

# Consortium Partners

## The DFID Health Resource Centre has five partners from around the world

**The Institute for Health Sector Development** (IHSD Ltd), based in the UK, is committed to improving global health through the generating, sharing and application of knowledge. IHSD specialises in providing short term consultancy, training and evaluation to support development with a focus on health policies and services.

**website:** [www.ihsd.org](http://www.ihsd.org)

**The Swiss Centre for International Health** (SCIH) of the **Swiss Tropical Institute** provides technical assistance in the area of public health. Its major areas of expertise and experience include communicable diseases, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, health economics, resource management and clinical studies of drugs and vaccines.

**website:** [www.sti.ch](http://www.sti.ch)

**ICDDR,B – Centre for Health and Population Research** is an international institute involved in health and population research and training, based in Bangladesh. The Centre established and continues to operate the Matlab Health Research Centre through which it can maintain longitudinal data on a rural population that exceeds 210,000 people. The Centre's focus is on simple and cost-effective methods of prevention and management of health problems affecting poor communities.

**website:** [www.icddr.org](http://www.icddr.org)

**Ifakara Health Research and Development Centre** (IHRDC), Tanzania, is a district-based health research and resource centre, with a primary focus on evaluating major causes of morbidity and mortality such as malaria. In recent years, this work has also focussed on TB and also HIV/AIDS. The Centre is also active in health systems research, including evaluation of quality of care at local levels, human resources, and equity in health services.

**website:** [www.ihrdc.org](http://www.ihrdc.org)

**Sharan** is an Indian voluntary organisation dedicated to working with the very poor in the slums of Indian cities. Its work includes services and drop-in centres for drug users, sex workers and their children and people with HIV/AIDS. Sharan aims to build communities, share resources and break down the barriers of caste and creed.

**website:** [www.sharan.net](http://www.sharan.net)

*For more information please contact:*

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**General information and publications can be found on our website:** [www.dfidhealthrc.org](http://www.dfidhealthrc.org)

**The HRC works in collaboration with the DFID Health Systems Resource Centre**  
[www.healthsystemsrc.org](http://www.healthsystemsrc.org)

## DFID HEALTH RESOURCE CENTRE



**Working for better health in low and middle income countries**

## Public Health Priorities

Poor households can be plunged into a downward spiral of poverty caused by medical fees, loss of income and funeral costs as a result of communicable diseases including TB, malaria and HIV/AIDS, and maternal illness and death. Loss of family labour means a loss of food and the threat of malnutrition. Education is cut short as children are kept at home to look after family members or because school fees cannot be met. In many cases households dissolve as parents die and children are dispersed.

Today affordable and effective tools for controlling the major communicable diseases exist but they are not reaching the poor.

- 300 million people worldwide are affected by malaria yet only 2 per cent of African children sleep under treated nets
- someone dies of TB every 15 seconds and almost every one of them could have been cured
- only 10,000 of the 25 million people living with HIV/AIDS in Africa are currently taking anti-retroviral therapy
- for every maternal death 30 more women suffer serious complications related to pregnancy or childbirth

The Health Resource Centre has been set up by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) to support its work in tackling these problems.

## The DFID Health Resource Centre (HRC)

*The HRC is a Consortium funded by DFID to provide top quality advice and expertise in public health in low and middle income countries. It is managed by a core team of health specialists and administrative staff based in London. The HRC draws on the expertise and resources of its Consortium partners, working with a worldwide network of national and international collaborating agencies and individuals.*



Ron Gilling/Linear/Still Pictures

## Priorities and Services of the Health Resource Centre

Advising on policy and technical issues to DFID, governments and other stakeholders through:

- short term consultancy services
- rapid response on policy advice
- briefings on current development issues

Increasing and sharing the knowledge base on key health interventions through:

- commissioned research, case studies and best practice synthesis reports
- providing access to the latest information on health issues via the web-based Eldis Health Resource Guide and the Eldis HIV/AIDS Resource Guide [www.eldis.org/health](http://www.eldis.org/health)

Supporting the professional development of international and national advisers and policy makers through:

- tailor-made briefings, seminars, study tours and workshops
- coaching

Collaborating with local partners in capacity building in the field of public health by:

- supporting the development of local resource centres and specialist networks
- encouraging community based approaches