

Reviewer's report

Title: An Experience of Virtual Leadership Development for Human Resource Managers

Version: 1 **Date:** 5 December 2008

Reviewer: Daniel Shaw

Reviewer's report:

1. Does it address an important or timely issue?

Yes: urgently developing management and leadership skills in areas where healthcare needs are greatest.

2. Is it well reasoned?

Yes, in that it is really a description of an experience.

3. Is it relatively balanced, or does it make plain where the author's opinions might not represent the field as a whole?

It is openly passionate and promotional of the idea, i.e. the interests in promoting a useful tool are apparent.

4. Is the standard of writing acceptable?

Yes.

As the closing article in the six part series on leadership published in this journal, this is an appropriate, accessible, lively introduction to the experience. It would be very interesting to see more in-depth evaluation of the programme in the future and, if positive, to see it expanded in its reach.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. Page 2, first para: USAID is really in a different category to GHWA and WHO. Perhaps delete 'USAID' here or put in separate sentence talking of USAID.

2. page 2, para 3: should read '1500 participants IN more than....'

3. same para as point 2: India is a country. Maybe put 'Asia'?

4. Page 2, Para 7: Put languages in alphabetical order.

5. Last page: after 'Developing HRH in Uganda' sub-title, should be new para.

Discretionary Revisions (which are recommendations for improvement but which the author can choose to ignore)

Once you have done this, there are also some questions for you to answer, including one that asks your advice on publication.

When you have completed your report, please upload it using the online form, accessible using the 'submit your report' tab above.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I was the managing editor at the time of the planning of this special series on leadership. However, as it is more openly advocacy in its style as a lighter, commentary article, I do not feel this is compromising.