



**Global Forum  
for Health Research**  
HELPING CORRECT THE 10|90 GAP



# **Health Research for Policy, Action and Practice**

## **Resource Modules**

**Version 2, 2004**

### **Prologue**

**We welcome readers' comments to enable us to continually update and improve this material.**

THE COLLABORATIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME

Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research  
Council on Health Research for Development  
Global Forum for Health Research  
INCLLEN Trust

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## Prologue

The Collaborative Training Programme (CTP) modules are the result of a joint venture by 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 resource materials for priority-setting, knowledge management and advocacy and leadership. More importantly, we recognized that, by taking proactive steps to collaborate, we could produce synergies in reaching our objectives. We therefore decided to pool a significant amount of our resources in a project entitled **“Health Research for Policy, Action and Practice: a Collaborative Training Programme”**.

The goal of this programme is to support strategies to increase the impact of health research on policy, programmes and practice through training and institutional development. The modules are a rich resource of up-to-date materials focusing on issues, practical experience and best practices regarding the need to address inequities in health, strengthening leadership in the health sector, undertaking health research priority-setting, and promoting the use of research evidence through improved communication. The modules are designed in a flexible manner so as to respond to the needs and interests of the diverse constituencies served by the four organizations. We hope that anyone interested in increasing the impact of health research will benefit from the resource material contained in the modules. In particular, researchers, research managers, policy analysts within ministries of health and those involved in the development of human resources for health research may find that exposure to the subject areas covered by these modules 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 with the aim of producing a set of 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. Emphasis was placed on identifying and reviewing methods and lessons available worldwide and to integrating them into a coherent framework. The methods and materials developed by each organization were also 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 on 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 coordination of Victor Neufeld, a renowned health research and development specialist, 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 González-Block, Dennis Batangan, James Galvez Tan,

Andres de Francisco, Abdul Ghafar, Mary Ann Lansang, Nancy Johnson and Sylvia de Haan, played important roles in the development of the module content.

The Version 1.1 modules were field-tested in a series of four workshops sponsored by the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research and its partner organizations. These were the Government of India and the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), the Health Economics and Policy Network in Africa (HEPNet-Africa), the Network for Health Systems and Services Research in the Southern Cone of Latin America (REDSALUD) and the China Health Economics Research and Training Network (CHERTN). Each workshop was facilitated by a pair of international facilitators and one local facilitator.

Indra Pathmanathan was the lead consultant for the process of field-testing CTP Version 1.1 and producing CTP Version 2. She coordinated the workshops and facilitated the testing process with her cofacilitators Vic Neufeld, Yvo Nuyens, Delia Sanchez and Ulyses Panisset, and a key facilitator from each partner organization, namely B. Venkata Rao (ASCI, India), Lucy Gilson (HEPNet), Celia Almeida (SALUD) and Shi Guang (CHERTN). A total of 75 participants from 17 countries participated in the workshops and provided comments and feedback. These inputs, combined with the experiences and suggestion from the facilitators, resulted in the production of CTP Resource Modules Version 2.

The CTP resource modules provide a rich source of materials that trainers can draw upon in designing training activities. The materials are well suited for self-learning. They also constitute a toolkit and a source of quick reference for those who need to update themselves rapidly on the selected topics or who, for example, need to produce a briefing note. Given the changing nature of health research, and the expansion of activities and new developments in this area, it is critical to continuously updating the information contained in these modules with recent experiences. We therefore do not see the resource material contained here as a final product, but as a step in the process which will continue to require review, development and updating.

Andres de Francisco

Miguel A. González-Block

Sylvia de Haan

Mary Ann Lansang

Geneva, 6 October 2004.

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