Regional Network on Equity in Health in east and southern Africa (EQUINET)

Conference theme:
Reclaiming the Resources for Health: Building universal people centred health systems in east and southern Africa

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Third EQUINET Regional Conference on Equity in Health in East and Southern Africa

Speke Conference Centre, Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda

First Announcement! Save the date!

September 23 - 25 2009

This is a unique opportunity to hear original work and debate on the determinants and forces that are driving or impeding equity in health in east and southern Africa, including those at global level. The conference will hear from people working in state and non government institutions, and from academia, civil society and parliaments. Through presentation and active discussion we will review a wealth of diverse experience and knowledge to share strategies, experiences and policies for building universal people centred health systems, based on values of fairness and justice.

We will have plenary and workshop/ parallel sessions on

- Health equity in east and southern Africa
- Protecting health in economic and trade policy
- Building universal, primary health care oriented health systems
- Equitable, health systems strengthening responses to HIV and AIDS
- Fair Financing of health systems, and reclaiming financial resources for public sector health services
- Valuing and retaining health workers
- Organising participatory, people centred health systems
- Social empowerment and action for health
- Understanding and managing equity oriented policy development and implementation
- Country experiences of advocacy and promotion of equity in health
- Monitoring progress through country and regional equity watches

We will also have a range of activities associated with the conference, displays, an essay/art competition, photography; skills meetings and theatre.

We look forward to welcoming people from government, non state organisations, academic and research institutions, civil society, parliaments, regional and international organisations and other institutions promoting and working on equity in health in east and southern Africa!

Abstract submission opens on July 30 2008 and closes on January 30 2009. Early submission is urged!

Registration opens on **July 30 2008. Early registration at lower cost closes on January 30 2009.** Early registration is urged!

To find out further information, give suggestions, register interest and put your name on the mailing list for the conference, please contact the EQUINET secretariat, Training and Research Support Centre, email: **admin@equinetafrica.org,** with EQUINET CONFERENCE in the subject line or visit **www.equinetafrica.org/meetings.php**

This is the third EQUINET Regional conference (read the report of our last conference at www.equinetafrica.org/bibl/docs/REP062004equity.pdf). This year the EQUINET steering committee is happy to hold the conference in east Africa, in Uganda, in co-operation with a local organizing committee involving HEPS Uganda, Makerere University and Ministry of Health Uganda.

Pre and post conference skills and theme workshops will be organised through the Conference Scientific Committee. Workshops are anticipated to be one day or half day sessions and to include about 30 people.

Proposals to convene and organize workshops can be made to the Scientific Committee by sending an email to admin@equinetafrica.org before September 15 2008.

Accepted workshops will be listed in the second announcement sent in October 2008.

CONFERENCE SUBMISSIONS, ABSTRACTS

**Abstract submission opens on July 30 2008
and all abstracts must be submitted on or before January 30 2009**

Abstracts are invited within the major conference themes shown overleaf.

The theme sessions will be 2-3 hours in length and interactive in nature. Presenters may be asked to present verbally, using Power-Point, or visually using a poster. The sessions will include brief summary presentations of the accepted abstracts to give adequate time for full facilitated discussions of work and the issues raised.

Feedback on abstract selection will be given by March 16 2009, and workshop/session conveners will communicate directly thereafter with presenters of accepted abstracts on their sessions.

**The Abstract submission form and registration form can be downloaded at
www.equinetafrica.org/meetings.php
or obtained from admin@equinetafrica.org.**

Abstracts are a maximum of 400 words and typed as MS Word documents in Arial 11pt font. The title should be no more than 50 characters including punctuation, but long enough to identify the nature of the study. Ensure the abstract provides information on the findings. Abstract and registration forms can be submitted online after July 30 2008 or via email to admin@equinetafrica.org and copy to rene@tarsc.org. Accepted abstracts will appear in print in a bound abstract book distributed at the conference, and may also be posted on the conference web site.

REGISTRATION

**Registration opens on July 30 2008.
Early registration closes on January 30 2009 and online/ email registration on June 30 2009.**

Country of residence / category	Before January 30 2009	February 1 - June 30 2009
East and southern Africa	US $100	US $150
Other medium / low income country	US $150	US $200
High income country/International organisation	US $250	US $300
Student	US $100	US $150

You are welcome to the conference even if you are not submitting an abstract!
Registration forms can be submitted online after July 30 2008
or via email to admin@equinetafrica.org and copy to rebecca@tarsc.org.
EQUINET has limited funds for full or part sponsorship of selected delegates, speakers etc.
Accommodation can be booked directly at the conference venue.

**You will receive a confirmation e-mail when we get your abstract or registration form.
If you don't receive a confirmation, we have not received it and please send it again!**

Please visit the conference website at www.equinetafrica.org/meetings.php for further information!

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