

Working Group 1 (WG1)

Strategic management of the VHL networks and mobilization of the network participation in the formulation of health and information policies

Background documents:

- [eHealth Strategy and Plan of Action \(2012-2017\)](#)

for LA&C available at:

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5723&Itemid=4139&lang=en

- [VHL Meetings 2011](#) recommendations

available at:

http://wiki.bireme.org/es/index.php/Resultado_SWOT-Propuestas_accion_Red

GT1 on line meetings:

- **First Meeting – 14/08** – How to strengthen and articulate national networks, and how to ensure the sustainability for the development of the VHL?
Moderator: M. Imaculada Sampaio (VHL Psi and VHL Ulapsi)
- **Second Meeting – 04/09** – How can the VHL network contribute to meet the countries' health priorities?
Moderators: Zulma Ortiz (Unicef & PAHO AR), Alicia Fernández (PAHO UY) and Alejandro Machorro (VHL MX)
- **Third Meeting – 25/09** – How can the VHL network contribute to formulation of public policies on information and health?
Moderators: Regina Ungerer (WHO) and Jorge Barreto (District Health Secretary)

1st Meeting – August 14th , 2012

Participation: 17 countries, 71 connections, nearly 90 people

Moderator: M. Imaculada Sampaio (VHL Psy and VHL Ulapsi)

Main Objectives:

- To present and discuss actions to strengthen and articulate national networks aiming to ensure VHL sustainability and development
- Present cases of success in achieving sustainability (VHL Psychology Brazil and VHL Ulapsi)
- Present recommendations to the VHL network

1st Meeting – August 14th , 2012

Recommendations:

- To ensure the political and financial support to the project
- To provide online and web based technical support to the VHL
- To promote VHL use and dissemination
- To have a representative and participating Advisory Committee
- To promote a greater interaction between LILACS National Coordination Centers and national VHL
- To establish new alliances with institutions which produce and disseminate C&T Information
- To increase training activities on management and use of information sources

2nd Meeting – September 4th , 2012

Participation: 16 countries, 50 connections, nearly 70 people

Moderators: Alicia Fernandez (PAHO UY), Zulma Ortiz (Unicef & PAHO AR), Alejandro Machorro (VHL MX)

Main Objectives:

- To contribute to the discussion;
- To think about health priorities: processes and techniques to establish priorities;
- Make contributions to the VHL network on more rational (evidence based) processes of decision making and priorities setting

2nd Meeting – September 4th , 2012

Recommendations:

- The VHL should ease the decision making process by including information on the countries' health priorities based on evidence;
- The evidences should be easily available and provide executive summaries and answers to different types of questions;
- Strategic alliance with political agents that deal with the countries' health information policies, such as ministries of health, universities, research institutions, and others;
- User-friendly systems categorized by type of user to access quality information in health

3rd Meeting –September 25th , 2012

Participation: 16 countries, 45 connections, nearly 60 people

Moderators: Regina Ungerer (WHO) and Jorge Barreto (District Health Secretary)

Main Objectives:

- To present and discuss actions to strengthen and articulate the VHL role in formulating health and information policies;
- To present cases such as the WHO funded project VHL ePORTUGUESe and;
- The management model of the district of Piripiri (PI, Brazil)

3rd Meeting –September 25th , 2012

Recommendations

- To overcome the concept of “available information” to make knowledge accessible through the development of knowledge translation platforms;
- To promote, through the VHL, the culture of use of evidence on management and at all levels of the decision making process;
- Work in collaboration with other networks and initiatives that takes an active part at the decision making processes, such as EVIPnet
- Include “global scientific evidences” as a subsidy for the decision making process in a systematic, transparent and balanced way with the “local evidences”

3rd Meeting –September 25th , 2012

Recommendations

- Integrate the information networks to the decision making context, making easier the information “ consumption”, by means the reframing of repositories, simplification of bibliographic search and inclusion of quality thematic contents;
- To ensure the sustainability of the VHL as a pro-active network on behalf of the democratization and use of scientific knowledge, and involve PAHO/WHO representations in this process;
- To promote and monitor the local use of global knowledge, specially at the implementation level of health policies;

3rd Meeting –September 25th , 2012

Recommendations

- Include Information Technology professionals as part of the supporting teams for decision making. They should be able to summarize and supply information at the best levels of evidence to decision making professionals;
- To ensure the VHL with a flexible management model, since not every country has the same development status. The model should consider these differences.



6th Regional Coordination Meeting
on the Virtual Health Library

VHL6

20 - 21, October 2012
Washington DC, USA

