**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Building capacity for evidence generation, synthesis and implementation to improve the care of mothers and babies in South East Asia: methods and design of the SEA-ORCHID Project using a logical framework approach

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Response to reviewer’s report (reviewer: Luis Gabriel Cuervo)

Our thanks to the reviewer for his detailed, thoughtful and helpful review. We have undertaken a major revision of this paper in line with the suggestions of the reviewer.

In particular we have:

- Revised the structure of the manuscript to
  - report the methods of development of the logical framework in the Methods section and the results of the process (the framework itself) in the Results section
  - reflect the components of the logical framework
- Provided definitions of terms such as ‘access’ and ‘evidence-based practice’, ‘multifaceted tailored educational intervention’
- Restructured and edited the Background to focus more tightly on the issues of interest
- Added more detail about the outcome measures and how these relate to the specific objectives
- Mentioned ethical review early in the Methods section
- Added an extra column to Table 1 to give the number of births per month at each hospital
- Revised the shading on Figure 1 (previously Fig 3) to make it more readable in black and white

While we understand the reviewer’s request to move the contributors to after the description of the objectives of the project, we have not done this as we believe that it is important to understand who contributed to the development process. We have however, edited and restructured this section to make this clearer and more concise.

To stay true to the project’s broad aims we have retained the reference to policy (as well as practice) level initiatives. While we acknowledge that this complicates the design of the project, it reflects the reality.

In this paper we planned to provide an overview of the logical framework which guided the detailed intervention development and tailoring at each of the sites. So we haven’t provided all the information required to allow replication of the work. The details of specific interventions are available on the SEA-ORCHID website and will be published in separate articles to allow detailed discussion of the aims, implementation and outcome of each strategy (such as our paper on the SEA-ORCHID fellowships which has recently been published by *BMC Medical Education*). We have added text to explain this and a link to the SEA-ORCHID website for more information.