Collaboration in Public Health between University of Heidelberg and University of Dar es Salaam
How the cooperation emerged

- Informal contacts from early 1990s
- Joint research applications from 1997
- Joint conference on „Safe Motherhood“ 1998 EU financed
- Request for feasibility study to set up a new MPH programme (1998) by Institute of Public Health to GTZ
- Support in planning and implementing a 1yr MPH (1999-2000) staff of Dept. Tropical Hygiene financed by gtz
Conducive factors for this cooperation

- Personal experience working for the German Volunteer Service leading to contact with SPHSS
- Joint research interests and projects
- Cooperation with GTZ
- Support of staff exchange by DAAD
- linking the potential of various donor agencies and linking people
Postgraduate training in public health at UDSM – Historical perspective

- Previously courses run included MMed and MSc programmes which took up to 3 years to complete
- The number of graduates produced were too small to meet the challenges of disease prevention and management at various levels in the country
The need for a new public health graduate

- In order to cope with the country needs in implementing comprehensive Health Sector Reforms, it was deemed necessary to have a critical number of individuals trained in Public Health.
- In planning training needs in public health, MUCHS working in collaboration with MOH looked for partners for implementation.
- In the process, the SPHSS and Heidelberg University with assistance from GTZ developed the MPH programme in 2001.
Goal of the MPH programme

- To prepare graduates with knowledge and skills of generating data which can be used for planning health services and interventions at various levels in and outside the health system.

- The graduate should also be able to evaluate interventions and make evidence based decisions.

- Graduates are expected to be members of health planning and management committees within government as well as non-governmental organizations, professionals in public health matters, and also chief liaison officers of the Ministry of Health (MOH).
The output 2001-2004

- The course was established in 2001 and a total of 66 graduates have been trained up to 2004.
- A total of 23 participants are currently being trained for the academic year 2004-05
- The following graph shows the graduates 2001-2004 breakdown down by gender AND the students recruited for the 2004-05 academic year
MPH Programme graduates by gender 2001-04 and enrolment for 2004-05
What are the special features in the field of training/teaching?

- Similar programmes (MPH / MScCHHM) stimulate exchange in teaching
- Joint curriculum review
- Exchange of external examiners
- Joint short courses (focussing on managerial capacity building)
- Joint support of Doctoral Students (both directions)
- Field research sites for international MSc students
MDG focused research projects

- Research on Malaria
  - Bridging the gap between Health Care Workers and mothers or guardians of under-five children in the management of malaria aiming at reducing morbidity and mortality
  - Conducted in a rural area – Mkuranga Coast region
  - It has included capacity building at local and institutional level

- Maternal health
  - Developing an intervention sensitive to local needs including developing indicators for the referral system aiming at reducing maternal mortality in the rural setting
  - The project has also included capacity building at local and institutional levels
Benefits of the cooperation

- Strong partners in the South/ North essential for research grants
- International staff for teaching international students is an asset
- Cooperation contributes to credibility
- Facilitates linkages between research, training, health services and policy
What is the potential to contribute to achieve the MDGs?

- Capacity building through training public health personnel
- Enabling the translation of theories and technologies to local and appropriate approaches for reduction of major causes of morbidity and mortality.
- Academic/evidence-based guidance for implementing and evaluating health projects
Danke schön  -  Asante sana