 2009 and 2010. Faculty at the trainings will lead the lessons on KTE and outcomes planning and contribute their own experiences.

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