Justification & Goal of R4HA

- Many countries lack structures/mechanisms for research governance, research agenda, research policies, research coordination, etc.;

- **Goal of R4HA:** to support countries to build the policy framework and management basis for effective governance of research for health in African countries in order to improve health, equity and development;

- **Long-term aim:** Include more African countries and set the regional stage for exchange of expertise;

- **Partners:** The NEPAD Agency of the African Union and The COHRED Group, funded initially by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

- **Initial time frame:** 4-year programme, started in May 2010.
Overall objectives

- Optimal utilisation of research for health to achieve health and health equity, and contribute to the socio-economic development of the countries.
- Help the countries to build national research for health systems by strengthening the governance and putting in place policies.

Expected outputs

- National governance and policy frameworks, and an operational information systems of research for health in place;
- Implementation of Policy and development of system based on the national governance and policy frameworks;
- Sustainable countries’ capacity to support research for health systems developed.
Progress in Initial country partners

In Mozambique: Institute of Health (INS)/Ministry of Health and Faculty of Medicine/EUM
- Priority setting questionnaire and workshop;
- Research governance management information system.

In Senegal: Directorate of Research/Ministry of Health and Directorate of Research/Ministry of Science and Technology
- System mapping and strengthening governance structures through the establishment the Conseil National de Recherche pour la Santé by Ministerial decree;
- Priority setting workshop (2nd cycle);
- Research governance management information system.

In Tanzania: National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) and Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH)
- Priority setting (42 sub-sectors);
- Research governance management information system.
Some of R4HA governance tools

HR Web: Information management system

RHInno Ethics: Research ethics management system

A Platform aimed to provide research ethics committees (RECs) with a secure, fully web-based solution for managing and tracking the throughput of research applications throughout the entire life-cycle of the research projects.
Speed up the research ethics review process, hence improving efficiency RECs

Avoid loss of submitted materials, delays in communication between RECs and researchers: Accountability

Less resources needed e.g. personnel, stationary

Enhanced control of research activities

Standardization and harmonization of the ethical review process

Sharing or use of standardized research regulation documents like SOPs and research guidelines
RHInnO Embedded on NIMR Website

Security Features
Administrators Interface

- Add new ethics review announcement
- Manage Proposals
- Invite Reviewers
- Distribute proposals to reviewers
- Internal Review (Checklist)
- Final Approval
- Build Indicators
Researchers Interface

View current Research Ethics Review Cycles

Monitor the review process

Submit Proposals

Print Certificate of Submission

Manage Proposals
Reviewers Interface

Accept / Refuse Invitation to be a reviewer

Make reviews

Manage proposals submitted for ethics review
Research for Health Africa

Thank you!