SEAMEO CENTRES POLICY RESEARCH NETWORK (CPRN) SUMMIT 2025

Building Bridges to a Sustainable Future: Inclusive Collaboration and Innovation in Education, Science, and Culture

Supporting engagement between researchers and policy stakeholders at OUCRU Vietnam

Katrina Lawson
Grants and Communications Manager
Oxford University Clinical Research Unit

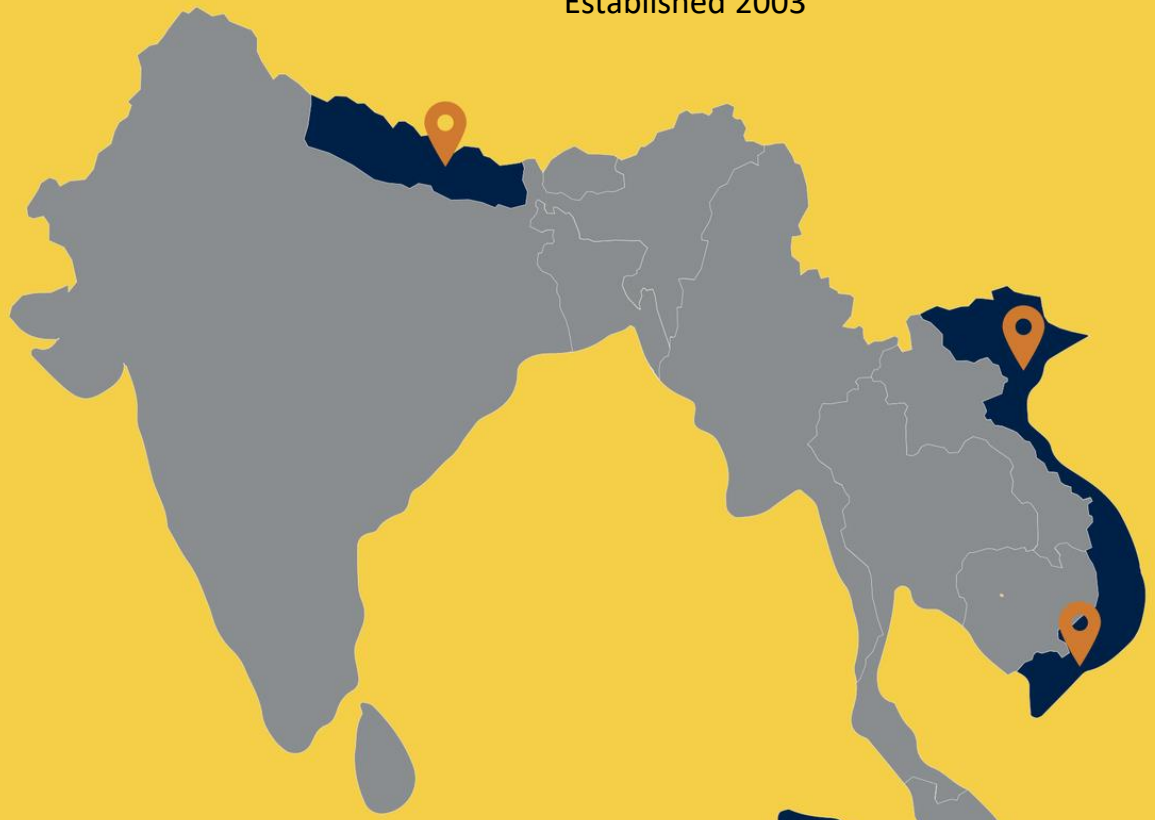
HOSTED BY
SEAMEO VOCTECH
Regional Centre, Brunei Darussalam

SUPPORTED BY
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation
CfBT Education Services
german cooperation
Implemented by giz
RECOTwin

IN CONJUNCTION WITH
BRUNEI MYCE 2025

OUCRU Nepal

Established 2003



OUCRU Hanoi

Established 2006

OUCRU Ho Chi Minh

Established 1991

OUCRU Indonesia

Established 2008

OUCRU's vision is to have a local, regional and global impact on health by leading a locally-driven research programme on infectious diseases in Asia.

Local research, global impact.

4 themes to OUCRU's policy engagement strategy

Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder mapping and supported engagement on project, unit and programme levels at all stages of the research process.

Maintaining stakeholder advisory boards, and managing institutional level relationships with stakeholders.

Policy engagement culture

Nurturing an environment where engagement with policy stakeholders is an integral part of our research culture.

Providing researchers and research support staff with support, training and recognition for policy engagement activity.

Conducting research to ensure that our policy engagement strategy is evidence informed.

International networking

Maintaining connections with the international community of practitioners, funders and academics to ensure that our policy engagement work is informed and relevant to international standards.

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Monitoring Policy Engagement programme outputs and engagements to provide quantitative and qualitative reporting data.

Incorporating evaluation into policy engagement workpackages to facilitate continuous improvement.

Systemic policy engagement

Programme level consultation

Analyzing our strategic priorities and activities, to understand how they can be aligned and designed with stakeholder priorities also in mind

During project design

Engagement from the inception of a project or grant proposal also allows for alignment of research with stakeholder priorities (as appropriate or necessary)

Dissemination

Collaborating with stakeholders to more widely disseminate outcomes with the right audiences

Continuous engagement during research

Providing feedback to stakeholders on projects in progress, and introducing opportunities for discussion

Communicating results

This includes demonstrating to stakeholders where and how their input has made a difference

OUCRU Infectious Diseases Research and Policy Discussion Forum - IDDF

Strategic policy engagement "advisory board".

ABOUT IDDF

- Platform for two-way sharing between OUCRU researchers & policy stakeholders on infectious diseases of importance to Viet Nam
- Ensure OUCRU research is best positioned to achieve impact

OUR SUCCESS

- Addressing relevant health needs
- Systemic engagement with key stakeholders at different levels
- Strategic engagement methods: general & break-out meetings
- Strengthening stakeholder networks for collaboration

ENGAGEMENT

14 policy making or policy influencing organisations in Viet Nam:

- Ministry of Health
- World Health Organisation
- Department of Health, HCMC
- National hospitals & institutes

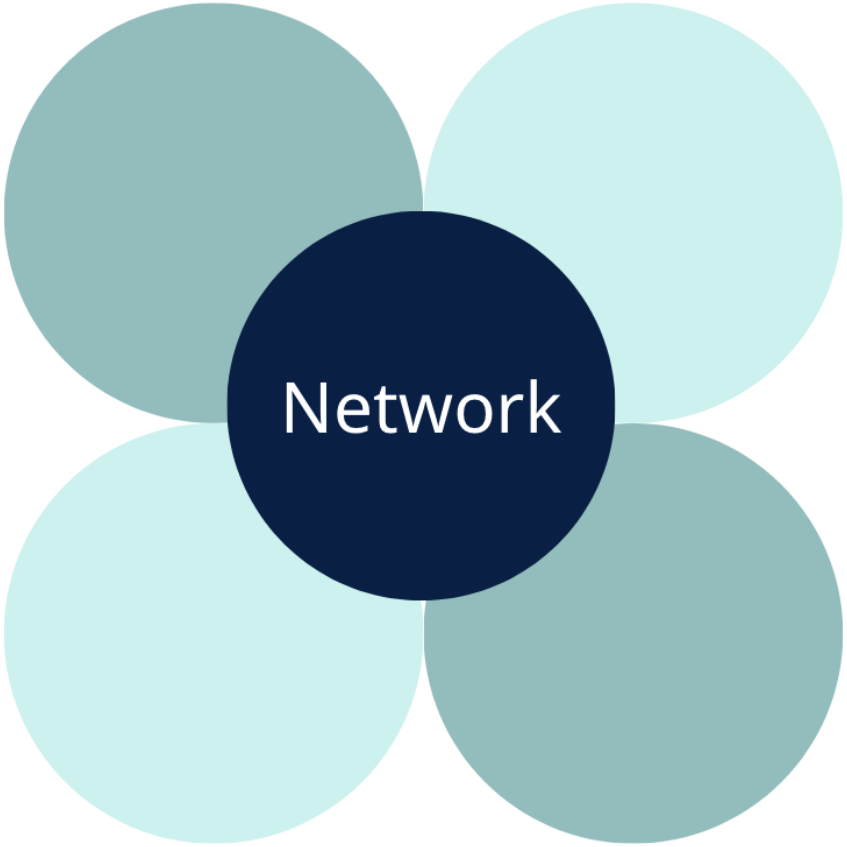
2 annual Forum meetings & break-out meetings on specific topics

4 OUCRU members & 14 external members, with invited guests

Looking forward

Research
We need our policy engagement work to continue to be evidence informed and to understand best practice for policy engagement in the contexts we are focusing on

Showcasing and sharing
We want to continue sharing our learning and progress with others in the scientific and engagement practitioner communities



Training for researchers
Strong appetite for training among researchers at all career stages.
- Including postdocs, eg MODRA awardees

Capacity building and career development
Our team members need to continue to develop their own careers as expert practitioners, and we need to build capacity and resilience in our Programme

Our team

Katrina Lawson

OUCRU HCMC

Tran Ngo

OUCRU HCMC

Hong Nguyen

OUCRU Ha Noi

Ibrahim Panji. Indra (Baim)

Indonesia

Contact me

- Katrina Lawson
- Klawson@oucru.org