



The Initiative

**HEALTH SOLUTIONS
INTERNATIONAL**
Advancing Health Care Standards To Save Lives



International Union Against
Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
Health solutions for the poor



LuxOR
Luxembourg Operational Research

SORT IT

Structured Operational Research and Training Initiative
 **World Health Organization**  **TDR** For research on
diseases of poverty
UNICEF • UNDP • World Bank • WHO

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**Nominations for SORT-IT Training on
Operational Research**

HSI (Health Solutions International) in collaboration with The Initiative and Rawalpindi Medical University is pleased to announce the **SORT-IT (Structured Operational Research Training Initiative)** This research training will be conducted in collaboration with WHO TDR and will be implemented by highly qualified SORT-IT trainees to further enhance the research capabilities in public health and improve evidence-based program decisions.

The **Structured Operational Research and Training Initiative (SORT-IT)** is a globally recognized training program designed to build capacity in operational research (OR) for public health professionals. By focusing on designing, conducting, and analyzing operational research, SORT-IT enables participants to translate research findings into actionable strategies that improve health programs and policies. Conducted in collaboration with **WHO/TDR**, SORT-IT has been implemented in over **20 countries**, particularly those with a high burden of infectious diseases

SORT-IT training consists of 3 Modules (Module 1 & 2 each 7 days and Module 3 of 10 days) provides essential skills in operational research with hands on practice and strengthens professionals' ability to generate high-quality evidence to improve public health interventions. The training benefits government officials, researchers, and healthcare workers, those engaged in TB, HIV, Hepatitis & Non communicable disease programs, and public health improvement initiatives. It provides a platform for collaboration with global experts and mentors who are the certified SORT-IT master trainers, thereby fostering a network of public health professionals working towards common goals.

Note: Course is open for National and international participation provided the logistics and accommodation supported from sponsoring institute and candidates need to ensure their accommodation.



Eligibility Criteria:

- Healthcare professionals working in public health settings, particularly in **TB, HIV, MNCH, NCDs, and other infectious diseases.**
- Individuals with a strong interest in conducting operational research to improve public health systems and policies.
- Minimum of 2-3 years of experience in public health and data use
- Ability to commit to completing all four modules of the SORT-IT training.

- Students already enrolled in MPH, BSPH with existing data are strongly encouraged to enhance their skills



Training Details:

- **Organizers:** HSI in collaboration with WHO TDR, The Initiative and Rawalpindi medical university (RMU)
- **Duration:** 4 Modules (Detailed below)
- **Location:** Rawalpindi Medical University (In-person sessions)
- **Target Audience:** Public health professionals, students, researchers

Training Significance and Background:

SORT-IT is a highly prestigious initiative that aims to build research capacity for public health professionals, empowering them to carry out high-quality operational research to improve healthcare programs also offered through WHO/TDR, The Union, MSF and reputed research platforms across various countries around the world. SORT-IT training focuses on how to practically conduct and publish operational research and translate the evidence into policy and practice.

Participants will gain valuable skills in designing, conducting, analyzing publishing and communicating operational research studies that have direct applications in improving health outcomes. The program equips professionals to address public health challenges through evidence-based solutions.



Training Modules

- 1. Module 1: Introduction to Operational Research and Study Design (May 11th till 17th)**
 - Focus on research questions, study design principles, developing study protocols and submitting appropriate applications to national / local ethics committees.
 - Participants will learn to design research aligned with local public health challenges.
- 2. Module 2: Data Collection, Management, and Analysis (May 19th to May 24th)**
 - Epi data overview and training
 - Emphasis on sampling techniques, data management, data quality assurance, and statistical analysis.
 - Practical skills for handling both quantitative and qualitative data.
- 3. Module 3: Manuscript writing and Research paper Publication (November 22nd till 28th)**

- Covers effective communication of research findings, writing for publication, and utilizing findings for policy and program improvement.
- Participants will also learn strategies to engage stakeholders and advocate for research-based interventions.

4. **Module 4: Online for 3- 4 days for effective communication (To be decided)**

- Develop a communication plan to target decision makers
- Write a plain language summary that a non-expert could read and understand including the implications of the findings and suggest changes to improve that situation.
- Develop a 3-minute lightening and 10-minute power point presentations:
- Practice presenting with your mentors, colleagues and yourself in plenary and through the use of video to improve your timing, confidence and delivery style.
- Draft an elevator pitch: Draft a short 1–2-minute oral presentation (an elevator pitch) and practice delivering this with your mentors, colleagues and yourself in plenary and through the use of video to improve your timing, confidence and delivery style.

(Key Deliverable Output: tools for effective communication of research findings)



Application Process:

Institutes can nominate participants or individuals can apply directly by submitting the following documents:

1. **Completed Application Form:** Personal details, current role, and motivation for joining the program (Please fill in the google forms [here](#)) and also post the printed copy along with the required documents at the address mentioned below:

Office No 103, Iqbal Heights, Main Korang Road Bangialla Islamabad (Postal Code: 44000)
Telephone: + (92-51) 873-2651-2

Email: theinitiativepk@gmail.com and healthsolution.intlconnect@gmail.com

2. **Letter of Commitment:** Confirm your dedication to attend and apply the training.
3. **Letter of Support:** A letter from your immediate supervisor confirming approval for participation, time away from routine work to complete data collection and attend modules and permission to publish research findings.
4. **Brief Research Proposal (Max. 2 Pages):** A concise description of your research topic, objectives, and how SORT-IT will enhance your work.
5. **Updated CV:** A current CV with relevant experience.



Deadline for Applications: 20th March 2025

Send applications to: theinitiativepk@gmail.com , cc: healthsolution.intlconnect@gmail.com

Why Participate?

- Gain practical research skills in operational research to directly impact public health programs.
- Get Certification from WHO TDR and collaborating Institutions to add value in your journey as a trained researcher.
- Develop capacity to conduct independent research and apply findings to improve healthcare delivery and outcomes.
- Enhance your career as a public health professional with advanced training in operational research the course provides a CV boost as a trained researcher and ability to pursue advanced studies including PhD from Well-known universities around the world.

Fee Structure

- The fee for individuals is **PKR 30,000** per person for four modules. On intimation of selection of candidate based on eligibility criteria, Payment submission details will be shared.