

# Latest news from THET

Issue 43  
June 2011



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### **UK Health Links Conference 2011 - Registration now open!**

This year's **UK Health Links Conference** will take place on 5th September at Imperial College, London. This year's annual Health Links Conference will explore whether Links are reaching the poorest. There will be the opportunity to gather the experiences of Link partners and view Links' journeys through THET's first Link poster competition, prizes for which will be awarded by Clare Chapman, Director General of NHS Workforce. To register, please click **here**.

### **IHLFS Start Up Grants - up to £3,000 available!**

These grants support the development of new and young Links whose partners have been working together for less than two years. They are designed to provide funding for early-stage activities of a Link, which may include conducting a scoping visit or a needs assessment, or some other piece of work necessary for the Link to grow. Activities related to these grants should be completed within a maximum of six months of the grant award. To find out more about eligibility and to apply please visit **[www.britishcouncil.org/learning-healthlinks.htm](http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-healthlinks.htm)**

### **Somaliland Programme Update**

The Somaliland team have just returned from another successful programme management trip to Somaliland and have the following updates on the programme:

- The THET Somaliland based team have been joined by two new members or staff in recent months. The first is Abdirashiid who joins us as the new country representative and he has extensive experience working for NGO's in East Africa. The second is Khadar who has joined the team as the new finance officer.
- Last month the European Commission sent a delegation to Somaliland to observe our work on the programme activities so far and came back to us with very pleasing results. They visited many of our partners in Somaliland, including those out in the regions. This visit came as we approach the 18month mark with our EC funded programme.
- The first BSC midwifery course run in conjunction with Edna Adan maternity hospital, Hargeisa, is underway and progressing well. There are 29 students undertaking the course and they are all expected to graduate in October 2012
- So far in 2011 there have been 10 trips; two programme management trips, leadership and management, curriculum development, obstetrics and gynaecology, mental health training for nurses, technical assistance to the professional bodies, finance training, BSC midwifery, and a trip by the pharmacy team.
- Upcoming for the rest of 2011 we are hoping to have a further 10 trips. We have a team of external examiners going out in July; programme management trips in

September and November; a post-graduate medical development trip and a CPD trip for the Somaliland Nursing and Midwifery Association in September; external examiners and a Mental Health CPD course for Intern Doctors in October; a paediatrics team going out to give training in November and then in December there will be a mental health training course for undergraduates and an end of year assessment trip.

## Resources for Links

### Lifebox

**Lifebox** is a groundbreaking initiative working to dramatically improve surgical outcomes in low-income countries by ensuring every operating room across the globe has access to essential training and equipment. To read an article about lifebox in the Lancet, please click **here**. They are starting with a pulse oximeter – a simple, non-invasive device that monitors a patient's blood oxygen level and makes anaesthesia a life-saving procedure, not a life-threatening necessity. They also promote the **WHO Surgical Safety Checklist**, shown to significantly reduce surgical complications and mortality. Find out more at **www.lifebox.org**, or email **info@lifebox.org** for more information.

### SMK International Campaigner Award

The International Campaigner Award is an award for campaigners outside the UK, working to achieve social or environmental justice in their home countries. The award recognises campaigners working in many of the least developed countries of the global South. If you would like to find out more please visit the **SMK website**.

### The UK International Emergency Trauma Register

Many NHS workers and others wish to respond to sudden onset large scale disasters but do not always have the appropriate skills, experience or training necessary for the most successful deployment. To address these issues a formal register of UK surgeons, anaesthetists, emergency physicians/nurses and other supporting medical, nursing and paramedical staff has been established. The register has been developed in collaboration with the DH and DFID as well as NGOs including Merlin. Those in the NHS (or elsewhere) who feel they may wish to volunteer in the future can be directed to seek inclusion on the register. Where there are areas of training or experience to make up, applicants will be shown how this can be rectified, usually by referral to established training courses. Those interested can apply online at **www.uk-med.org**.

## Events for Links

### Wales for Africa Health Links Conference

The Wales for Africa Health Links 2011 Annual Conference will be held on Thursday, 7th July at the Cardiff School of Management, Llandaff Campus, Cardiff. The **provisional agenda** shows this years' conference themes. To register your attendance, please open the **website link** and you will find details under the 'Events' heading.

### Global Health Education for Tomorrow's Doctors

#### Thursday 20 October 2011

The Austin Court, Birmingham, B1 2NP

This one-day conference organised by the Association for the Study of Medical Education (ASME) aims to exchange experiences of the participants in teaching and learning about global health. It will give participants the opportunity to debate their understanding of global health education and how best to meet the key learning outcomes in their teaching. For more information, please see the **flyer**.

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