



Training and support for  
Cochrane HIV/AIDS Group authors  
in less-wealthy countries (LWCs)

*Pembroke 2*

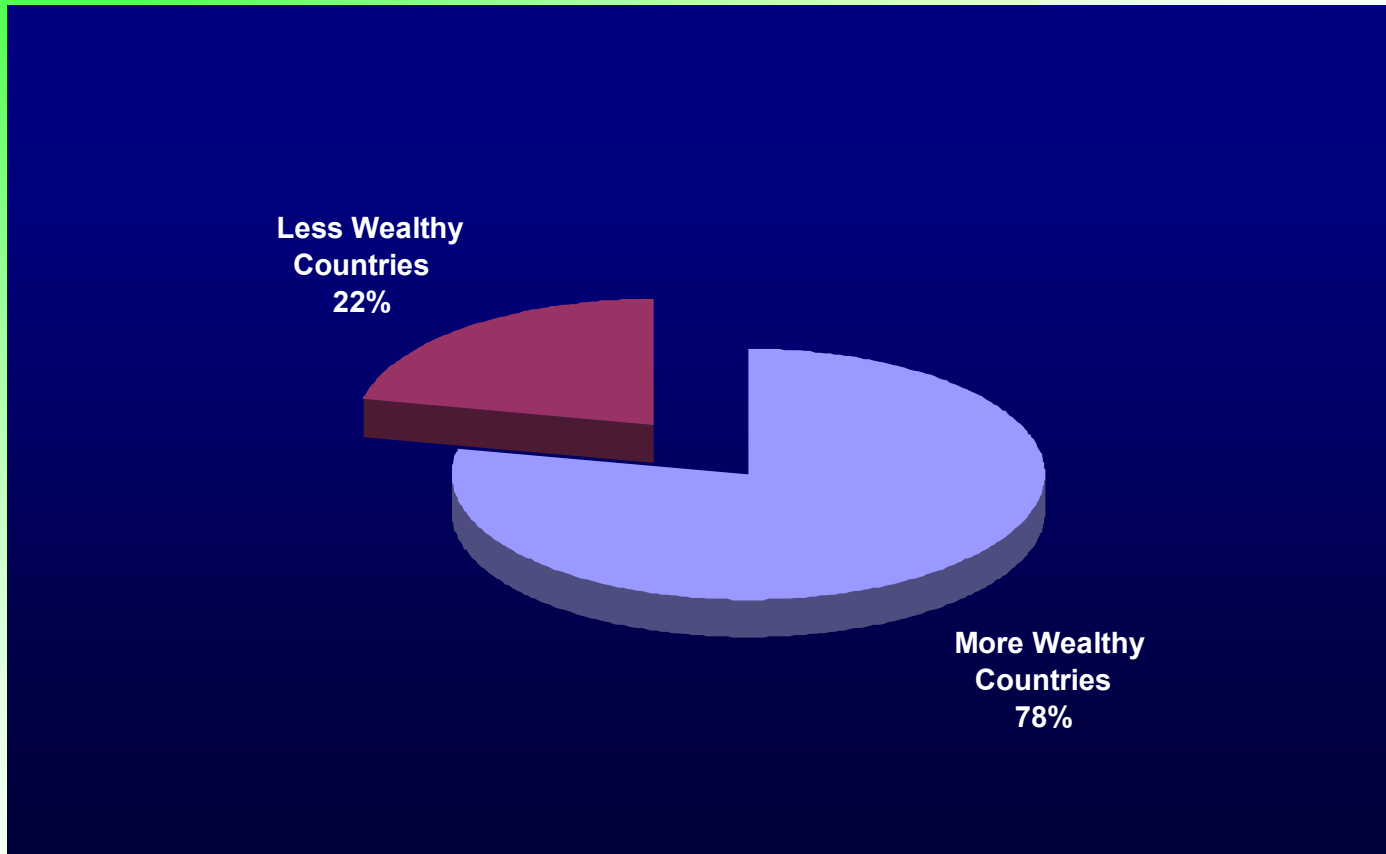
# Training and support for Cochrane HIV/AIDS Group authors in less-wealthy countries (LWCs)

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# Cochrane HIV/AIDS authors, 2000



# Barriers to review authors from LWCs

- Lack of familiarity with Cochrane reviews
- Limited and costly Internet access
- Poorly resourced library services
- Limited training & support

# HIV/AIDS mentoring programme

- Established in October 2000 at the Cape Town Colloquium between HIV/AIDS CRG & South African Cochrane Centre (SACC)
- Aims:
  - ✓ To increase the number of Cochrane HIV/AIDS reviews relevant to areas with highest burden of disease
  - ✓ To offer support for novice authors from sub-Saharan Africa

# Who is involved?



# How mentoring programme works

- Author from region paired with a more experienced Cochrane author (mentor)
  - ✓ To date 21 authors have participated
  - ✓ To date 16 mentors have participated
- Regular “meetings” held between author and mentor
- Materials & support provided by SACC
  - ✓ CD-ROMs of RevMan software
  - ✓ Hardcopy of handbook & textbook on conducting SRs
  - ✓ Database searches & ad hoc hand searching
  - ✓ Library support and procurement of full-text articles

# Review Completion Workshops

18-21 November 2003

17-21 January 2005



# Other initiatives (1)

## Reviewers for Africa (RAP) programme

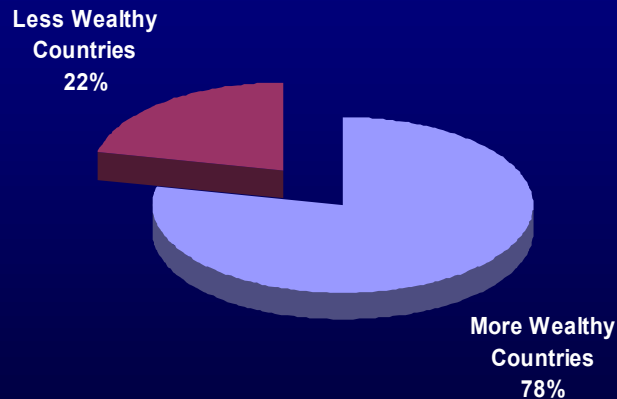


## Other Initiatives (2)

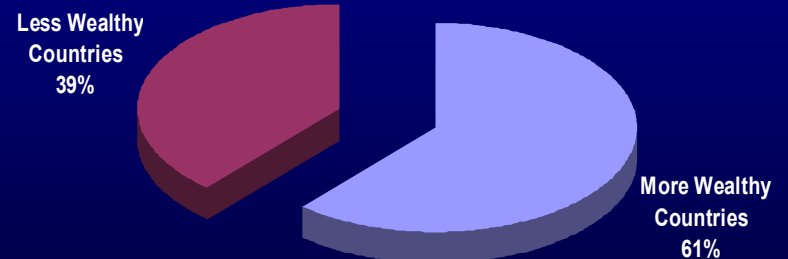
- South Asian Network
  - ✓ Participation in review course in India
  - ✓ Formalise author support

# Impact of support to authors from LWCs: Cochrane HIV/AIDS authors 2000 and 2006

Cochrane HIV/AIDS Group Authors, 2000



Cochrane HIV/AIDS Group Authors, 2006



# Challenges in providing support

- Resource commitment
  - ✓ Staff time and resources
  - ✓ Approximately \$20,000 US yr. for operational costs for mentoring programme
  - ✓ In-kind support from mentors
- Continued need for new mentors
- On-going guidance & structure

# What's next?

- Mentoring programme
  - ✓ Improve
  - ✓ Disseminate evaluation findings
  - ✓ Secure funding
  - ✓ Expand to other regions
- Partnerships

# With thanks to our mentors and authors





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