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UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

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

WHO CC UTS Report 2012

This is a report on the WHO CC UTS activities during 2012

June 2013

World Health Organization
Western Pacific Region

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DEAN & DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT MESSAGE

Last year was a busy and very productive time for the WHO Collaborating Centre at the University of Technology, Sydney (WHO CC UTS). As you know we achieved redesignation with the World Health Organization. A new work plan has been developed for 2013 to 2016.

The focus of many of our projects is on improving health outcomes by supporting nurses and midwives in capacity building for positive health system development and change in the Asia-Pacific region. This is a collaborative and cooperative endeavour with SPCNMOA.

We look forward to working with you again this year.

Sincerely,
Professor John Daly

The focus of our many projects in 2012 was to improve health outcomes by supporting nurses and midwives in the Asia-Pacific region. We acknowledge that this cannot be done alone and thank the many strategic partnerships, the long lasting and strong relationships we have in the region, and funding bodies such as WHO and AusAID who support our work.

This 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 2013 being just as busy at the WHO CC UTS and the continued strengthening of the health care systems of our Asian Pacific neighbours.

Regards,
Ms Michele Rumsey

Professor John Daly RN, PhD, FACN, 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 Nursing, Midwifery and Health, University of Technology, Sydney

WHO CC UTS HIGHLIGHTS - 2012

Redesignation

The WHO CC UTS was granted WHO Collaborating Centre status for a further four years in January 2012.

Redesignation evening: Filoiala Sakaio, CNO Tuvalu; Jane O'Malley, CNO New Zealand; Rosemary Bryant, CNO Australia; Michele Rumsey, Director Operations and Development, WHO CC UTS; Sela Paasi, CNO Tonga; Pelenatete Stowers, CNO Samoa.

Australian Leadership Awards

ALA Fellows from PNG attending UTS in October 2012

Two programs were conducted in 2012 for both leadership and faculty development. More than 30 participants attended in total from Niue, Fiji, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and PNG.

SPCNMOA

SPCNMOA members attend biennial meeting in Melbourne, Australia

The South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer Alliance held their biennial meeting in Melbourne, Australia. 38 Pacific leader nurses, midwives, educators and regulators attended.

Disaster response in the Pacific

In collaboration with the Institute of Sustainable Futures, WHO CC UTS conducted research in Fiji, Cook Islands, Vanuatu and Samoa on humanitarian response mechanisms following a disaster.

Disaster response research involved 90 interviews with organisations in Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu. Here the research team meets with Red Cross in Cook Islands

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Papua New Guinea

WHO CC UTS subcontracted to the Office of the WHO Representative, Papua New Guinea, are leading an initiative funded by AusAID to provide mentoring, evidence-based educational and practice materials and continuous competency development to obstetricians and midwives in Papua New Guinea.

Midwives and students involved in the WHO, PNG Maternal and Child Health Initiative.

Communication

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

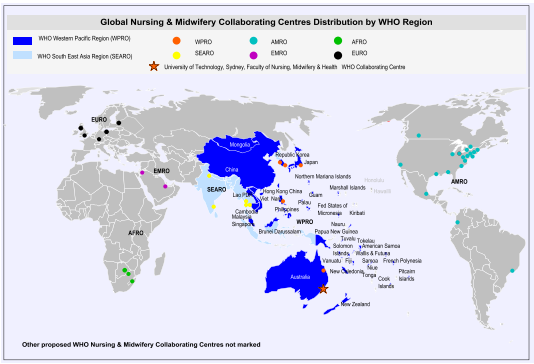
WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Background

The Faculty Health at UTS was awarded World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre status in January 2008 and was redesignated January 2012.

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, Viet Nam, 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 WHO CC 2012- 2016 purpose 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 at UTS for the WHO CC 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, AusAID 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, AusAID, NZAID, Department of Health and Ageing, Australia, Global Network of WHO CCs, International Council of Nurses, International Confederation of Midwives, 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 2012

To start the year the WHO CC UTS were excited to announce their redesignation for a further four years. A work plan was devised to take us through 2016 which was agreed to by WHO and implementation is underway. The following projects, presentations and events are testament to the work done by WHO CC UTS towards the goals of WHO and other donors.

Leadership Capacity Development to Improve Health Service Outcomes

AusAID ALA Fellowship Awards

Two AusAID ALA Fellowship Awards Programs were conducted by the WHO CC UTS in 2012 taking to 70 the total number of Fellows since 2009. The leadership program run by WHO CC UTS is highly regarded and was discussed frequently at the SPCNMOA meeting and the South Pacific Nursing Forum, with many asking how they can participate. Participating countries in the fourth leadership program in June 2012 were: Fiji, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, and Tuvalu. The aim of the AusAID Australian Leadership Fellowship Awards program is to strengthen regional relationships and build leadership capacity in participating countries.

A further 20 Papua New Guinean educators along with participants from Samoa and Timor- Leste participated in an ALA program

ALA Fellows from Niue, Fiji, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga & Tuvalu with the WHO CC Advisory Board and staff.

that focussed specifically on faculty development. This particular program was run for the first time in 2012. The aim of the faculty development program is to establish relevant faculty development work for individual faculties. To ascertain the strengths and weaknesses of PNG faculties

a survey was developed, disseminated throughout PNG and analysed prior to the participants arrived in Australia.

The aims of both the ALA leadership and the ALA faculty development programs were successfully achieved by working closely with the counterpart organisation, SPCNMOA, and senior nurses and midwives in Pacific countries to develop and provide regional skills development programs.

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

The impact of these courses and events will aid the ongoing aim of the WHO CC UTS to contribute to building 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. A further AusAID ALA program will run during 2013.

ALA participant Latama Asovale from Samoa received a short course certificate from Assoc. Dean Dr Joanne Gray, Michele Rumsey and Assoc. Prof. Linette Lock

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. The relationship between SPCNMOA and the WHO CC UTS continues to be strong and collaborative. Regular teleconferences to discuss projects, regional issues and successes were held throughout 2012.

The biennial meeting was organised and facilitated by the WHO CC UTS in November 2012, to coincide with the South Pacific Nursing Forum, with 38 chief nurses, midwives, educators and regulators convening in Melbourne to discuss regional and country specific issues. This was the first meeting to include regulators from the member countries. The work plan for 2012-2014 was developed in line with WPRO Human Resources for Health Action Framework 2011-2015.

Meeting outcomes included the following:

- Deepened understanding of emerging issues with non-communicable diseases for the region;
- Disseminated new research on educational quality: academic standards; educational competencies; and faculty development in the region;

- Reviewed capacity building work for the Government Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers (GCNMOs) and senior nursing and midwifery professionals in the Pacific region;
- Demonstrated new knowledge and/or skills patient safety and quality;
- Identified current policies and work on Human Resources for Health;
- Discussed relevant work of regional and global health networks;
- Updated on current health systems strengthening policies and research; and
- Formulated action plan for SPCNMOA for 2013-2014.

A face to face meeting was held in June 2012 as several SPCNMOA members were at UTS. Further teleconferences were held in 2012 to inform the AusAID Australian Leadership Awards program and discuss strategic directions of the SPCNMOA.

Since the SPCNMOA was formed the WHO CC UTS has observed an increase in confidence, leadership skill and motivation of its members. It is a collaboration that continues to grow, set strategic directions and actions useful work in the region.

SPCNMOA members during the biennial meeting workshops

Roles and Responsibilities of Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers

Extending from the WHO Global Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer Forum and the Global Leadership Collaborative, in collaboration with Sydney University, the WHO CC UTS has furthered the work of the Roles and Responsibilities Self-Assessment Tool for Government Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers (GCNMO).

In line with the SPCNMOA work plan, a capacity building tool was developed to enable GCNMOs to identify those areas in which competencies are strong and those areas in which professional development may be helpful. It is based on the WHO CC UTS: A GCNMO Consensus Statement Roles and Responsibilities of the Government Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer, and constructed using two scales for each skill area. This enables scores to be tracked on both performance in an area and also on importance of this element to the GCNMO position.

The Self-Assessment Tool was disseminated at the SPCNMOA biennial meeting in November where all the Chief Nurses and Midwives completed and discussed the many facets of the roles and responsibilities of leadership. This will further their own knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of their role within their own country and the region.

Interprofessional Partnerships for Improvement in Global Health Outcomes, Thailand

The Faculty of Health co-sponsored this conference which was attended by members of WHO CC UTS and a number of third year nursing and midwifery students from the Faculty of Health. The aim of the three-day conference was to raise awareness of the importance of interprofessional partnerships and to facilitate building multidisciplinary coalitions to create synergies for overcoming current and future issues in global health. UTS was one of the 20 co-sponsors of this conference and 600 participants from 32 countries attended.

Sharing of information and networking with other professional groups interested in improving global health outcomes will further WHO CC work and impact health in the region.

Assoc. Prof. Robyn Gallagher, Brenda Shayeb (student), Jodi Thiessen (WHO CC UTS), Nicola Penn (student), Rieko Ueda (student), Prof. John Daly (Dean and Head of WHO

Global Network of WHO CC Meeting, Kobe, Japan

The Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres (WHOCCs) for Nursing and Midwifery Development met together in June to discuss global strategies and current work. The theme was 'Even with Basic Health Care, prepare for the Unexpected'. It was a great networking event attended by WHO CC UTS. There are 44 nursing and midwifery WHO CCs with 30 attending the meeting including a representative from every region. Introductions of the WHO CC teams were provided with brief highlights of the work of each.

Innovative Approaches to Education of Health Professionals

WHO Informal Consultation on Quality Improvement and Faculty Development in Nursing and Midwifery Education

WHO CC UTS hosted an informal consultation for three global working groups to convene, discuss and action three areas of work to improve nursing and midwifery education. WHO, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) and nursing/midwifery leaders and educators from Laos PDR, Cambodia, China, Samoa, Philippines and PNG attended the consultation.

The overall aim was to facilitate improvement in the quality of nursing and midwifery education through: development, validation, application and testing of evaluation criteria and processes for global academic quality standards; operational testing and analysis and monitoring of educational outcome/practice competencies, linked to

primary health care; recommendations for faculty capacity-building courses; and supportive mentoring developed and tested across institutions involved.

Several teleconferences and working groups were held during 2012 to commence this important work. All three working groups sent out regional surveys to relevant stakeholders.

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 demographics, faculty needs, and professional development of faculty members. The aim is to provide recommendations for action in regional and global faculty development programs.

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 AusAID Australian Leadership Awards with 20 Papua New Guinean educators.

The faculty development program included:

- Clinical language and developing curriculum
- Ensuring safety and quality - regulation, registration, accreditation of curricula
- Simulation: How we incorporate simulation into aspects of clinical teaching, learning & preceptorship – using and managing resources
- Developing graduate attributes
- Simulation Workshop: Cardiac Arrest

Simulation Attachment Program

Two Samoan senior nurses from the Ministry of Health joined the WHO CC UTS for a capacity building course which included simulation and faculty development. WHO funded the participants to attend UTS.

The participants individually and collectively analysed the integration of simulation technologies in the educational setting; examined and engaged in understanding clinical teaching and learning strategies; engaged with understanding the principles of teaching others and practised strategies

for building capacity in others; critically assessed leadership skills required to successfully enact change within their local environment; developed key skills and knowledge to build the capacity of nursing and midwifery faculty teaching staff to improve skill development and support continuing professional development in staff and students.

Building the capacity of nursing and midwifery leaders in the Pacific impacts their workforce and population health. The course provided preparation for curriculum development work conducted by a Health Sector Nursing Leadership Curriculum focus group which will be ongoing in 2013.

Simulation program participants from Samoa

Papua New Guinea Schools of Nursing Audit – AusAID

The WHO CC UTS was commissioned by JTA International Health and HIV Implementation Services Provider (HHISP), funded by AusAID to undertake an audit along with a team of consultants in collaboration with the Office of Higher Education (OHE) and the National Department of Health (NDoH) of the eight Schools of Nursing (SON) in Papua New Guinea from 1st September until 31st October, 2012. The audit was conducted on site at each SON and specifically looked at:

- staff and student demographics, including finances, teaching workload, student staff ratios, and workforce age and gender;
- the educational program undertaken and curriculum;
- the clinical facilities and clinical teaching/learning of the nursing students;
- exploration of library facilities, demonstration room and clinical teaching equipment; and,
- infrastructure audit, including: general site assessment and location of buildings, staff housing and student accommodation and civil works infrastructure, eg water and power.

The objectives of this audit were to:

- Utilise the Papua New Guinea National Framework for the Accreditation, Monitoring and Evaluation of Nursing and Midwifery Education Programs (quality)
- Assess the capacity of each SON to effectively double their training output (quantity)
- Identify and categorise needs (human and material resources and whether immediate, medium or long term) in order for each institution to meet required minimum standards.
- Provide recommendations.

Remote area health centre in the highlands of PNG, part of the AusAID Nursing School Audit

Papua New Guinea Community Health Worker Schools Audit – AusAID

An audit of the 11 Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Schools was commissioned by JTA International Health and HIV Implementation Services Provider (HHISP), funded by AusAID was prompted by a requirement to a) improve the quality of the CHW training program and b) prepare the teaching facilities for an increase in student numbers. The audit was conducted over three months August – October 2012.

The National Department of Health (NDOH) prepared a new National Health Plan (2011-2020) setting out the strategic directions for the development of the health sector over the next decade. That document has informed the framework under which the CHW Audit project was structured.

The purpose of both the audits is to provide recommendations for the significant support that AusAID will commence in 2013 to support PNG to increase the size and quality of its health workforce. AusAID's PNG Health and Education Programs, working collectively, will fully fund in-country scholarships for PNG health sector professionals, specifically:

- Certificates in Community Health Worker Training;
- Bachelor's Degree in Midwifery; and
- Diploma/Bachelor of Nursing.

Human Resources for Health Policy Analysis

European Commission Mobility of Health Professionals (MoHProf) research

The Mobility of Health Professionals (MoHProf) is a research project funded by the European Commission and led by the German Academy of Medical Science. The objective was to apply new research methods to generate a scientific evidence base for informed policy decisions on the mobility of health professionals. The Asian Research Team included researchers from India, Philippines and Australia - WHO CC UTS.

The final global report and individual country reports were finalised and published online in 2012 and can be viewed at http://www.mohprof.eu/LIVE/national_reports.php. A summary report of Mobility of health professionals has been published by Springer, Science and Research series,

which can be found at http://www.springer.com/medicine/book/978-3-642-34052-9.

Key findings will be fed into other regional and global HRH work to inform policy decisions on the mobility of health professionals.

WHO Pacific Human Resources for Health Alliance (PHRHA)

The WHO CC UTS was part of a consultation organised by PHRHA to explore ways to enhance the quality of nursing and midwifery educational programmes and services. A PHRHA meeting of stakeholders in the Pacific was held in November, Fiji, with WHO CC UTS attending. WHO CC UTS is a member of the PHRHA Steering Committee.

As the WHO CC UTS is the Secretariat for the SPCNMOA, this group is represented by its Chairperson on the PHRHA and continues to present updates on regional work.

World Bank Praxis Discussion Series

WHO CC UTS attended discussions throughout the year conducted by the World Bank. A panel of experts discussed and answered questions on issues related to development including: gender; law and justice; development and the private sector; maternal and child health; development in the Pacific.

Sharing of information and having discussions with stakeholders' increases awareness of issues pertaining to WHO CC UTS work.

WHO WPRO Nursing Databanks

In collaboration with WHO WPRO, WHO CC UTS has facilitated the collection of nursing and midwifery data from the Pacific Island countries to update the existing databanks being developed so country profiles can be maintained.

The ongoing work of updating data on nursing and midwifery workforce, including a historical context, will inform policy directions for WHO and other workforce policy bodies.

Is Global Health in Crisis? UNSW

WHO CC UTS attended a two day conference including speakers from a wide range of global health institutions including UNSW, AusAID, NGOs, World Bank and WHO Keynote speaker: Stephen Lewis, AIDS-Free World and former UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS.

The focus of the conference was on global financial uncertainty, dwindling overseas development assistance and increasing inequalities in health, the critical issues of global health leadership and finance.

Several other meetings were held throughout 2012 with UNSW HRH HUB funded by AusAID. Continuing and strengthening the relationship between WHO CC UTS and the HUB. Prof James Buchan attended the HRH HUB advisory group meeting in December 2012.

Lowy Institute visiting PNG parliamentarian Dame Carol Kidu

WHO CC UTS attended a question and answer time with Dame Carol Kidu an outgoing parliamentarian in Papua New Guinea. The question time entailed discussions regarding gender, health and political issues in PNG.

Dame Carol Kidu, Prof. Patricia Brodie & Michele Rumsey

Forum: The future of the Pacific matters to us. Be part of the conversation.

Hosted by the Pacific Expert Group, the Forum, attended by WHO CC UTS, examined current Pacific initiatives. Keynote Speakers were the Hon. Richard Marles, Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs, and Dr Jimmie Rodgers, Director-General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community. Thematic seminars focussed on Law and Economic Development, Health Needs and Priorities, Sustainable Resources and Education Partnerships.

Asian Development Bank Seminar 2012

A one day seminar which provided opportunities to meet with other government agencies, NGOs and donors regarding regional work. WHO CC UTS places importance on sharing of information and having regular meetings to assist the Asia Pacific region to make more informed HRH decisions.

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 to support the project.

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. Several reports were written: Review of Australia's Overseas Disaster and

Emergency Response Sector; Projected Climate Change Impacts on the Pacific; Draft Background Review: Disaster Response Systems of Four Pacific Island Countries and a Final Report which included individual country reports and will be available on the WHO CC UTS website.

Research team with participants in Samoa

WHO Laos: Health worker incentives

This project gathered international evidence and best practices, assessed potential/feasible national health worker incentives and mechanisms, and supported the drafting of policy options, national guidelines or decrees on health workers incentives in Lao PDR.

This work was agreed with WHO WPRO and South Pacific Office, and Laos PDR Ministry of Health. Key findings were fed back to WHO country office, WPRO HRH Unit to inform policy decisions. The final report is to be published by WHO WPRO.

WHO Cambodia: Health worker incentives

This project, which focused on policy options for developing incentives to recruit, retain and motivate staff in rural/ remote areas completed its first phase in 2011/12.

Contact has been maintained with WHO Cambodia office on subsequent developments in relation to this issue. Key findings were fed back to WHO country office to inform policy decisions.

Health Workforce Research and Advice

Poor maternal health services and limited access to reproductive health in developing nations is accompanied by an inadequate supply and skills mix of staff needed to deliver health care interventions, commodities and information necessary to achieve the Millennium Development Goals 5 (MDG 5). A study, funded by WHO Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, seeks to address the knowledge gap by identifying evidence from task shifting experiences in small island developing states (SIDS) that have contributed to improved maternal health and access to reproductive health. The final report will be available on the WHO CC UTS 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.

Asian Pacific Emergency Disaster Nursing Network (APEDNN)

WHO CC UTS attended and presented at the annual APEDNN meeting to discuss emergency and disaster nursing and midwifery care in the Pacific region.

On completion of the meeting and capacity-building workshops, participants:

- Demonstrated knowledge and skills in selected aspects of participatory learning approaches and technical content of at least one of the following emergency/disaster courses, i.e. Psychosocial health and disasters; Epidemiology, Disasters and Emerging Diseases; and Trauma, Triage and Wound Care; Reproductive health and disasters; Infection Control.
- Formulated sub-regional annual action plans for policy and planning, monitoring and evaluation, research, capacity-building, and/or other work, utilising tools for action planning and policy-making and evaluation.

> "The concepts learnt can be applied across the region to ensure when natural disasters occur nurses and midwives are skilled and well prepared"

The concepts learnt can be applied across the region to ensure when natural disasters occur nurses and midwives are skilled and well prepared to deal with the emergency.

Quality Improvement in Nursing and Midwifery

A Quality Improvement survey funded by WHO WPRO, undertaken by the WHO CC UTS, explored key stakeholders perceptions of quality improvement of health care services within participating countries of the Western Pacific Region.

The survey developed and sought responses to questions related to existing quality and safety culture, existing quality improvement systems, and programs and capacity building models currently being used. The survey elicited 46 respondents from Asia

representing 10 countries as well as 30 respondents from the Pacific with 14 countries being represented. A succinct report on findings has been ratified by the WHO WPRO in 2012.

Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Papua New Guinea

Midwives recruited for the WHO ,PNG Maternal and Child Health Initiative (Jan 2012)

WHO CC UTS subcontracted by the Office of the WHO Representative, Papua New Guinea, are collaborating in an initiative, funded by AusAID – 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 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; collecting, analysing data and reporting on data
- Member of WHO Steering committee

A number of challenges remain. These include developing fully appropriate communication channels, developing sufficient 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.

Special care baby unit in PNG

Provision of mentoring, evidence-based educational and practice materials and continuous competency development to national obstetricians and midwives will increase the skills of graduates and improve the quality of services being delivered.

Memorandum of Understanding with the National University of Timor Leste

UTS signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National University of Timor Leste (NUTL). Dr Lidia Gomes, the Director of Midwifery, leads a team of nine midwifery lecturers who are teaching a three year midwifery program at the NUTL. The midwifery program only commenced in 2008 and two cohorts of students have graduated already.

Prof. Caroline Homer, International & Development Faculty of Health UTS; Dr Lidia Gomez, Timor Leste; Tzy-Ay Chuah, Director UTS International; & Dean of Health Prof. John Daly

Dr Gomes visited UTS to celebrate the agreement and cement the relationship. This trip to Australia was supported by the WHO Collaborating Centre at UTS and Rotary Melbourne as part of a Vocational Training Team Maternal and Child Health project with the midwives and doctors in Timor Leste. We are looking forward to further developing this relationship in the future.

Short course in Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health

The WHO CC UTS is collaborating with University of Sydney to develop short course training in Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health (MNCH). WHO CC UTS is providing expertise in midwifery programs, developed in more than a decade in conducting short courses in low-income countries.

Collaboration with other academic institutions and furthering established effective programs is an efficient use of resources and will allow for up skilling of health professionals in maternal, neonatal and child health in other underdeveloped regions such as the Pacific.

Study and workshop Building Reproductive Health Research and Audit Capacity and Activity in the Pacific

WHO CC UTS is also partnering on a study: Building Reproductive Health Research and Audit Capacity and Activity in the Pacific (BRRACAP). Research is critical to national and regional development and yet, there is

a lack of evidence in health care and policy in the Pacific. The underdeveloped research infrastructure, systems and personnel in the Pacific has been identified by the WHO as reasons for the lack of research output and delayed development. The WHO and leading research agencies in the world have recognised the need to build research capacity especially in developing countries to produce a sound evidence base for decision making. The alternative option to the lack of researchers is to train and support clinicians to perform research and clinical audit. Clinicians are likely to undertake applied research that can address local problems and inform clinical practice.

"Increasing research capacity and literacy of health professionals in developing countries will increase the evidence base needed"

A workshop to be held in March 2013 forms a core part of the intervention in which participants will be introduced to research methods and required skills. The participants will then be supported by assigned experienced research mentors to assist them in the conduct and completion of their agreed research and clinical outputs. Participants will be from the Pacific Islands and will cover a wide range of expertise from clinicians (doctors and midwives) to heads of departments.

Increasing research capacity and literacy of health professionals in developing countries will increase the evidence base needed for optimal decision making.

Global Consultation on Producing and Developing an Appropriate Midwifery Workforce for Low and Middle Income Countries. World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

A global consultation with Midwifery Educators, clinicians and service planners was instigated by the World Health Organization with the expressed aim of deliberating how to improve the midwifery workforce in low and middle income nations. The focus of the consultation was on the dissemination of current work on improving maternal health through strengthening midwifery and the review and edit of competencies for midwifery teachers' development.

Both of these initiatives will be further developed with the intent of finalising and publishing the work towards the middle of 2013. Valuable insight was gained into the planning of midwifery services in low and middle income countries through listening to the presentations and discussing in depth with colleagues who are teaching midwives in other countries. It was affirmed the Maternal and Child Health Initiative (WHO CC UTS and WHO) in Papua New Guinea is in line with current international practice and that the challenges we face are similar in other parts of the world.

Meeting with Myanmar's Minister of Health

A meeting was held at UTS in response to a request from AusAID. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible future collaboration in particular in relation to maternal and child health. We discussed possible links in the future between our WHO CC and the WHO CC in Myanmar.

They are particularly interested in exploring PhD scholarship opportunities with AusAID funding for midwives to undertake a PhD at UTS. We discussed common research interests and opportunities. They were also interested in a possible ALA Fellowship program for their nursing and midwifery teachers – a similar faculty development program as we have recently run with PNG. We also discussed being able to assist with up-skilling in emergency maternity care training. We were invited to visit Myanmar in 2013.

Faculty of Health: 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.

Non-communicable Diseases

A new centre in the university 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. These are the leading preventable morbidity and premature mortality globally. 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.

AusAID and other tenders

WHO CC UTS continues to seek out and submit tenders for work that is in-line with WHO strategic directions. In 2012 major submissions were completed for AusAID 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/

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.

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 is a midwifery advisor on the Maternal and Child Health Project.

Associate Professor Linette Lock conducted the Community Health Worker audit in PNG.

Haidee White consulted for the Australian Leadership Awards faculty development program with PNG.

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 has been an academic nurse for over 15 years. An outstanding scholar and researcher, Professor Jackson has a strong international profile and her experience and expertise includes leading two impressive research programs in women's and family health and workforce development and adversity. Much of her research has been funded by national competitive grants. She is an experienced supervisor of research higher degrees. She has examined numerous theses for national and international universities, and has supervised more than 20 research students to completion. In 2007, Professor Jackson won the Vice Chancellors Award for Outstanding Research Higher Degree Supervision (UWS).

Professor Jackson has published widely, and has over 250 publications including journal articles, books and book chapters. She has co-edited three widely used text books, two of which are into their 3rd editions. Professor Jackson is an experienced writing mentor and coach.

She is an active Editor and Editorial Board member and peer reviewer for Australian and international journals and funding bodies.

Karina Sherwood is the Acting Faculty Manager of UTS: Health.

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, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, 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, World Vision

Consultants, students and interns

We would like to acknowledge the help, dedication and hard work of interns in 2012: Sharon Coulton-Vallance, Ranira Moodley.

We would also like to thank the many collaborators and presenters at our numerous meetings during 2012. 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 the Philippines Manila, Manila Philippines

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

Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong China

Shandong University, Jian China

John Hopkins University, Baltimore USA

Albion Street Centre, Sydney Australia

University of Sao Paulo, Ribeirao Preto Brazil

College of Health Sciences, MoH 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

Approvals & Overall Comments – WHOCC Annual Report 2012

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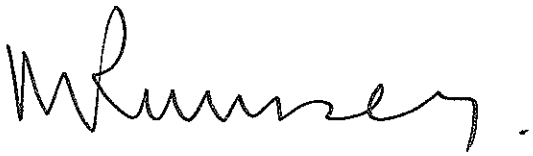
Comments:

This is the final draft for your comments, it may require some formatting before loaded to the website or printed. The photos included are low resolution so it can be easily transmitted online. We can update with high resolution photos as necessary.

Signature: 

Date: 26 March 2013