Global Health Research:
and what Canada is doing about it

Global Health Research Exchange Network
NLCAHR – MUN
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Objectives

• Provide an overview of global health research (GHR): global and Canadian
• Introduce the CCGHR
• Discuss how the field of GHR relates to the work & interests of participants
Presentation Plan

• The global GHR story
• The Canadian GHR story
• The CCGHR
• Questions and discussion
• Connections to your work & interests
The global story

1990’s: the “Commission”:

• International Independent Commission for Health Research for Development (“the Commission”)

• Major report focused on:
  - “the 10/90 gap”
  - the “capacity gap” (particularly at national level)
  - unbalanced & ineffective partnerships
  - a fragmented global health research system

• Major recommendations on each of these 4 findings
The global story

The 1990’s:
1990: Commission report
1993: World Bank report: *Investing in Health*
    Creation of the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED)
1997 Launch of the Global Forum for Health Research
    • Annual Global Forums
    • Publication of “10-90 Gap” reports
1997 WHO Advisory Committee on Health Research
The global story

2000 – 2009:

2000: Bangkok conference: reviewing the achievements of the Commission report recommendations

2004: Mexico “ministerial summit”: Focus on health systems and the “know-do gap”

2008: Bamako summit: Focus on “Research for Health” (inter-sectoral action for health)

2008: WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health

2009: Last Global Forum (Havana)
The global story

2010 to present:
2011: 2\textsuperscript{nd} Symposium on H. Systems Research (Beijing)
2012: Forum organized by COHRED (Cape Town);
\textit{featured significant African leadership}
2014: 3\textsuperscript{rd} Symposium on HSR (Cape Town)
2015: Forum organized by COHRED (Philippines)
2016: 4\textsuperscript{th} Symposium on HSR (Vancouver)
The global story

So what has been achieved?

• Funding
• National capacity
• Partnerships
• Fragmentation/coordination
The Canadian story

Before 1988:

• International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
  Incorporated in 1970 “to help developing countries use science & technology to find solutions to local problems”
• Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)--now part of DFATD
• Medical Research Council (MRC)---now CIHR
• Some provincial health agencies (e.g. FRSQ, Alberta Heritage Fund)
The Canadian story

1988 and onward:
1988: founding of the Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH)
2000: some Canadians at Bangkok meeting
2001: Global Health Research Initiative (GHRI) started
2003: launch of the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research (CCGHR)
2008: G8 summit at Muskoka (the MNCH story)
The Canadian story

More recently:
2010: Launch of Grand Challenges Canada
2011: Creation of the Canadian Maternal Newborn Child Health Network (CAN-MNCH)

[+ annual Canadian Conference on Global Health]
The CCGHR story

More on the CCGHR – till 2014:

• membership organization (including students)
• University Advisory Council UAC) with 22 Canadian universities as institutional members
• Capacity development program:
  • summer institutes
  • country partnerships
• Policy influence program:
  • Gathering Perspectives study
• Networking (“harmonization initiative”)
The CCGHR story

2015 CCGHR Update:
New strategic plan with 3 priorities:
1. Capacity Building
2. Advocacy and Policy Influence
3. Governance and Sustainability
The CCGHR story

Capacity Building Program – 3 levels:

1. Prepare competent global health researchers
   - student chapters
   - institutional mentorship teams ("system")
   - Coalition institutes
   - regional events

2. Strengthen institutional capacities for GHR
   - participate in University Advisory Council (UAC)
   - create a "liaison team", & conduct a "self-study"

3. Strengthen national systems for GHR
   (e.g., Zambia, Tanzania, -- possibly Bangladesh? )
The CCGHR story

Advocacy and Policy Influence program:

Two documents from the “Gathering Perspectives” study to review:

- *Principles to Guide Global Health Research*
- *Global Health Research: A Canadian Policy Perspective*

Both documents were discussed at the CCGHR meetings in Montréal earlier this month (by the CCGHR board, the AUC, and the CCGHR annual general meeting). They are now available for distribution and discussion.
DISCUSSION

Any questions & comments?

How does the field of GHR relate to your work and interests?