WHAT IS SIHI?

The Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI) is a network of passionate individuals and institutions (1) combining their skills and resources (2) in support of key activities (3) to advance social innovation in health in developing countries, with the ultimate goal to achieve the sustainable development goals and improve the lives of communities in low- and middle-income countries (4).

1. NETWORK OF PASSIONATE INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS

SIHI is a global network of individuals, organisations and institutions passionate about social innovation in health. The network was established in 2014 through the joint efforts of the University of Cape Town’s Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Oxford University’s Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Disease (co-sponsored by UNDP, UNICEF, the World Bank and WHO) which is hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO).

In 2017, the active partners of the network the network were extended in to include four new universities in the south: The University of Malawi’s College of Medicine, Makerere University School of Public Health and the University of Philippines College of Medicine and Centro Internacional de Entrenamiento e Investigaciones Medicas (CIDEIM) in collaboration with Universidad ICESI and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

SIHI collaborates with the Foundation Mérieux, Ahimsa and the WHO Department of Service Delivery and Safety.

Since its establishment, SIHI has been engaging with a range of stakeholders, including social innovators in low- and middle-income countries, policy makers, funding bodies and international agencies.
2. SKILLS AND RESOURCES

SIHI’s partners and collaborators bring diverse skills and resources to the network. Active partners contribute technical and academic expertise to provide strategic direction, promote and conduct research and train individuals from all walks of life in social innovation in health. Collaborators provide diverse skills and resources, including technical, financial and in-kind contributions.

SIHI is made possible through grants and support from TDR. TDR also plays an important role as the coordinator and convener of stakeholders around the social innovation in health agenda.

3. KEY ACTIVITIES

SIHI undertakes activities to support the achievement of three strategic objectives:

A
Promote and support research in social innovation in health.

B
Strengthen the capacity of low- and middle-income countries to catalyse social innovation and conduct research.

C
Exert global influence through cross-sectoral stakeholder engagement to promote the value of social innovation in health.
IDENTIFICATION OF SOCIAL INNOVATIONS IN HEALTH
The SIHI team adopted a multi-method approach to identify social innovations in health across Africa, Asia and Latin America. 179 examples (organisations, programmes, projects) were identified between 10 January and 28 February 2015.

CASE STUDY RESEARCH
Through a rigorous selection process supported by a 20-member independent expert review panel, 25 social innovations were selected. They were chosen for their potential impact on making healthcare delivery for infectious diseases more inclusive, effective and affordable. A research team undertook field visits to each of the 17 countries where these social innovations are being implemented. 23 case studies were produced. These can be viewed online: www.socialinnovationinhealth.org

SOCIAL INNOVATION FILMS
To communicate the value and impact of social innovation to key global health decision makers, the SIHI team produced 19 case study films. A short film on the collective shared experience of social innovators in the global south was also produced. These can be viewed on our YouTube Channel: www.bit.ly/SIHealth.

COMMUNITY BUILDING CONVENINGS
CAPACITY STRENGTHENING CONSULTATION, NOVEMBER 2015, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA
A two-day gathering of academics and innovators to discuss different strategies for building social innovation capacity in low- and middle-income country health systems.

EVIDENCE-BASED SOCIAL INNOVATION CONSULTATION, DECEMBER 2015, ANNECY, FRANCE
A three-day gathering of 57 stakeholders from 19 countries with representation from academia, government, donors, social innovators and international agencies. This gathering facilitated a collective dialogue to define strategies to foster social innovation. The meeting concluded at the World Health Organization in Geneva where Dr Marie-Paule Kieny, Assistant Director General for Health Systems and Innovation, promoted a global call to action to advance social innovation in health.

FUNDING AGENCIES CONSULTATION, NOVEMBER 2016, ANNECY, FRANCE
A two-day gathering of key funding agencies, social innovators, academia and international agencies that highlighted the value of social innovation and defined opportunities for collaboration.

PHASE 2 (2017 ONWARDS)

SOCIAL INNOVATION RESEARCH HUBS
Four new hubs were launched in 2017 in Malawi, Uganda, Colombia and the Philippines. Each of these university-based hubs are acting as catalysts to promote and advance social innovation at a country and institutional level. The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine provides technical and operational support to these hubs. In 2018, the establishment of a new hub in francophone Africa will be explored.

IDENTIFICATION OF COUNTRY-BASED SOCIAL INNOVATIONS
Each hub undertakes a crowdsourcing innovation contest to identify local community-based social innovations in health.

CASE STUDY RESEARCH
Hubs are conducting case study research on selected social innovations, to further learning and evidence-building.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
Hubs are playing a key role as a bridge and facilitator between communities and their respective Ministries of Health. Cases are disseminated to inform a country-based research agenda on social innovation and facilitate greater integration of social innovations into policy and practice.

SOCIAL INNOVATION EDUCATION
Hubs undertake a range of activities to promote social innovation among students, including implementing an online library and piloting a social innovation in health curriculum.

TARGETED SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL INNOVATIONS
Hubs support social innovators through fellowship programmes focused on research and scaling of mobile health solutions.

COMMUNITY BUILDING CONVENINGS
SHARING GOOD PRACTICES AND CO-CREATING A GUIDANCE TO EMBEDD RESEARCH IN SOCIAL INNOVATION, MAY 2018, BLANTYRE, MALAWI
A two-day gathering of social innovators, researchers and international agencies to develop strategies that could support the development of a guidance to embed more research in social innovation in health.
4. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND IMPROVING THE LIVES OF COMMUNITIES

Despite major advances in technology, drugs and diagnostics, too many people – particularly the most vulnerable in low- and middle-income countries – are left out. So what is missing? Dissolving boundaries, engaging communities and various health actors are becoming more important to ensure interventions leave no one behind. Social innovation in health provides an alternate and complementary lens by which healthcare delivery challenges can be addressed. Social innovation is an approach inclusive of all actors creating creative solutions to strengthen health services and health systems.

Social innovations provide new ways of working that enhance access to quality and affordable healthcare for all, particularly the most marginalised populations. This approach is foundational to achieving the framework on integrated people-centred health services, endorsed by the World Health Assembly in 2016. It also contributes to the achievement of Universal Health Coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals.
MALAWI

Blantyre

University of Malawi
College of Medicine, Malaria Alert Centre

SIHI FOCUS AREAS
The University of Malawi has a vision to catalyse more social innovation among Malawian nationals: ‘health solutions for Malawi from the people, healthier lives’. SIHI Malawi will serve as a platform for all organisations and individuals interested in social innovation to come together, share and learn. It will engage in the identification and study of Malawian social innovations such that insights can contributing to health system goals in Malawi. Local ideas and social innovations will be promoted, accelerated and supported.

UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI TEAM
PROF DON MATHANGA
Associate Professor in Public Health & SIHI Malawi Lead
DR ATUPELE KAPITO-TEMBO
Epidemiologist
BARWANI MSISKA
SIHI Malawi Project Manager
DR VINCENT JUMBE
Lecturer Global Health & SIHI Researcher

www.medcol.mw

UGANDA

Kampala

Makerere University
School of Public Health (MakSPH)

SIHI FOCUS AREAS
MakSPH has expertise in developing and implementing research in social innovation, as well as establishing relationships with local health system stakeholders. Across Makerere University, other special units such as the Resilient Africa Network have also been engaging in social innovation in key areas. The Ugandan Ministry of Health has been a strong support to the social innovation work undertaken at Makerere University. SIHI Uganda will identify and study examples of social innovation and disseminate good practices and lessons learnt. It will further focus on enhancing the research capacity of social innovators and students and promote the widespread use of the social innovation approach among all health system stakeholders such that lasting health improvements can be achieved in the country.

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY TEAM
DR PHYLLIS AWOR
Senior Researcher & SIHI Uganda Lead
PROF FREDDIE SSENGGOBA
Professor of Health Policy and Systems Management & SIHI Uganda Advisor
JULIET NABIRYE
SIHI Uganda Project Coordinator
MAXENCIA NABIRYO
SIHI Uganda Project Assistant
DR CHRISTINE NALWADDAA KAYEMBA
Lecturer & SIHI Researcher
THE PHILIPPINES

Manilla

University of the Philippines
College of Medicine

SIHI FOCUS AREAS

SIHI's focus in the Philippines is to advance social innovation in health by engaging national health system stakeholders, undertaking research to further develop evidence for social innovation, and translating research into health policy and action. By embedding social innovation as a key component of health education and training, the Philippines Hub will serve to enhance institutional capacity for research and sustainability of social innovations in health.

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES TEAM

PROF NOEL JUBAN
Professor of Epidemiology & SIHI Philippines Lead

PROF MARY ANN LANSANG
Retired Professor of Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology & SIHI Advisor

ARTURO ONGKEKO
SIHI Philippines Hub Manager

DR HARROUN WONG
SIHI Philippines Research Fellow

JEAN FRANCIS BARCENA
SIHI Communications Coordinator

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LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Centro Internacional de Entrenamiento e Investigaciones Medicas (CIDEIM) in collaboration with Universidad Icesi & the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO)

SIHI FOCUS AREAS

Within the framework of the partnership between CIDEIM, Universidad Icesi and PAHO, we seek to integrate knowledge and cross-sectoral skills to promote social innovation in health. We execute, promote and consolidate the research capacity in the area based on the formation and maintenance of a community stakeholders in social innovation in health.

TEAM

DR NANCY GORE SARAVIA
Scientific Director and Research Leader, CIDEIM

DR MARÍA ISABEL IRURITA MUNOZ
Director of the Master in Management for Social Innovation, Universidad Icesi

LUIS ENRIQUE VACAFLOR
SIHI LAC Project Manager

DR DIANA MARIA CASTRO
Postdoctoral researcher at CIDEIM

DR LUIS-GABRIEL CUERVO
Senior Advisor (PAHO)

www.cideim.org.co
www.icesi.edu.co
www.paho.org
SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town

University of Cape Town (UCT)
Graduate School of Business
Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship

SIHI FOCUS AREAS
Through a partnership with Johnson & Johnson, the Bertha Centre is providing targeted support to African social innovators using mobile technology to improve maternal and child health outcomes through engagement with the public sector. This work has a strong learning objective to the different pathways that allow for greater health systems integration and overall systemic change.

UCT BERTHA CENTRE TEAM
DR FRANCOIS BONNICI
Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship
KATHUSHA DE VILLIERS
Bertha Centre Senior Acting Manager & SIHI Project Manager

www.gsb.uct.ac.za

UNITED KINGDOM

Oxford

Oxford University,
Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship

SIHI FOCUS AREAS
The Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship is a leading centre for the advancement of social entrepreneurship worldwide. As one of the founding members of the Social Innovation in Health Initiative in 2014, the Skoll Centre contributed to the creation of the initial case studies and Pamela Hartigan, former director of the Centre, played a crucial role in spearheading the initiative. The Skoll Centre will continue to support and steer this initiative in its next phase of implementation to drive health innovation across the global south.

LSHTM TEAM
DR PETER DROBAC
Director, Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship
JULIAN COTTEE
Programme Manager, Research & Insights
LSHTM plays a key role in the establishment of four new social innovation hubs in Malawi, Uganda, Colombia and the Philippines. LSHTM works in close collaboration with country partners to provide technical and operational support in social innovation. The vision is to see each of these hubs become ‘centres of excellence’ in their region. The team further engages in research on key social innovation thematic areas such as crowdsourcing and the adoption of social innovations into public health systems.

LSHTM TEAM

PROF ROSANNA PEELING
Chair of Diagnostics & Director of the International Diagnostic Centre

DR LINDI VAN NIEKERK
Senior Technical Advisor & PhD Candidate

DR DINA BALABANOVA
Associate Professor Health Systems & SIHI-LSHTM advisor

DR JOSEPH TUCKER
SIHI Collaborator

www.lshtm.ac.uk

SESH has developed a practical guide for using crowdsourcing as an approach to finding solutions for health challenges. The SESH team is conducting randomized controlled trials on using crowdsourcing approaches to improve health outcomes in China.

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY TEAM

DR JOSEPH D. TUCKER
Chair of the SESH Global Steering Committee

DR WEIMING TANG
Director of SESH China

LARRY HAN
Director of Strategy, SESH

SHUFANG WEI
Director of Communications, SESH

www.seshglobal.org
TDR, Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases, co-sponsored by UNDP, UNICEF, World Bank and WHO

SIHI FOCUS AREAS
TDR is the convening partner and provides global leadership for SIHI. It is committed to (i) promoting social innovation in health at the global, regional and national levels; (ii) supporting research on social innovation to better understand what works and what does not work, highlighting and sharing lessons learnt; and (iii) supporting research capacity building in countries and by countries. TDR’s main aim is to extend the partnership to research institutions in low- and middle-income countries and to build capacity to embed research in social innovation.

TDR TEAM
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Programme and Portfolio Manager & SIHI TDR Lead

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Senior Technical Advisor (Social Innovation)

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Technical Advisor (Social Innovation)

DR BERNADETTE RAMIREZ
Scientist, Research for Implementation

DR CORINNE MERLE
Scientist, Research for Implementation

DR GARRY ASLANYAN
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MARY MAIER
Financial Officer

DR PASCAL LAUNOIS
Scientist, Research Capacity Strengthening

www.who.int/tdr

WHAT IF
COMMUNITY-BASED SOCIAL INNOVATIONS ARE A KEY ELEMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL AGENDA SUCCESS IN 2030?
Social innovation gives us a new lens with which to approach healthcare delivery. It is a solution to a systemic health challenge. The solution is developed by people and organisations from different sectors and backgrounds, and does so by engaging and collaborating with communities.

The solution provides a creative approach to making healthcare more inclusive, effective and affordable for all people. Social innovation improves the health and wellbeing of people and has a transformative potential to enhance resilience of the health system.

To see examples, visit our website

www.socialinnovationinhealth.org