



3 August 2016 – Health research is the cornerstone for improving health and sustainable development. High calibre research is needed to generate comprehensive evidence for health policy-makers to take essential actions for social and economic development. In the Region, there is an urgent need to develop national capacities to implement concepts and principles of good research practices. In this regard, a training workshop was jointly organized by the WHO tropical disease research (TDR) programme (as represented by the TDR regional training centre: Pasteur Institute de Tunis) and the WHO regional research promotion and development programme in Hammamet, Tunisia from 19 to 22 July 2016.

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- provide participants with the necessary knowledge and skills for human research management and help scientists to understand the importance of ethical and quality principles in the conduct of human health research;
- strengthen their skills in the implementation of these principles;
- assume responsibility for and apply these skills to their daily work.

The workshop provided participants with necessary tools to facilitate designing, conducting, recording and reporting research projects according to ethical and quality principles. The training methodology was based on applying the theory of the “experiential learning cycle” to their research project by “doing” and “reflecting”, in a combined training package of health research methods and ethics, with special emphasis on the paramount importance of observing quality during different phases of research.

The workshop was facilitated by 5 facilitators (from the Pasteur Institute; WHO Regional Office; Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia; and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine). It included 16 participants taking part in 5 teams, 2-3 participants each, from 4 Member States: Egypt, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia. The teams brought to the workshop their preliminary research proposals, which were sequentially refined during workshop, in parallel to its sessions.

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Tuesday 30th of April 2024 04:56:14 AM