

## Structure and Organisation

- GPHS will run from 2009 to 2014 and is funded by the Directorate General of Development Cooperation (DGIS) of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)
- The programme is coordinated by WOTRO Science for Global Development
- Decisions are taken by the Steering Committee, composed of five high-level representatives from relevant international organisations
- An international Programme Committee provides advice on proposals, activities and strategy development. This Programme Committee is composed of seven independent international senior experts from knowledge and research institutes, as well as experts in development policy and practice

## Funding and Conditions

- The total budget is € 8.5 million
- Most funding is allocated via open calls, which are open to coalitions consisting of at least two Dutch groups partnering with at least two LIC groups
- Geographic priority is given to Africa (with a preference for sub-Saharan Africa)
- 50% of the granted research budget is to be spent in low-income countries
- Eligible partner LICs are the countries that are ranked 'least developed countries' in the 2008 OECD/ DAC list of ODA recipients, and partner countries for Dutch development cooperation where development cooperation is not phased out between 2007 and 2011

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Netherlands Platform for  
**Global Health Policy and  
Health Systems Research**



Development Cooperation  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research  
WOTRO Science for Global Development



# Global Health Policy and Health Systems research programme

Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research  
WOTRO Science for Global Development



The Global Health Policy and Health Systems (GPHS) research programme is a joint initiative of WOTRO Science for Global Development, the Netherlands Platform for Global Health Policy and Health Systems Research, and the Dutch Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Health, Welfare and Sport. The programme aims to contribute to better health in low-income countries (LICs) by conducting research aimed at strengthening health systems in these nations, as well as at enhancing research capacity in LICs and increasing collaboration in the Dutch research and knowledge community.

### Health Policy and Systems Research

Health policy and systems research produces new information that can be used to assist societies in achieving health goals. Health systems research addresses one or more of the building blocks of health systems (for example service delivery, the health workforce, health financing, leadership and governance) with the ultimate objective of promoting the coverage, quality, efficiency and equity of health systems. Health policy research aims to enhance the understanding of how different players interact in the policy process to contribute to policy outcomes.

The central strategic challenge of this research programme is to contribute to improving equitable access to health in quality health systems. This includes attention to the following interlinked, mutually dependent key themes:

- Organisation and delivery of essential and quality health services;
- Financial and human resources;
- Governance and decision-making;
- Global influences and their impact on national health systems.

### Research Programmes

The programme funds coalitions of researchers and relevant stakeholders from the Netherlands and Low-Income Countries (LICs). The programme gives priority to high-quality health policy and health systems research that demonstrates how health systems can be improved, and how improved health systems can contribute to reaching the Millennium Development Goals. All programme research is multidisciplinary and involves relevant stakeholders in all phases of the programme, from inception through to results.

As the programme develops, there may be scope for new coalitions as well as for the extension and/or expansion of existing coalitions. Networking activities between the different coalitions may also receive funding, with the aim of embedding the coalitions within global, north-south and south-south structures.

### Open calls

GPHS funds are allocated by open calls for proposals, which are announced on the website ([www.nwo.nl/wotro/healthpolicyandsystems](http://www.nwo.nl/wotro/healthpolicyandsystems)) as well as through the newsletters of Dutch and international organisations. Only proposals of the highest quality – with respect to their scientific quality and relevance for development, as well as quality of collaboration – are eligible for funding.