



The **AURA Programme Consortium** and **WHO HIFA-Fr**
are pleased to announce:

RESEARCHERS OF THE FUTURE: 21ST CENTURY APPROACHES FOR EFFECTIVE, GLOBAL RESEARCH

An **online** learning event and facilitated discussion which took place over three days:

From 12.00/Midday to 15.00 GMT
Monday 2nd to Wednesday 4th November, 2015

Sponsored by the UK Government's Department for International Development.

Overarching Theme:

Researchers of the Future: 21st Century approaches for effective, global research.

This three day event explored the following key topics:

- Topic 1. **How has research shifted in practice?** Experiences from the field from WHO and other institutions and individuals working in a global research context.
- Topic 2. **What does an increased emphasis on holistic approaches mean for research?** Exploring the issues, challenges and successes associated with these approaches.
- Topic 3. **How would a shift in research practice, applied in the social and digital environment, impact on the capabilities of researchers in the future?** Applying holistic and analytical approaches, or mixed methodologies, in a digital age.

This event was a joint initiative of the [African Universities' Research Approaches \(AURA\) Programme](#) and [WHO HIFA-Fr \(Healthcare Information for All 2015\)](#).

Target Audience:

This online learning event was **free to join** and brought together academics and researchers, from a wide range of disciplines, who are interested in refining their understanding of, holistic and integrated approaches to research in a global context or who are already using these approaches in their work.

This event was aimed at: **academics, researchers, policy makers, and knowledge professionals**, who are conducting, or using research, to inform policy or practice in order to solve socio-economic problems in society at local, national, regional or international levels.

It was of particular interest to those who would like explore:

- The range of research approaches adopted by experts in different fields
- How to apply approaches adopted by a range of sectors (beyond health) to their specific discipline



- The importance of adopting a holistic and integrated approach to solving societal problems
- The benefits of mixing methods, approaches, and disciplines
- The experiences of experts from different disciplines
- How research approaches have shifted during the 21st century and the implications this has for future research in a global context.

Convenors:

WHO HIFA-Fr is platform brings together a social network of international experts and institutions to exchange, learn and share information, methods, along with tools to improve knowledge access and sharing at country level.

The global campaign **Health Information For All (HIFA)** aims to give a voice to English, French, and Portuguese speaking policymakers, researchers, health professionals and civil society representatives at global, regional, national and local levels.

WHO shares with **HIFA** the commitment to provide relevant, reliable information for frontline healthcare providers, citizens, policymakers and other end users in Low and Middle Income Countries through the sharing of expertise and experience. HIFA, CHIFA, WHO HIFA-Fr and WHO HIFA-Portuguese are dynamic and successful email forums that summarize discussions and integrate them into the HIFA Knowledge Base (HIFAVoices.org), with technical support from the WHO Library.

The **African Universities' Research Approaches (AURA) programme** is a consortium led by the **Institute of Development Studies** in collaboration with **ITOCA/Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa** and **Professor Mark Hepworth** based at the **Centre for Information Management, Loughborough University**.

The **AURA Programme** worked with Sub-Saharan African universities to enrich the research and teaching practices of academics working in health, agriculture and the environment.

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