A I M The symposium *An Ideal Match?!* brings together health-and action-oriented NGOs and academic institutions around international/global health research. NGOs are increasingly engaging in research, whereas academic institutions are developing partnerships with NGOs around health research in low- and middle-income countries. Though such alliances do seem mutually beneficial, their actual realisation is often less straightforward. Some see a gap between the ‘elitist academics’ (*the thinkers*) and the ‘down-to-earth implementing NGOs’ (*the do-ers*). The symposium will provide a platform for addressing:

- the rationale behind NGO-involvement in global health research; and the reasons for academia’s engagement with development actors for a joint approach to global health research. Strengths and weaknesses of both groups will be explored.
- those conditions which are favourable to developing strategic alliances and synergic actions between the ‘do-ers’ and the ‘thinkers’ and common obstacles in this process.

P R O G R A M M E O U T L I N E Rene Loewenson, epidemiologist and director of the Training and Research Support Centre (TARSC) in Zimbabwe will provide a keynote address on NGO-academia collaboration in research for global health. Her lecture will set the stage for a debate between Ruerd Ruben representing the Dutch Policy and Evaluations Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (IOB), Anke Tijtsma, director of Wemos, Joop de Jong, Professor of Transcultural Psychiatry at the Free University in Amsterdam, Monique Lagro, Sector Manager Health and Well-being of Cordaid/Memisa and André van der Ven, Professor of International Health at the Radboud University in Nijmegen. Eelco Koolhaas, ‘Chief Story Officer at the Ministry of Stories’ will facilitate this innovative session, inviting the audience to participate in a quest for synergy between health NGOs and academia in global health research.

T H E A F T E R N O O N P R O G R A M M E includes parallel sessions with presentations of scientific research, selected from submitted abstracts. In addition, a ‘Speed Dating’ session will bring do-ers and think-ers together in their activities in global health research. Wemos and Cordaid/Memisa explore the art of collaboration between NGOs and academia around two cases: community involvement in maternal health and health insurance for the poor. The Netherlands Platform for GHP&HSR will host a Café Mundial, in which participants are invited to provide input for an innovative global health research agenda focusing on ‘the what’ (issues for the agenda) and the ‘the how’ (collaboration between NGOs and academia). Rene Loewenson will chair the Café and a jury will select innovative proposals. Clinical cases are subject of debate in Consult Online, hosted by TROIE. The Ministry of Stories will round-off the day and set the stage for continued ‘matchmaking’ during drinks and thereafter.
9.00 - 9.30 Registration and coffee

9.45 - 10.05 Opening by Rob Baltussen/NVTG
Setting the scene by Eelco Koolhaas/Ministry of Stories

10.05 - 11.00 Key note by Rene Loevenson - Seeking synergy in global health research

11.00 - 12.15 An Ideal Match - The story unfolds
With:
Anke Tijtsma (director Wemos)
Ruerd Ruben (Evaluation and Policy Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/IOB)
Joop de Jong (Professor of Transcultural Psychiatry at the Free University in Amsterdam)
Monique Lagro (Sector Manager Health and Well-being of Cordaid/Memisa)
Andre van der Ven (Professor of International Health at Radboud University Nijmegen)
Moderator: Eelco Koolhaas

12.15 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 14.45 Uniting Streams: Scientific research presentations

14.45 - 15.15 Coffee / tea break

15.15 - 16.30 Uniting Streams: Scientific research presentations

16.30 - 17.00 Closure: Ministry of Stories

17.00 - 18.00 Drinks

REGISTRATION
Until September 5th: online early registration at www.nvtg.org
After September 5th: late registration at the symposium information desk on September 14th 2011

Registration fees (Euros)

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<tr>
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<th>Online early registration</th>
<th>Late registration (on-site)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NVTG-members</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Other participants</td>
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*Student discount (including Tropical MDs in training) is limited to 50 places

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
During the afternoon programme 2 sets of parallel sessions will take place with oral presentations selected from submitted abstracts. Researchers of all seniority, including (PhD) students, are invited to submit abstracts describing original field research in any subject of International Health, including but not limited to: tropical medicine, poverty-related diseases (malaria, HIV, TB, etc.), neglected diseases, women’s, maternal & child health, chronic diseases, nutrition, medical sociology/anthropology, medical entomology, health economics, health policy and health systems research. Abstracts should be submitted in English.

An abstract form is available online at www.unitingstreams.com. Please send completed forms to unitingstreams@gmail.com before August 14th, 2011.