OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES IN HUMANITARIAN HEALTH RESEARCH

PARTNERSHIP COORDINATION

EXAMPLES OF CHALLENGES:

• Communication across partnership
• Competing priorities difficult to align to research demands
• Unsuccessful partnership negotiations
• Loss of partner organisation (/site)
• Difficulty obtaining visas for face-to-face meetings

IMPACT OF CHALLENGES ON A STUDY

• Loss of partner organisation (/site) after study has started
• Unable to use the pre-selected study site
• Low recruitment/tracing and prevention
• Difficulty implementing study activities/logistics with existing staff and/or money
• Difficulty effectively communicating/engaging all partners

MITIGATING ACTIONS

• Improved and regularised partner communication
• Identified new/alternative recruitment sites
• Simplified study methodology
• Identified new/alternative recruitment partners
• Established a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for ways of working
• Ensure roles and responsibilities are clear and understood
• Ensure individual and partner expectations are discussed and understood

For further details of Operational Challenges faced in R2HC-funded humanitarian research studies, please see the full report: Mitigating Operational Challenges in Humanitarian Health Research: the R2HC Experience (2020)