

Invitation to a seminar on

Continuity in international health research and capacity building Bandim Health Project: 30 years' anniversary

Time: 5 December 2008 at 9.30 am – 5.00 pm
Venue: Eigtveds Pakhus, Room II, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Asiatisk Plads, Copenhagen.
Organisers: Bandim Health Project and The Danish Research Network for International Health
Sponsor(s): The seminar is co-sponsored by the Graduate School of International Health, University of Copenhagen

Background

Since 1978 the Bandim Health Project (BHP) in Guinea-Bissau has conducted Health and Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS) research into the causes of maternal and childhood mortality and morbidity. Focus has been on measuring both the targeted and the non-targeted effects of the common interventions in childhood, including vaccinations, vitamin A supplementation, and treatment programmes. Numerous other studies have examined the epidemiology and treatment of major causes of child mortality including measles, diarrhoea, persistent diarrhoea, rotavirus, cholera, respiratory infections, malaria and breastfeeding and nutritional aspects child health. The Bandim HDSS has also been used to study the epidemiology and management of TB and HIV/AIDS and their interactions.

Danida's ENRECA programme has supported "Long-term Community Studies to evaluate and improve primary health care programmes in Guinea Bissau" to enhance research capacity in Guinea-Bissau.

Purpose

The purpose of the seminar is to present and discuss the many aspects of the research carried out. The general debate will focus on need for continuity in research and impact assessment, and how health and demographic surveillance systems can be assured in a world dominated by changing donor policies.

Participants

Network participants, researchers, students, consultants, NGOs, Danida representatives, politicians, funders, and others who may find this subject of interest.

Registration

Kindly indicate your participation in the seminar before 28 November 2008 by sending an email to Marianne Lindblad: maped@sund.ku.dk

Preliminary programme

9.00-9.30 **Registration, coffee and tea**

Health and Demographic Surveillance Sites and health challenges

9.30-10.00 **The Bandim Health Project from 1978 to 2008**
Professor Peter Aaby, Head, Bandim Health Project, Ministry of Public Health, Guinea-Bissau

10.00-10.30 **The INDEPTH Network of health and demographic surveillance systems in developing countries**
Dr. Osman Sankoh, Executive Director, INDEPTH Network, Accra, Ghana

10.30-10.50 **The health challenges in Guinea-Bissau**
Dr. Augusto Paulo da Silva, Permanent Secretary of Health, Ministry of Health, Guinea-Bissau

10.50-11.10 **The role of demographic surveillance sites in public health**
Professor Peter Smith, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

11.10-11.30 **Coffee and tea**

The three big diseases, updates from the Bandim Health Project

11.30-11.45 **Is malaria disappearing?**
Dr. Poul-Erik Kofoed, Kolding Sygehus, Denmark

11.45-12.00 **The AIDS epidemic in Guinea-Bissau**
Dr. Zacharias da Silva, Bandim Health Project, Ministry of Health, Guinea-Bissau

12.00-12.15 **TB treatment**
Dr. Christian Wejse, Skejby Sygehus, Denmark

12.15-12.30 **Discussion**

12.30-13.20 **Lunch**

Some specific findings from the Bandim Health Project

13.20-13.45 **Interventions to reduce hospital mortality**
Dr. Amabelia Rodrigues/ Dr. Sidu Biai, Bandim Health Project, Ministry of Health, Guinea-Bissau

13.45-14.10 **Non-specific effects of vaccines**
Professor Peter Aaby

14.10-14.25 **Vitamin A and vaccines – two is too much?**
Dr. Christine Stabell Benn, Bandim Health Project, Statens Serum Institut

14.25-14.40 **Vaccinia and BCG – scars with great impact**
Dr. Adam Roth, Lund University, Sweden

14.40-14.55 **The Bandim Health Project and global health**
Dr. Morten Sodemann, University of Southern Denmark

14.55-15.25 **Coffee and tea**

Collaborations

- 15.25-15.40 **25 years of collaboration between Bandim Health Project and the Medical Research Council (MRC), The Gambia**
Dr. Hilton Whittle, The MRC Laboratory, The Gambia
- 15.40-15.50 **Using The Bandim Health Project as platform for specific studies**
Dr. Jesper Eugen-Olsen, Hvidovre Hospital
- 15.50-16.00 **Linking Danish medical research with The Bandim Health Project**
Professor Lars Østergaard, Aarhus University Hospital
- 16.00-16.10 **Danida and The Bandim Health Project**
Dr. Kirsten Havemann, Senior health advisor, Danida
- 16.10-16.55 **Discussion: The next 30 years at The Bandim Health Project**
Chair: Dr. Nils Strandberg, Director, Statens Serum Institut
- 16.55-17.00 **Closing remarks**
Dr. Nils Strandberg