



## Project Update: Health Care Manual for Community Health Workers in Papua New Guinea

### Fully revised and updated 3<sup>rd</sup> edition

#### Goals of the project

- To develop a fully revised and updated 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Health Care Manual (HCM3), based on current health care information and suitable for use by Community Health Workers (CHWs) to meet PNG health standards.
- To distribute 15,000 free copies of HCM3 to all CHW training schools and CHWs across PNG.
- To build knowledge and skills of publishing processes for all involved in the project.

The project will take three years from mid-2015 to mid-2018 to enable involvement and endorsement by the relevant parties in PNG. The total project investment will be PGK 3.75m (AUD 1.67m).

#### Background to the project

- CHWs are vital for providing primary health care to the people. They are a first point of contact for those who need health care, and in rural and remote areas they are often the only available source of medical assistance and health education for the community.
- CHWs greatly value the Health Care Manual as a practical resource. The Health Care Manual has not been updated in 20 years, and is out-of-date, and out-of-print.
- The HCM3 project is led by the Baptist Union of Papua New Guinea (BUPNG), and supported by its Project Management Team.
- Key stakeholders supporting the project include the Church Partnership Program (CPP), Christian Health Services (CHS), National Department of Health (NDoH), and Australian Government (DFAT).

#### Latest progress as at 31 August 2017

- We are now in the final year of the HCM3 project, and still working to secure the funding needed to complete the tasks in this year.
- Development of the chapters of HCM3 continues, and more are tasked to writers in PNG each week.
- The HCM3 project has engaged a total of 22 contributors (Technical Writers) from various health backgrounds.
- A Technical Writer has been engaged to assist Subject Matter Experts in their draft chapter write ups.
- The Technical Review Panel has reviewed the second lot of chapters developed for HCM3 in July 2017.
- The Centrepiece Artwork for the HCM3 cover was completed early August 2017.

#### Opportunities for CHW participation

- The project has extended the timeframe for CHWs in health facilities or training schools to provide information about the work of CHWs and what you believe is most needed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Health Care Manual.
- CHWs and staff in CHW Training Schools can answer either the Questionnaire for Health Facilities or the one for Training Schools.
- CHWs can also provide Case Studies of their best stories, experiences, and advice to help students and CHWs learning the skills of working in rural communities to understand how to apply what they have learned in real situations of community health.
- This important feedback will ensure that the new HCM3 will be current and relevant for CHWs throughout the country.
- If you have a story or information to share, please send it by 30 November 2017.

#### Key contact

##### Joyce Melepia

HCM3 Project Manager, Baptist Union of Papua New Guinea

Tel: +675 542 0100 | Mobile: +675 7215 5679 | Email: [jmelepia@bupng.org.pg](mailto:jmelepia@bupng.org.pg) | Skype: joyce.melepia