



AAAH Newsletter

Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resource for Health

Building Capacity for HRH Management and Development to Support Universal Health Coverage

The Ministry of Health the Philippines and Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAH) is organizing the 6th AAAH Annual Conference on 9-11 November 2011, in Cebu, the Philippines with the theme of **“Building Capacity for HRH Management and Development to Support Universal Health Coverage”** which will address various issues regarding human resources for health to accelerate progress towards UHC achievement, in particular the context of developing countries.

The conference aims to gain an in-depth understanding of the current situation and strategies to promote capacity building for HRH management to support and movement towards achieving Universal Health Coverage. This conference will also allow more intensive networking and capacity building of institutes and researchers and policy makers interested in the area of HRH.

Currently, AAAH and local secretariat are working closely together to organize activities during the 6th AAAH Annual Conference included side meetings, field visits, plenary sessions, and parallel sessions. AAAH Secretariat will keep you update on the progress of the 6th AAAH Annual Conference in the upcoming issues of the newsletter

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Health Professional Education for the 21st Century

A recent launched of "Education Health professionals for the 21st century: a global independent commission" in January 2011, was a solid moment in health education reform. Presently, Thailand Vietnam, Bangladesh, China, and India were selected as Asia's representatives to implement and conduct distinct and suitable health professionals education intervention. The primary mission of this commission is to develop effective health professionals education, in concordance with population's health needs and national health system, as well as dynamic changes of socio-economic aspect, in present time and incoming future.



Health Resources for Health at the 64th World Health Assembly

Two resolutions on human resources for health were submitted during the 64th World Health Assembly: EB128.R9 Health workforce strengthening and EB128 R11 Strengthening nursing and midwifery. These resolutions addressed continuous commitment of member states to health workforces development.

In addition, there was also a technical briefing to discuss the challenges and opportunities for implementing and monitoring the implementation of WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel.



World Bank Website on Human Resources for Health

In the beginning of March 2011, the World Bank launched a website on Human Resources for Health. The website contains the latest report, data, and upcoming events on human resources for health. Currently, the World Bank has several ongoing projects in Asia Pacific regions particularly in Thailand Indonesia, Philippines, Laos, Vietnam, Samoa, and Timor Leste. For more information please visit www.worldbank.org/hrh



Call for Paper For the 6th AAAH Annual Conference

The Asia-Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAH) is organizing the 6th AAAH conference in 9-11 November in Cebu, the Philippines. The theme of this Conference is **"Building Capacity for HRH Management and Development to Support Universal Health Coverage"**.

The Conference aims to review the current HRH situations within their countries, interventions for specific HRH problems, and lessons learnt from 15 AAAH member countries and other participants in addressing all sub-themes of the Conference such as HRH master plan formulation and implementation, HRH managing the rural retention, HRH education, HRH production and increasing capacities for HRH knowledge generation and information management in order to better support the movement towards UHC.

PARTICIPATION

The participants will be drawn from 15 AAAH member countries, and from different countries, in particular Asian region. A minimum of 2-3 participants per AAAH member country, depending on budget availability, and experts from various international development partners, academic sector are expected to participate the Conference. For each country/region a multi-stakeholder team will participate, which may include various interest groups such as the Ministry of Health, professionals, academia, government, non government organizations, and the private sector. It is anticipated that around 200 participants will attend the conference.

THEMES

Building Capacity for HRH Management and Development to Support Universal Health Coverage

Sub-themes

HRH master plan formulation and implementation

HRH managing the rural retention

Managing HRH education to support UHC

Managing HRH production (including recruitment, curriculum as well as Transformative scaling up of Health Professional education)

Capacity for HRH knowledge generation and information management

CALL FOR PAPERS

Each case study or a paper should not exceed 3,000 words with an abstract of less than 500 words in Word format (.doc), excluding tables, figures and references. Papers submitted should fall within the Conference sub-themes. The paper should be in Verdana 10 font with single spacing. The content of the paper should include the following sections: Explain allowable content- case study; research; experiential journal?

1. The background
2. The conceptual framework
3. The description and main results of the case or cases
4. The lessons learnt
5. Proposal for regional or global actions.

DATES FOR SUBMISSION

The deadline for submission of a case study or a paper abstract is **10 August 2011**. The cases or papers will then be reviewed by the Conference's technical committee appointed by the Organizing Committee for the 6th AAAH Conference. Authors of selected abstracts will be asked to submit presentation file and will be invited and funded to present their cases or papers in the Conference. All contributors will be informed of the decision by **31 August 2011**. All selected contributors will be requested to submit a full paper by **September 15, 2011** and their powerpoint presentation at least two weeks before the 6th AAAH conference.

Contact details

For more information, please contact: AAAH Secretariat (secretariat@aaahrh.org)

Building Capacity for HRH Management and Development to Support Universal Health Coverage

'All people, everywhere, shall have access to a skilled, motivated and facilitated health worker within a robust health system'



Evidence showed that human force drives health system performance the more health professionals, the better quality of work. Health professionals play a crucial role in determining health outcome, without sufficient health professional, there is a significant risk of not attaining the Universal Health Coverage.

Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action 2008 stressed on a coordinated global, regional, and national response to the worldwide shortage and mal distribution of health workers, moving towards universal access to quality health care and improved health outcomes.

It is meant to unite and intensify the political will and commitments

necessary for significant actions to resolve the crisis, and to align efforts of all stakeholders at all levels around solutions. It builds on commitments already made by high level policy makers in efforts designed to marshal the world's collective knowledge and resources to reserve this crisis.

The World Health Report 2010 provides a road map for countries to follow in their quest for Universal Health Coverage (UHC). But such an action agenda will need to be embedded in a health system which has explicit equity goals supported by strong political will and a resourcing plan all of which must be owned by countries and supported by the global community to enable low income countries to improve health outcomes and achieve health equity.

Human resource for health (HRH) plays a major supporting role for achieving UHC. There are a number of key concerns regarding the critical role which human resources play in health systems, health care, and health equity. However, many countries are facing acute shortage of HRH and lacking of management skill for HRH capacity building. These are key constraints in the struggle to achieve universal access in essential health services.

Human Resources for Health in
Maternal, Neonatal, and Reproductive Health at Community Level

A PROFILE OF FIJI

This report summarizes the available information on maternal neonatal and reproductive health workers at a community level in Fiji. It looks at workforce diversity, distribution, supervisory structures, policy and education and training.

Accurate and accessible information about the providers of maternal, neonatal and reproductive health services at a community level is central to workforce planning. However, information on human resources for health, such as how workers are performing, managed, trained, and supported, is scarcely available for decision makers to use.

This profile provides baseline information about Fiji that can help inform policy and program planning by donors, multilateral agencies, non-government organizations and international health practitioners. Ministry of Health staff from other countries may also find the information useful in planning their own initiatives.



KEY INITIATIVES

- The new cadre of nurse practitioner was created in 1999. Experienced registered nurses with midwifery and public health qualifications are trained in pathophysiology, clinical interventions pharmacology, clinical diagnosis and patient management over fourteen months. They are then often posted to inland rural and remote communities.
- The government is currently focusing on retaining existing staff, training nurse practitioners, employing part-time highly skilled staff and increasing training opportunities for health professionals.

KEY ISSUES OR BARRIERS

- There are few qualified midwives and skilled birth attendants in rural areas due to the lack of graduated midwives and the movement of midwives from the public to the private sector
- Little attention has been paid to the potential role of other skilled attendants such as secondary nurses
- Rural private practitioners have weak midwifery skills
- Traditional birth attendants also have very limited skills and knowledge in the provision of midwifery care
- Skilled birth attendant capacity in emergency obstetric care is limited



“Strengthened HRH planning and management capacity toward adequate, equitable, efficient and effective HRH and health systems for health equity and quality improvement in the Asia-Pacific region”

Greetings from AAAH Secretariat!

In this third issue of the 5th Year AAAH Newsletter, we proudly present the topic of Building Capacity for HRH Management and Development to support Universal Health Coverage which is a theme of the 6th AAAH Annual conference to be held in Cebu, Philippines between 9-11 November, 2011. We also invite partners and interested persons to submit a paper abstract to be considered in the conference.

Thank you very much for your support. Your feedback to the newsletter is welcomed and will help us make it better. If you have any information to share through this newsletter, please let us know at

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Calendar 2011

Topic	:	Technical Discussions prior to RC64 on the subject Strengthening the Role of Community-based Health Workforce in the context of revitalization of PHC
Date	:	1 – 3 June 2011
Venue	:	National Institute of Health Sciences (NIHS), Kalutara, Sri Lanka
Topic	:	The 5-country workshop on HRH Education
Date	:	15-17 August 2011
Venue	:	Khon Kaen, Thailand
Topic	:	Regional Consultation on Strengthening Role of Family/Community Physicians in PHC
Date	:	19 - 21 October 2011
Venue	:	Colombo, Sri Lanka