



## Latest news from THET

October 2009 - Issue no. 24

Dear Friend,

Welcome to THET's monthly e-bulletin, full of the latest news and information on THET activities and Health Links. Feel free to forward this e-bulletin to anyone who might be interested.

### **In this issue**

[Latest news from THET](#)

[THET - Events and activities](#)

[Latest news for Health Links](#)

['Health Link of the Month'](#)

[Funding opportunities for Links](#)

[Health Links - Events & activities](#)

[Resources for Links](#)

### **Latest news from THET**

#### **THET Launches the pioneering International Health Links Funding Scheme**

THET is proud to announce the official launch of the International Health Links Funding Scheme, funded by Department for International Development and the Department of Health. The scheme, aimed at strengthening partnerships, or 'Links', between UK health institutions and their counterparts in developing countries, will be managed by THET and the British Council over the next three years. Please [click here](#) for more information. If you would like to apply for this funding scheme, details can be found down below.

#### **New THET logo and website soon to launch!**

We have been working hard behind the scenes to revamp our website, making it more user-friendly and accessible to all audiences. We aim to increase traffic to our website and use it as a platform for raising awareness. Our wonderful designer, Richard Shepherd is redesigning our website completely free of charge. Our new website will go 'live' in November, so be sure to check in regularly! We are also refreshing our logo, so check back soon for these exciting updates.

#### **Changes at THET**

This month we would like to welcome to the THET team Julie Edelstein as our new Fundraising Intern, Rhonwyn Cornell, as the new Links Development Officer and Anna Downie, our new Learning and Evaluation Manager.

Last week THET said goodbye to Lucy Elkin, who has worked as our International

Development Officer. Many thanks to Lucy for all her hard work and we wish her and her family the very best.

## THET - Events and activities

### Chamber Music Concert in aid of THET - 16th November 2009

The Royal College of Physicians Music Club will be performing a Chamber Music Concert at the Dorchester Library on Monday, 16th November 2009 at 7:15 pm. Admission is free and there will be a cash bar open after the performance. Music will be played by Fellows and Members of the College. The retiring collection will be in aid of THET.

## Latest news for Health Links

### UNICEF and WHO have released a Joint Statement on Home Visits for the Newborn Child: A Complementary Strategy to Improve Newborn Survival.

The statement is based on a growing amount of knowledge showing that home visits by appropriately trained workers to provide newborn care significantly reduce neonatal mortality even where health systems are weak. UNICEF and WHO recommend home visits for the care of newborn child in the first week of life as a complementary strategy to facility-based perinatal care to improve newborn survival. The statement recommends the following basic elements within a home visits programme: early initiation of breast-feeding and exclusive breast-feeding, keeping the baby warm including skin-to-skin contact, hygiene i.e. hand washing with soap and water and clean umbilical cord care, and counseling on when to take the newborn to a health facility.

### The Eldis Community - A professional networking platform

The Eldis Community is the sister site to [eldis.org](http://eldis.org) and provides a professional networking platform which is particularly useful when working with overseas partners as well as meeting new partners in development. It enables members to create groups - either private or public - where they can work collaboratively with one another, sharing files and photos, debating ideas through discussions and blogs. For more information, please [click here](#).

## 'Health Link of the Month'

### Southern Ethiopia - Gwent Health Link

Through support from THET and generous funding of £8,000 by the Christadelphian Meal-A-Day Fund one motorbike ambulance has been delivered to Yirgacheffe Health Centre in Southern Ethiopia, as well as the provision of training in its use and maintenance. This is the first time in Ethiopia that a motorbike ambulance has been introduced, and it has already made a huge difference, enabling the transport of critically ill pregnant mothers and other patients to life-saving healthcare facilities. This project forms part of a larger long-term programme providing support to healthcare facilities in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region of Ethiopia (SNNPR). For more information on the Southern Ethiopia - Gwent Health Link, please [click here](#).

### Calling all Links!

We'd love to highlight your Link's outstanding achievements in our monthly e-bulletin. If you would like to recognise the accomplishments of an individual, team or project, or if you have an interesting anecdote from your time overseas, please send your stories in to [erin@thet.org](mailto:erin@thet.org).

## Funding opportunities for Links

### New funding for Health Links! The International Health Links Funding Scheme

The IHLFS is a 3-year scheme that provides grants, information and support to Health Links. Jointly managed by THET and the British Council, the scheme makes £1.25 million available to support the work of Health Links each year, with the primary purpose of building the capacity of developing country health services. There are 3 types of grants available to Links in target countries: Small (up to £3,000), Medium (up to £15,000) and Large grants (up to £60,000). For more information on the scheme and how to apply, please [click here](#). THET will host a series of Application Workshops shortly (please see below).

## Health Links - Events & activities

### **THET Application Workshop for UK International Health Links Funding Scheme**

THET is pleased to announce a series of Application Workshops which will provide Links with guidance on the application process and offer an opportunity to ask questions. Workshops will be taking place in the following locations:

London - Monday 12th October  
Edinburgh - Friday 16th October  
Cardiff - Tuesday 20th October  
Leeds - Tuesday 27th October

To register your interest to attend one of the above workshops, please email [Healthlinks@britishcouncil.org](mailto:Healthlinks@britishcouncil.org), giving your name, your organisation/Link and the type (s) of grant that you are interested in applying for. Further details, including times and locations, will be emailed to those who have registered interest. Please note that places at the workshops are limited.

### **'Under the Baobab Tree' - 17th October 2009**

Africa Community Links gather for UN World Poverty Day 2009 - A Conference for community and civic groups interested in partnership Links with Africa. Topics will include: Engaging communities with global poverty and development issues; Increasing participation in linking activities in Wales, UK and Africa; Mutually beneficial actions and projects developed through linking; and much more. The Conference takes place on Saturday, 17th October 2009 at the Media Centre in Llandrindod Wells, Powys. For more information, please [click here](#).

### **Medsin National Conference - 25th October 2009**

Medsin-Nottingham are hosting this year's Medsin National Conference 2009. This annual National Conference is the largest of its kind in the country, bringing together over 400 like-minded students and the most eminent thinkers of today. The theme is 'Vulnerability in Health' with plenaries on the Elderly, Mental health, Refugees & Asylum Seekers and Physical disability. THET will have a stand at the conference, so be sure to look out for us! For more information, please [click here](#).

## Resources for Links

### **Newly published! The International Health Links Manual (2nd Edition)**

The 2nd Edition of the Links Manual, full of practical advice and guidance for both UK and overseas Links partners is available to buy or download. For more information how to get your copy, [click here](#).

### **WHO Handbook on Monitoring and Evaluation of Human Resources for Health**

This handbook offers health managers, researchers and policy makers a comprehensive and standard reference for monitoring and evaluating human resources for health. For more information, please [click here](#).

### **WHO Guidelines for the Management of Postpartum Haemorrhage and Retained Placenta**

These guidelines include "care pathways" for the management of PPH, as a practical guide for clinicians. For more information, please [click here](#).

### Useful websites

The International News Safety Institute (INSI) is a unique coalition of news organisations, journalist support groups and individuals exclusively dedicated to the safety of news media staff working in dangerous environments. Please visit their website at [www.newssafety.org](http://www.newssafety.org).

If you have any materials or news which you would like to publicise, please send the information to the editor of this e-bulletin, Erin Miwa, [erin@thet.org](mailto:erin@thet.org). Conference and workshop reviews are also welcome. Note that we are unable to distribute attachments so please ensure that your item can be pasted into an e-mail message.

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