

## 'Together is Better' CHGN International Conference

---

In March 2016 an exciting International Forum 'Better Together' took place in Dehradun, North India. Facilitated and coordinated by CHGN UK, approximately 40 people from eight countries met together to develop improved collaboration, effective networking and translate current practices across different regions.

Community Health Global Network (CHGN) UK, a partner in supporting network and cluster formation, and expertise in the theory of networking, led many sessions including learning about other clusters, hearing success stories and how clusters form and become successful. The forum included delegates from Myanmar, Thailand, Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania and India, all countries where networks/clusters are currently operating. All these countries have built networks of NHSPs that work together to improve health care provision and services in their local areas. Delegates from Tanzania provided information about how they are effectively working together to build stronger and more sustainable communities, and delegates from Zambia demonstrated that their network had led to improvements in access to water, sanitation and basic hygiene in their community. Networking enables NHSPs to help maximise primary health care quality and coverage and promote improved access to health. This exciting forum provided information about the usefulness of networking and cluster formation in sharing knowledge, improving access and coverage of health and enabling enhancements in health system strengthening.

