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**Burnet Institute**  
Medical Research. Practical Action.



**MONASH**  
University



**Baker IDI**  
HEART & DIABETES INSTITUTE



**The Alfred**

## Conferences and Forums

### World Health Day 2010

On 7 April 2010, the 4th Annual AMREP Conference was held on the topic of Health and the City. Reflecting the WHO's theme for 2010, 'Urbanisation and Health', the conference focused on both the implications of urbanisation for the health of disadvantaged populations and approaches to improving maternal health in low-income countries.

### Peers for Progress Forum

The International Public Health Unit (IPHU) hosted a successful forum for Global Peers for Progress (a global diabetes prevention program) in August 2010. Discussion at the forum focused on how to improve the provision of peer support programs for people with diabetes and other chronic conditions in Australia and other countries. More than 50 participants representing over 30 NGOs and other organisations from around Australia attended the half-day forum.

### Compass Knowledge Hub

Since 2008, Burnet's Centre for International Health, along with the Menzies School of Health Research and the Centre for International Child Health, has been contracted by AusAID to implement the Women's and Children's Health Knowledge Hub (Compass). In April 2010, Burnet hosted a useful round-table discussion for Bob McMullan, (then Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance), AusAID, and a panel of maternal and child health experts, on how to reduce maternal and newborn mortality particularly focused on the Asia and Pacific countries.

### United Nations Department of Public Information/ NGO Conference: Making Health Global

This 2010 conference was held in Melbourne with the major theme being global health and the Millennium Development Goals. This is the third time this conference has been held outside of New York in sixty-three years. Burnet's Centre for International Health was actively involved in the meeting. Monash University was represented by IPHU and Monash medical students from the IGNITE Global Health Group.

*Children from Ghana.*



## Research, Teaching And Capacity Building

### Amphetamine Use in South East Asia

The Burnet Centre for International Health, in conjunction with the National Drug Research Institute (Australia), commenced a research project for the Australian National Council on Drugs on amphetamine use in South East Asia.

### Asian Collaboration for Excellence in Non-communicable Disease Research Network

The Fogarty International Center at the US National Institutes of Health awarded more than US\$1 million to Professor Brian Oldenburg and others from around the Asia-Pacific region over five years to combat the growing epidemic of chronic diseases in low- and middle-income countries.

### Australian Development Research Award

This two-year innovative research study on mapping sexual and social networks of men who have sex with both men and women in Laos and Vietnam, countries with concentrated HIV networks, is undertaken by the Burnet Institute with a \$330,000 ADRA grant.

### Addressing Healthy Ageing

The Burnet Centre for International Health was successful in an application for funding under Round 7 of the AusAID-funded Australian Leadership Awards. In July 2010, 14 Fellows from seven countries came to Australia to participate in the *Strengthening Public Health Leadership to Address Healthy Ageing* program.

### Kerala Diabetes Prevention Program (K-DPP)

With colleagues from Baker IDI and other international collaborators, the International Public Health Unit at Monash University received NHMRC funding to conduct the K-DPP, a cluster randomised controlled trial of a culturally-tailored and group-based lifestyle intervention program in Kerala, India over the next five years.

### Bushbuckridge Water Project

This project concluded in 2010, having investigated the relationship between water, HIV and diarrhoea in South Africa, with funding from the Monash University Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International). The project involved researchers from Monash University (Australia and South Africa), The Alfred, Burnet Institute and University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa).

### Heart of Soweto Study

Baker IDI in collaboration with the University of the Witwatersrand and the Hatter Institute, University of Cape Town, continues to undertake the *Heart of Soweto Study* in South Africa. This continues to be one of the largest most comprehensive studies of heart disease in Africa.

### Surveillance and Monitoring Function of the National NCD Program of Vietnam

Baker IDI collaborates with Monash University to conduct this study and relies on three main institutes that include the Vietnam Ministry of Health, Menzies Research Institute and the World Health Organization. The aim of the study is to establish a sustainable system for NCD surveillance in Vietnam.