



## International health policy experts meet

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21 May 2007, King's is co-hosting a meeting of leading international health policy analysts on 21 and 22 May to explore key influences on health reform policy. Issues for discussion include the political dimensions of health reforms, how to investigate pro-poor policy successes and failure and raising awareness of policy analysis among decision-makers and funding agencies in order to meet development goals.

The speakers are some of the leading international names in this field. They include: Professor Friday Okonofua, University of Benin and Special Minister for Maternal Health, Nigeria, Dr Sripen Tantivess of the Ministry of Health, Thailand, Professor Gill Walt of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine UK, Professor Lucy Gilson of the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa and Professor Jeremy Shiffman of Syracuse University USA.

The meeting, which is being held at the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), is jointly organised by King's College London, the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), the HLSP Institute, the University of Witwatersrand, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. It has support from the British Academy and the UK Government's Department for International Development.

Conference co-organiser, Dr Susan F Murray, Senior Lecturer in International Health at King's, said: 'Policy analysis focusing on the social and political environments of health sector reforms is key to improving understanding of what is needed to bring about sustained and effective health systems. This meeting brings together some of the leading thinkers on health policy internationally and is an excellent opportunity to share methodological lessons, to advance the research agenda, and to increase the dialogue between the academic community and real-world policy making.'

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