

The story of Be-cause Health



Vision

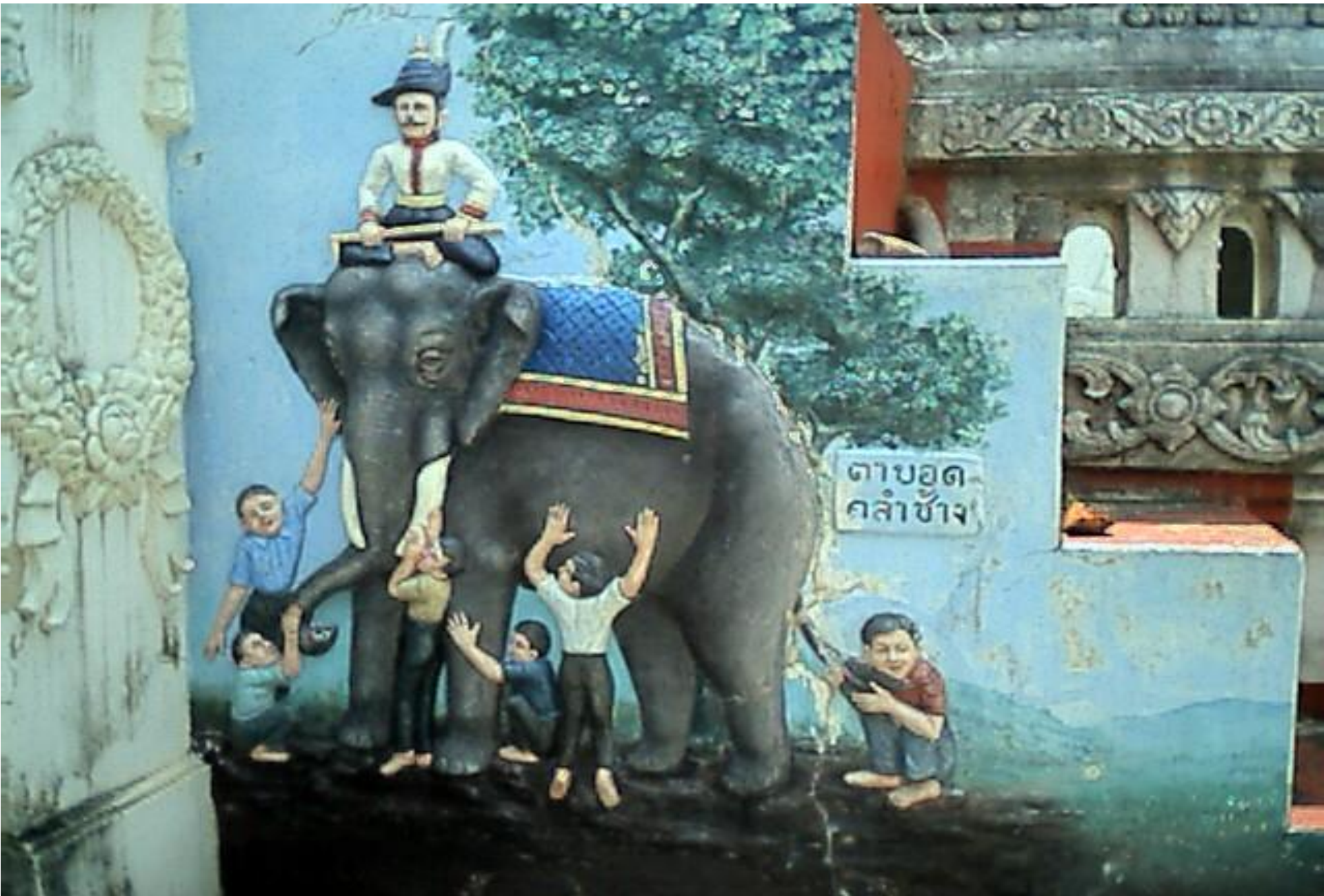
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Vision

“Because health strives for equitable access to responsive health services of good quality for all, and in particular for the most vulnerable people, embedded in strong, resilient and sustainable health systems, and is recognized at the national and international level for its expertise in these matters.”

Mission



Mission

- Be-cause health is a pluralistic open platform, providing a place for exchange and capitalization of technical knowledge and scientific evidence on international health and development cooperation and its application in the field. Be-cause Health assures a more effective Belgian contribution to global health policies and the policy debate, based on the right to health & health care for all, and on the acceptance of reality as a complex, adaptive system influenced by multiple determinants. The platform stimulates mutual trust, understanding and cooperation between all stakeholders involved in Belgian development cooperation. It strengthens the transformational competences of its members such as flexibility, teamwork and leadership.

Values

Based on a **rights perspective** to health & health care, Be-cause health values:

- **Respect** for the person and for diversity of vision, ideas, experiences & cultures
- **Constructive dialogue** in an open & learning mind-set
- **Creativity and Innovation**
- **Equity**
- **Ownership**
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- **Autonomy**
- **Solidarity**

Structure

- **Pluralistic platform**, open to both organizations and individual members involved in Belgian development cooperation related to international health (policy makers, public and private actors, civil society organizations and research institutes).
- **Light and flexible structure, adaptive** to opportunities and continuous changes in the complex, pluralistic and multi-actor context of development cooperation, as well as to the expectations and commitment of its members.
- **Dynamic** depends on the sense of initiative of its members, to whom the necessary autonomy is given.
- **Open platform**, looking actively for synergy and collaboration with other networks at Belgian and international level, also beyond the health sector.

Structure - internal regulation

- **General Assembly** (twice a year)
- **Steering Committee** (2-monthly gatherings)
 - > balanced representation (stakeholder, language, gender)
 - > renewable mandates of 4 years
 - > rotation of 1/3 members every 2 years
 - > presidency max 2 x 3 years
- **Secretariat**: MPH 0,3 FTE + support of admin staff of ITM
- **Technical Working Groups** : small budget ~ yearly action plan
- **Website**: www.be-causehealth.be
- **Free membership**

Technical Working Groups

- TWG Access & Quality to Medicines
- TWG SRHR & HIV
- TWG Non Communicable Diseases
- TWG Human Resources for Health
- TWG People Centered Care
- TWG Social Determinants of Health
- TWG Social Protection
- TWG Complexity
- TWG DR Congo
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A grasp from its activities

- Yearly international seminar (after-care => TWG)
- Workshops organised by TWG
- Conceptual framework Belgian development cooperation in health (2008)
- Contribution to (inter)national Health policies and strategies: ad hoc
- Development of a charter for quality assurance of medicines (2008)
- Development of charter on Human Resources for Health
- Newsletter 'Becausehealthmatters' + Update
- Collaboration with other networks (Belgian networks, FESTMIH, MMI)

The Be-cause Health Haiku

"Dialogue is on,

The cause of Health is at stake,

Spirits are moving." (x2)