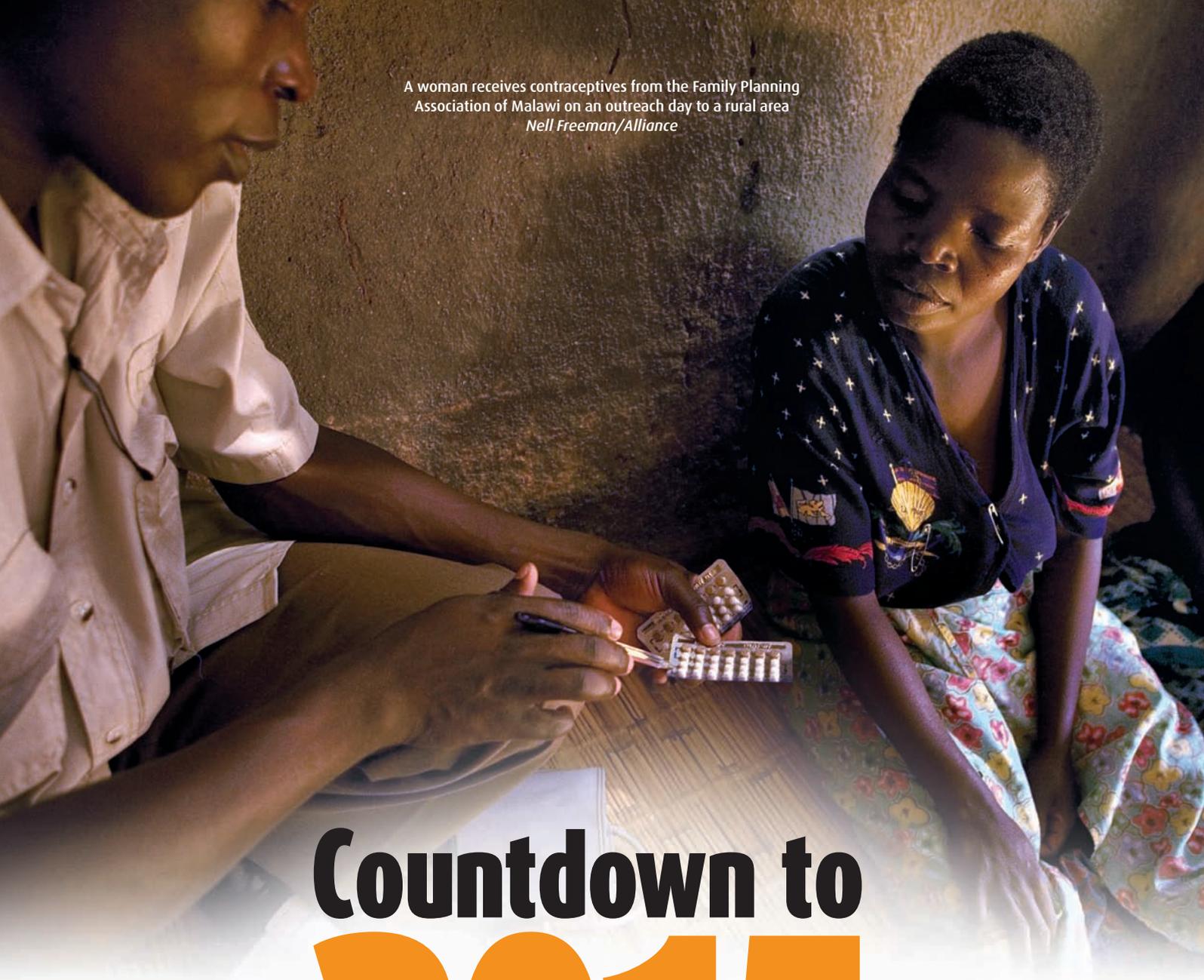


A woman receives contraceptives from the Family Planning Association of Malawi on an outreach day to a rural area
Nell Freeman/Alliance



Countdown to 2015

Challenging orthodoxies related to SRH and HIV



Funded by **DFID** Department for International Development

Keyworth Centre, London South Bank University, 17-18 May 2010

Countdown to 2015: Challenging Orthodoxies related to Sexual & Reproductive Health and HIV

Keyworth Centre, London South Bank University, 17-18 May 2010

Dear Participants

We would like to welcome you most warmly to the *Countdown to 2015: Challenging orthodoxies related to SRH and HIV* conference. This is a joint meeting of four Research Programme Consortia (RPC), funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), working on sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and HIV and AIDS. The Consortia are:

- ABBA – Addressing the Balance of Burden in HIV/AIDS
- Evidence for Action on HIV treatment and care systems
- Realising Rights – Improving sexual and reproductive health for poor and vulnerable populations
- SRH & HIV – Programme for Research and Capacity Building in Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV in Developing Countries

These consortia are five-year international partnerships involving research and civil society organisations in different countries and focusing on specific themes. What they have in common is a concern with difficult, controversial and sometimes neglected issues in SRH and HIV/AIDS, a commitment to bringing new evidence and understanding to bear on these issues, and an aim of influencing key stakeholders in the worlds of policy and practice.

The conference brings together new research and communications work from the four RPCs that supports poverty reduction efforts and contributes to the attainment of MDGs on gender equality, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS in particular.

The conference is organised into five thematic areas which bring to bear findings from different national and regional settings on some of the core questions that the consortia have been engaging with:

- Building health systems for the future of HIV and SRH
- Contextualising and implementing SRH rights
- Bridging treatment and prevention in HIV
- Addressing social, structural and economic drivers of HIV and SRH
- Getting research into policy and practice and the use of evidence by policymakers

We hope that you will find these sessions challenging and thought provoking and that the conference will contribute to generating fresh perspectives on SRH and HIV/AIDS and their links with broader poverty and development issues.

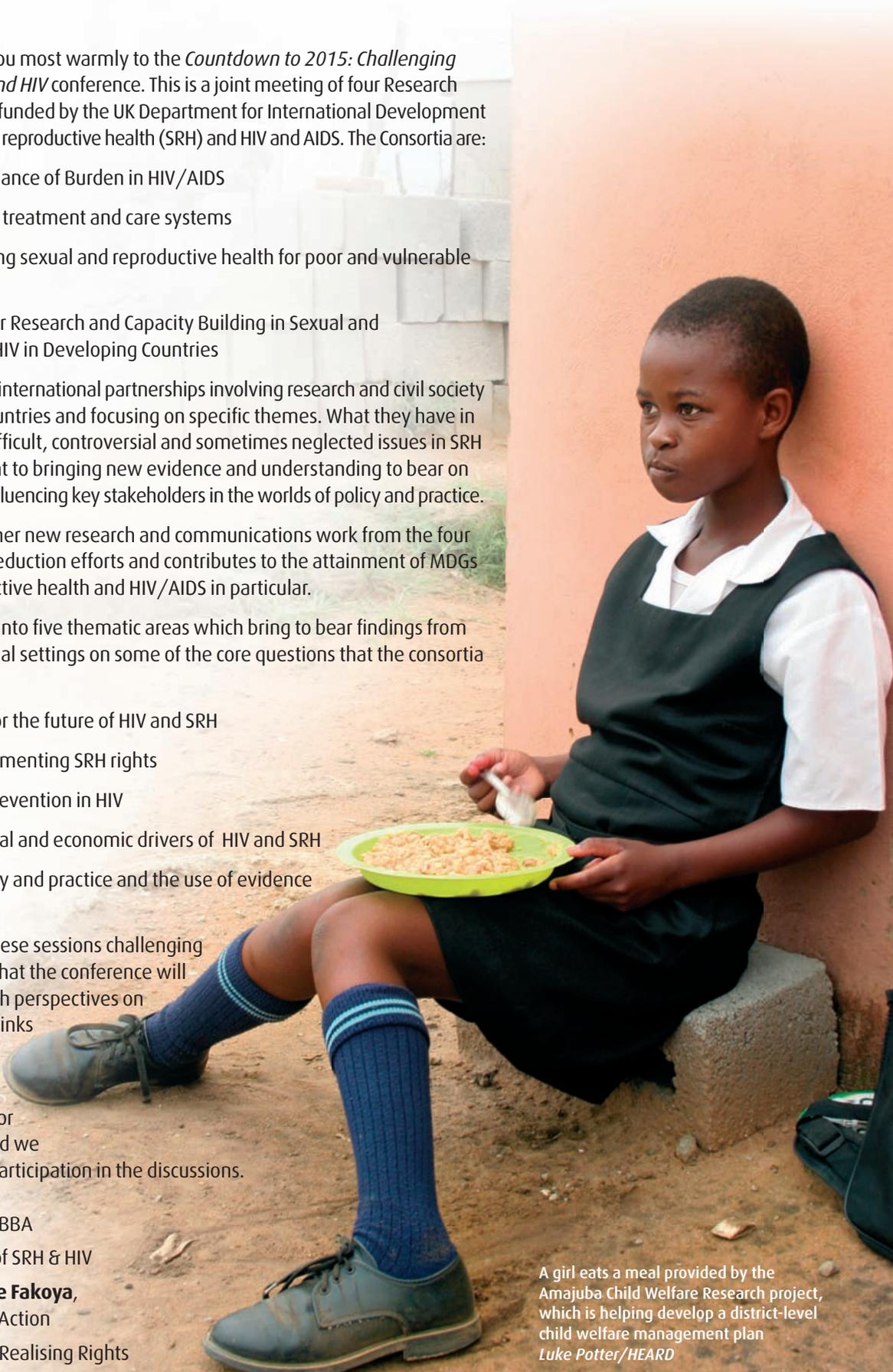
We would like to thank you for attending this conference and we look forward to your active participation in the discussions.

Kelly Hallman, Director of ABBA

Philippe Mayaud, Director of SRH & HIV

David Ross, Director and **Ade Fakoya**, Acting Director, Evidence for Action

Hilary Standing, Director of Realising Rights



A girl eats a meal provided by the Amajuba Child Welfare Research project, which is helping develop a district-level child welfare management plan
Luke Potter/HEARD

Monday 17th May 2010

Time	Topic	Speaker
9.00am	Registration	
9.30am	Opening	Professor Chris Whitty, DFID
10am	<p>Session 1: Building health systems for the future of HIV and sexual and reproductive health</p> <p><i>Keynote speaker</i></p> <p>Assessing integrated SRH and HIV services in Kenya, Swaziland and Malawi: preliminary findings and emerging questions</p> <p>Weak health systems and crises in Southern Africa: the impact on access and adherence to ARVs</p>	<p>Facilitator: Philippe Mayaud, Director, SRH & HIV RPC</p> <p>(tbc)</p> <p>Susannah Mayhew, LSHTM, UK (SRH&HIV) and the Integra Team (IPPF, LSHTM, Population Council-Nairobi)</p> <p>Alan Whiteside (ABBA)</p>
11.00am	Break	
11.20am	<p>Session 2: Building health systems for the future of HIV and sexual and reproductive health (continued)</p> <p>Tampons to Condoms: what have we learnt about introducing new technologies?</p> <p>Integration of HIV and other services: lessons learnt from The Lighthouse Experience in Lilongwe – Malawi</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Audience questions and answers</p>	<p>Facilitator: Ade Fakoya, Acting Director, Evidence for Action</p> <p>Helen Rees (SRH & HIV)</p> <p>Sam Phiri (Evidence for Action)</p> <p>Discussants: Francis Ndowa (WHO) (others tbc)</p>
1pm	Lunch	
2pm	<p>Session 3: Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights in everyday experience</p> <p>Contextualizing sexual and reproductive health and rights: what does it mean for young, poor women living in slums settlements in Bangladesh?</p> <p>Sexual rights and economic justice: An intimate relationship</p> <p>Expanding policy space for SRH rights discourse: some experiences of CSOs in sub-Saharan Africa</p> <p>Session reflection:</p> <p>Audience questions and discussion</p>	<p>Facilitator: Hilary Standing, Director, Realising Rights RPC</p> <p>Sabina Faiz Rashid (Realising Rights)</p> <p>Susie Jolly (Realising Rights)</p> <p>Rose Ndakala Oronje (Realising Rights)</p> <p>Guest speaker (tbc)</p>
3.20pm	Break	
3.40pm	<p>Session 4: How does a rights perspective aid researchers, policy makers and programme implementers?</p> <p><i>Whose rights? Ethics in the conduct of policy driven research</i></p> <p>Protecting the unprotected: ethical challenges in conducting research on drug use, sex work, HIV and rights in Pakistan</p> <p>Re-thinking fieldwork protocols for socio-economic HIV/AIDS research in South Africa – improving a ‘rights perspective’ for better research</p> <p>Policy applications</p> <p>Applying a human rights framework to a health, economic and social capabilities-building program for young people in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa</p> <p>Discussion and responses from speakers</p>	<p>Sarah Hawkes and Martine Collumbien (SRH & HIV + Realising Rights)</p> <p>Tim Quinlan (ABBA)</p> <p>Hallman K, Roca E, Govender K, Mbatha E and Rogan M (ABBA)</p> <p>Discussants : Nana Oye Lithur (others tbc)</p>
5pm	Close	

Tuesday 18th May 2010

Time	Topic	Speaker
9.30am	<p>Session 5: Bridging treatment and prevention</p> <p><i>Keynote:</i> Bridging treatment and prevention</p> <p>Universal testing and treatment for HIV infection: Key research questions</p> <p>Universal treatment for HIV prevention: views from the field</p> <p>Factors contributing to delayed antiretroviral therapy initiation among patients in Lilongwe, Malawi</p> <p>Missed opportunities in linking prevention and care: the case of prevention of mother to child transmission services</p>	<p>Chair: Ade Fakoya, Acting Director, Evidence for Action RPC</p> <p>Reuben Granich (World Health Organization)</p> <p>Richard Hayes (SRH & HIV / Evidence for Action)</p> <p>Francois Venter (SRH & HIV)</p> <p>Ireen Namakhoma (ABBA)</p> <p>Deborah Watson-Jones (Evidence for Action)</p>
11.10am	Break	
11.30am	<p>Session 6: Addressing social, structural and economic drivers of HIV and SRH</p> <p>Overview – Challenges and opportunities for a social/ structural approach to SRH/HIV</p> <p>The conceptualisation and contextualisation of sex among adolescents in three African countries</p> <p>Building capabilities of highly vulnerable youth for HIV prevention in South Africa</p> <p>Addressing parenting in HIV prevention – lessons from Mema Kwa Jamii</p> <p>Discussant and reflection on conceptualising social-structural research and prevention</p> <p>Open Discussion – How does the shift to addressing social, structural and economic drivers affect our work? Do we need new methods or conceptualisations? What are the issues in scaling up structural approaches, particularly if they are meant to be context specific or tailored to local contexts?</p>	<p>Chair: Tony Barnett (ABBA)</p> <p>Julia Kim (UNDP)</p> <p>Latifat Ibisomi (Realising Rights)</p> <p>Kelly Hallman (ABBA)</p> <p>Daniel Wight and Pieter Remes (SRH & HIV)</p> <p>Justin Parkhurst (Evidence for Action)</p>
1pm	Lunch	
2pm	<p>Session 7: Getting research into policy and practice (GRIPP) and the use of evidence by policymakers</p> <p><i>Short</i> presentations highlighting researchers, communication specialists and CAG members' GRIPP experiences and dilemmas</p>	<p>Chair: Sally Theobald (Realising Rights)</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p>Dr. Ann Phoya (Ministry of Health Malawi)</p> <p>Dr. Abigail Mulhall (DFID)</p> <p>Dr. Robin Vincent (PANOS)</p> <p>Dr. Eliya Zulu (AFIDEP)</p>
4 pm	Break	
4.20 – 5.00pm	Summary and close	



Addressing the Balance of Burden in HIV/AIDS
SOCIAL & ECONOMIC RESEARCH
FOR POLICY CHANGE

ABBA

Addressing the Balance of Burden in AIDS Research Programme Consortium (ABBA RPC) is a multi-country research project in sub-Saharan Africa that explores the context around prevention, treatment, care, and mitigation of the effects of HIV and AIDS in vulnerable populations. Its goal is to improve the effectiveness of poverty-reduction efforts and to contribute towards the achievement of the MDGs.

The project seeks to improve HIV and AIDS policymaking and implementation by generating and disseminating evidence on the social, economic, and institutional factors that place the livelihoods of vulnerable and neglected groups at increased threat from HIV and AIDS. It also recognizes and strengthens programs that are best placed to alleviate those threats, and investigates the ways that HIV affects the very institutions and programs that tackle HIV and other health problems. ABBA's research themes include: orphanhood and vulnerable children; caregivers and home-based care; ARVs and health-related quality of life; HIV/AIDS and people with disabilities; effective programs for young people; healthcare workers and access to services; hyperendemic settings; and structural drivers of HIV and AIDS.

The results of this work provide sound evidence to inform programs in health, education, and other sectors to tackle HIV and provide more effective strategies to their beneficiaries.

Partners

- Research Development Division, Ghana Health Service, Accra, Ghana
- Population Council, New York, USA (lead partner)
- Research on Equity and Community Health (REACH), Lilongwe, Malawi
- Regional AIDS Training Network (RATN), Nairobi, Kenya
- Health Economics & HIV/AIDS Research Division (HEARD), Durban, South Africa

Find out more

Contact Hannah Taboada, ABBA Coordinator or Teresa Jackson, Communications Project Manager
Email: abbarpc@popcouncil.org

Population Council at One Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, New York, New York 10017 USA

Tel: +1 212 339 0602

www.abbarpc.org

Below A healthcare worker administers medicines to mothers and their children at a clinic Malawi
Brian Goddard/REACH





Evidence for Action on HIV Treatment and Care Systems

About Evidence for Action

Evidence for Action is an international research consortium carrying out policy-relevant research on issues relating to HIV treatment and care. Through increasing knowledge, and informing and influencing policy and practice in this area, we are working to reduce HIV-related morbidity and mortality.

Our research

Theme 1: What “package” of HIV treatment and care services should be provided in different settings?

There are still important questions about what should be in the package of treatment and care services. Our research on this theme seeks to find solutions that are cost effective and feasible in low-income settings.

Theme 2: What delivery systems should be used in different contexts?

Finding the best way to deliver HIV treatment and care is vital if universal access is going to be achieved. Our partners have been researching issues including increasing access to ART through peripheral health centres or home based care, and the use of clinical monitoring compared to routine laboratory testing.

Theme 3: How best should HIV treatment and care be integrated into existing health and social systems?

There is little empirical evidence of how best to integrate HIV treatment and care into existing health and social systems. Our research in this theme seeks to fill this gap. Researching the integration of HIV and TB services is a priority for us, given the high rates of co-infection.

Theme 4: How best can new evidence from research be rapidly translated into new policies and actions?

Evidence for Action aims to influence policy and practice with the findings of our research. To help achieve this we are also researching how evidence is translated into policy and practice in partner countries.

Partners

- International HIV/AIDS Alliance, UK
- Lighthouse, Malawi
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK (lead partner)
- Medical Research Council Clinical Trials Unit and University College London, UK
- Medical Research Council UVRU Research Unit on AIDS, Uganda
- National AIDS Research Institute, India
- Zambian AIDS-Related Tuberculosis Programme (ZAMBART), Zambia

Find out more

To receive the latest information and resources from Evidence for Action, sign up for our newsletter at www.evidence4action.org, Email info@evidence4action.org, Tel: +44 (0)20 7927 2703

Annabelle South, Programme Administration & Communications Manager, Evidence for Action, LSHTM, Keppel Street, London, WC1E 7HT

Below A new mother at Kojja-Mukono Health Centre, Uganda, which has a PMTCT programme led by one nurse and several NSAs
Nell Freeman/Alliance





Realising Rights: improving sexual and reproductive health for poor and vulnerable populations

The challenge

Realising Rights works in the context of the recent MDG target on Universal Access to Reproductive Health by 2015. It focuses on areas that are often neglected or controversial but are essential to meeting the MDGs, such as unmet need for contraception, unsafe abortion, non-HIV STIs and sexual rights; and on poor and marginalised people. Realising Rights works to raise the profile of these issues on the policy agenda through improving the evidence base, undertaking intervention based research and engaging policy and advocacy actors at national, regional and international levels.

Our research

Measurement and mapping of SRH conditions

This theme is concerned with improving the evidence base on the high levels of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) morbidity, mortality and unmet needs and communicating this research to policy and advocacy actors.

Universal access to SRH services

Research and dissemination has focused on two main areas of access: contraception and general reproductive and sexual health services for reproductive age men and women.

Improving access to new and low-cost/neglected technologies

This includes work on emergency contraception and low cost menstrual technologies.

Contextualising and operationalising SRH rights at national and local levels

This theme particularly focuses on sexuality, sexual health and rights and on gender and masculinities.

Understanding the factors which enable conducive policy environments for SRH

Realising Rights has led a major cross-RPC research initiative on 'Getting research into policy and practice in HIV and Sexual Reproductive Health research in resource poor contexts' involving all the four SRH and HIV-AIDS focused RPCs. This work was nominated by DFID for the BMJ 2010 Getting Research into Practice prize and it was one of four shortlisted finalists.

Partners

- African Population and Health Research Center, Kenya
- James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Bangladesh
- INDEPTH Network, Ghana
- Institute of Development Studies, UK (lead partner)
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK

Find out more

www.realising-rights.org

For more information about our work or to sign up to our newsletter, contact :

Jas Vaghadia, Programme Coordinator. Realising Rights Consortium, Institute of Development Studies, at the University of Sussex, Brighton, BN1 9RE

Email: J.Vaghadia@ids.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)1273 915683



Programme for Research & Capacity Building in Sexual & Reproductive Health & HIV in Developing Countries

About the Programme

Reversal of the spread of HIV/AIDS is one of the eight MDGs. Success in achieving this goal will depend critically on improving access to effective interventions for those who are particularly vulnerable to infection (e.g. the poor).

Since 2005, the Programme has been working to strengthen the evidence base to enable policy makers to identify and prioritise interventions that will improve reproductive and sexual health and reduce HIV incidence among the poor in Africa and Asia.

Our research

Theme 1: Development and evaluation of strategies for the prevention of risky sexual and other behaviours

Numerous strategies for behaviour change are being evaluated. Programme research in this area includes several sub-themes: contraception, condoms and behaviour; adolescent SRH; high-risk populations; male circumcision; measuring, monitoring and modelling impact; social marketing; attitudes to introduction of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines.

Theme 2: Integration of SRH and HIV services

Integrated services for SRH and HIV can improve service accessibility, quality and efficiency, increasing client satisfaction and addressing unmet need. Our aim is to explore optimal strategies for integrated services in different settings, including groups such as sex workers and men, and public, private and traditional sectors.

Theme 3: Evaluation of new biomedical tools for the control of HIV and other STIs

New biomedical tools can improve the access of vulnerable groups, such as women, to care and prevention – for example, simple diagnostic tests for curable STIs, vaginal microbicides, and interventions to control HPV and genital herpes. They can also provide new ways of reducing or preventing HIV/STI transmission.

Partners

- International Planned Parenthood Federation, UK
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK (lead partner)
- National Institute for Medical Research, Mwanza, Tanzania
- Navrongo Health Research Centre, Ghana
- Population Services International
- Reproductive Health and HIV Research Unit, South Africa
- School of Medical Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, Ghana
- Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, Medical Research Council, UK

Further information

To see the latest news and resources from the Programme, please visit our website: www.srh-hiv.org

Tel: +44 (0)20 7927 2404 / 2302

Tamsin Kelk, Communications Officer / Onno Dekker, Programme Administrator
Programme for Research & Capacity Building in Sexual & Reproductive Health & HIV, LSHTM, Keppel Street, London, WC1E 7HT, UK.



Above Students in KwaZulu participate in the Siyakha Nentsha program to develop their lifeskills and financial capabilities
Eva Roca/Population Council