

**National Health Research System
(NHRS) Mapping
in Ten Eastern Mediterranean Countries**

Yemen

**EMRO - COHRED – GCC
2006**

Introduction

This document provides the responses to a mapping of the National Health Research System (NHRS) of Yemen. The mapping took place as part of a joint effort between WHO EMRO, COHRED and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to inform future actions to strengthening health research governance and management in ten Mediterranean countries.

This assessment intended to build a descriptive picture of the national health research systems in four key areas:

- A. Governance and management of the National Health Research System
- B. Institutions engaged in research for health
- C. Key stakeholders involved in research for health
- D. Available literature and data review

In Yemen information was provided by Dr. Tarek Salah Asaad, Coordinator of Health Research of the Ministry of Health and Population.

Further information is available in papers:

- *National Health Research System Mapping in Ten Eastern Mediterranean Countries – A Summary*, produced by the WHO-EMRO – COHRED – GCC NHRS Collaborative Group.
- *Making Health Research Work: A manual for national health research system development - outline*, produced by COHRED.

You can also visit the link: <http://www.cohred.org/NHRSupport/>

A. GOVERNANCE and MANAGEMENT of THE NATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH SYSTEM (NHRS)

1. Health research governance structure in the country

In Yemen, there is not a formal national governance structure or mechanism nor a management or coordination mechanism of health research.

However, there are academic medical institutions (such as Aden and Sana'a) that carry out several research projects. The Yemen medical specialist council conducts health research.

Also, the Ministry of Public Health and Population has a general department of research and information whose functions include:

- Adopting health research policies, strategies and priorities
- Research of capacity building in the field of health research
- Documenting and disseminating research results
- Cooperating with local regional and international organization in the same field
- Conducting Health research projects

2. Management of the NHRS (structure(s), position(s) or organisation(s) involved)

Some of day –to –day management or coordination mechanism is carried out by the general department of health research and information of the Ministry of Health headed by the undersecretary of planning and development sector.

Its functions include:

- Supervising and monitoring of national health surveys and the provision of technical support
- National capacity building in the field of health research
- Cooperating with local regional and international organization in the same field

3. Existence of an 'office' for research within the Ministry of Health

At the Ministry of Health of Yemen there is a Centre of Research and Documentations.

Contact details are as follows:

email: hrcyem@yahoo.com

Address: Republic of Yemen, Sana'a

Ministry of Public & Population Research Centre

P.O. Box (3797)

Fax: (00967-1- 252192)

Tel: (00967-1- 252192)

The analysis carried out by the Centre of Research and Documentations is the most important or most used and it is the most important information source on health and health research systems in Yemen.

4. Existence of an ‘office’ or officials for health / health sector / health research within the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Science & Technology

The general Director of Finance is the designated official that deals with health / health sector / health research.

The influential institutions are as follow:

- Ministry of Health
- Universities of Medecine (ADEN, SANA’A)

5. National Health Research Policy

The Yemen Health Research is addressed in the National Health Plan, National Research Plan & Health Sector Reform document.

The health research content in this document as strategic objectives.

There is no NHRS formal policy.

6. National Health Priorities

National Health priorities have been set.

The Ministry of Health has a list of National Health priorities such as:

- Fighting against common and endemic diseases
- Combating malnutrition
- Reduction in high risks threatening Mother & Child Health
- Strengthening curative and support services
- Environmental Health

7. National Health Research Priorities

National Health Research priorities have been set for the country. Please refer to document No. 5.

The Ministry of Health has the following National Health **Research** priorities:

- Research in communicable and endemic disease
- Research in Maternal and child health
- Research and studies in Health Systems
- Research in health-enhanced behaviour and environments
- Research in Non-communicable diseases

8. Legislation dealing with health research

No health research legislation exists.

9. Stated values for the NHRS

There is no formal statement of NHRS values.

10. Stated aims of the NHRS

The NHRS have stated aims. Please refer to document No. 6 (document is in Arabic).

11. Monitoring and evaluation of the NHRS

The Yemen NHRS has no system of monitoring and evaluation.

12. Ethical review process or structures for health research

Yes. Please refer to document No. 7 (document is in Arabic).

The reestablishment of the Research Ethical Committee will occur at the Ministry of Health and when we have the new document we will send it to you as soon as possible.

13. Existence of a mechanism(s) to increase the utilisation of research results by policy makers, managers, practitioners, public.

Yes. There are mechanisms at the research centre where Yemen runs seminars, updates information reports, YH&MR Journal , in order to increase the utilisation of research results.

There is no formal research utilisation initiatives.

14. Existence of mechanism(s) to keep health policy makers informed of research advancement

Yes. Organizations such as *WHO and GCC* support Yemen with information on the subject.

15. Dissemination system for research findings

Yes.

16. Involvement of media organisations in the dissemination of research for health

No response.

17. Monitoring and evaluation of the impact of new health policies or interventions

No

18. System for collecting, analysing, and reporting of routine health information

There is a system for collecting routine health information and it is not considered to be located within the NHRS.

It is located in the General Department of Information in the Ministry of Health and Population.

19. Regulation of the introduction of new health technologies, including drugs

No response.

B. Institutions engaged in 'research for health'

Institution	Commission	Conduct
(a) Government departments and agencies		
Central Statistics Organization	NO	YES
National Information Centre collectd and distributes general information monitoring by presidency office	NO	YES
Ministry of Health & Population	YES	YES
Health governorate offices	NO	YES
Social development fund	NO	YES
(b) Health care system		
Specialized Institutes : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Al Thora general hospital (Sana'a) • Al Gamhory general hospital(Taize) • Al Gamhory general hospital (Aden) • AL Kuwait general hospital (Sana'a) • Al Sapeen specialised hospital 		YES
(c) Higher education and (national) research institutes / laboratories		
Health medical institutes	YES	YES
University of medicine (ADEN,SANA'A)	NO	YES
Yemen Medical Specialized Centre		YES
Training centre of health management		YES
University of science & technology (private)	YES	YES
(d) <u>Private non-profit</u> organisations involved in research for health		
National non-governmental Organizations(SOAL)	YES	YES
(e) Business enterprise or industry (<u>Private for-profit</u>)		
Al saeed enterprise The Biggest Private industrial group	YES	YES

(f) International research and development sponsors or partners involved in research for health		
WHO	YES	YES
GTZ	YES	YES
EC	YES	YES
(g) Other institutions / commissions / structures / councils / networks / with impact on the activities of NHRS		
National Centre of health education		

C. Key stakeholders involved in ‘research for health’ in the country

Information not provided.

D. Available literature and data review on ‘research for health’ in the country

Although there seem to be available literature and data review on the subject, examples were not provided.

N. B : we weren't able to attend the training of this questioner in Oman so we did our best to answer the questions and if you have any comments on our answers, we will be glad if you contact us .