KAMPALA INITIATIVE COMMUNITY TOOLS

MODERATED THEMATIC DISCUSSIONS

As well as being a community forum for updates and direct communication, the 'Beyond Aid' mailing list can also be used to host moderated thematic discussions. These are structured discussions on a specific topic that are open for a limited time — usually one to two weeks.

Moderated thematic discussions allow for conversation in a semi-formal and semi-protected space and may be used for (amongst other things):

- Testing a position or analysis
- Sharing and gaining knowledge and experience of the community
- Preparing the ground for a more structured activity within or outside the Kampala Initiative
- Deepening or furthering a conversation that has already started (for example, extending a conversation from a Webinar)

There will be no more than two moderated thematic discussions happening at any one time.

How to propose a moderated thematic discussion

- Before initiating a moderated thematic discussion, you need to get the formal 'go ahead' by the Kampala Initiative programme group
- You can do this by submitting a proposal either:
  - In response to an official call for proposal issued via the Kampala Initiative 'Beyond Aid' mailing list
  - Or on a rolling basis directly to Thomas Schwarz (schwarz@medicusmundi.org) and/or Ravi Ram (phm.esafrica@phmovement.org)
- A proposal should include the same details as the “welcome message” outlined below
- All proposals need to be related to the overall topic of the Kampala Initiative of challenging, transforming and moving beyond aid
- Co-hosting will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will go ahead with the agreement of the steering group. Priority will be given to civil society organisations and signatories of the Kampala Initiative Declaration

All community tools are coordinated and managed by the Kampala Initiative programme group.

For more information, please visit the Kampala Initiative website:

https://www.medicusmundi.org/kampalainitiative
How to host a moderated thematic discussion

- Moderated thematic discussions are launched by the hosts with a welcome message that should include the following –
  - Clear topic/title
  - Welcome message
  - Introduction to the topic, with references if required
  - Expected outcome of the discussion
  - Proposed structure of the discussion (e.g. a set of leading questions and time frame)
  - Initial question to launch the discussion
  - Name and contact detail of host for enquiries and technical questions
- The discussion will then be open for the indicated time – usually one to two weeks.
- Hosts are expected to moderate and lead the conversation themselves with digests, new questions and other steering input
- At the end of this time, the host should formally close the discussion with a short report on its main outcomes and provide directions for a continued conversation if relevant
- Please note that while we welcome discussions about work that has been put out (e.g. books, reports, studies) by individuals/institutions, we must be careful that these are used as a launching pad for discussions rather than a space for promotion.

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