

This newsletter shares information about network activities and updates from the GEMNet-Health member institutions, and provides a way to share other items of interest—including funding opportunities, conferences, and workshops. The GEMNet-Health Coordination and Collaboration (C&C) Committee, which produces this newsletter, aims to **promote and facilitate both formal and informal collaboration among GEMNet-Health member institutions.**

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues. **To subscribe, send an email to:** [ljhart@email.unc.edu](mailto:ljhart@email.unc.edu).



## GEMNet-Health Workshop on Health Informatics

Digital technology is billed as an important catalyst for quickening the pace towards the achievement of universal healthcare in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), where access to quality healthcare remains limited. Yet, to manage electronic health records, implement remote patient diagnosis and treatment, and manage digital data, health workers need a different set of skills.



It is with this realization that [GEMNet-Health conducted a week-long workshop](#) in July 2018 on appropriate application of information communication technologies (ICTs) in health programs. Kenyatta University

in Nairobi, Kenya, hosted the workshop, which attracted participants from South Africa, Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, and Switzerland, and featured an instructor team drawn from MEASURE Evaluation and GEMNet-Health. The workshop curriculum was developed by MEASURE Evaluation in collaboration with several GEMNet-Health member institutions—the University of Ghana, the University of Pretoria, the Public Health Foundation of India, and the Addis Continental Institute of Public Health.

The main skills taught in this workshop were how to use technology to link patients in remote and underserved areas with well-resourced health specialists in other cities and countries, thereby providing better and affordable care otherwise unavailable. The program also emphasized the need to integrate currently separate health data management systems, a factor that limits access to comprehensive data needed to inform planning of health programs.

MEASURE Evaluation has collaboratively developed a range of digital health tools and guidelines tailored to the needs of LMICs. These resources are available online at no cost and as global public goods for interested institutions and health and ICT professionals.

**For more information,** visit [www.measureevaluation.org/our-work/health-informatics](http://www.measureevaluation.org/our-work/health-informatics)

## Collaboration Spotlight

*GEMNet-Health members collaborate on research, joint training, and curriculum development.*



### **University of Ghana (UG) – Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) Linkages**

Dr. Himanshu Negandhi from PHFI visited the UG-School of Public Health (SPH) July 9–13, 2018. Dr. Negandhi co-facilitated the pilot of a one-week impact evaluation workshop, contributed to developing course

content for UG’s new MSc in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) program launched in August 2018; and engaged with UG faculty in discussions on future collaboration. Ideas for future partnership include collaborative teaching of MPH and PhD courses through virtual guest lectures; identifying areas for collaboration relating to health informatics and routine health information systems (RHIS); and exploring development of a proposal on building pandemic/ epidemic preparedness.

This faculty exchange was made possible through GEMNet-Health joint workshop revenue.

*The MEASURE Evaluation Secretariat can assist you to identify and link with experts at other GEMNet-Health institutions. Please contact Lauren Hart at [ljhart@email.unc.edu](mailto:ljhart@email.unc.edu).*

## Upcoming Trainings—GEMNet Institutions

The GEMNet-Health network is rich in training resources relevant to M&E and health information systems (HIS). Check out some of the upcoming trainings for 2018 from GEMNet-Health institutions!

### GEMNet-Health Joint Workshops/Webinars

- [International Workshop on Qualitative Methods in Evaluation of Public Health Programs](#), September 20–29, 2018 in Pretoria, South Africa
- [International Workshop on Impact Evaluation of Population, Health and Nutrition Programs](#), October 1–12, 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand
- [Webinar on Health Informatics Training: Skill up for Scale-up](#), October 3, 2018, 13:00 GMT

### University of Ghana:

- The first cohort of 27 students have enrolled in the new Master of Science degree program in Public Health Monitoring and Evaluation in mid-August 2018.

### Public Health Foundation of India:

- M&E and RHIS modules to be offered in MPH program (Health Systems Track) Additionally, as done in the previous year, we have included a module on RHIS for our MPH students (Health Systems track).
- Implement the “SCORE for Health Data” assessment of national HIS for the South East Asia Region (SEAR) countries; co-facilitate a regional meeting in October 2018 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, to review the SCORE assessment with country counterparts.
- Organize and conduct a RHIS workshop requested by the Ministry of Health Maldives for up to three SEAR countries to be held in Male, Maldives October 21–November 1, 2018.
- PHFI continues to serve as the Secretariat for the AeHIN RHIS Core Group, with support from the World Health Organization (WHO)-SEARO.
- Introduction to Multivariable Analysis using Stata Oct 22–26, 2018.
- Ethics in Clinical Research Oct 23–26, 2018.
- Sample Size Estimation and Sampling Techniques Oct 30–Nov 2, 2018.
- Effective Behaviour Change Communication Strategies in Public Health, Nov 19–22, 2018.
- Basic Statistical Analysis using SPSS, Nov 27–30, 2018.
- Advanced Data Analysis Techniques in Qualitative Research using Atlas.ti, Dec 10–14, 2018.

- Operations Research in Public Health, Jan 29–Feb 1, 2019.

### **Addis Continental Institute of Public Health (ACIPH), Ethiopia:**

- Introduction to Quantitative Methods for M&E – November 2018
- Research Capacity Building
- M&E of Population, Health, and Nutrition Programs

### **University of Pretoria:**

- M&E of Health Programs, Aug 21–Sept 7, 2018
- Principles in Monitoring and Evaluation – Performance M&E, *by request*
- Health Data Management, Oct 15, 2018.
- M&E for Malaria Programs

## **Upcoming Events**

Consortium of Universities for Global Health – 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Translation & Implementation for Impact in Global Health, March 8–10, 2019, Chicago, USA

<https://www.cugh2019.org/>

American Evaluation Association (AEA) Conference – “Evaluation 2018: Speaking Truth to Power”, Oct 29–Nov 3, 2018, Cleveland, Ohio, USA

<https://www.evaluationconference.org/p/cm/ld/fid=341>

Eval Partners: Upcoming events/ training

<https://www.evalpartners.org/training/community>

Center for Learning on Evaluation and Results:

Upcoming events/training

<https://www.theclearinitiative.org/events>



## **Member Institution Spotlight**

*Each issue of the GEMNet-Health Newsletter highlights the current M&E activities of a member institution.*



## **Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR), Mahidol University, Thailand**

Established in 1971 in Bangkok, the Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR) at Mahidol University is one of Asia's premier population

research and training hubs. The institute conducts research and provides training in population and development and explores their relationship to the social, economic, reproductive health, medical, and public health fields.

IPSR was the first institution of its kind in Thailand, and in addition to partnering on GEMNet-Health, has a large number of academic staff and international collaboration partners. They include the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Centre of Excellence in Population and Family Planning/Reproductive Health, a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Research in Human Reproduction, the Population Council, the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the Wellcome Trust.

### **M&E-Related Activities**

#### **Training Programs**

- Hosting the GEMNet-Health international workshop on impact evaluation of Population, Health and Nutrition Programs, Oct 1–12, 2018, Bangkok, Thailand
- Regional Workshop on M&E of HIV/AIDS Programs
- Regional Workshop on M&E of Population, Health and Nutrition Program

On-request trainings such as:

- Workshop on M&E of health programs in 2012, funded by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Advance Data Analysis Workshop on Burden of Disease and Cost-Effectiveness Analysis in 2017, funded by WHO
- Workshop on Research Development in 2018, funded by the Henry Luce Foundation



## Postgraduate education

- Elective courses on M&E for Thai and International Master's Degree

## Research

The Institute's major areas of expertise are:

- Society, Population and Family Changes
- Population Aging
- Sexuality, Gender, Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS
- Population, Environment, and Health
- Migration, Urbanization, and Labor
- Research Methods

The Institute has evaluation research experience in a wide range of areas, including in performance evaluation of projects; impact evaluation for HIV-related programs targeting key populations using quantitative (including large-scale surveys) and qualitative methods; and gender analysis.

### Technical Assistance

Technical assistance on M&E for governmental and non-governmental organizations at project, local, and national levels

### Collaborative Activities with GEMNet-Health Partners

IPSR is one of the founding members of GEMNet-Health. IPSR representatives serve on the GEMNet-Health Steering Committee, Coordination and Collaboration Committee and various expert task groups.

### Future Plans

- Collaborate with Social Impact on the USAID-funded Asia Learning and M&E Support Project, strengthening organizational capacity for M&E at local and Asian regional M&E firms to provide high-quality M&E, learning, and information utilization services to USAID
- Maintain strong connections with national mechanisms on M&E for national HIV and AIDS programs

- Enhance capacity in applying technologies for M&E—i.e., geographic information systems (GIS), real-time monitoring tools, etc., as well as other M&E approaches
- Enhance M&E training courses

*Those who are interested in collaborating with IPSR can reach out to Pojjana Hunchangsith at [pojjana.hun@mahidol.edu](mailto:pojjana.hun@mahidol.edu)*

## Resources from MEASURE Evaluation

*Please share relevant publications from your institution to highlight in the newsletter.*



### Qualitative Methods for Evaluation: New Curriculum

Did you miss the qualitative methods webinar, a webinar focused on a new short course on qualitative evaluation methods for professionals in developing countries? Check out the recording [here!](#)

MEASURE Evaluation creates and makes available a wealth of online tools, curricula, publications, and useful information for technical professionals, partners, journalists, donors, and other interested parties.

<https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources>

### What Is GEMNet-Health?

*The nine member institutions of GEMNet-Health are: Addis Ababa University (AAU), Ethiopia; Addis Continental Institute of Public Health (ACIPH), Ethiopia; Centre Africain d'Etudes Supérieures en Gestion (CESAG), Senegal; Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública, Mexico; Kenyatta University, School of Public Health; Mahidol University's*



*Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR), Thailand; Public Health Foundation of India, India; University of Ghana, Ghana; and University of Pretoria, South Africa.*

GEMNet-Health fosters organizational growth, collaboration, and peer-to-peer support for M&E of health programs globally through ongoing and future institutional linkages among members. MEASURE Evaluation serves as the Secretariat for GEMNet-Health.

GEMNet-Health's scope of work includes joint training programs, development of competency-based curricula, collaborative research, and links with external stakeholders.

Linkages among members can range from formal memoranda of understanding to faculty

exchange, external examiners, webinars, and guest lectures. GEMNet-Health's work spans the fields of evaluation, health systems, and related-areas. To find out more about GEMNet-Health, see: [www.measureevaluation.org/resources/networks/gemnet-health](http://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/networks/gemnet-health)

The *GEMNet-Health Newsletter* shares news submitted by readers—faculty and staff at GEMNet-Health member institutions. Submissions can be related to GEMNet-Health or items specific to your institution. **Please send ideas, comments, and submissions you would like included in the newsletter** to [ljhart@email.unc.edu](mailto:ljhart@email.unc.edu).