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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION COLLABORATING CENTRE
FOR NURSING, MIDWIFERY & HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

WHO CC UTS Report 2013

This is a report on the WHO CC UTS activities during 2013

February 2014

World Health Organization
Western Pacific Region

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OPENING MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2013 Annual Report. This was another busy and productive year at the UTS World Health Organization Collaborating Centre (WHO CC UTS) for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development. New relationships were forged and established relationships strengthened in our work supporting nurses and midwives throughout the region.

Our Centre was elected to undertake the role of Global Secretariat for Nursing and Midwifery WHO Collaborating Centres. This four year term role entails coordinating the network of 44 institutions. We thank our predecessors the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Research Development at the University of São Paulo at Ribeirão Preto College of Nursing, Brazil and look forward to working with them in the transition.

Our 2013 Annual Report is structured to be in line with our key strength areas: leadership capacity development to improve health service outcomes; innovative approaches to education of health professionals; human resources for health policy analysis; health workforce research and advice; primary health care provision; non-communicable diseases; and maternal and child health.

We look forward to a busy 2014 with many ongoing projects that focus on strengthening the health care systems of our Asian Pacific neighbours.

Professor John Daly and Ms Michele Rumsey

Professor John Daly RN, PhD, MACE, AFCHSM, FRCNA Dean, Faculty of Health, Head, WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery & Health Development

Ms Michele Rumsey Director of Operations and Development,
WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development,
Faculty of Health, University of Technology, Sydney

WHO CC UTS HIGHLIGHTS - 2013

WHO CC UTS Awarded Global Secretariat

In 2013, the WHO CC UTS was elected to take the role of Global Secretariat of the Global Network of World Health Organization Collaborating Centres (WHOCCs) for Nursing and Midwifery in July 2014, for a four year term. This is a great honour for the Centre who will assume the mission to build upon the structure and work developed by the previous Secretariats, and synergistically gather Collaborating Centres around common activities focusing on the goals of WHO. The Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres (WHOCCs) for Nursing and Midwifery Development comprises 44 institutions, from the six regions of WHO. Since July 2008, the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Research Development at the University of São Paulo at Ribeirão Preto College of Nursing, Brazil, had the privilege of coordinating the Global Network. We congratulate the University of Sao Paulo on the great work it has done and are honoured to assume the role for the next term.

WHO Nurse Advisor Kathleen Fritsch Retires

WHO Nurse Advisor Kathleen Fritsch has supported our WHO CC since 2008. Our Centre has great respect for the work she has undertaken during her time at WHO and want to acknowledge her tireless contributions to nursing and midwifery. Her retirement in 2013 was commemorated at a meeting with the Asia Pacific Emergency and Disaster Nursing Network, surrounded by nurse/midwife colleagues and friends.

Maternal and Child Health Initiative in Papua New Guinea

WHO CC UTS, with the Office of the WHO Representative in Papua New Guinea, completed the first two years of an initiative, funded by Australian Aid – the Maternal and Child Health Initiative. The initiative provides mentoring, evidence-based educational and practice materials and continuous competency development to obstetricians and midwives in Papua New Guinea. Phase II of the initiative will begin in 2014.

Communication

WHO CC UTS communicates through Regional Updates and through their website http://www.nmh.uts.edu.au/whocc/

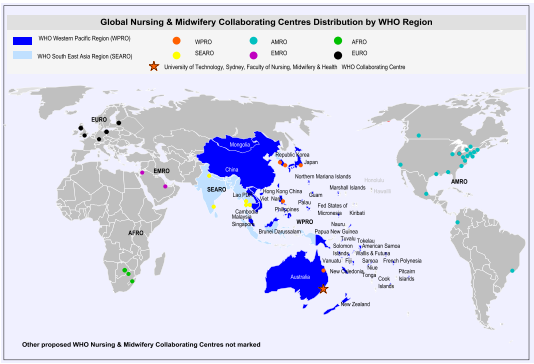
WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Background

The Faculty of Health at UTS was awarded World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre status in January 2008 and was redesignated January 2012 for a further four years.

The WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development forms part of an international collaborative network which supports and undertakes projects in support of the World Health Organization's programmes at national, regional and international levels.

The WHO CC UTS is one of seven nursing and midwifery WHO Collaborating Centres in the WHO Western Pacific Region. This region encompasses 37 member states: American Samoa, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia (France), Guam (USA), Hong Kong (China), Japan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Macao (China), Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Nauru, New Caledonia (France), New Zealand, Niue, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (USA), Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Pitcairn Islands (UK), Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Tokelau (New Zealand), Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Wallis and Futuna (France).



Why UTS?

The impetus and rationale for UTS: Health becoming a designated WHO Collaborating Centre was two-fold:

- The Faculty's extensive history of regional work in human resources for health, education, regulation, policy and capacity building made it well placed to carry out activities in support of WHO programmes; and
- The need for enhanced geographic coverage for health development in the WHO Western Pacific Region, specifically the South Pacific, Australia and New Zealand, was identified at the South Pacific Chief Nursing Officers' Alliance Meeting in the Cook Islands in 2004.

UTS: Health is internationally recognised within the profession, academia and the health services for its research, education, consultancy and policy development especially in nursing, midwifery and health management.

The Faculty has an outstanding track record of supportive and productive working relationships with national and international health organisations. It was thus well placed to act as a hub for this regional work.

Key Strength Areas

Improve health, workforce, policy and service delivery throughout Asia/Pacific by: technical advice, research, policy analysis, consultancy, advocacy, training and skills development in the following areas:

> Leadership Capacity Development to Improve Health Service Outcomes
> Innovative Approaches to Education of Health Professionals
> Human Resources for Health Policy Analysis
> Health Workforce Research and Advice
> Primary Health Care Provision
> Non-communicable Diseases (NCD)
> Maternal and Child Health (MCH)

Purpose

The 2012- 2016 purpose of the WHO CC UTS is to support WHO by:

1. Improving health system outcomes by building capacity for innovative policy development and enhancement of quality of health care
2. Strengthening cross-sectoral relationships* to ensure supportive regulatory frameworks, research-based education, faculty development and quality of education to support improved service provision and population health outcomes.
3. Promoting and supporting the national, regional and international development of nursing and midwifery health systems strengthening including, human resources for health.
4. Strengthening maternal and child health care standards and services by increasing capacity of the maternal health workforce, including improved midwifery education and practice.

(*with national, regional and international consumers, regulators, communities, governments, professional organisations, institutes and relevant bodies)

Governance & Networks

There is a secretariat of professional staff for the WHO CC UTS including a UTS Management Committee. A number of other support and academic staff from the Faculty and University work with the secretariat as projects arise.

The WHO CC UTS has an Advisory Board which includes regional senior nursing and midwifery officers, UTS academic staff, and other health service professionals, leaders and policy makers from Samoa, Cook

Islands, New Zealand and Australia, Australian Aid and World Vision.

Core partnerships have also been formed with the South Pacific Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officers' Alliance (SPCNMOA) and the WHO CC staff act as the secretariat for SPCNMOA. Other strong links exist with Pacific Forum, Australian Aid, NZAID, Department of Health and Ageing, Australia, Global Network of WHO CCs, International Council of Nurses, International Confederation of Midwives, Asia Pacific Emergency and Disaster Nursing Network (APEDNN), Asia-Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAH), Pacific Human Resource for Health Alliance (PHRHA) and other national, international and regional Professional Organisations.

PROJECTS AND PRESENTATIONS IN 2013

Leadership Capacity Development to Improve Health Service Outcomes

Australian Aid AAF Fellowship Awards

An Australian Aid Australian Awards Fellowship Program (AAF, formerly ALA) was conducted by the WHO CC UTS in 2013. The program is intended to build leadership capacity in midwifery and nursing in the Pacific region and is run in collaboration with the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance (SPCNMOA).

Nursing and midwifery representatives from the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu visited UTS in June 2013 to take part in the leadership program.

So far, the program has facilitated 82 Pacific health leaders. Three participants in the program have gone on to become the Chief Nurse in their respective country.

The delegates take part in focussed workshops where action plans are developed that will be implemented in their home country.

The two week program also hosted the Anglican Overseas Aid's photographic exhibition, "The Road Less Travelled" which was on display at the Faculty of Health, UTS during the program. The exhibition featured beautiful images of midwives, mothers and babies in sub-Saharan Africa and was supported by Australian Aid.

ALA Fellows from Cook Islands, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu with members of the WHO CC UTS team.

The aim of the Australian Aid AAF program is to strengthen regional relationships and build leadership capacity in participating countries. These aims are achieved by working closely with the counterpart organisation, South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance (SPCNMOA), and senior nurses and midwives in Pacific countries to develop and provide regional skills development programs.

ALA Fellows from ALA Fellows from Cook Islands, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu at WHO CC reception.

The WHO CC UTS is continuing to receive positive feedback from participants of the AAF program, and has already witnessed career successes from previous fellows who have attained high level nursing and midwifery positions. Past participants have gone on to implement their action plans in their home countries with success. Case studies from past participants are available from the WHO CC UTS.

The impact of these courses and events will aid the ongoing aim of the WHO CC UTS to build leadership capacity within the region.

New leadership relationships have been formed at country and regional levels through this program. With continuing programs, a critical mass of nursing and midwifery leaders across the South Pacific countries can be attained. There are now two established programs – leadership and faculty development – further courses can be implemented as required.

South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers' Alliance (SPCNMOA)

The WHO CC UTS became Secretariat to the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers' Alliance (SPCNMOA) in 2008. Five years later, the relationship between SPCNMOA and the WHO CC UTS remains strong and collaborative. Regular teleconferences were held throughout 2013 to discuss projects, regional issues and successes.

Actions worked on throughout 2013 were focussed on:

KRA 1: Health workforce strategic planning to meet evolving and unmet population health and health service needs

KRA 2: Health workforce education, training and continuing competence

KRA 3: Health workforce utilization, management and retention

KRA 4: Governance, leadership and partnerships for sustained HRH contributions to improved population health outcomes

The Tenth Pacific Health Ministers Meeting

The Tenth Pacific Health Ministers Meeting was held in Apia, Samoa from July 2nd-4th with the theme of "Healthy Islands, Healthy Pacific". Professor Pelenatete Stowers, Chief Nurse of Samoa, represented the SPCNMOA and spoke on key ways to strengthen nursing and midwifery capacity for Pacific health systems development. Key Recommendations included:

- SPCNMOA to be integrated as a vital and visible entity of the Pacific Island Health Governance Architecture
- Each South Pacific Island country have a Government Chief Nursing/Midwifery Officer at the policy making and regulatory level of national health systems, and that they are the expert technical and professional advisors on nursing and midwifery.

Nursing and midwifery priorities were highlighted as integral to improving human resources for health, and increase the sustainability of the South Pacific workforce while improving access and quality of health care.

The Pacific Health Ministers Meeting produced recommendations including "Increased involvement of nursing in national and regional health governance structures", which was a direct result of Professor Pelenatete Stowers representing the SPCNMOA at the meeting.

The Health Ministers meeting is an excellent opportunity for health leaders to recognise priority areas devised by SPCNMOA and also acknowledge the role of the organization in addressing nursing and midwifery related issues in the Pacific.

Asian Pacific Emergency Disaster Nursing Network (APEDNN)

The 7th Asia Pacific Emergency Disaster Nursing Network (APEDNN) meeting was held in September 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand with 89 participants from 29 countries.

The APEDNN meets annually to network with colleagues from across the region, share ideas and further the work of emergency and disaster nursing. This year the aims were to update areas of education, training, research and publication. This year's gathering also celebrated the breadth and depth of work of WHO Nurse Advisor, Kathleen Fritsch, in the Western Pacific Region, who established the APEDNN in 2007. She has worked tirelessly in support of nurse-midwives in the region and the group showed their appreciation.

The WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development at UTS conducted a workshop on 'Priority activities in strengthening nursing and midwifery in emergencies and disasters' at the meeting. The nurse/midwife plays a key role in increasing the ability of communities to prevent, prepare and respond to events. As a

trained health professional the nurse/midwife also has the ability to assess and use tools to measure community resilience and help to build the community's capacity.

Michele Rumsey (WHO CC UTS), Kathleen Fritsch (WHO WPRO), Josefina Tuazon (APEDNN Secretariat) at the Asia Pacific Emergency Disaster Nursing Network meeting.

The main outputs were a checklist on the role of nurse-midwives in building community resilience in disaster; and a list of priority activities in strengthening nursing and midwifery in emergencies such as facilitating working group clusters to increase active participation and formalize membership and partnerships. The book 'Nurses and midwives in action during emergencies and disasters: case studies from the Western Pacific Region', a collaborative effort involving the network, was also launched during the meeting.

Regulatory Taskforce

The SPCNMOA established a group of regulatory experts to make up a Regulatory Taskforce for nursing and midwifery in the Western Pacific Region in August 2013 for an initial term of 2 years.

The Mission of the SPCNMOA is to strengthen nursing and midwifery capacity as a key priority for Pacific health systems development through country ownership and leadership. The Alliance acknowledges the issue of the regulation of health workers as a potential barrier to health system development, and therefore has been a priority for the Alliance since 2008.

From the SPCNMOA Meeting in November 2012 and in relation to Key Result Area 1, it was agreed by the Alliance for 2013-2014 that a taskforce be established to:

- explore possible work relating to regional regulatory frameworks and use of the ICN/ICM tool Model Act & Tool Kit.
- look at own country legislations and regulations that will impact nursing services and understanding what gaps and barriers are in the legislation.
- explore regulation as higher level policy rather than specific statutes.
- explore the safety, economic and regulatory issues of unregulated health workers.
- work on defining quality of care in the context of South Pacific to be able to continue improving health of Pacific nations.
- explore balance between value of

registered qualified nurses and midwives versus non registered and the impact on safety of health care.

The Regulatory Taskforce is a mechanism to provide advice and guidance to the SPCNMOA on above issues, and accessing support, resources in-kind and/or funding for regulatory projects.

Membership of Regulatory Taskforce is made up of selected individuals for their skills and knowledge in relation to regulation of health care worker education. The initial Taskforce includes members from Tokelau, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Australia and New Zealand. The Taskforce will be supported by Secretariat WHO CC UTS.

The Regulatory Taskforce will provide strategic and operational advice to SPCNMOA in relation to regulatory standards, processes and decision-making; business and service delivery models in relation to regulation and associated matters; fostering community and stakeholder awareness of and engagement with health practitioner regulation; and the use of data to monitor and improve policy advice and decision-making.

Innovative Approaches to Education of Health Professionals

Scaling-Up Nursing through Global Nursing/Midwifery Faculty Development

WHO CC UTS, in collaboration with a working group of international experts, is conducting research to examine and analyse the current trends of faculty development programs and/or courses for nurses and midwives in both developing and developed countries.

The research includes an assessment survey which addresses faculty and educators' needs in the Pacific and South East Asian regions. This survey was developed in line with the WHO Global Standards for the Initial Education of Professional Nurses and Midwives. Surveys have been collected in the South Pacific and all of the nursing and midwifery schools in Papua New Guinea.

The survey provides an overview of the faculty's demographics, faculty's needs, and professional development of faculty members. The aim is to provide recommendations for action in regional and global faculty development programs.

The global working group has also nurtured relationships with Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) and nursing/midwifery leaders and educators from Laos, Cambodia, China, Samoa, Philippines and PNG who have all had valuable input.

Data collected from the survey will inform the countries, WHO and other policy makers regarding faculty development programs needed for the Pacific and South East Asian regions. A pilot faculty development program, developed from data collected through the

survey, was implemented during the Australian Aid Australian Awards Fellowships with 20 Papua New Guinean educators.

Health Professional Education in the WHO Western Pacific Region

An informal consultation on health professional education in the Western Pacific Region was held in Manila, Philippines 10-12 June 2013, facilitated by WHO WPRO. Universal health coverage is a challenge for many countries due to a lack of human resources for health. A major component of the Human Resources of Health Action Framework (2011- 2015), adopted by WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific in 2011, recommends that education and training needs strengthening to develop the skills of a competent health workforce.

WHO CC UTS were present to discuss the work hawse have contributed on faculty development needs assessment in the region. The objectives of the workshop were to: Review and share experiences in health professional education in the Western Pacific Region; identify areas to improve health professional education; and identify areas of technical cooperation and follow-up actions.

To scale up human resources for health it is vital to align educational institutions and health service delivery as well as enhanced cooperation between the education and health sectors. 13 countries in the Western

Workshop on Health Professional Education in the Western Pacific Region, Manila Philippines.

Pacific region were present at the workshop with representatives from World Health Organization (WHO) from EURO, WPRO and AMRO, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and WHO Collaborating Centres and universities in the region.

Human Resources for Health Policy Analysis

Pacific Plan Review, 2013

The Pacific Plan Action Committee Meeting was held in Suva, Fiji on August 6th 2013. The Pacific Plan is the master strategy for strengthening regional cooperation and integration in the Pacific. The review, described by the chair as "one of the most substantive and far-reaching reviews of Pacific issues ever mounted" has resulted in a number of recommendations that will have a lasting impact on the region. A public submission by SPCNMOA coordinated by WHO CC UTS was put forward to the Pacific Plan team.

The submission made by the SPCNMOA to the Pacific Plan Review Team outlining the four focus areas requiring action in 2014, recommended that the following are taken into consideration for the Pacific Plan review:

1. Health workforce strategic planning to meet evolving and unmet population health and health service needs.

2. Health workforce education, training and continuing competence.

3. Health workforce utilisation, management and retention.

4. Governance, leadership and partnerships for sustained human resources for health (HRH) contributions to improved population health outcomes.

SPCNMOA is a strong supporter of nurses, midwives and healthcare workers across the South Pacific, and sees a reviewed Pacific Plan as an important regional strategy that has the potential to encourage better collaboration and coordination. The review of the Pacific Plan provides the opportunity to address the issues highlighted by the SPCNMOA, and to focus on the concerns of highest priority, particularly those in relation to nursing and midwifery leadership, HRH, research and workforce issues, capacity building and policy development.

'Development Futures: Alternative Pathways to End Poverty' Conference

The Development Futures Conference held 21-22 November 2013, at UTS Sydney, provided a unique opportunity to take part in discussion and debate on our collective response to the increasing need for innovation, foresight and new approaches to end poverty. The University of Technology, Sydney, through the Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF), is hosting this conference in collaboration with the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and the wider ACFID University Network. The WHO CC UTS was on the steering committee for the conference.

The WHO CC UTS attending many meetings throughout 2013 as part of the Steering Committee for the conference. WHO CC UTS also presented an online presentation on Maternal and Child Health Initiative in PNG, a poster on building relationships with SPCNMOA and was part of a panel conducting a workshop on community involvement.

The conference was designed to enable strong participation and engagement through a mixture of presentations and facilitated discussion, panels and workshops. Ensuring developing countries were part of the debate of their own humanitarian development is vital for efficient and successful projects and initiatives.

The International Council of Nurses 25th Quadrennial Congress in Melbourne

The International Council of Nurses 25th Quadrennial Congress was held in Melbourne from the 18th-23rd of May. Close to 4,000 Nursing leaders from more than 100 countries gathered to discuss Nursing's key role in improving equity and access to health care. While at the ICN, WHO CC UTS hosted the World Health Organization Global Network Meeting of WHO Collaborating Centres. The meeting brought together Nursing and Midwifery leaders from some of the 44 Collaborating Centres around the world and was a great opportunity for networking and meeting colleagues from other regions across the globe.

Health Workforce Research and Advice

Understanding the Pacific's adaptive capacity to emergencies in the context of climate change

WHO CC UTS and Institute of Sustainable Futures, UTS (http://www.isf.uts.edu.au/), funded by the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility, partnered to inform policy makers about how climate change is likely to impact on Australia's capacity to respond to disasters in the Pacific, and how the emergency and humanitarian responses of Pacific Island Countries (PICs) will also be affected by a changing climate.

A regional reference group including representatives from Humanitarian Partnership Agreement (Caritas, Oxfam, CARE, PLAN International, Save the Children, and World Vision), APEDNN, WHO WPRO, and CSIRO was formed.

More than 90 interviews were conducted with representatives from organisations who respond to disasters in Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, and Vanuatu. Interviews were analysed and major determinants for adaptive capacity following a disaster were isolated and discussed. A final report including individual country reports for participating countries was submitted. Journal articles have been submitted for publication.

A deeper understanding of the future implications of climate change to the Pacific and what impact this has on Australia will be gained. Different aspects of the work will be developed into articles for publishing.

Introduction to Research Workshop

In 2013 WHO CC UTS conducted two individual workshops in May and November on an introduction to research for 14 Pacific leaders as part of the Pacific Midwifery Leaders Fellowship Program facilitated by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrician and Gynaecologists.

The midwives come with a research project to work on that they will be able to use learning from the workshop. The aim is to share Regional Nursing and Midwifery research

concepts and explore current thinking regarding global Maternal and Child Health (MCH) initiatives. The program covers: regional maternal and child health research; global influences on midwifery; evidence based decision making; high degree midwifery research support.

Research literacy is an important step for the Pacific region to inform evidence based nursing and midwifery practise.

Understanding health labour market in the Western Pacific Region

This framework paper was completed in 2013 and due for publication in 2014. It provides an introduction to health labour market assessment and dynamics for policy makers in the countries of the Western Pacific Region (WPR). The objective of the paper is to provide an understanding of overall health labour market dynamics, and issues in WPR. The report includes: desk review of literature on health care labour markets and labour analysis; defining concepts, main required data items, and components of an analytical framework; and examples from WPR setting out key labour market issues. A 'non-technical' paper will be produced aimed at policy makers, which sets out an overall frame for key rationales, focus areas and approaches to the analysis and assessment of health labour markets.

The key points of the paper have already been presented at the Asia Pacific Health Systems Research Conference in Singapore in December 2013; it has also been used to assist in framing HRH developments being led by the Department of Health in the Philippines.

2013 National Adaptation Conference

The National Adaptation Conference hosted by The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility was held in Sydney from 25th-27th of June 2013. The conference brought together almost 600 researchers from across Australia to share activities, strategies and research in climate change adaptation.

The WHO CC UTS presented Health Care Capacity for Disaster Response in the Pacific, findings from the final report: Disaster Response and Climate Change in the Pacific, which was produced in collaboration with the Institute of Sustainable Futures. The Report is the result of extensive partnerships across the Pacific region.

Several documents have been developed to inform individual countries and provide recommendations to policy makers in the disaster and emergency response sectors.

ICS Integrare Operational Handbook

The Instituto de Cooperación Social INTEGRARE (ICS Integrare) is a research Institute based in Barcelona, Spain that has been asked to support UNFPA in the overall coordination of research and implementation

of Midwifery Workforce Assessments as part of the High Burden Countries Initiative (HBCI). The WHO CC UTS has been asked to provide technical services in the update of the HBCI Operational Guidance and Assessment Framework (OGAF) and development of an operational handbook on 'How to conduct a Midwifery Workforce Assessment'.

The overarching purpose of the HBCI is to enable the 8 participating countries to develop costed national strategies in support of strengthening their midwifery workforce. The history and progress of the HBCI program is available on the ICS Integrare website.

The Centre for Health Services Management

WHO CC UTS works with the UTS Centre for Health Services Management to meet its objectives. The Centre for Health Services Management provides education, research and consultancy for those who are managing health services and to inform health policy at state and national levels.

Primary Health Care Provision

Research literacy and capacity building in low income countries

WHO CC UTS is working with the Australian Research Centre in Complementary and Integrative Medicine (ARCCIM), in the Faculty of Health, UTS in collaboration with colleagues at University of Queensland (School of Social Science) to develop a workshop program in research literacy and capacity building.

This program is scheduled to be implemented in early 2014 and will forward cross-sectoral relationships with alternative and complementary medicine and mainstream medicine in low income countries including Indonesia and Vietnam.

Revitalization of Primary Health Care in Samoa Project

The Ministry of Health in Samoa requested assistance from the WHO Collaborating Centre UTS in upgrading and rescaling the nursing and midwifery workforce to ensure it is fit for purpose moving into the new era of health care provision in Samoa.

The aim of the project was to provide recommendations and a framework for improving nursing and midwifery workforce for the revitalization of primary health care while balancing the needs of the new teaching hospital. The project was conducted over 6 months (July to December 2013).

A review of the nursing and midwifery workforce issues and the provision of an options paper regarding the development of a framework for nursing and midwifery education in Samoa was undertaken. An Expert Focus Group was formed to lead the consultation proves and recommended the development of a continuing professional development framework for nursing and midwifery education. This Framework offers

the opportunity for interprofessional development across the health disciplines and may also include medical staff/students, allied health staff/students and others involved in the provision of health care in Samoa for the overall vision of a Healthy Samoa.

Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and Reproductive Health World Bank Praxis Discussion Series

The WHO CC UTS was part of a panel on 9 September 2013 for the World Bank Praxis Discussion Series. While maternal mortality remains a huge issue on the global development agenda, reproductive health problems remain the leading cause of ill health and death for women of childbearing age worldwide. This Praxis session discussed these issues in relation to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste in particular.

Michele Rumsey, Samson Baba and Meredith Burgmann on the World Bank Praxis panel for maternal and reproductive health.

WHO CC UTS joined Dr Samson Baba, Director General of Community and Public Health in South Sudan, and The Hon Dr Meredith Burgmann, President of Australian Council For International Development (ACFID) as part of the World Bank Praxis Discussion Series 2013.

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Papua New Guinea

WHO CC UTS with the Office of the WHO Representative, Papua New Guinea, completed the first two years of an initiative, funded by Australian Aid – the Maternal and Child Health Initiative. The initiative provides mentoring, evidence-based educational and practice materials and continuous competency development to obstetricians and midwives in Papua New Guinea.

Eight international midwives and two obstetricians were recruited to work in PNG. The midwives work closely with academic and clinical personnel in the midwifery education programmes of the four PNG schools and two regional hospitals that prepare midwives for qualifications to practise. The obstetricians are based in two regional hospitals providing maternity services.

A number of activities have been coordinated by the WHO CC UTS in partnership with WHO PNG as part of the initiative including:

- Recruitment of CMFs and obstetricians
- Induction in Sydney for the CMFs

- Orientation in PNG for the CMFs and MCHI obstetricians
- Several workshops in PNG with PNG national counterparts
- Clinical supervision and mentoring for CMFs and MCHI obstetricians
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Member of WHO Steering committee

A number of challenges remain. These include communication channels, material resources as well as IT and Internet access in the schools, the capacity of the midwifery schools to take more students in 2013 and on-going safety and security issues. On a broader level, there are significant challenges relating to the effective and timely implementation of the National Midwifery Curriculum Framework, registration of midwives and regulation of midwifery in Papua New Guinea.

Phase 1 of the MCHI was completed in December 2013. Phase 2 of the MCHI will commence in 2014 and continue for two years.

PNG Maternal and Child Health Initiative (MCHI) Workshop

The fifth MCHI Workshop facilitated by WHO CC UTS was held in Port Moresby in late June 2013. Participants of the workshop included national midwifery course coordinators, clinical midwives and clinical midwifery facilitators.

The workshop allowed participants to share knowledge, information and hands on training on ways to strengthen maternal and child health in PNG, as well as strategise potential interventions for the future.

The MCHI initiative which began in 2011, aims to improve the standard of midwifery clinical teaching and practice, and improve the quality of care through clinical mentoring, supervision, and teaching.

Reproductive Health Training Unit Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop, PNG

A Reproductive Health Training Unit (RHU) has been established as a unique public-private partnership in PNG. WHO CC UTS will conduct the monitoring and evaluation over the next three years of the RHTU to make transparent its strengths and weaknesses and ensure ongoing effectiveness. This process started with the initial monitoring and evaluation workshop and round of interviews with the RHTU partnership and other stakeholders such as provincial partners and National Department of Health. Conducting in-depth interviews with the major stakeholders throughout the project will not only provide monitoring of the progress, views and experiences of these key people, but will also provide an information sharing avenue.

In July 2013, the WHO CC UTS conducted monitoring and evaluation workshops with the RHTU in Papua New Guinea, as part of the new public private partnership (PPP) between

National Department of Health, PNG; Oil Search Health Foundation and Australian Aid.

Reproductive Health Training Unit and WHO CC UTS at a workshop held in Port Moresby.

As part of the capacity development component of the RHTU and the M&E process, focus groups training was held at the workshop and carried out by the Papua New Guinean RHTU staff.

Increasing the quality and quantity of reproductive health workers in PNG will impact population health.

Pacific Society for Reproductive Health

Pacific Society for Reproductive Health (PSRH) held their 10th Biennial Conference in Samoa in 2013. PSRH encourages and contributes to the professional development of sexual, reproductive and neonatal health care professionals across the diversity of Pacific Island Countries. The Society also advocates for the improvement of Women's Health in the Pacific.

The WHO CC UTS presented a paper on the Papua New Guinea Maternal and Child Health Initiative being undertaken by the WHO CC UTS in collaboration with PNG National Department of Health, World Health Organization and funded by Australian Aid. There were a number of other PNG staff and colleagues attending the conference. Professor Pat Brodie presented the Brian Spurrett Oration at the conference which was the first time a midwife has been asked to present this address.

WHO CC UTS co-facilitated a research workshop on the last day of the conference. About 100 doctors and midwives attended the workshop which included presentations by new researchers across the region.

Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health

The goal of the Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health is to improve the health of families through leadership in midwifery, child and family health research, education, practice development and consultancy. The focus is on childbearing women and their families with children up to five years of age. The Centre conducts research that improves the quality of practice and services provided by practitioners, particularly midwives and child and family health nurses. They also undertake research to improve the systems responsible for the delivery of that care. Their activities inform education, practice and policy development, service delivery and consultancy.

Women Deliver Conference

The Women Deliver conference was held in Kuala Lumpur in May 2013 and hosted 4,500 participants from 149 countries. The WHO CC UTS attended the conference that was one of the largest gatherings of policymakers, advocates and researchers in women's health. This was the 3rd global conference held by Women Deliver, a global advocacy organization which aims to improve the health and well-being of girls and women. Networking with other policy makers, advocates and researchers is important for the WHO CC UTS to advocate for women's health.

Non-communicable Diseases

A new centre at UTS has meant the WHO CC UTS will be able to work in partnership on issues related to noncommunicable diseases in the future.

Faculty of Health: Centre for Cardiovascular and Chronic Care will be focussing on non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as heart disease, stroke and diabetes. The prevention and control of NCDs requires intervention at the individual, community provider and system level. Through engaging stakeholders at national, regional and global levels it is possible to address issues such as smoking, obesity and inactivity which can reduce the burden of many NCDs. The Centre for Cardiovascular and Chronic Care is an interdisciplinary centre at the University of Technology Sydney committed to working to addressing the global burden of NCDs.

Australian Aid and other tenders

WHO CC UTS continues to seek out and submit tenders for work that is in-line with WHO strategic directions. In 2013 major submissions were completed for Australian Aid to lead projects in capacity building, program design, humanitarian emergency and disaster, monitoring and evaluation, and research.

WHO CC UTS Regional Updates

The WHO CC UTS keeps stakeholders and others in the region up-to-date with development news, events, and donor activities in the region. Published quarterly, this email report has an ever increasing list of recipients. WHO CC UTS communicates not only through the Regional Updates but through their website: http://www.nmh.uts.edu.au/whocc/

Publications

Several publications were published in 2013. For a full list of all the WHO CC UTS publications please visit the website.

CENTRE STAFF AND AFFILIATES

Centre Staff

The WHO CC UTS works on a small core staff, however, with each project/event we are able to draw on the skills and expertise of staff from:

- UTS: Health
- SPCNMOA and relevant WHO Collaborating Centres regionally and globally
- Regional and global partners in a range of institutions within the health industry, and
- Academics, researchers and health care professionals affiliated with the WHO CC UTS.

Further, we have numerous consultants and interns that help make the Centre a great success.

Professor John Daly RN PhD FRCNA is Head of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre at UTS and Dean of the Faculty of Health (Appointed May, 2008). He was appointed to a Chair in Nursing at the University of Western Sydney in 1996 following many years as a clinician and academic. He has extensive experience as an educational administrator and leader in nursing and health. John is an active researcher and he has published widely on leadership in nursing and health, nursing education, cardiovascular health, role transition in nursing, aged care, cross-cultural nursing and nursing workforce issues. He has undertaken consultancy work with a number of agencies including the World Health Organization. In addition he is a Past Chair of the Global Alliance for Leadership in Nursing Education and Science, a Past Chair of the Council of Deans of Nursing & Midwifery (Australia and New Zealand) and he has served on many committees and working parties with national and international organisations including Sigma Theta Tau International and the International Network for Doctoral Education in Nursing. In 2008 John was awarded the title Emeritus Professor by the University of Western Sydney for distinguished service to the University and contributions to the discipline and profession of nursing at national and international levels. He is currently Editor in Chief of Collegian, the refereed journal of the Royal College of Nursing, Australia which is published by Elsevier.

Michele Rumsey is Director of Operations and Development of WHO CC UTS. Michele is an experienced international health care consultant and policy expert. She has expertise in nursing ethics, human resources for health, consumer participation and nursing regulation in the Western Pacific, South East Asian Region and Europe. Recent human resources for health projects have included working in the Pacific to develop Country HRH policies and action plans and working with the World Health Organization to develop a regional human resources for health minimum data sets.

Jodi Thiessen is a Project Officer for the WHO CC UTS. Jodi has worked for a decade in the

development field for several United Nations agencies in particular the World Food Programme. She brings skills gained in her background as a journalist to the fore for many cross-cultural projects undertaken by the WHO CC UTS.

Monica Sanderson is a Project Officer for the WHO CC UTS working across all the centre's projects. Her media background and skills in organising events and effectively communicating with people of different cultures are invaluable.

Dr Stephanie Fletcher is a Research Officer for the WHO CC UTS. Stephanie has worked for a over fifteen years in the field of Public Health, mainly as an Environmental Health Officer in Jamaica. She brings her research, project management and analytical skills gained in various roles in the Caribbean and Australia to the dynamic environment of the WHO CC UTS.

Felicity Copeland is a practising clinical midwife and is the Research Evaluator and Project Coordinator on the MCHI. Her role includes collecting data in-country, analysing and synthesising this data for reporting purposes.

Professor Patricia Brodie AM is a midwifery advisor on the Maternal and Child Health Project. Pat has more than 30 years' experience as a midwifery leader in Australia and internationally and in the past 5 years has worked on the projects in PNG, most recently she is the Midwifery Mentor and Advisor on the PNG Maternal and Child Health Initiative.

Dr Angela Dawson is a monitoring and evaluation advisor on the Maternal and Child Health Initiative in Papua New Guinea. She has over 17 years' experience in the areas of international primary health care workforce development, health promotion and health communication.

Associate Professor Linette Lock leads the Australian Awards Fellowship, collaborating with Fellows through mentorship and ongoing contact.

Michele Rumsey, Monica Sanderson, Jodi Thiessen, Stephanie Fletcher.

Management Committee

Includes Professor John Daly, Michele Rumsey and the following:

Professor Caroline Homer the Director of the Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health in the Faculty of Health at UTS. She has led research into the development and

implementation of innovative models of midwifery care and the development of midwifery practice and education. Her other research includes the translation of research into clinical practice particularly in maternity care, clinical risk management strategies and the development of educational strategies to prepare midwives for practice.

She is also involved in teaching midwifery students, both clinically and through UTS and teaches in the Bachelor of Midwifery, Graduate Diploma of Midwifery and Master of Midwifery programs.

Professor James Buchan has over twenty years experience of practice, consultancy and policy research in health care human resources. He specializes in policy advice to Ministries of Health/governments on the HR implications of health sector reorganisation and healthcare reform; incentives and reward strategy; workforce planning; employment relations; regulation of health professionals; performance management, labour market analysis; and skill mix and developing extended roles.

Professor Debra Jackson leads research programs in adolescent and family health, with a particular focus on parenting; and workforce development and adversity with a particular focus on leadership and workplace culture. A key objective of her work is to enhance the well-being of vulnerable and socially marginalised groups and through the development of sustainable and culturally sensitive supportive interventions.

Currently most of her work is with vulnerable populations including people in custody, migrants and refugees, and people affected by mental health issues. She also works in women's and family health, and workforce development and adversity.

She is Director, Higher Degree Research Students, Program Co-ordinator of the Honours program and is involved in teaching into the Masters programs at UTS in the areas of health care leadership and research methods. Debra is Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Clinical Nursing, and Clinical Case Reports and a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Xi Omicron).

Jennifer Coutts is the Faculty Manager of UTS: Health, she has over 40 years' experience in the Health industry, initially as a Registered nurse and then as Nurse Educator in both hospital and university education. Senior management experience was gained in different nursing administration and general management roles in hospitals before Jenny was appointed to Health Executive Service roles as Area Director of Nursing in Sydney West Area Health Service and then Director of Clinical Operations in Greater Western Area health Service.

Advisory Board

Includes **Professor John Daly, Michele Rumsey, Professor James Buchan** and the following:

Honorary Professor Sally Redman, Director, Sax Institute Public Health, School of Public Health

Professor Jill White, Dean, Sydney Nursing School, University of Sydney

Dr Rosemary Bryant, Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer Commonwealth Government, Department of Health and Ageing

Dr Jane O'Malley, Chief Nurse Ministry of Health New Zealand

Adjunct Professor Pelenatete Stowers, Chief Nurse Ministry of Health Samoa

Ms Neti Herman, Former Chief Nursing, Officer Cook Islands

Adjunct Professor Debra Thoms, Chief Executive Officer at Australian College of Nursing

Sue England, Maternal, Newborn & Child Health Technical Director World Vision International.

Consultants, students and interns

We would like to acknowledge the help, dedication and hard work of our intern in 2013 Carrie Kassian.

We would also like to thank the many collaborators and presenters at our numerous meetings during 2013. We would also like to acknowledge the many WHO Collaborating Centres that we have an ongoing relationship with.

WHO Collaborating Centres

St. Luke's College of Nursing, Tokyo Japan

University of Philippines Manila, Philippines

Research Institute of Nursing Care for People and Community, Akashi Japan

Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong China

Shandong University, Jian China

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore USA

Albion Street Centre, Sydney Australia

University of Sao Paulo, Ribeirao Preto Brazil

College of Health Sciences, Manama Bahrain

Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow UK

Mahidol University, Bangkok Thailand

Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai Thailand

Yonsei University, Seoul Republic of Korea

For more information about the WHO CC UTS please visit http://www.nmh.uts.edu.au/whocc