



SNAPSHOT

A snapshot of some of our more than 50 ongoing or completed COMDIS programmes:

Bangladesh: TB at the workplace: developing partnerships with the garments industry

China: Improving TB management in rural-to-urban migrants in the metropolitan area of Shanghai

Ghana: The clinical impact of seasonal intermittent preventive treatment and home management of malaria using AQ + AS in Ghanian Children

Nepal: Understanding TB-related stigma and discrimination in Nepal: a community perspective

Pakistan: Developing, operationalizing and refining the desk guideline and training material for childhood TB care

Swaziland: Integrating TB and HIV care in a rural hospital in Sub-Saharan Africa: does it work in practice?

Uganda: Comparison of 2 methods of insecticide treated net distribution, looking at retention and usage levels

COMDIS plays a major role in the fight against the world's three biggest killer diseases: HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria

COMDIS: Research and development for effective communicable disease control



PARTNERS

China: **National Centre for Tuberculosis Control and Prevention, Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention**

China: **Guangxi Provincial Centre for Disease Control and Prevention**

China: **Shandong Chest Hospital**

Ghana: **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi**

Nepal: **Health Research & Social Development Forum (HERD)**

Pakistan: **Association for Social Development (ASD)**

Swaziland: **Good Shepherd Hospital, Lubombo**

Uganda: **Malaria Consortium, Africa (MCUg)**

Uganda: **Department of Clinical Medicine, Makerere University, Kampala**

UK: **Malaria Consortium UK (MCUK)**

UK: **Nuffield Centre for International Health & Development, University of Leeds**

For more information on the primary diseases covered by COMDIS, please see the following websites:

Malaria: www.rbm.who.int

TB: www.stoptb.org

HIV/AIDS: www.unaids.org/en

COMDIS partners also work with National HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria Control Programmes, including the National TB programme in Ethiopia, a new associate partner.

COMDIS Website: www.comdis.org

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RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

A programme that is transforming tuberculosis, HIV and malaria treatment for millions of sufferers



WHO WE ARE

COMDIS is a Research Programme Consortium that works to drive research and development to combat communicable diseases in low-income countries.

Through our more than 50 ongoing and completed projects, COMDIS helps to ensure that prevention and treatment interventions for TB, malaria and HIV/AIDS are effectively delivered through strengthened healthcare systems to reach those most in need.

The lead coordinator of COMDIS is the Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development at the University of Leeds, United Kingdom (UK), working alongside partners in China, Bangladesh, Ghana, Nepal, Pakistan, Uganda, the UK, and Swaziland. Each country has its own health systems and specific challenges. COMDIS works closely with national health programmes to find solutions which will work in these low income countries.

COMDIS is funded by the Department for International Development (DFID) of the UK government and runs from 2006-2011.



Transfer knowledge
into practice



OUR STRATEGY

Effective healthcare, with timely and high quality interventions, needs efficient and integrated healthcare systems. In many low income countries these do not exist and the challenge is therefore to design research leading to practical solutions.

The big idea behind COMDIS is to anchor communicable disease research within operational programmes, so that knowledge generated is relevant and rapidly incorporated into policy and practice. This ensures that utilization of effective interventions is at a very large scale and reaches poor and vulnerable people.

COMDIS researchers therefore seek to address the priority questions that control programmes most want answered, and provide support to national

programmes to achieve health care results, a process we call 'embedded research.'

COMDIS works with partners to identify the 'bottlenecks' to effective implementation of communicable disease programmes. The research evidence and experience is translated into initiatives aimed at strengthening delivery systems, scaling up access, or improving the quality of interventions.

We also focus our attention on communicating major findings from COMDIS research and on building an information bridge that links researchers with civil society, international institutions, policy makers, local health workers, local populations and donors across partner countries and beyond.

IMPACT

COMDIS ensures that research makes a real difference to a huge number of people. The scale of COMDIS's impact becomes clear when looking at the size of the populations it deals with. For example, a study in China covering two provinces and its cities is benefiting a population of 50 million people in itself, with a potential roll out to China's total population, which tops 1.3 billion.

Some key results already achieved by COMDIS:

- COMDIS research findings have been used to define national disease control policy and practice at scale in partner countries.
- COMDIS research findings have been used to inform products (case management guidelines, training manuals, implementation planning, monitoring and quality assurance guidelines and tools) developed jointly with various national TB, malaria and HIV/AIDS programmes.
- COMDIS research findings and improved training methods have been used to build the capacity of health workers in country, for example 5,000 TB doctors trained on case management guidelines in China.
- Community-based care and family member adherence support for TB have been accepted by national TB Programmes.
- Public-private partnership guidelines and tools have been developed, evaluated and scaled-up in a number of different countries.
- An analysis of the burden of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) in southern Sudan by COMDIS has been the basis for the development of the new national guidelines for NTD control.



Anchor communicable
disease research within
operational programmes



Every year at least
six million people die
from TB, HIV or malaria

