2008 FERCAP International Conference on Empowering Stakeholders in Health Research: 
Towards Developing an Ethics of Accountability and Responsibility

Sustaining Networks to Empower Stakeholders in Health Research

Steven Wayling, WHO-TDR
Research Networks Manager
In 1977...
In 2008...
TDR at 30 years

TDR mandates

1. To address the needs for **new and improved tools** for tropical disease control

2. To **strengthen the research capability** of the disease endemic countries (DECs) so that they can be leading participants in this endeavor

---

Track record

- Supported >10,000 projects; trained >1,500 DEC scientists
- Catalyzed key tropical disease research, drug discovery and development, and development of evidence for policy/strategy
- Incubated several key organizations (e.g., MMV, FIND)
- Focus on **10 tropical diseases** (5 targeted for global/regional elimination)

---

Key strengths

- UN’s convening power
- Partner network
- Technical expertise
- Long-standing DEC relationships
- Record of delivering high impact research
- Record in research capacity strengthening
- Values

---

FERCAP 2008
Bangkok, Thailand
24-25 Nov 2008

Special Programme for Research & Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) sponsored by UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO

World Health Organization
New TDR Vision

To foster:

An effective global research effort on infectious diseases of poverty in which disease endemic countries play a pivotal role.
What we want to achieve

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Objectives</th>
<th>Internal mechanisms</th>
<th>L-t impact dimensions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Stewardship          | - Knowledge management  
                      | - Thematic groups  
                      | - Stakeholder dialogue  
                      | - Agenda setting | Harmonization of global research efforts |
| Empowerment          | - Training  
                      | - Research  
                      | - Networks  
                      | - Quality | DEC leadership in health research |
| Research on neglected priority needs | BL3 … BL11  
                      | 1. Innovation  
                      | 2. Interventions  
                      | 3. Access | Enhanced access to superior interventions |
Empowerment network considerations

- Four inter-dependent components of Empowerment
- Research, Training and Networks are functional areas
- QM and best practice values cross cutting objective
Networks and Partnerships

**pärtnr-shp n.** "…is a relationship between individuals or groups that is characterized by mutual cooperation and responsibility, as for the achievement of a specified goal."

-TDR itself is founded on a partnership between its co-sponsoring agencies and member countries

-1992 major review of TDR/RCS identified partnerships and networks as essential to successful outcomes

"A core element of the Empowerment strategy is to create partnerships, increase networking, and foster equal opportunities among developing countries."
Role of Networks

"Innovation is a social, interactive process rather than one of individual creativity, and networks play a vital role."

(Hargreaves 2004)
Advantage of networks (added value)

• Shared values (collective goal)
• Lever for change (common voice)
• Sharing and dissemination of information and knowledge.
• Easier communication
• Reduce isolation
• Problem solving
• Reduce duplication of efforts
Network design principles

- Membership, roles and responsibilities
- Clear and realistic delivery timescales
- Size
- Relevance

- Structure
- Support Infrastructure

- Designing networks for collaborative advantage
- Accessible, user friendly and joined up technologies
- Members are supported
- Members use technology appropriately

- Context
- Delivery

- Fit for purpose
- Realistic expectations
- Clear picture of success
- Good connections to people, organisations and other networks
- Celebrates achievements
- Delivers tangible products
- Membership is stable or +
- Members perceive forward movement

http://www.csip.org.uk/partnershipworking
Designing networks for collaborative advantage

Structure

Support Infrastructure

Context

Delivery

Evidence:
- planning documentation e.g. project plan, terms of reference

Evidence:
- Network governance
  - case studies about the network

Evidence:
- clear and regular communications
- offline and online activities
- training

Evidence:
- tangible products
  - demonstrable measurement of outcomes delivery
  - SOPs

Evidence:
- Network governance
  - case studies about the network

http://www.csip.org.uk/partnershipworking
Network success factors

- Organized for participation and inclusion
- Trust, respect, mutual support and teamwork
- Positive leadership
- Good governance
- Culture and infrastructure to support training and sharing
- Strategic importance of the work of the network
- Management support
- Outcomes focussed
- Willingness to celebrate success

(Kilo, 2001; Øvretveit et al, 2002; Research into Practice, 2003)
Network Assessment
(agree/evidence)

1. Network has a clear purpose and direction
2. Network has a realistic delivery timetable
3. Network members understand and committed to improvement
4. Network is widely inclusive
5. Network members demonstrate trust, respect and mutual support
6. Network members are supported by their host organizations
7. Members access and use appropriate technology to support network activities
8. Clear channels of communication between members
9. Network members share their learning/experience with others
10. Network members ask and receive help from each other
11. Network delivers and demonstrates success
Sharing what we know works … and what doesn't
WIRB International Fellows Programme

• Jointly with TDR
• 45 trained to-date
• Alumni group
Contents

Coordinating Research on Neglected Parasitic Diseases in Southeast Asia: Research Priorities and Workplan ........................................... 1

Disease and Control
Schistosomiasis: The Disease and its Control ............................................. 11
Major Foodborne Trematodiseases in Southeast Asia .................................. 34
Combating Taenia solium Cysticercosis in Southeast Asia: An Opportunity for Improving Human Health and Livestock Production .............. 46

Tools
Towards Improved Helminth Diagnosis .................................................. 68
Health Metrics for Helminth Infections .................................................... 78
Implementing a Geospatial Health Data Infrastructure in Southeast Asia .......... 88
Strategy for the Development of a Vaccine against Schistosomiasis ............... 98

Activities
Multi-parasitism – a Neglected Reality ...................................................... 109
Climate Changes and RNAS+ Target Diseases .......................................... 122

Proceedings
Proceedings of the 1st Meeting for the Regional Network on Asian Schistosomiasis (RNAS) ........................................................................ 132
Proceedings of the 2nd Meeting for the Regional Network on Asian Schistosomiasis (RNAS) .............................................................. 152
Proceedings of the 3rd Meeting for the Regional Network on Asian Schistosomiasis (RNAS) .............................................................. 169
Proceedings of the 4th Meeting for the Regional Network on Asian Schistosomiasis (RNAS) .............................................................. 173
Proceedings of the 5th Meeting for the Regional Network on Asian Schistosomiasis (RNAS) .............................................................. 199
Proceedings of the 6th meeting for the Regional Network on Asian Schistosomiasis and other Helminthic Zoonoses (RNAS*) ......................... 209
Proceedings of the 7th meeting for the Regional Network on Asian Schistosomiasis and other Helminthic Zoonoses (RNAS*) ......................... 250
Regional GLP Training

Buenas Prácticas de Laboratorio (BPL) en pruebas pre-clínicas
Taller

Red Internacional de Entrainamiento en BPL - OMS
Oficina Regional para América Latina - ALTO
Cali, COLOMBIA

Página web: http://www.immuno.org
Tel. 572 - 557 49 21
Fax. 572 - 557 49 29 ext 103
Cali - Colombia

Beneficiarios
Además de la I&D para medicamentos, los estudios de seguridad pre-clínica de productos como alimentos, cosméticos, drogas veterinarias, productos químicos, agroindustriales y pesticidas también requieren la aplicación de BPL. Por tanto serán beneficiarios del taller:

1. Profesionales involucrados en procesos de I&D de productos, particularmente en estudios pre-clínicos.
2. Profesionales recién vinculados de la industria farmacéutica.
3. Profesionales y estudiantes de ciencias básicas médicas (farmacéuticos, químicos, biólogos, médicos).
4. Profesionales responsables del cumplimiento de normas de regulación para medicamentos y vacunas.
5. Administradores en salud y de aseguramiento del control de la calidad.

Conferencistas Invitados
Deborah Kloy, PhD, RAD/ TDR/WHO Programme, Suiza.
David Long, PhD, TDR/WHO Programme, GLP Adviser, Francia.
Andrew Walubo, MB,Ch.B, Universidad del Estado Libre de Orange, Sur Africa.
Mariano Zais, PhD, Universidade de Rio de Janeiro, Brasil.
Myriam Arévalo, PhD, Universidad del Valle, Colombia.

FERCAP 2008
Bangkok, Thailand
24-25 Nov 2008
New initiatives 2008

• Initiative to Strengthen Health Research Capacity in Africa (ISHReCA)
• Enhancing Support for Strengthening the Effectiveness of National Capacity Effort (ESSENCE)
• African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation (ANDI)
• Scale-up of clinical research fellows training and network programme (funded by BMGF)
Keep up to date
http://www.who.int/tdr
Thank you

Steven Wayling
Research Networks Manager
Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR)
World Health Organization

waylings@who.int
tel: (41-22) 791 3909
fax: (41-22) 791 4854
http://www.who.int/tdr