



International Institute for  
**Primary Health Care**  
**Resource Center**

*Information that strengthen primary health care*

# **Resource sharing policy**

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## INTRODUCTION

The IfPHC-E Resource Center serves as an information hub and as a 'go to' site for primary health care for health professionals, health designers and implementers and anyone interested in the field. The Resource Center aims to create local and international collaboration with the purpose of resource sharing to improve accessibility to scholarly materials and to meet the information needs of users. In support of this aim, the Resource Center needs access to a range of information available through partnership and networks with partner organizations. These partners include local and international governmental and non-governmental organizations, universities, colleges, private colleges, research institutions resource/information centers as well as health professionals working in primary health care (PHC) and related thematic areas..

The IfPHC-E Resource Center will foster collaborations to support discoveries that might otherwise not have been possible. The Center will provide opportunities to develop a system to centralize PHC resources to meet the information needs of users. This service will enhance the role of the Resource Center in expanding the information environment while maintaining the integrity of each partner's mandate and collections.

Thus, the Resource Center has developed this policy to strive to promote resource sharing to improve accessibility to its local and international collections to meet the information needs of users. The policy forms the basis for future resource sharing agreements by the Resource Center and its partners. It is also intended to establish a system to access to partners' resources available through the systems provided by the Resource Center.

## RESOURCE SHARING

Resource sharing is making available the resources owned by partner organizations and IfPHC-E Resource Center to make the information available to users. Resource sharing strengthens library service to users by increasing the range of materials available for access. The concept of resource sharing includes, but is not limited to, using a resource by two or more partner organizations' libraries/resource centers (ie, reciprocal access), bibliographic information sharing, document exchange through interlibrary loan or other forms of electronic transmission, staff knowledge and expertise, as well as technology and facilities sharing to enable resource sharing. Partners cooperate in the sharing of resources and services with users or they are entitled to reciprocal access and borrowing privileges.

## PRINCIPLES OF RESOURCE SHARING

The IIfPHC-EResource Center will serve as an organized system of sharing resources based on a set of shared values and principles. The principles upon which resource sharing are founded are:

- Interdependence - with the global information demand of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and limited collections, the IIfPHC-E Resource Center or partner organizations cannot meet all user needs. Therefore, partners must share their resources through some kind of organized system to meet the needs of users.
- Equitable accessibility - resource sharing is based on the belief that every user should have equitable access to resources that will enable them to meet their information needs.
- Open access - providing free online access to research and scientific outputs produced by IIfPHC-E and partners is based on the recognition of knowledge as a public good and the social and economic benefits derived.
- Reciprocal access - partners agree to share their resources and services to benefit all users. This implies that an agreement is reached whereby a partner that participates in the resource sharing process abide by the principles and the recommended practice for access to collections.
- Efficiency - the resources and documents will provide benefits by creating efficiencies through easier sharing of resources.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following duties and responsibilities are developed to lay the foundation for resource sharing agreements between and among partners.

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### RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The active participation of partner organizations is essential for resource sharing practice. The IIfPHC-E Resource Center urges these partners to encourage full participation and cooperation. The partners will share resources to help supplement the Resource Center's collection and augment the provision of its services to users.

Each resource sharing partner will provide their resources in hard, electronic or by other appropriate method to the Resource Center. The partner organization will be committed to resource sharing for universal accessibility. The partner will develop an efficient resource sharing system to supply the documents.

The IfPHC-E Resource Center participates in resource sharing through two distinct ways:

- IfPHC-ESpace
- Interlibrary loan (ILL) (see interlibrary loan policy)

IfPHC-ESpace: It is an Institutional Repository containing different resources, mainly in the areas of primary health care and related thematic areas from IfPHC-E and partner organizations (currently Ministry of Health – Ethiopia and Ethiopian Public Health Institute). Partner organizations will make use of already available materials in the Repository. They can also make use of the Resource Center’s infrastructure, staff and expertise to put their resources in the Repository.

Partner organizations can share the following resources:

- theses and dissertations produced around primary health care thematic areas
- research work (published and unpublished)
- journal articles and journal volumes
- policy and strategy documents
- guidelines and procedures
- working papers, reports, presentations, conference papers/proceedings
- digitized materials (multimedia)

## THESES AND DISSERTATIONS

Partner universities agree that the IfPHC-E Resource Center holds theses/dissertations that are produced in the fulfillment of higher degrees studied.

- If a thesis/dissertation supported by IfPHC-E is not subject to an embargo, it can be available online through the Resource Center Repository within six months of the degree award. A hard copy can be held at the Resource Center and can be viewed on site. Users can search for the library catalog for a hard copy thesis/dissertation. If the thesis/dissertation is subject to an embargo, the Resource Center will hold the thesis until the embargo is expired.
- If a thesis/dissertation is available online within a partner organization’s library, the Resource Center will only hold the metadata: ie, title; abstract; author; URI and copyright statements. Anyone may access the metadata information in the Repository. The metadata may be re-used in any medium without prior permission for not-for-profit purposes.

The IfPHC-E Resource Center encourages graduates to submit their theses/dissertations with the intention that they will be provided openly through the Resource Center’s Repository.

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## RESPONSIBILITIES OF IIFPHC-E RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center works collaboratively with its partners to facilitate and coordinate the collection of resources to users. The Center will have a formal resource sharing agreement with each partner.

The Resource Center will organize the shared resources using an IT system to make the RC easily accessible to users either through online communication or on-site access.

The Resource Center will adhere to copyright compliance and inform users of restrictions imposed by partner organizations.

Inter-library loan contract between libraries/resource centers in different countries will be administered, if required. The inter-library loan and service of resource sharing may not necessarily be free of charge. (See the policy on inter-library loan)

## AGREEMENT

The parties in this agreement are the representatives of a Partner Organization and IIFPHC-E Resource Center.

Both parties should affix their signature hereto and a copy shall be held by both.

Name of Partner Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Position of Head of the Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Seal and Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Resource Center: \_\_\_\_\_ IIFPHC-E Resource Center \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Position of Head of the Resource Center: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_