

Partners

Global Forum for Health Research holds Forum 8 in Mexico

Since its inception in 1998, the Global Forum for Health Research has held annual fora as one of its strategies for helping to correct the 10/90 gap in health research. This year, Forum 8 will be held in Mexico City from November 16-20, 2004 with the theme "Health research to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)". The Global Forum also seeks to focus on global efforts to expand health research in diseases representing a high burden on world health but for which interventions are very limited. This year's annual meeting will take place in parallel to the Ministerial Summit on Health Research, which shares the same theme. The summit is organized by the World Health Organization and hosted by the Government of Mexico.

The Summit and Forum programmes include the following joint sessions: opening ceremony, plenary session and coffee break each morning, evening receptions and the closing plenary. While the Summit is by invitation only, those wishing to take part in Forum 8 can register directly via the website where regular updates will be posted on the program and speakers.

In May, the Global Forum released the 10/90 Report on Health Research 2003-2004. Speaking at its launch, the new Executive Director of the Global Forum, Prof. Stephen Matlin, who assumed the position in January 2004, said that health is the best economic investment a government can make; and that health is not a consequence of development, but a key factor in achieving development. The full text of the 10/90 Report can be downloaded from the website www.globalforumhealth.org where orders can also be placed for a printed copy (English only) or CD-ROM, free of charge. An Executive Summary is published separately, in English, French, and Spanish.

Another recent publication is *The Economics of Malaria Control Interventions*, a companion volume to *The Economic Analysis of Malaria Control in sub-Saharan Africa*. This uses the tools of economics to review and identify strategies in the improvement of malaria treatment.

Other publications planned for release in 2004 include the second volume on *Monitoring Financial Flows*; *The Combined Approach Matrix: A Priority Setting Tool for Health Research*; a volume on *poverty-equity studies*; and one on *studies of cost-effectiveness analysis*.

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