



HIFA Thematic Discussion on Community Health Workers

16 January - 24 February

Selected highlights: Q3 & 4

Note: For background info see: <http://www.hifa.org/news/join-hifa-thematic-discussion-community-health-workers-starting-16-january-2017>

HIFA is grateful for sponsorship of this discussion from *The Lancet*, Reachout Project/Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, World Vision International and USAID Assist Project.

HIFA is grateful for sponsorship from *The Lancet*, Reachout Project/Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, World Vision International and USAID Assist Project.

Q3. Are there enough and appropriate avenues for the voices of CHWs to be heard (by the relevant stakeholders / authorities)?

"More opportunities/ avenues to express their voices towards achieving the set goals are needed." Dr. C R Revankar, India

"Want channels for addressing their grievances." Kavita Bhatia, India on behalf of ASHAs

"We can share a lot of these observations at the primary health centre but our annual renewal of contracts will be endangered." ASHA, India

They emphasize that when listened to, their requests are not put into action as expected. Carol Namata, Uganda, on behalf of CHWs.

"We have spent a long period of time asking for monthly/quarterly allowances but nothing has been done so far." CHW, Uganda

"Some of our coordinators are lazy and do not take time to check on us. We would also like it very much if officials from the ministry of health visit us and listen to our concerns as some problems cannot be solved by our coordinators." CHW, Uganda

Q4. What are the mental health and psychosocial needs of CHWs? How can these needs be better addressed?

"I leave my tensions at home. Work is good for our mental health" CHW, Uganda