



## History of COHRED

2010 - Merger of COHRED and the Global Forum for Health Research

The merged organization builds upon COHRED's portfolio of services and tools that support countries to strengthen governance and management of research and innovation for health, equity and socio-economic development, including its [Health Research Web](#) platform, and on the [Global Forum's influential international conference](#) on research and innovation for health and its tracking of resource flows in health research. The organization remains based in Geneva with staff in Switzerland, Brazil, Great Britain, Mexico, Tunisia and South Africa.

2008 - Bamako Ministerial Forum  
**Bamako 2008 Global Ministerial Forum on Research for Health.** COHRED was a co-organizer of the meeting, with the Government of Mali, [UNESCO](#), the [World Bank](#), [World Health Organization](#) and [Global Forum for Health Research](#). The same year, the Global Forum for Health Research celebrated 10 years of achievements, having effectively advocated around the "10/90" gap and driven the case for better targeted and prioritized research to address the health needs of poor populations; provided a forum for exchange, learning and innovation to decision-makers in research, funding and policy; and developed high-quality evidence and tools that help guide decisions in research for health. **2007 - Paris Declaration** COHRED's 'AHA' study on alignment and harmonisation was the first to look at Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness from a health research perspective. It calls for better alignment of donor programmes with country needs and among donors. **2005 - Responsible Programming** This concept was coined by COHRED in 2005 and framed in a study in 2007. It encourages global health initiatives to build research capacity strengthening as a part of their vertical activities. **2004 - Mexico Conference** COHRED was a partner in organising the Mexican Ministerial meeting, which put health systems research on the global health agenda. **2000 - Bangkok Conference - International Conference on Health Research for Development** COHRED contribution:

- Facilitate extensive country consultations to assess national needs for health research.
- Review health research over the past decade, draw lessons for the future.
- Agree on a framework for improved international cooperation in health research in support of country health research systems.

**1998 - The Global Forum for Health Research established** In the late 1990s, a group of visionary people decided that the world needed a global view in health research. As a result, the Global Forum for Health Research was established as an independent international foundation in Switzerland in 1998. **1993 - COHRED established International Conference on Health Research for Development, Geneva** COHRED was established to promote Essential National Health Research (ENHR) as a comprehensive strategy for organising and managing national health research. **1992 International Conference on Health Research for Development (Uganda)**

- Assessed progress made with the implementation of the ENHR strategy
- Identified possible mechanisms for international support for ENHR

**1990-1993 - Task Force Task Force on Health Research for Development** Mandate: to



consider how to implement the Commission's recommendations:

- Further developed concept of ENHR
- Defined 7 elements for implementing the ENHR strategy
- Facilitated the implementation of ENHR in some 15 countries

**1990 - Commission Report Health Research: Essential Link to Equity in Development** The report highlighted the mismatch between burden of disease and investment in health research. It proposed four recommendations:

- Implementation of Essential National Health Research (ENHR) by all countries
- Creation of international partnerships in health research
- Mobilizing increased funding for health research
- Establish a forum for review and advocacy

The Commission's Report was launched at the Nobel Conference on Health Research for Development (Karolinska Institute, Sweden, 1990). **1987-1990 - Commission Commission on Health Research for Development** Mandate: to survey health research worldwide, identify strengths and weaknesses, and propose improvements.