Promoting responsible conduct of research through global networks

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Research Capacity Strengthening
TDR

FERCAP 2024 International Conference

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Outline

Background on TDR's contribution to promoting responsible research networks

Way forward

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Developing IR leadership: comprehensive, strategic programmes (RTCs; PostGrad; Courses; Op research; Mentoring for leadership)

Democratizing research: with RTCs, institutionalizing use of IR among health professionals and implementers using accessible tools

Postgraduate training: to equip researchers and implementers with knowledge and skills to approach four global health challenges from One Health perspective

IR MOOC modules:

IR cases: Chagas disease in Ecuador; Trachoma in Ethiopia; Visceral leishmaniasis in Nepal

IR AI based app development:
schistosomiasis vector; skin NTDs

IR Toolkit module:

Climate change's impact on infectious diseases

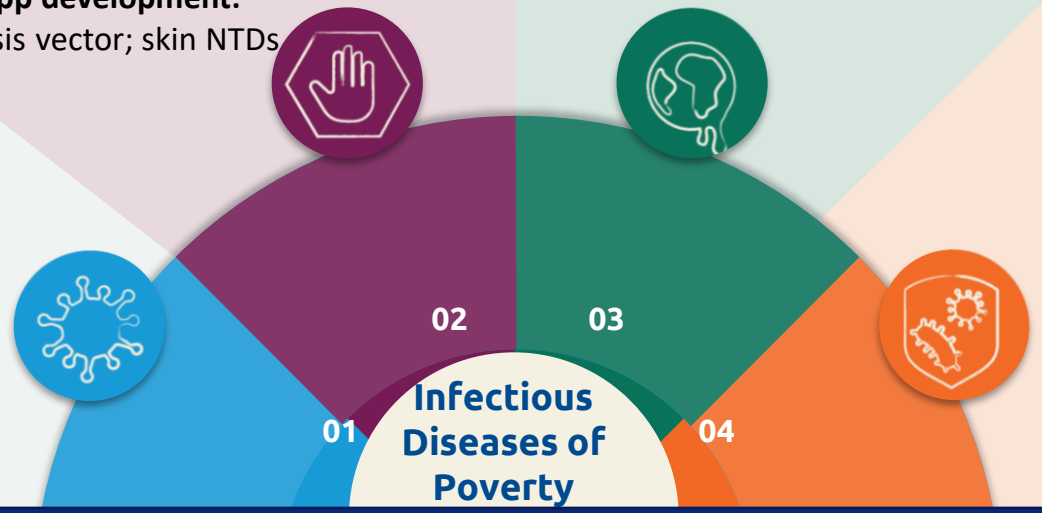
IR MOOC module:

IR case: Resistance / AMR in WPR

MOOC modules:

IR ethics in epidemics

IR case: Rapid scale-up of COVID-19 vaccination



IR toolkit and MOOC: new One Health modules in English and French

Overall strategic RCS priorities 2024-2025

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SIHI NETWORK HUB EXPANSION

SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH INITIATIVE

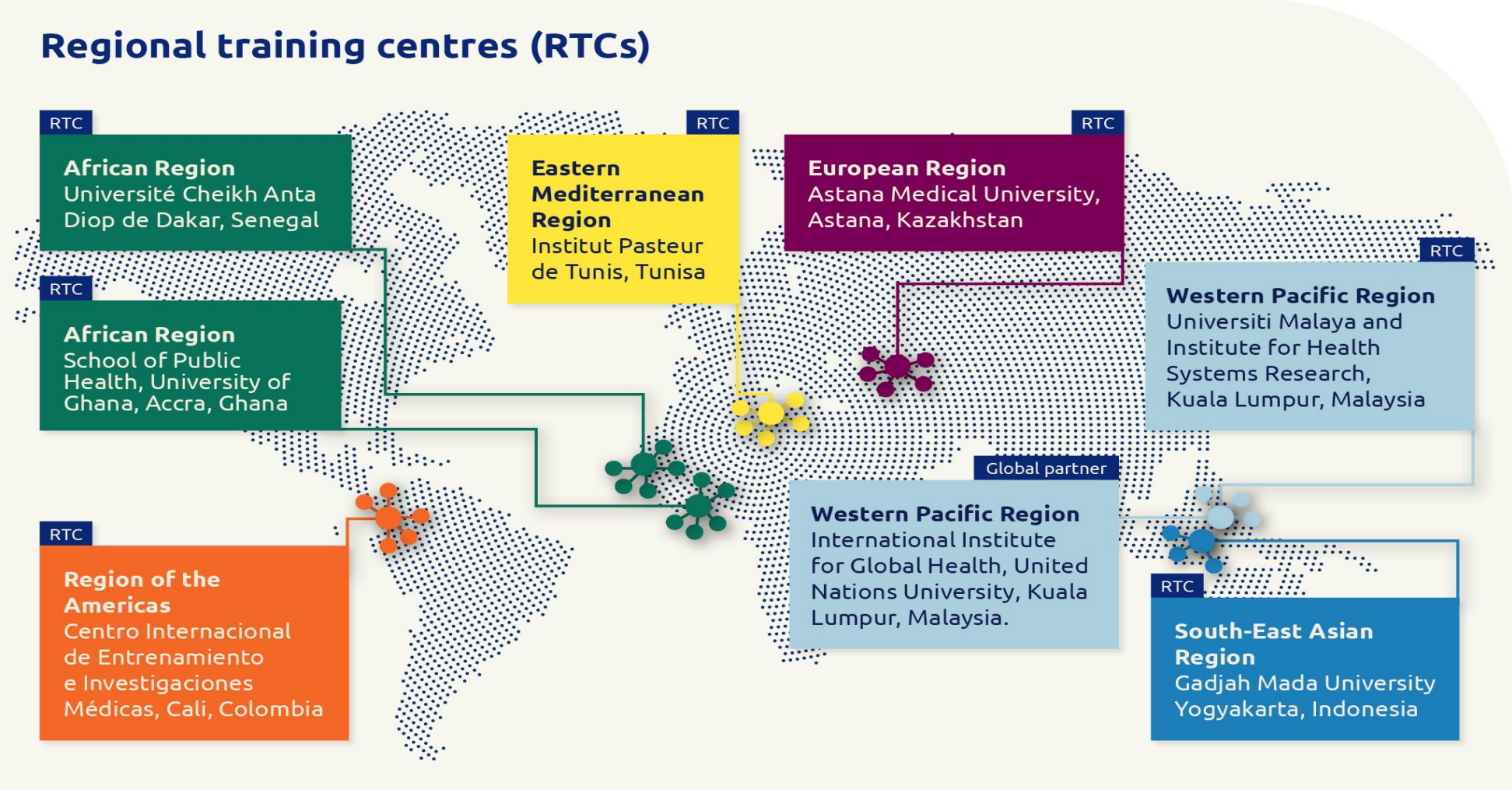
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

13 SIHI hubs, supported by the **SIHI Secretariat** based in the Philippines.

SIHI hubs

SIHI Secretariat

Seven Regional Training Centres across six WHO regions



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TDR'S resources on ethics in implementation research

Ethics in Implementation Research – Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)

Join us for the **pilot phase** our course on ethics in implementation research and contribute insights into conducting ethically sound and impactful implementation research on infectious disease of poverty.

PILOT DATES: November 22nd, 2024 to December 23rd, 2024
REGISTRATION CLOSES: December 17th, 2024

We invite you to join us for the **pilot phase** of our online course on ethics in implementation research. This introductory course is designed to equip researchers and health program implementers with practical knowledge on navigating ethical challenges in real-world settings, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. By joining the pilot, you will explore core concepts such as informed consent, community engagement, data privacy, and the ethical obligation to disseminate findings and sustain successful interventions.

Your **feedback is crucial** in shaping the final version of this course. As a pilot participant, you will have the unique opportunity to influence course content and delivery, ensuring it meets the needs of professionals like you. We value your insights and look forward to your contribution in refining this course to make it even more relevant and engaging for future learners.

This is an introductory course, and we need pilot participants with prior experience in ethics and health research.

3 PHASES OF IR
9 VIDEOS
3 PRESENTERS

YOUR FEEDBACK NEEDED

- **Free enrollment**
- **For researchers and health programme implementers**
- **Focus on infectious diseases**
- **For audiences in low- and middle-income countries**
- **To be launched publicly after the pilot phase**

Follow us: @TDRnews company/tdr/

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THE PILOT HERE:
https://tdrmooc.org/courses/course-v1:TDR+IR600en+2025_pilot/about

World Health Organization

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Clinical Research Leadership fellowship: a new programme in response to the external evaluation

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Training partner organizations hosting fellows in 2023

In 2023:

20 fellows selected from institutions in 14 African, two Asian and one LatAm country.

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Background on creation of FERCAP

The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) has a longstanding history in the creation and development of research networks, some past examples:

- The Multilateral Initiative on Malaria (MIM)
- The Regional Network on Asian Schistosomiasis and other Helminth Zoonoses (RNAS+)
- The Asian Collaborative Training Network for Malaria (ACTMalaria)

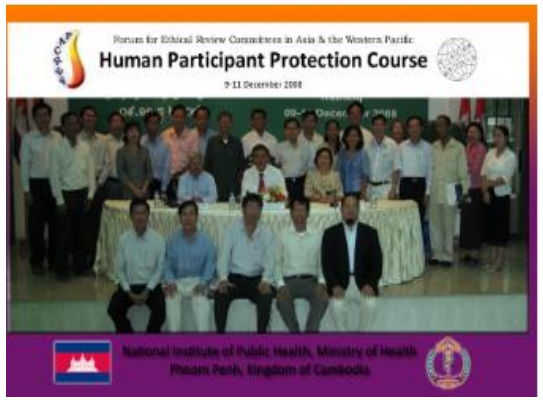
A clear gap in the capacity of ethics review committees was identified across all TDR-supported networks.

Background on creation of FERCAP

- TDR supported the establishment of regional networks to build local capacity in research ethics in 2008.

- The most successful network is FERCAP, which managed to grow through collaborations between countries in Asia.

Early days of FERCAP



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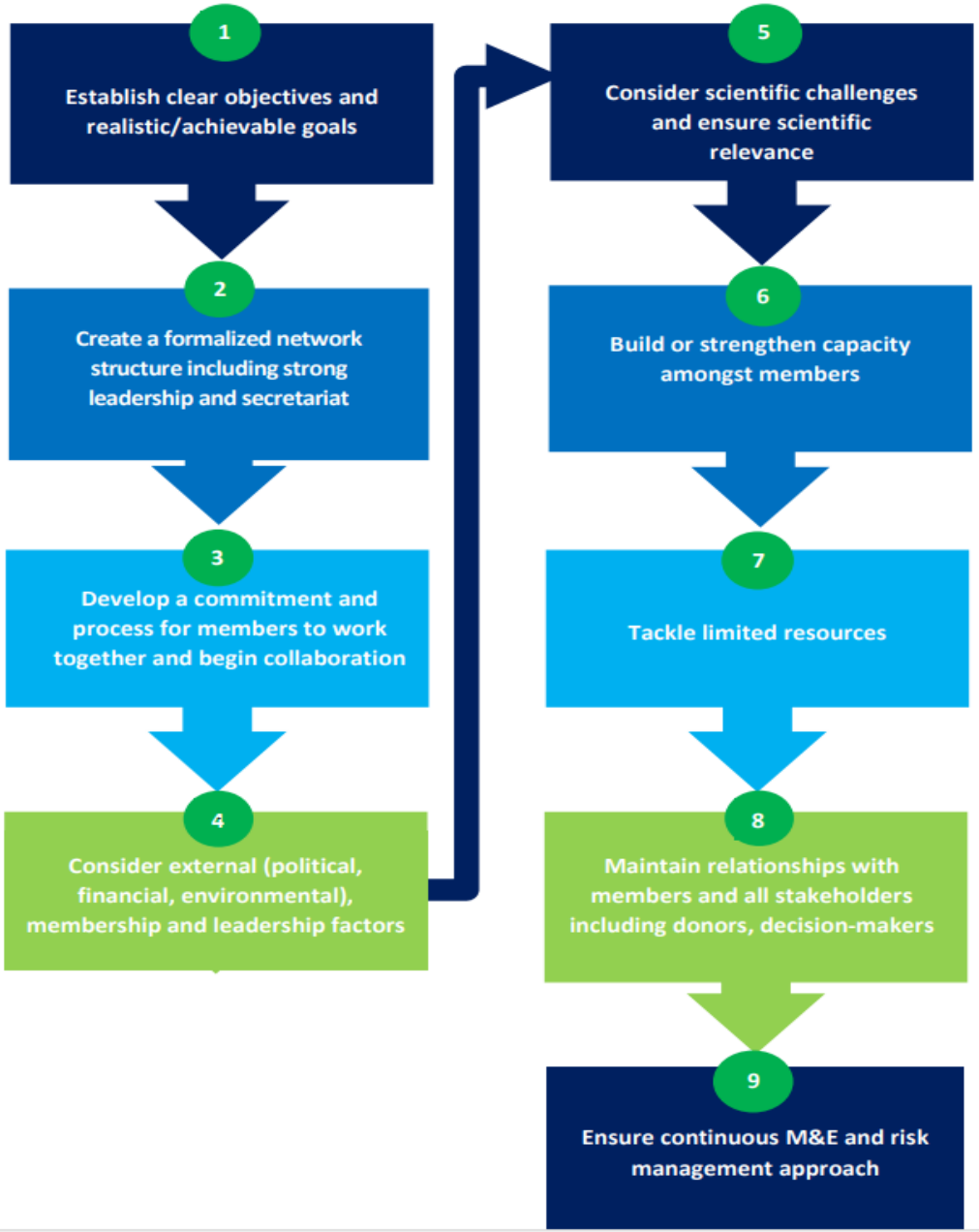
Pathway for developing an effective and sustainable health research network



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Way forward

- The survey of ERCs in Asia and Africa post-pandemic identified areas that need strengthening, particularly engaging with communities, and supporting the layperson's role.

- The role of AI in research (decentralized clinical trial) and how ERCs address this aspect: TDR plans to work with SIDCER and with WHO ERCs to identify good practices in this area.

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