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## Latest news from THET

### Would you like a forum where you can share and learn directly from others involved in Health Links?

THET is starting a number of email-based communities of practice for people involved in Health Links. Each community of practice will be facilitated by one of THET's honorary advisors.

These groups are for **you** to:

- **Ask questions**/ get advice from others involved in similar Health Link projects
- **Share tools**, guidelines and other resources your Link has developed
- Share your **lessons learnt and ideas** for future directions
- Identify **opportunities for collaboration and joint funding**
- Receive links to **resources** useful to your work

The majority of discussions will take place by email, but we will also offer occasional meetings for members to get to know each other personally and have more in-depth discussions. As part of the International Health Links Funding Scheme we will also be holding some overseas learning workshops in the coming two years.

Worried about getting too much email? The system we are using allows group members to manage the number of emails they receive. You can opt to receive a weekly digest.

The groups will focus on specific areas of health and healthcare. These are:

- Maternal and Child Health
- Mental Health
- Surgery
- Medical Education (Undergraduate & Postgraduate)
- Nursing education (Undergraduate & Postgraduate)
- Public health and primary care

To join one of the groups, please go to: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FG5TV7Z> and your name will be added to the list.

### International Health Links Funding Scheme

The third round of the IHLFS is open for applications. The deadline for the third round of Project grant applications is **5:00pm on Friday, 31 December 2010**. Grants will be awarded from the beginning of April 2011. To find out more please read the full **press release**.

### **Shaping the Future: Growth, Impact and Innovation**

The UK Health Links Conference took place on 4th November 2010. THET would like to thank all those who took part on the day and made it such a success. Presentations are available to view on **our website** and the full conference report will also be available there shortly.

### **Latest news for Health Links**

#### **Donation of British National Formularies**

The Victoria Health Centre in Nottingham has 36 British National Formularies, 20 of which are for children from 2009/10 and 2010/11, which they are keen to donate. If these might be of use to your Link, please contact Dr Antje Ischebeck at **Antje.Ischebeck@nottinghamcity.nhs.uk**.

#### **Mailboxes etc Shipping Offer for Health Links**

Mailboxes etc in Cardiff have expressed an interest in assisting Health Links with their arrangements for shipping equipment and other supplies throughout Asia and Africa. They are currently engaged by one Health Link, shipping sensitive consignments to areas such as Sierra Leone, Northern Nigeria and Chad. Mailboxes etc use the main recognised shipping companies and are able to arrange cheaper deals by aggregating various orders for equipment and putting together a secure service. The larger the consignment, the lower the cost per kilo for transportation.

In order to investigate and maximise potential benefits from options for collaboration on shipping plans, Mailboxes etc would like to hear from Links regarding what they tend to ship, where to, how frequently and how quickly their deliveries would need to arrive. Historic data (including previous carriers used, costs, consignment weights and dimensions where available) will be used to create individual shipping profiles, and in turn create an overall understanding of what's happening nationally. If you are interested in becoming involved in this opportunity, please contact Stewart Barlow at **stewart@mbecardiff.co.uk** putting *Health Links* and the *name of your organisation* in the subject box, for further information and a questionnaire.

### **Health Links – Events and Activities**

#### **Health in the Context of International Development**

This is a collaborative report that was completed by an international team of students from Swansea University and The University of the Gambia this summer (2010) in the Gambia. What makes this report unique is that its production was centred around inter-collaboratory working from an international multi-disciplinary team, using malnourishment as the basis of the case-study. Read the report **here**.

#### **Videos and presentations available from the Global Maternal Health Conference 2010**

The Maternal Health Task Force (MHTF) and the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) hosted the Global Maternal Health Conference 2010 in Delhi, India. Together, MHTF and PHFI brought together an unprecedented gathering of more than 500 maternal health experts and their allies in a global technical and programmatic meeting focused exclusively on maternal health. **Click here** to view available videos and presentations from the conference.

### **Resources for Links**

#### **The Lancet's Chronic Diseases Series**

Chronic diseases, especially cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, and chronic obstructive respiratory diseases, are neglected globally despite growing awareness of the serious burden they cause. Out of every 10 deaths globally, 6 are due to chronic non-communicable conditions; 3 to communicable, reproductive or nutritional conditions; and one to injuries, despite the fact that low-cost and highly effective solutions for the prevention of chronic diseases are readily available. The Lancet is highlighting a series of papers which

cover a range of chronic diseases and present strategies for substantial health gains, monitoring, and scaling up of interventions. To view these papers, please see: <http://www.thelancet.com/series/chronic-diseases-and-development>

### **Non-Financial Incentives for Voluntary Community Health Workers in Ethiopia**

A new report presents the findings of a qualitative John Snow, Inc (JSI) study that explored various approaches to sustaining volunteerism among community health workers in four regions of Ethiopia. Conducted as part of the JSI Research & Training Institute's 'Last 10 Kilometers' maternal and child health project in Ethiopia, the study explored the potential of various non-financial incentives (NFI) used to engage and motivate volunteers. The results of the study outline the factors motivating volunteer community health workers, indicate other NFI mechanisms for consideration, and suggest programmatic recommendations. The report is available [here](#).

### **THET staff have found the following reports and articles interesting and informative:**

- Gijs Walraven: **Global Health Problems and Solutions**
- Nadia Gittins and Simon Standish: **Change management in action. Planning and implementing change in healthcare: a practical guide for managers and clinicians**

The Royal Society of Medicine has a number of lectures that can now be viewed online here: [www.rsmvideos.com](http://www.rsmvideos.com)

### **Vacancies**

#### **BSc Midwifery Lead Tutor, 18 month contract, Somaliland**

The **Edna Adan Maternity Hospital (EAH)**, University of Hargeisa and THET have a vacancy for a full time Lead tutor to head and implement the first BSc in Midwifery in Somaliland's history. The EAH, located in Hargeisa, Somaliland, is a non-profit charity community hospital built by the Hospital Director and founder Edna Adan Ismail. The hospital is the main teaching institution in country for midwifery with a history of training community and post basic midwives. Since declaring independence in 1991 Somaliland has suffered many of the problems associated with post conflict including a critical shortage of health professionals. This rewarding position offers a unique opportunity to be involved in the development of human and institutional capacity, crucial for the rebuilding of the health system in Somaliland.

The post holder will lead the implementation of a high quality BSc Midwifery Programme for qualified midwives, the first BSc level Midwifery course to be run in Somaliland. In consultation with EAH and the UOH s/he will take overall responsibility for the delivery and evaluation of the course. As the course lead, s/he will be responsible for planning the teaching programme; supervising course tutors (including short term international technical support) and ensuring effective mentorship of the students.

Download the **job advert** and **job description** for more information.

To apply, please send a CV and a one page covering letter to Rachael Coker, THET, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 0AE or by email to [rachael@thet.org](mailto:rachael@thet.org).

**Closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010.**  
**Interviews mid January 2011**

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