SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH INITIATIVE

Q3 2018

NEWSLETTER

In Q3-Q4 of 2018, the Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI) network sought out new partnerships and nurtured existing ones with policymakers, innovators, and academic collaborators. In this issue of the SIHI newsletter, we also feature the top social innovations from the 2017 Central America and the Caribbean Call for Social innovations.

SIHI UGANDA IDENTIFIED AS RESOURCE FOR POLICY REVIEW AND LEADS TRAINING FOR SOCIAL INNOVATORS

SIHI Uganda was invited by the Ugandan Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MoSTI) to participate and inform the review of the National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy. On 19 October 2018, the SIHI Uganda team met with consultants from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), supporting the review of this policy drafted in 2009. The current policy is not yet inclusive of social innovations in health. The UNCTAD consultants commended SIHI's work for its uniqueness and will be sharing with the team the report of their findings for further input.

SIHI Uganda also hosted the second module of the Social Innovators Fellowship focusing on Research Methods on 31 July to 1 August 2018. Representatives from the selected social innovations, Bwindi Community Hospital, Imaging the World Africa, Action for Women Awakening in Rural Environment (AWARE-Uganda), Healthy Child Uganda, and Kyaninga Child Development Centre, were introduced to key aspects of research and how research could be a tool guiding and strengthening social innovations in health. Through the interactive and practical sessions, participants shared their experiences and thoughts on research and were tasked to develop research protocols in relation to their respective work. The training was conducted by a team from Makerere University School of Public Health – ResilientAfrica Network

(RAN) Innovation Lab Deputy Chief of Party Dr. Roy Mayega, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Research Associate Christine Muhumuza, Eastern Africa Resilience Innovation Lab Programme Coordinator Dr. Julius Ssentongo, and Eastern Africa Resilience Innovation Lab Director Nathan Tumuhamye and SIHI Uganda Director Dr. Phyllis Awor. The fellowship is aimed at equipping social innovators with research, entrepreneurship, and project management skills to enhance the design and impact of their work.

Above: SIHI Uganda met with UNCTAD consultants about the review of Uganda's National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy. *Below:* Social innovators participated in SIHI Uganda's second fellowship on research methods.

SIHI MALAWI ANNOUNCES 2018 INNOVATION CALL FINALISTS AND HOSTS 1ST CROSS-UNIVERSITY CASE COMPETITION

A panel of judges from academia, and public and private sectors deliberated the student solutions presented during the health case competition on 27 October 2018.

SIHI Malawi congratulates the finalists of its 2018 call for solutions – the Community-Based Health Insurance by Kaundu Health Centre (a Christian Health Association of Malawi facility) and the Sustainable and Affordable Rural Healthcare Prototype by Child Legacy International. These two solutions are pioneering sustainable, integrated, and people-centred rural health care models, leveraging renewable energy and sustainable agriculture and expanding access to quality primary and tertiary health care to rural populations in Malawi.

SIHI Malawi, College of Medicine in collaboration with Youth Net and Counseling and Medical Students Association-Malawi, hosted the first Inter-University Social Innovation in Health Case Competition on 20 and 27 October, and on 3 November 2018. The competition provided 40 students, working in multidisciplinary teams, with a unique and hands-on experience in developing socially innovative solutions addressing a real-life complex health care challenge. The participating colleges were the College of Medicine, College of Health Sciences, Malawi College of Accountancy and the Polytechnic.

The case competition stimulated and explored collaboration to advance social innovation with public and private sector, local and international NGOs, and between colleges and faculties as a first step in exploring a cross-university social innovation research agenda.

Left: Student teams participated in a workshop and presented their solutions in the health case competition hosted by SIHI Malawi. *Right:* Telekoms Network-Malawi (TNM), one of the leading telecommunications service providers in Malawi, encouraged students to innovate for health. TNM Product Development Manager Ms Ngamise Gumbo (left) met with the health case competition participants.

SIHI PHILIPPINES PARTNERS WITH HEALTH RESEARCH CONSORTIA AND UP MANILA TO RECOGNISE SOCIAL INNOVATIONS IN HEALTH

SIHI Philippines partnered with the Philippine National Health Research System (PNHRS) in launching the initial guidelines of the Gelia Castillo Award for Social Innovations in Health (GCASIH), a national award recognising novel solutions in response to the country's priority health needs, during the 12th PNHRS Week from 6 to 9 August 2018. SIHI Philippines promoted GCASIH as an opportunity for regional health research consortia in the Philippines to document, showcase, and learn from social innovations in health across the Philippines' 17 regions (subnational level). As the conference highlighted research and innovation for health equity, SIHI Philippines Hub Leader Dr. Noel Juban, along with social innovators and implementers from Partners in Leprosy Action, Inter-Island Health Service Boat Project, National Telehealth System, and P6.60 Everyday Family Health Plan facilitated a forum on "Preparing Young Researchers Towards Social Innovation in Health." Surigao del Norte Mayor Alfredo Coro II of the Seal of Health Governance also shared his implementation experience on the panel discussion, "Research and Innovation for Equity in Health." A SIHI Philippines booth display allowed researchers to interact with the team about social innovation in health as well. The implementing agencies of PNHRS are the Department of Science and Technology, Department of Health, Commission on Higher Education, and National Institutes of Health under the University of the Philippines Manila (UP Manila).

On 22 October 2018, SIHI Philippines was publicly launched in UP Manila during the university's celebration of its 36th

Top left: Social innovators urged young health researchers to tackle social innovation in health during the PNHRS Week 2018. *Top right:* SIHI Philippines was publicly launched at UP Manila in October. *Below:* The SIHI Philippines team served as mentors in a health hackathon among students.

SIHI LAC HOSTS RESEARCH COURSE, ADVOCATES SIH SECTION IN LAC

Sixteen participants took part in the Community-Based Participatory Research course that SIHI LAC hosted in September.

From 17 to 20 September 2018, SIHI Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) hosted the Community-Based Participatory Research course at Centro Internacional de Entrenamiento e Investigaciones Medicas (CIDEIM) in Cali, Colombia. A total of 16 participants from 11 different institutions in Colombia and Guatemala participated in the course led by Dr. Nina Wallerstein of the University of New Mexico and Laura Parajon of AMOS Health and Hope in Guatemala.

Moreover, on 28 September, the SIHI LAC team advocated the creation of the social innovation in health section as they participated in the 2nd International Conference of the Latin American Network for Social Innovation (LASIN) with the following oral presentations: "SIHI: Advancing Social Innovation in Health" by Diana María Castro, "Case Studies: Process and Results of the First Call for Experiences in Social Innovation in Health in Central America and the Carribean by Luis Enrique Vacaflor, "Social Innovation in Health: A Review of the Concept in Published Materials in Latin America from 2013 to 2018" by Luisa Fernanda Duque, and "mHealth Applications for Cutaneous Leishmaniasis: Study of Use and Acceptance by Community Health Volunteers" by Luisa Rubiano.

The SIHI LAC team delivered oral presentations as they participated in the 2nd International Conference of the Latin American Network for Social Innovation.

SIHI PHILIPPINES PARTNERS WITH HEALTH RESEARCH CONSORTIA
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year. UP Manila Chancellor, Dr. Carmencita Padilla, announced the publication of a book and introduction of an academic award that will honour the social innovations within the university and the Philippine General Hospital.

SIHI Philippines also collaborated with the UP Medical Students for Social Responsibility in carrying out "Synapse 2018," a health hackathon where 12 teams of college and senior high school students competed with their digital health solutions.

SESH, SIHI CHINA LEADS CROWDSOURCING AND COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

At the 22nd International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam from 23 to 27 July 2018, the Social Entrepreneurship to Spur Health (SESH) hosted a Global Village Workshop to launch SIHI TDR-WHO's Practical Guide on Crowdsourcing in Health and Health Research. Crowdsourcing is the process of having a large group, including experts and non-experts, solve a problem and then share the solution with the public. Similar to the conference at large, the workshop brought together community members, activists, students, researchers, and government officers. Together, SESH shared with them how crowdsourcing tools can be used to improve public health. The workshop included an expert panel who shared their expertise from crowdsourcing program research to implementation for the diverse audience.

In October 2018, SESH hosted a community workshop to discuss ongoing research, bringing together SESH researchers with community-based organization leaders, health care providers, and students. Open discussions surrounding stigma, health care practices, and research development were shared by individuals of various health care roles, from provider to participant. With the constructive feedbacks, the SESH group incorporated the discussion points into the development of their future research and programs.

The IAS launch workshop featured an expert panel joined by Dr. Allison Mathews, Matt Avery, Dr. Guodong Mi, Dr. Paul Volberding, Dr. Joseph Tucker, Dr. Weiming Tang and Ms Amy Lee (left to right).

BERTHA CENTRE PRESENTS RESEARCH POSTER ON HEALTH SYSTEMS ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Acting Senior Manager Katusha de Villiers attended the Global Business School Network Conference in Nairobi, Kenya on 7-9 November 2018, representing the University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business at the members meeting as well as presenting a poster on the Health Systems Entrepreneurship project.

Katusha and Senior Researcher Deon Cloete have also had their abstract entitled "Community Health Workers as Systems Change Curators across African Public Health Service Delivery: Leveraging mHealth interventions through Health Systems Entrepreneurship with Social Innovation Organisations and Government" accepted as a paper poster presentation at the Consortium of Universities for Global Health 2019 Conference which will be held in Chicago, USA from 7 to 10 March 2019.

Also, on the first of November, the Bertha Centre marked its seventh year. One of the key achievements it celebrated was the setup of the Impact Bond Innovation Fund with the Western Cape Department of Social Development and other NGOs and stakeholders. The innovation fund is a first for the global South and the culmination of three years of research, which targets early childhood development in the Western Cape.

LSHTM JOINS HSR 2018

From 8 – 12 October 2018, Dr. Lindi van Niekerk from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine attended the Global Health Systems Symposium 2018 (HSR2018) in Liverpool, England. The symposium proved informative in guiding where social innovation research efforts should be situated within the health systems discussion and also novel systems-based approaches to use in SIHI research.

During the forum, it was encouraging to hear the growing dialogue on the role of communities and non-state actors in health systems. Much remains to be done still to give these actors an active and equal voice in the dialogue on health systems strengthening. Dr. Katerina Nono-Abiertas, SIHI Philippines 2017 innovator, presented her social innovation project (One Health Boat) at the symposium. In side discussions, it was encouraging to hear how valuable the SIHI recognition was to her, her interest to serve as an active member of the SIHI Philippines and her passion to advocate for social innovation within her sphere of influence at municipal health level in the Philippines. Our selected social innovators can play a pivotal role to champion the mission of SIHI.

Dr. Lindi van Niekerk from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Dr. Katerina Nono-Abiertas, a social innovator from the Philippines, both attended the Global Health Systems Symposium 2018.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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NOVEMBER-JANUARY HUB STRATEGY REFINEMENT & PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS SIHI MALAWI
As part of its strategy development and implementation process, SIHI Malawi will be conducting strategy refinement and partnership meetings with key health collaborators and innovators.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER GCASIH CONSULTATIONS SIHI PHILIPPINES
Together with its PNHRS partners, SIHI Philippines will be holding subnational consultations for the Gelia Castillo Award for Social Innovations in Health (GCASIH)

LSHTM-FONDATION MERIEUX DIAGNOSTICS COURSE EMBEDS SOCIAL INNOVATION

On 16 to 21 September 2018, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and the Fondation Merieux co-organized the 9th Advanced Course on Diagnostics (ACDx).

This year, the concept of using the social innovation lens in understanding and applying the cultural, social, and behavioral aspects to access quality-assured diagnostics was introduced for the first time.

John Reeder, director of TDR, the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases, co-sponsored by UNICEF, UNDP, the World Bank and WHO, gave the opening address emphasizing the value of social innovations and the role of research to enhance their sustainability.

A panel discussion on Social Innovation, a critical element of Universal Health Coverage and "universal diagnosis" was facilitated by Dr John Reeder, TDR Director. Panel members included (from right to left) Mr. Jean François de Lavison, founder of Ahimsa Fund, Dr Phyllis Awor, SIHI Uganda Hub lead, Dr Beatrice Halpaap from TDR, Dr Joseph Tucker, SESH, SIHI China hub lead, Ms Isabelle Wachsmuth and Ms Asiya Odugleh-Kolev from the Department of Service Delivery & Safety at WHO.

Two social innovation examples, the Drug Shop Integrated Care in Uganda and SESH in China, highlighted the role of community-based social innovations in making diagnostics and treatment accessible.

Social innovation was identified as an integral part of implementing the WHO community engagement framework and as supporting the WHO framework on integrated people-centered health services towards universal health coverage.

Discussions on the value and application of social innovations to provide evidence and enhance access to diagnostics took place during various sessions of the course. It is envisaged to embed the social innovation lens in future courses.

1st AHIMSA ANNUAL FORUM BRINGS TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL INNOVATION TOGETHER

Eighty participants from 31 countries attended the Ahimsa RoundTable 2018, which focused on exploring how technological innovations in health care can advance social innovations and vice versa.

Ahimsa Fund, a SIHI partner, promotes and catalyzes social innovation in health care delivery.

The Ahimsa RoundTable (ART) 2018 took place on 15-17 October 2018 at Les Pensières Centre for Global Health in Annecy, France. This new annual event provides a platform to bring technology and social innovations together for health care delivery and explore synergies in achieving universal health coverage.

Eighty participants, representing 31 different countries, and from various fields such as humanitarian, academic, business, government, and industries coming from the Global South and the Global North met and discussed health care delivery issues through multiple lenses. SIHI contributed to the panel discussions that highlighted the diversity of cultural and societal elements for making an innovation successful and sustainable.

Ten innovation projects were selected and discussed in groups during dream-storming sessions. The consultations during the group work helped innovators shape their ideas and work towards meeting the short and long-term goals.

Jean-Francois de Lavison, the founder of Ahimsa Fund, refers to global health as a puzzle and each actor can help put a piece together. The event was successful in providing a conducive platform to engage both young and older generations as they define a common path in ensuring that the discussed innovations reach the most vulnerable populations for better health coverage.

TOP SOCIAL INNOVATIONS FROM CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In September 2018, the Pan American Health Organization with the support of SIHI LAC announced the three selected innovations from the Central America and the Caribbean (CAC) 2017 Call for Social innovations in Health. The call identified seven innovators that are working to solve health care problems in six countries in CAC.

Comprehensive Health Approach for Chagas Disease in Comapa

(Comapa, Guatemala)

To address the Chagas disease in Comapa, researchers from the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala (UVG) developed an interdisciplinary approach that sought the participation of community members in the identification of their needs, as in the design of strategies that respond to them. The team focuses to reduce the probability of re-infestation of the transmitter vector of Chagas in the houses, looking for its inhabitants to take an active role in the management of previously identified risk factors. The work of UVG contributed to a better articulation between the work of vector control carried out by the municipality and the care offered by the Comapa Health Center to Chagas patients.

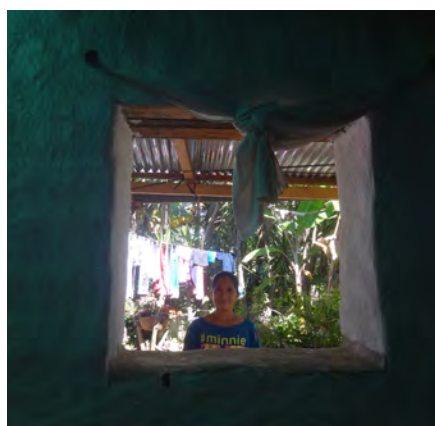## Eco-health, a comprehensive approach to the control of Chagas disease

(Comapa, Guatemala)

The team of Laboratory of Applied Entomology and Parasitology (LENAP) of the Universidad de San Carlos (USAC), developed an effective strategy to identify and reduce the risk factors related with the quality of housing that contribute to the infestation of the vector for Chagas disease. The strategy educated the community to fill the cracks in their houses' floors and walls using a combination of available local materials. In addition, leaders and members of the community were trained so they could repair their own homes and contribute to making cultural changes, such as raising animals outside homes, for the elimination of the vector. The approach has created social value by effectively reducing vector infestation rates, and by reducing the levels of infections, illnesses, and deaths in the affected regions.

MosquitiaMed: Shortening the distances through telemedicine

(Gracias a Dios, Honduras)

The difficult access to medical attention of the residents of the La Mosquitia Region, where there is only one hospital in the capital (Puerto Lempira) and usually one doctor per shift, led to the creation of MosquitiaMed by a group of young doctors. This organization applies mobile technologies and capabilities to serve the population of La Mosquitia through educational health programmes and the dissemination of videos about various medical topics in the native language using cell phones, telemedicine through a mobile application that allows exchange of information with specialists in Tegucigalpa, and crowdsourcing to generate resources and join efforts with partners.