

# Partnerships for global health



## News from THET September 2009 Issue no. 23

Dear Friend,

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

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### Latest news from THET

#### **Contribute to the new DH International Framework!**

THET and VSO are working together with consultants Tribal Newchurch to support the revision of the Department of Health's official Guidance Framework to the UK health sector on getting involved in international development. The consultation document, which is a key step towards the publication of the international framework at the end of the year, is now available and we would like to hear your views! Responses to this consultation will inform the final document. To find out how you can feed into the consultation process, please [click here](#).

#### **Finding ways to deliver for women where doctors are in short supply**

Across most of sub-Saharan Africa, there are fewer than five doctors for every 100,000 people. Innovative approaches to human resource planning and quality service provision are urgently needed to reduce maternal death. Such an approach was presented at a recent conference in the Ethiopian capital on Human Resources for Maternal Survival: Task-shifting to Non-Physician Clinicians. Participants, including Ministers of Health, senior government officials, health programme managers, clinicians and heads of health training institutes, discussed strategies for developing and deploying non-physician clinicians as an important means of reducing maternal death and disability in Africa. Read [more here](#).

#### **Changes at THET**

This month we would like to welcome to the THET team Francis Kangata who has joined the programmes' team as the new Ethiopia and Zambia Programme Co-ordinator.

Last week THET said goodbye to Amy Cudmore, who worked for the past six months as Fundraising Intern and Administrative Assistant. Many thanks to Amy for all her hard work and we wish her the very best in her future career.

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### Health Links latest news

#### **Epilepsy Awareness Campaign at Kamuzu Central Hospital Lilongwe Malawi doubles attendees at clinic**

On 27th June 2009 the Chisomo Epilepsy Support Group held a walk to raise awareness about epilepsy. The 7km walk took place in Lilongwe city and was guided by police and health education bands singing songs along the way. The end of the walk was followed by traditional dances and dramas. The Chisomo Epilepsy Support Group started in May 2009 and is composed of people living

with epilepsy, guardians and nurses at the clinic. Since the awareness campaign, patients attending the clinic have doubled.

### **News from Partnerships in Health Information (Phi)**

Phi is pleased to report the success of the workshops on Public Access to Health Information. Participants wrote that the workshop was an 'eye opener' and one went on to say 'it has made me realise that there is so much an information officer can do to enhance information access and provision to satisfy the needs of the community'. The workshops, held in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia, were organised by the International Federation of Library Associations' Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (IFLA/FAIFE), supported by Phi and local partners. The success indicates that FAIFE's materials offer considerable scope for local organisers to adapt and customise content to suit their own requirements. For more information on the workshop, please [click here](#). For more information about Phi, please contact [info@phi-info.org.uk](mailto:info@phi-info.org.uk).

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## **'Health Link of the Month'**

### **Wales - Lesotho Link's Leading Welshman awarded with African honour**

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to Links between Wales and Lesotho, north Wales doctor and community leader Dr Carl Clowes was awarded the highest civilian honour given by the Government of Lesotho. Dr Clowes, one of the founder members of Dolen Cymru, an organisation which has been supporting Links between Wales and Lesotho, was admitted as a Member of the Most Loyal Order of Ramatseatsana in a ceremony in Leribe in Lesotho on Friday 17th of July, the 46th birthday of the King of Lesotho, Letsie III. THET would like to congratulate Dr Clowes on such a great honour and wonderful achievement.

### **Calling all Links!**

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

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## **Funding opportunities for Links**

### **British Medical Association (BMA) Information Fund - Deadline 14th September!**

BMA's International Department are currently inviting applications from healthcare institutions, health NGOs, medical school libraries and other related organisations to apply for the BMA Information Fund which provides health information to organisations in developing countries. The fund donates educational materials, such as books and DVDs, and is run in association with Teaching Aids at Low Cost (TALC). The closing date is 14th September 2009. For more information on how to apply, please [click here](#).

### **Commonwealth Scholarships 2010 - Deadline 16th October!**

Each year, THET is invited to nominate two individuals for a Commonwealth Scholarship. For the first time, funds for MSc or PhD programmes to start in 2010 will be awarded on the basis of electronic applications, and details of how to apply may be [found here](#). All applications must be complete by October 16th, at which time THET will select the two best for submission to the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission. Those applications not selected by THET may still be submitted through alternative [routes here](#).

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## **Health Link events & activities**

### **RCN Bulletin Jobs Fair London 2009 - 16-17th September 2009**

Calling all nursing professionals! Are you looking for a new job or to develop your career? The RCN Bulletin Jobs Fair takes place over two days on 16-17th September at the Business Design Centre, London. Exhibitors have 100s of jobs both in the UK and overseas available for you to discuss at the event. From first-time jobs for students to managerial positions, the event covers all areas of the nursing profession. For more information about this event, [click here](#).

### **RCN Presents: 'Working Overseas - Changing Lives' - 25th September 2009**

This event aims to provide a platform for all stakeholders, planners, providers and users of healthcare to debate and discuss global trends on provision of healthcare. It is designed to give registered practitioners an opportunity to explore the options around gaining experience of health care provision in developing countries. This event will take place on Friday 25th September 2009 at the Royal College of Nursing (RCN), 20 Cavendish Square, London, W1G 0RN. For more information, please visit RCN's website at [www.rcn.org.uk/nursing/events](http://www.rcn.org.uk/nursing/events).

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## Resources for Links

### **Visitor's Visas to the UK**

THET Honorary Advisor Professor John MacDermot attended a useful meeting with the UK Border Agency organised by BUILD, the umbrella body for Links across different subject areas. For those of you that find yourself trying to help an overseas applicant to secure a Visitor's Visa to the UK, highlights from the meeting are now [available here](#). BUILD will also be producing a two-sided document outlining the main points about obtaining visas in the next month which will be available on their website at [www.build-online.org.uk](http://www.build-online.org.uk).

### **Now available! International Health Links Manual (2nd Edition)**

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

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