



Annual Report 2012

tropEd Secretariat

Swiss Tropical and Public Health
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Letter from General Secretary

Dear tropEd colleagues.

This is the second “official” report of the tropEd network, covering the activities and decisions taken in the year 2012. As already started in earlier years, we tried to add to every General Assembly a small workshop focusing on an important topic of education in the field of international health. We will continue with this approach in the future years.

The year 2012 was marked by the complete migration of our website to a new hoster, taking this also as the start for a new layout. We know that there is still room for improvement and we are working hard on it. It is very important that as soon as you recognize mistakes, sites that are not working, etc. you inform the secretariat (ning.beyer@unibas.ch) about these issues.

As shown in the previous years we have to be concerned about the number of students who still keep mobile and who are taking courses outside their home institution. We started to revise our strategic plans and will continuously work on them.

We hope that the work of the secretariat – despite any shortcomings – will mostly satisfy you as tropEd representatives. Suggestions for improvement are warmly welcome.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Axel Hoffmann

**The current members of tropEd
Executive Committee:**

President:

Mr. Govert van Heusden

President-Elect:

Dr. Carina Källestål

Past President:

Dr. Nuria Casamitjana

Executive Secretary:

Dr. Axel Hoffmann

Ex officio Member:

Dr. Curt Lofgren





The tropEd Network held three General Assemblies during 2012, respectively in:

- Antwerp Institute of Tropical Medicine
26th to 28th January 2012
- Instituto Higiene Medicina Tropical, Lisbon
24th to 26th May 2012
- Department of Women's and Children's Health, Uppsala University
20th to 22nd September 2012

In all these three meetings, a total of 40 representatives from full member institutions have attended and 13 from collaborative institutions. Overall, around 80% of full members have participated in the General Assembly meetings along with around 43% of Collaborating members.



Changes decided in GA meetings during 2012:

Are you aware of them?

- It was decided to cancel the one year leeway for the validation of the re-accreditation. After five years, the courses will be deleted from the website if it is not re-accredited on time. For new courses we still give this room for the accreditation. This new rules will start from January 2013.
- tropEd Exit Interview launched since September 2012.
- GA decided not to precede the five year institutional review but only discuss the membership issue whenever a major change occurs to a member. The time when hosting a GA meeting could be used as a chance to review the status of a member.

Eight EC meetings were held before, during and after the three GA meetings. The EC phone conference through SKYPE lasts normally for about 60 minutes.

Eight EC meetings:

- 2012-1 EC phone conference January 25th
- 2012-2 EC phone conference March 23rd
- 2012-3 EC phone conference May 2nd
- 2012-4 EC phone conference July 6th
- 2012-5 EC phone conference September 3rd
- 2012-6 EC phone conference September 12th
- 2012-7 EC phone conference October 19th
- 2012-8 EC phone conference December 13th

One Task force meeting: Strategy Development held on 7th November 2012.

MEMBERS

The tropEd network currently has 17 full members and 11 collaborating members. Eight home institutions have the possibility to bring tropEd students into the Network.

We warmly welcome our new members during 2012:

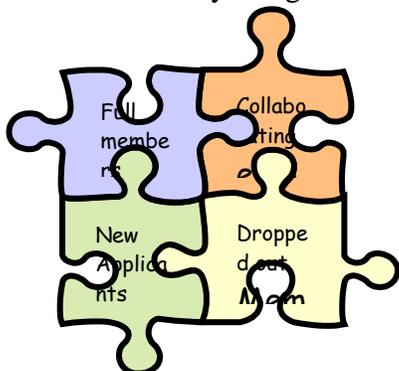
- School of Population Health, University of Queensland, Australia

We are waiting for further action from our new applicants:

- Centre for Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney, Australia
- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

And we have the following as potential partners in the future.

- Makerere University, Uganda
- International Programme for graduate study in Epidemiology, Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai, Songkhla, Thailand
- The Department of Community Health, at the Medical School of the Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, in Maputo, Mozambique
- BRAC University Bangladesh



We received the following news about changes at some of our current member institutions:

Antwerp:

- A MPH-orientation IH was launched in August 2012 (application deadlines 1 Sept 2012 and 1 May 2013) A first student registered in Sept.2012

Barcelona

- In 2012 the old Master in International Health was changed into new 2 masters:
 - Master of Clinical Research: track in International Health
 - Master of Global Health, the basic module of this master is accredited as tropEd core courseBoth master started in September 2012 and will end in June 2013

Bergen:

- New tropEd representatives: Trine Pernille Klokkerud and Jan Van den Broeck

Bordeaux:

- Please cancel the name of "Institut de Santé Publique et de Développement (ISPED) /Centre René Labusquière" and leave only Université Bordeaux Segalen

Changes foreseen in the next years:

Antwerp:

- To expect the MPH-IH to take off in May.

Berlin:

- Introduce two new advanced modules: "Parasitology in International Health", "Designing, Managing and Evaluating Projects for Improving Health: Issues for Donors and Implementers" (implemented).

- Waive mobility requirement for Charité MScIH (implemented).
- Make 3-year/180 ECTS credit points BSc graduates eligible for Charité MScIH with requirement to gain 15 additional ECTS credit points through additional advanced modules, 15 ECTS credit points through additional critical literature review (implemented).
- Extend Advanced Vaccinology module to two weeks (planned for 2014).
- Re-introduce 2nd core course in summer semester (planned for 2014).

Copenhagen:

- MIH field trip to CMC Vellore, India cancelled in 2013 due to diplomatic crisis between India and

Denmark. Planned alternative field visit site for 2013: Khon Kaen University, Thailand.

Uppsala:

- We will have graded credits from autumn 2013, with grades not passed, passed and passed with distinction.
- Possibly a new course on migration and health.

Mexico:

- We will conduct a joint degree with the University of Murcia and at the same time we signed an agreement of collaboration with University of Bordeaux, in order to send faculty and students to France.

Financial report 2012

	<u>Current acc.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance end of 2011:	17561.10	
Income:		
Membership fee	27469.50	
Total Income:		45030.60
Expenditure:		
tropEd Assistant Salary	10036.50	
Website	3594.69	
Travel costs	707.21	
Bank charges	64.75	
others	548.60	
Total Expenditure:		14951.75
Balance end of 2012:		30078.85

***All Membership fees for 2012 have been paid beside Muhimbili.**

What is the cost of the tropEd coordinating tasks in the member institute?

0.9 (0.05 to 1.8) full time equivalent human resources

tropEd Curriculum Analysis

Based on the keywords system that tropEd has introduced since Berlin GA, May 2011, Curriculum Task Force looked at all keywords that have been used at the time point of August 2012 and analysed the focus of the content, which tropEd advanced modules offered, the gaps of contents still exists, the time distribution of modules and the courses have been taken from the 24 recognition files.

So far the advanced modules are offered by 20 members from 13 countries. Among them 16 are European members (136 modules) and 4 non-European members (12 modules). The Median is 7 modules offered per member (range 1-27). At this moment there are eight members do not offer any courses.

We have in total 148 advanced modules, among them 132 are delivered face to face and 16 are distance based modules (11%). The total credits of all modules are 630, which equal to 10,5 years full time study. The mean credit is 4.0 with the range of one to twelve credits. Theoretically each student will choose six to eight advanced modules.

When we looked at the keywords per category, we can get the result that tropEd has a strong content focus on Health problems, diseases, management and policy, transferable skills. The detailed analysis per category please see page 8.

However, the offered content could become more interdisciplinary?

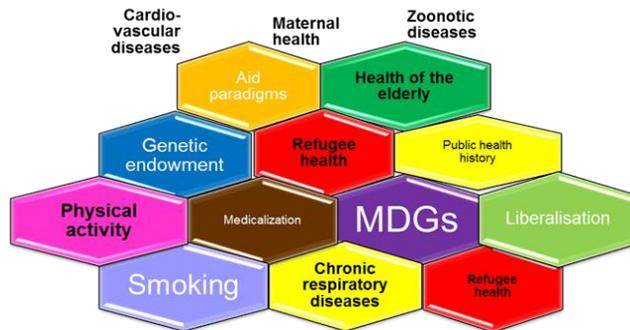
We can give the suggestion to the strategic development that the following categories could be more focused:

- Physical environment
- Individual factors (behavioural / biological)

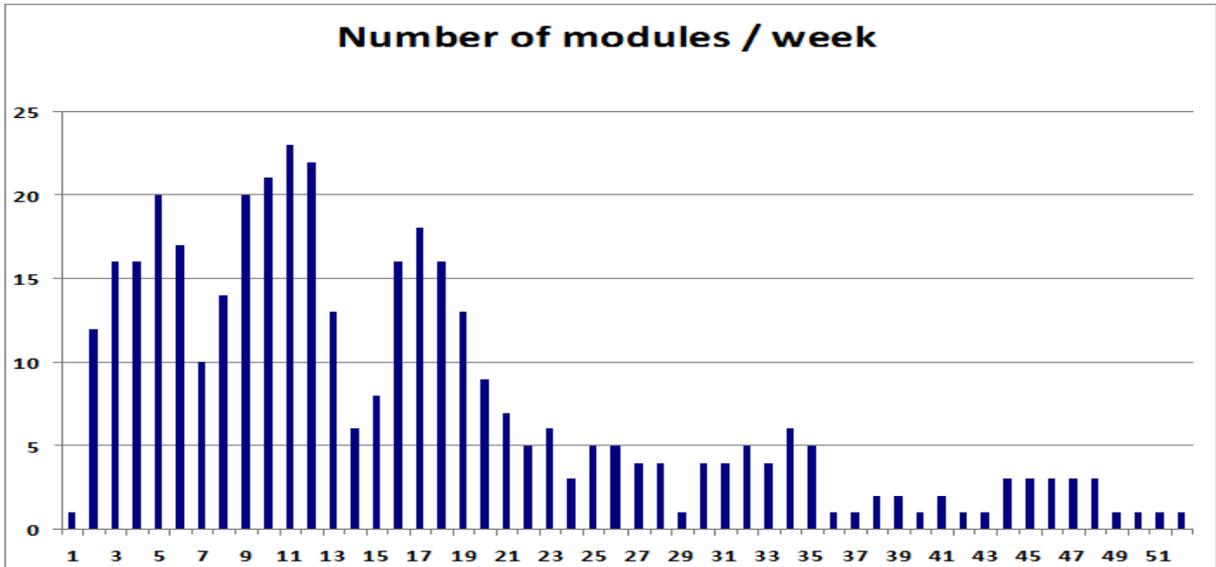
And to a lesser extend

- Social & political determinants

There are several keywords which are not yet being used. Therefore we could suggest the following specific content areas for strategic development:



When we look at the time distribution over the year, most of the advanced modules are offered in the first half of the year. Because the core courses are mainly scheduled in the second half of the year, there are very limited advanced modules offered in the winter. The offers from overseas partners may fill in this gap and maybe more distance based modules can be offered at this time.

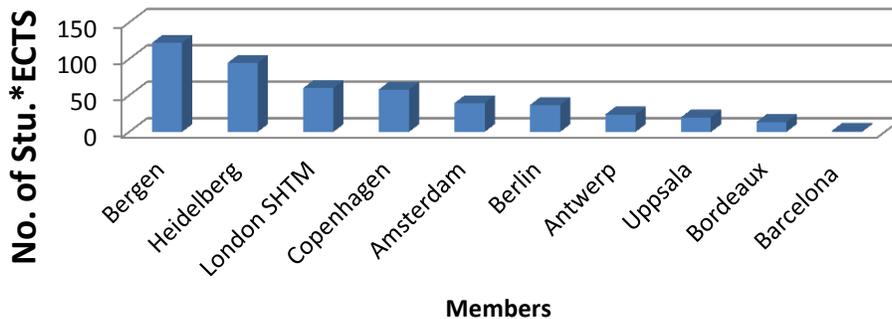


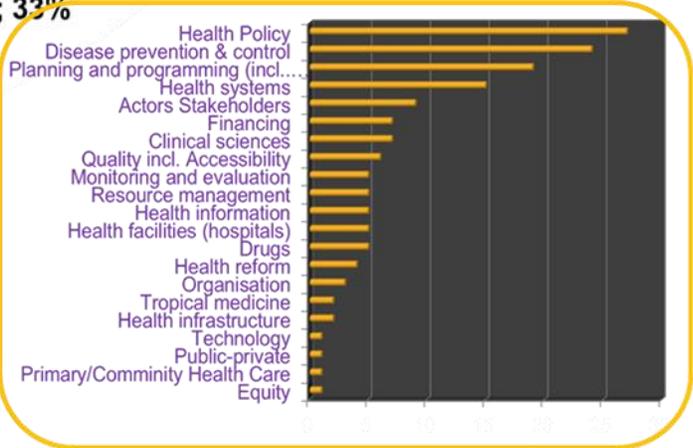
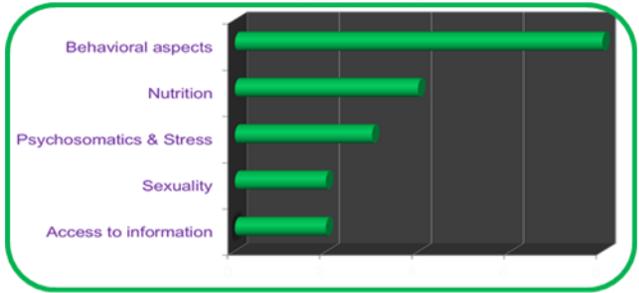
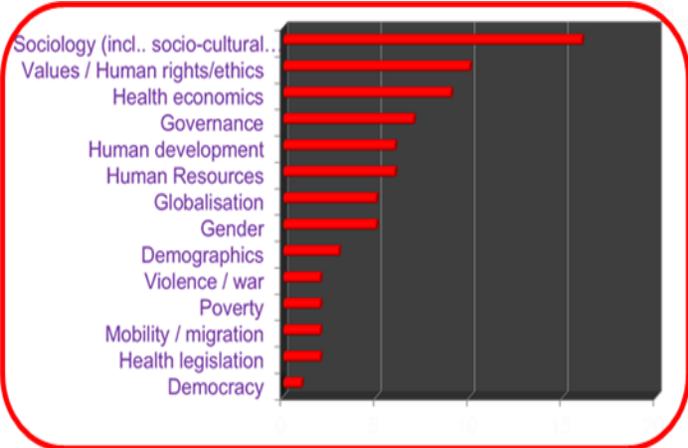
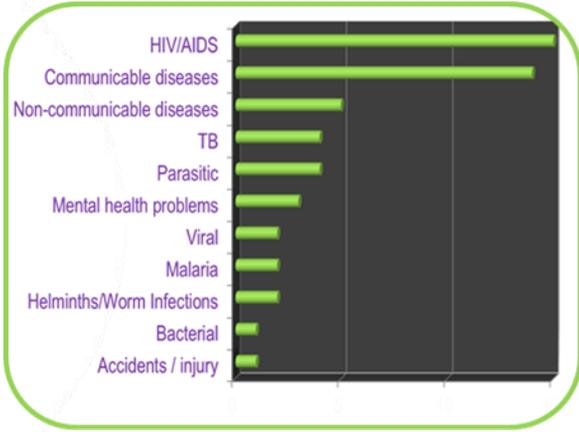
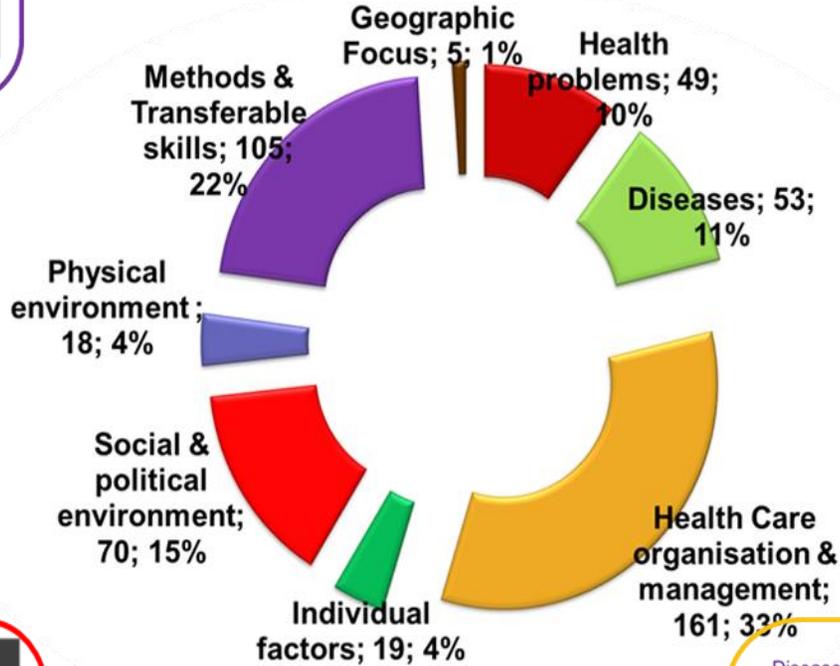
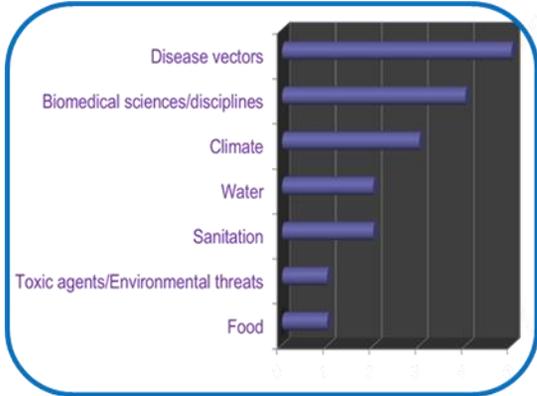
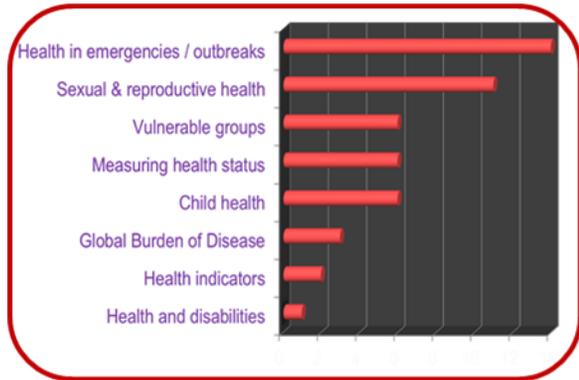
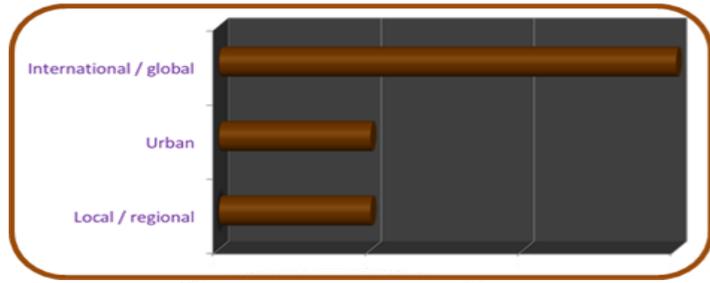
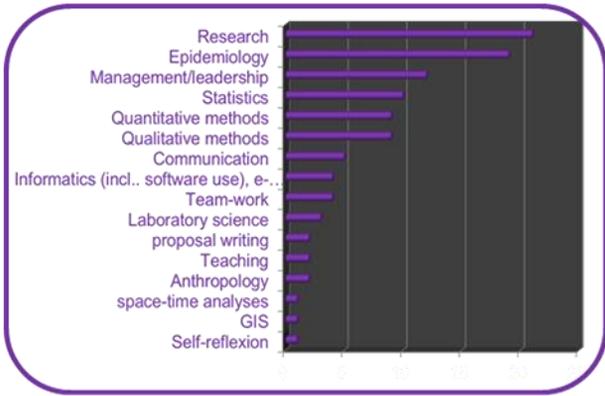
When we look at the student mobility, according to the 24 recognition file, we can see the courses have been taken from the students. We can already get the trends that students will take more and more courses on the transferable skills. If home institution could do this analysis as well then we can have more accurate data.

When we look at the length of the courses students have taken, the credits between 2,5 to 5 are mostly welcomed. Therefore we can give the suggestion to increase the mean module size from 4 to 5 credits?

And maybe the network can aim for a more balanced distribution of offer between members?

tropEd student received in advanced modules 2012





Course accreditation



78 courses were submitted to the GA during 2012. Of those 44 are for new courses, and 34 for re-accreditation.

57 courses received Category 1 or 2 in the first round, which is 73% of all courses. Through the whole year, there are 57 courses accredited in GA and EC meetings.

New Course Accredited:

Amsterdam

- Health Systems Strengthening and HIV
- Analysing Disrupted Health Systems in Countries in Crisis Worldwide
- Urban Health

Antwerp

- Qualitative and Mixed Methods in International Health Research (QMM)

Basel/

Barcelona

- The Science of Disease Eradication: Malaria

Barcelona

- Core course: Diploma of Global Health

Bergen

- War, violence and health

Bordeaux

- HIV infection in resource-constrained settings: epidemiology, prevention and control

Brisbane:

- Global Health Policy
- Managing Global Disease Priorities
- One Health : The human, animal and environmental interface

Edinburgh

- Global Health Workforce Planning
- Managing and developing the Workforce
- Research Design and Proposal writing by Distance Learning
- Emerging Challenges in the Global Health Workforce

Jogyakarta

- Human Resources for Health Management: An Application for Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Programmes in Developing Countries (LDC)

Khon Kaen

- Survival Analysis

London SHTM

- Globalisation and Health (distance learning)
- Malaria (distance learning)
- Managing Health Services (distance learning)
- Statistical Methods in Epidemiology (distance learning)
- Tuberculosis (distance learning)
- Nutrition in Emergencies
- Global Disability and Health

- Epidemiology and Control of Infections in Developing Countries (distance learning)
- Nutrition and Infection, (distance learning)
- Reviewing the Literature

Umeå

- Health Economic Evaluation Methods
- Ageing in a global perspective: a multidisciplinary approach

Re-accredited Courses:

Amsterdam

- Gender, Rights and Health
- Human Resources for Health
- Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in disease control programs

Antwerp

- Planning and Management of Tropical Diseases Control Programmes
- Planning and Management of Reproductive Health

Basel

- How to Plan Successfully? A focus on priority setting, resource allocation and strategic planning for health

Berlin

- Core course Tropical Medicine and Public Health
- Effective project leadership: Dealing with uncertainty and complexity and interpersonal skills in the workplace
- Advanced Epidemiological Methods

Bordeaux

- Laboratory quality assurance and tools for survey and control of tropical diseases

Edinburgh

- Psychosocial Interventions for displaced populations

Heidelberg

- Financing Health Care: Concepts, Challenges and Practices
- Global Challenges in Reproductive Health: Evidence and Tools for Programme Implementation
- Improving healthcare services in resource poor settings
- Quality Management in International Health
- Decision-making in Public Health: Evidence, Politics or Diplomacy
- Disease Control: Strategies and Policies

London SHTM

- AIDS: Transmission Diagnosis and Control
- Communicable Disease Control in Developed and Middle Income Countries
- Global Mental Health
- Tropical Environmental Health
- Current Issues in Safe Motherhood and Perinatal Health
- Ethics, Public Health and Human Rights
- Qualitative Methodologies
- Environmental Health Policy
- Health Care Evaluation
- Financial Management (Distance learning)
- Globalisation and Health

Student Data

	No. of applicant to MIH programme	No. of newly registered tropEd students	No. of student completed	No. of courses
Basel	17	14	11	8
Amsterdam	125	15	7	16
Barcelona	80			3
Brescia	16	1	0	1
Antwerp	1	1	0	6
Bergen				8
London SHTM				28
Umea				2
Copenhagen	62	0	2	6
Uppsala	369			5
Berlin	104	25	11	7
Bonn				2
Bordeaux	1	2		6
Heidelberg	2	2	8	19
Mexico				7
Total:	777	60	39	124



**Eight applications
received the
tropEd recognition.**

Is e-learning part of the future for tropEd?

tropEd network are reconsidering the strategy on e-learning at the network level. The following steps will be followed:



The following scholarships were available in 2012:

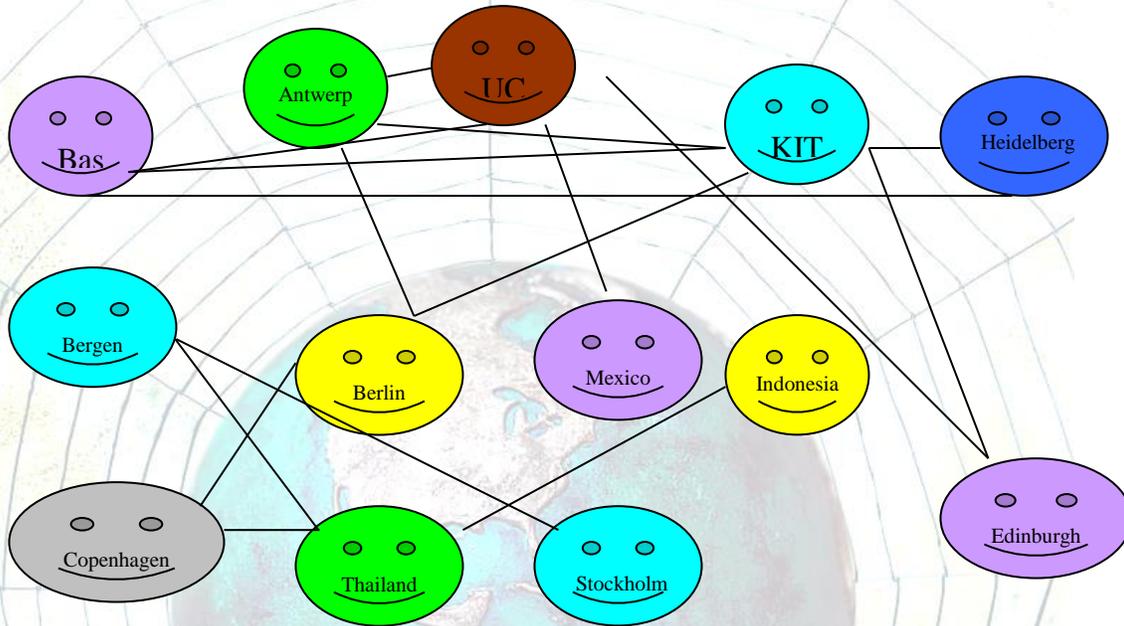
- 3 scholarships from DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) in Berlin
- 4 scholarships from Erasmus Mundus / tropEd
- 5 MPH-IH full scholarships in Antwerp
- Partial scholarships (80% of tuition fee) for EU/EFTA short course students in Antwerp.
- There are two scholarships from the University and two from the Swedish Institute for all masters programs at the University in Uppsala.
- Master Global Health, grants to support tuition fee in Barcelona

Publications from students and members

- Gerhard Schmid, Master student of SYwiss TPH: Sarker M, Conrad P, Schmid G, Tientrebeogo J, Moses A, Kirenga S, Neuhann F & Müller O (2012) Compliance with focused antenatal care services: do health workers in rural Burkina Faso, Uganda and Tanzania perform all ANC procedures? Trop Med Int Health 17, 300–307.
- Pastor Galiano L, Abris, FM, Ernert A, Bau AM. The double burden of malnutrition and its risk factors in school children in Tunja. Arch Latinoam Nutr. 2012;62(2):119-126
- S.Vygen, D.Roberfroid, V.Captier, P. Kolsteren, Treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition in Infants Aged <6 Months in Niger. Journal of Pediatrics Vol. 162, Issue 3, Pages 515-521.e3 (www.jpeds.com)
- Literature review and qualitative study of HIV positive women's experiences of the prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV program in West Java, Indonesia. By M. Oktavia Abstract published in Tropical Medicine and International Health, Volume 16, Supplement 1, October 2011

Public relations

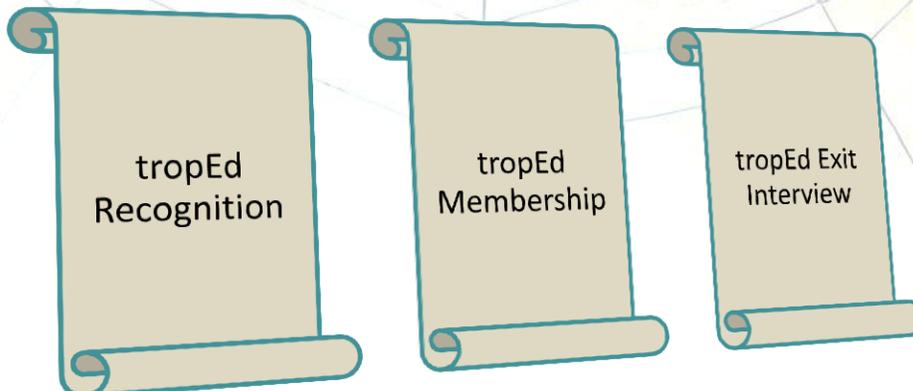
Internal Exchanges within the network: 46 % tropEd member institutions have internal exchanges activities with other members within the network.



The following PR activities were undertaken in 2012:

Brochures, posters, website, email distribution, newsletters, online event calendars, links in other websites, specialised press, occasional other press (article in Africa Health), Alumni Seminar (DAAD funded) Winter School in Philippines (DAAD funded), Information sessions given to core course students, etc.

Three new tropEd documents are finalized:



Trans-Globe Erasmus Mundus Joint PhD programme

Three partners in Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam (UvA), Free University of Amsterdam (VU) and Amsterdam Academic Medical Centre (AMC) took the initiative, invited Antwerp, Bordeaux and Barcelona and made a proposal within about six weeks' time. The chance to receive the grant was under 10%. Amsterdam hired an agency that had an 80% success rate to get EU grant, to write up the proposal at the end. Only one meeting was held among the partners. All members had to think carefully about their decision to join since they all need to bring in extra funds to run this programme (e.g. financing a fourth scholarship year if need be). There are now six full partners and a number of associate partners all over the world and some among them are tropEd members. Many support letters were received including the letter from tropEd network. Coordinating centre of the PhD programme will be in Amsterdam.

The programme was designed with the concept of trans-disciplinarily and will involve different academic disciplines as well as resource persons from the field including industry. Every year the consortium partners will identify (three) research projects and (three) PhD candidates for each project through open calls. This implies on average nine PhD students per year during 5 years (45 scholarships in total). They will work in teams on the same topic but from different disciplinary perspectives. They will for example be asked to produce at least one publication together across the different disciplines. Mobility of at least 6 months (on the 3 year scholarships) within the consortium or to associate partners is a requirement. Three supervisors are proposed including one main supervisor, one from a consortium full partner institute and one from the field. The topics could come from a very broad range of challenges related to Global Health (challenges relevant for both low and high income countries).



Three supervisors are proposed including one main supervisor, one from a consortium full partner institute and one from the field. The topics could come from a very broad range of challenges related to Global Health (challenges relevant for both low and high income countries).

The call for application 2013 has been already published. Partners are not allowed to take their own alumni therefore this programme is really open to everyone. The consortium aims at PhD candidates; 50% from the north and 50% from the south.

Details please see
<http://www.transglobalhealth.org/#>

Work plan 2013

No.	Task	Who	When	Remarks
Operational				
1	Secretariats tasks	NB, AH	Ongoing	
2	Meeting preparation EC and GA	NB and EC	Ongoing	
3	Office Report	NB, AH	May	
4	Financial Audit	NB, AH GA auditors	January	
5	Sending Audit report to Lawyer	NB, AH	February	
6	Visit to lawyer concerning registry	AH	February/March	
7	Website update, news etc	NB and all	Ongoing	
8	Student data base	Home institutions	Ongoing	institutional report
9	tropEd recognition	GvH, NB, home institutions	Ongoing	
10	Internship and job possibilities	NB and all Student rep.	As soon as possible	
11	Update internal documents	NB and GA members	Ongoing	
12	Exit Interview analysis	NB/home institution	May	
13	Possible proposal search and development (Action 3 etc.)	All	Ongoing	
14	PR activities	ALL / EC	Ongoing	
15	Job description Secretariat and EC	GA	January	
Monitoring and Evaluation				
15	Adapt / develop tools and template according indicators	NB, BP, NC, MW	February	
16	Institutional annual report	All members	February	
18	External evaluation	SA, UKS, QA	January	
19	External evaluation terms of references in progress	SA, Unni and all	May / September	
21	Quality assurance paper	PZ, BP	Ongoing	
22	tropEd e-education guidelines	UTH and all	May, September	
23	Thesis supervision guidelines revision	CK, GvH and all	May	
24	5 yearly revision of tropEd documents according hierarchy	NB	Ongoing	
Strategic				
25	Logframe Yearly revision and strategic discussion	NB, NC, BP, MW	January	
26	Curriculum development	GvH,	September	
27	Stakeholder analysis focus	PZ	January	
28	PR strategy /Promotion strategy/ Marketing	NC and all	May, September	
29	Organising tropEd event (event, workshop, seminar ...)	All	Ongoing	
30	Meeting with ASPHER regarding accreditation expert pool	EC	May	
31	Collaboration with other Networks	EC	Ongoing	
32	8 th ECTMIH	All	May, September	
33	World Health Summit	NC/All	October	



General Assembly meeting in 2013:

- **24th -26th, January 2013
Brescia, Italy**
- **16th -18th, May 2013,
Shanghai, China**
- **8th - 9th, September 2013,
Copenhagen, Denmark**