Field Epidemiology and Training Programs (FETP): Incorporating Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and Chronic Diseases

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Outline

• Background

• Challenge of incorporating MCH and Chronic diseases into the FETPs

• Potential Outputs

• Next Steps
FETP Key Features

- Trainees assigned to Ministry of Health to provide epidemiologic service
- Program tailored to country needs & priorities
- Graduates may receive a certificate or degree
- Plan for sustainability

Critical Outcomes

- Robust surveillance systems
- Public health events detected, investigated, responded
- Human capacity developed
- Public health programs decisions based on scientific data
FETP Standard Core Curriculum

- Epidemiologic Methods
- Biostatistics
- Public health surveillance
- Laboratory and bio-safety
- Communication

- Computer Technology
- Management and Leadership
- Prevention Effectiveness
- Teaching and Mentoring
- Epidemiology of Priority Diseases and Injuries
## FETP Traditional Focus

### Infectious Diseases
- Cholera
- Rift Valley Fever
- Ebola
- Measles

### Donors’ Focus
- Vaccine Preventable Diseases
- Zoonotic Diseases
- Infectious Diseases prone to Outbreaks
### FETP Non-Traditional Focus

**NCDS**  
**INJURIES, ENVIRONMENTAL**
- Road Traffic Injuries
- DEG Poisoning
- Heart Disease
- Diabetes

**MCH**  
**REPRODUCTIVE AND PRENATAL HEALTH, CHILDHOOD DISEASES**
- Maternal Mortality
- Low birth weight infants
- Fetal death
- < 5 child morbidity

*Note very limited donor funds in these non-traditional areas*
Addressing the Challenge

Challenge 1

Determining if MCH and chronic diseases are a problem in low and middle income countries

Challenge 2

Determining if FETP residents, alumni, resident advisors and respective ministries of health see a need to incorporate MCH and chronic diseases to the FETPs
Addressing the Challenge

Advocating for international MCH and chronic disease funding

Establishing a collaboration with key CDC MCH and chronic disease stakeholders
Constraints in Low and Middle Income Countries

- Limited Resources
  - Funding
  - Trained MCH and Chronic Disease Experts (Mentors)
- Lack of MCH and chronic disease public health infrastructure
- Infectious disease emphasis
FETPs Feasibility for Incorporating MCH and Chronic Diseases

- Existing partnerships with Ministry of Health and universities

- FETP residents and alumni placement in MCH and chronic disease settings

- Recognition of the need to address the growing burden of MCH related mortality and morbidity and chronic diseases

- National, regional, international networks (TEPHINET – all FETPs, AFENET-Africa, Middle East, South East Asia, Latin America)
Training Framework

- MCH and chronic disease epidemiology viewed as cross training
- Train FETP residents and ministry of health staff
- Assign subject matter experts as mentors from CDC to residents and field supervisors in the ministry of health
- Focus on the country’s MCH and chronic disease priorities
Applied Projects

FIELD WORK

• Residents assigned to MCH or chronic disease field site

• Resident may have the option to receive additional training outside their country
  • CDC, Atlanta, GA
  • US local or state health department
  • Copenhagen, Denmark
  • Finland

MINI GRANTS

• Provide funding for MCH and chronic disease projects through mini grants

• Conduct grant training workshop at TEPHINET conference, December 2010 for FETP residents, alumni, and ministry of health staff

• Assist successful grant applicants with their projects
Improved NCD and MCH Epidemiology and Surveillance

• Surveillance Systems
  • Vital Registration
  • Maternal morbidity and mortality
  • Infant morbidity and mortality
  • Risk Factor surveys

• Data Collection and Quality

• Data Dissemination

• Monitoring and Evaluation
Next Steps

• Assessments completed in China, Columbia, Thailand, Jordan, and Tanzania

• TEPHINET NCD and MCH Workshop

• Formalizing collaborations and agreements in the priority countries

• Developing a MCH and Chronic Disease curriculum

• Hiring in-country NCD coordinators

• Training NCD and MCH Fellows