



# IDEAS FOR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DONATION

Developing Sustainable Global Health Partnerships



# iHELLO!



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Biomedical Engineers with some field experience in Hospitals in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and Asia

# Beyond good intentions: lessons on equipment donation from an African hospital

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**Findings** Interviews confirmed the importance of technical problems with the equipment. They also revealed that the donation process was flawed, and that the hospital did not have the expertise to assess or maintain the equipment. Technical assessment showed that all units had the wrong voltage and frequency, leading to overheating and breakdown. Subsequently a hospital donations committee was established to oversee the donations process. On-site biomedical engineering expertise was arranged with a nongovernmental organization (NGO) partner.

## Medical Equipment Donations to Developing Nations Usually Ends Up on the Junk Heap

Despite good intentions, life-saving medical donations often end up discarded or broken. New training programs aim to change all that

By Andrew Jones on May 6, 2013



# NHS Scotland Global Citizenship Working Group on Surplus Kit

## Key Aims:

- (a) how **needs are identified** and impact assessed in low and middle income countries with recipient Government.
- (b) **how surplus equipment/supplies are sourced** from NHS Boards and suppliers/manufacturers.
- (c ) **support and guidance on shipping and transporting donations** including the introduction of a Calendar of shipments enabling global health champions to share the planning and costs involved.
- (d) **support and guidance for the sustainability** and long term use of donations in low and middle income countries,





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PARTNERSHIPS FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

WHO Medical device technical series

## Best practices for donors and donation solicitors

- 3.1 Ensuring that the recipients are actively engaged in all stages of the donation process
- 3.2 Ensuring that the needs of the end-users and patients are met
- 3.3 Regulatory and policy considerations
- 3.4 Considerations for existing local markets of medical equipment
- 3.5 Considerations for established procurement systems
- 3.6 Considerations for public health needs
- 3.7 Inclusion of health facility input when donations are coordinated at a national level
- 3.8 Considerations for support for installation, service and supplies

Deciding  
whether to  
donate

Planning  
the  
donation

Supplying  
the  
equipment

Verifying  
the  
equipment's  
quality and  
safety

Storing  
packing &  
shipping

Receiving  
the  
equipment

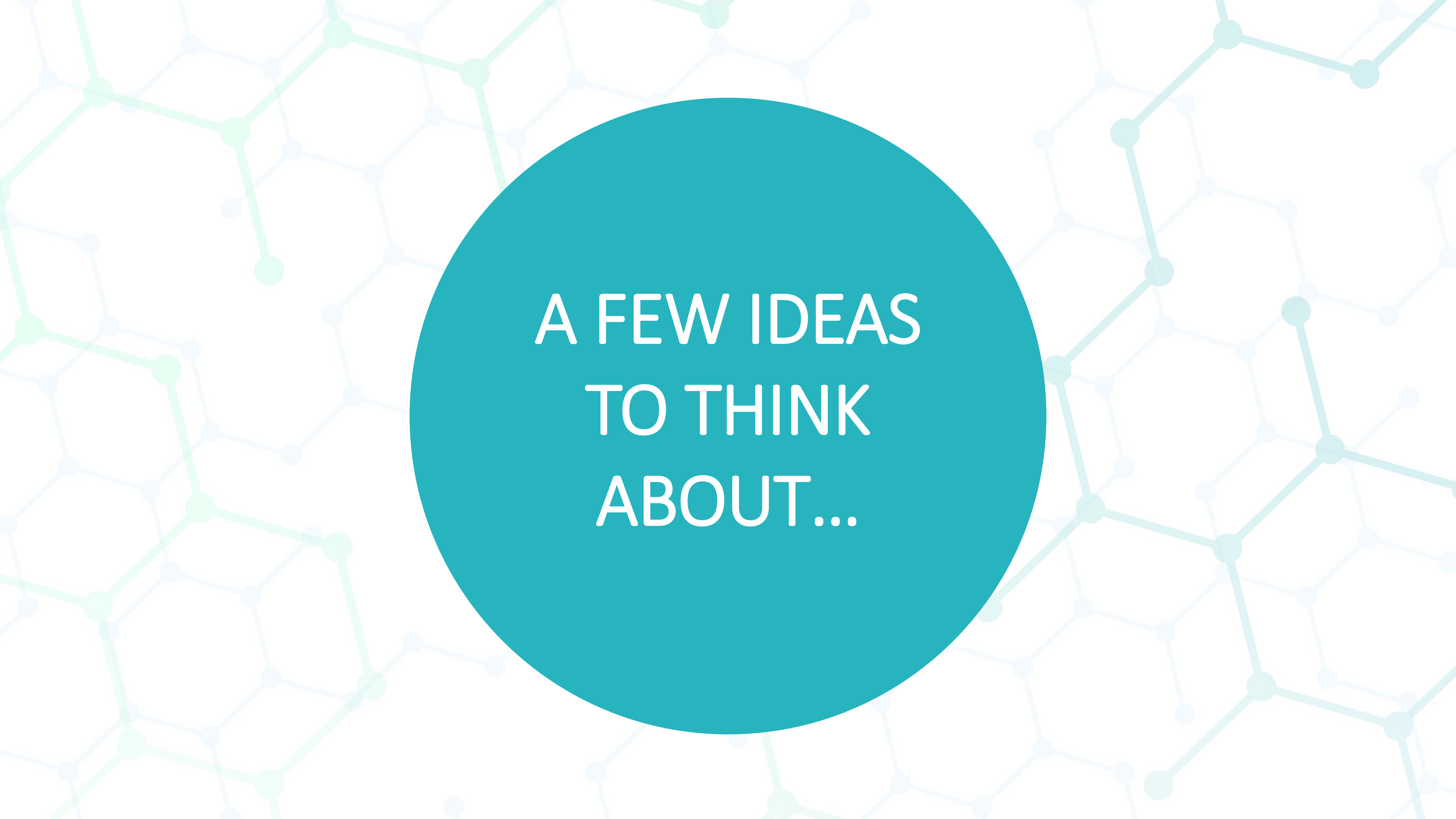
Putting the  
equipment  
into service

Imaging and radiology

The reuse of medical devices that are labelled "for single use"

Donation of implantable devices





A FEW IDEAS  
TO THINK  
ABOUT...



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Only donate health technology if clear evidence  
shows that such a donation will be beneficial to the  
receiving institution



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Support the use of health technology through  
partnerships between health-care organizations in  
Scotland and counterparts in developing countries



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Assist developing countries to strengthen their  
regulation of health-care technology systems  
(especially drugs and medical devices).



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Encourage and support HTA in developing countries  
to detect the real needs



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Technology alone is not enough. Technology should  
be combined with other innovation



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The existing available technology should be a leverage for better health. For instance m-Health has great potential in areas where almost everybody has a mobile phone but no sanitation.



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THANK YOU...



**Meirovich** consulting