



## Objectives

- Bring together the RTBP partners from India, Sri Lanka, USA, and Canada to discuss the research objectives
- Provide an opportunity for each partner to present their role and state the deliverables
- Confirm the research design, specific objectives, and hypothesis
- Agree on the tasks, deliverables, and timelines

## Key Words

Health, Disease, Epidemiology, Surveillance, Mobile Phone, Statistical Data Mining, Alerting, Information, Communication, Technology, Sri Lanka, India

## Meeting Announcement

LIRNEasia in partnership with Indian Institute of Technology Rural Technology and Business Incubator (IITM-RTBI) is organizing a partner meeting to kick-off the "Real-Time Biosurveillance Program Research Project" (RTBP). The aim of the RTBP research is to mobilize Healthcare Workers in the rural settings with mobile phones to record and submit health-related information for the purpose of consolidating national health data for detecting disease outbreaks before they reach epidemic states. Problem that the RTBP promises to solve is to strengthen existing disease surveillance and detection communication systems, reduce latencies in detecting and communicating disease information, and set a standard interoperability protocol for sharing disease information with national and international health-related organizations in the region. The research will implement an ICT system and evaluate the RTBP over one year. A major part of this initial meeting, to be held on 04-August-2008, is to bring together the USA, Canada, Sri Lanka, and India partners to discuss the project scope.

## Event Locations and Contact Details

**Meeting Venue:** CSD – 308, III rd floor,  
Center for Systems and Devices, Electrical Science Block,  
Indina Institute of Technology – Madras, Chennai, Tamilnadu, India

**Contact:** Ms. Geeth G., health projects associate, Rural Technology and Business Incubator  
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04. Aug. 2008			1 Day Program			(Monday)		
<b>SESSION I</b>			<b>Inauguration</b>					
0930-0940	Welcome comments & self introduction		<b>Ms. Suma Prashant</b> , Project Manager, IITM-RTBI, India					
0940-0945	Summary of meeting agenda		<b>Mr. Nuwan Waidyanatha</b> , Project Director, LIRNEasia, Sri Lanka					
<b>SESSION II</b>			<b>Current National disease surveillance and notification</b>			<i>Discuss the current disease surveillance and notification system in each country; available technology; future goals and expectations</i>		
0945-1000	Sri Lanka: current disease surveillance and notification system		<b>Dr. Sumitha Ginige</b> , Epid-Unit					
1000-1015	Tamil Nadu: current disease surveillance and notification system		Tamil Nadu Department of Health					
1015-1030	Discussion		<b>Moderator: Prof. Timothy Gonsalves</b> , Director, IITM-RTBI					
1030-1045	Tea/Coffee served							
<b>SESSION III</b>			<b>Research design &amp; CBO</b>			<i>Discuss the research design and current community-based organization initiatives on disease prevention</i>		
1030-1045	Sri Lanka: Sarvodaya Comprehensive Care Health Program (CCHP) & “Suwadana Centers”		<b>Mr. Ravindra Kandaga</b> , Director, Sarvodaya					
1045-1100	India – NCBS Madhuram Narayanan Center for Exceptional Children		<b>Prof. K. Vijayraghavan</b> , Director, NCBS					
1100-1115	RTBP research design, specific objectives, and hypothesis		<b>Prof. Gordon Gow</b> , University of Alberta					
1115-1130	Discussion		<b>Moderator: Prof. Ashok Jhunjunwala</b> , Chairman, IITM-RTBI					
<b>SESSION III</b>			<b>Technology presentations</b>			<i>Discuss the mobile applications, statistical data mining, and alerting application</i>		
1130-1145	Statistical data mining and data visualization		<b>Prof. Artur Dubrawski</b> , Director, CMU-Auton-Lab					
1145-1200	Mobile apps for data gather: IITM-RTBI		<b>Prof. Timothy Gonsalves</b> , IITM - RTBI					
1200-1215	Sahana healthcare & messaging module: Lanka Software Foundation		<b>Dr. Roshan Hewapathirana</b> , Research Fellow, LSF					

1215-1230	Discussion	<b>Moderator: Prof. K. Vijayraghavan</b> , Director, NCBS
<b>SESSION IV</b>	<b>Project Plan</b>	<i>Discuss the project tasks, working groups, deliverables, and time-lines</i>
1230-1300	Project plan & Discussion	<b>Mr. Nuwan Waidyanatha</b> , Project Director, LIRNEasia
1300-1400	Lunch	
1400-1430	Closing remarks	<b>Prof. Ashok Jhunjunwala</b> , Chairman, IITM-RTBI
1430-1600	[Optional] Tour of Rural Technology and Business Incubator and TeNet Lab	Ms. G. Geetha, Health Projects Associate, IITM-RTBI

**Note** - Speakers are advised to prepare their **presentations for 15 minutes**; a discussion period will follow at the end of each session; working **language will be English**,

#### Proposed attendees for the meeting

Organization	Country	Names
Carnegie Mellon University - Auton Lab	USA	Artur Dubrawski, PhD (Professor)
Commissioner of Disabilities	India	TBA
Indian Institute of Technology Rural Technology and Business Incubator (IITM-RTBI)	India	Ashok Jhunjunwala, PhD (Chairman), Timothy Gonsalves, PhD (Director), Suma Prashanth (Health Projects Manager), & G. Geetha (Healthcare Projects Associate)
Lanka Software Foundation (LSF)	Sri Lanka	Roshan Hewapathirana, MD (Research Fellow)
LIRNEasia	Sri Lanka	Nuwan Waidyanatha (Senior Researcher/Project Director)
Ministry of Health and Nutrition Epidemiology Unit	Sri Lanka	Sumitha Ginige, MD (Assistant Epidemiologist)
Ministry of Health and Welfare, Tamil Nadu Health Department	India	P. W. C. Davidar (Special Secretary)
National Center for Biological Sciences (NCBS)	India	K. Vijayraghavan (Director)
Sarvodaya Shramadhana Society	Sri Lanka	Ravindra Kandage (Director)
University of Alberta	Canada	Gordon Gow, PhD (Associate Professor)