



MEP News

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MNCH Evidence into Practice in West Africa

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Editorial by Dr. Xavier CRESPIEN, DG WAHO



Dear readers, the Regional Workshop to validate the situation analysis highlighted the following: - poor use of evidence while developing policies, plans, standards and protocols in our region; - various stakeholders' capacities in evidence use need to be strengthened; - organizational and institutional environments need to be made conducive to supporting the use of evidence. Against this background, WAHO is planning to establish a regional platform, in collaboration with stakeholders, to strengthen individuals' and institutions' organizational capacities. At this juncture, I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Stanislas Sansan KAMBOU, Director of Research and Health Information Management System (DRHIMS) at WAHO, who retired after thirteen years of dedicated service to the Community. We hereby express our warm thanks to him for his commitment, determination and sacrifice to WAHO and Research

Project Activities

Regional Workshop to Validate Situation Analysis

The Regional Workshop to validate the Situation Analysis of Knowledge Translation and Use of Research Results in MNCH was held in Dakar from 18 to 20 February. The objective of the workshop was to "validate the findings of the situation analysis and identify interventions to be implemented". The workshop gathered together seventy-six participants including MNCH policy makers, researchers, consultants, MNCH learned societies, United Nations regional offices, IDRC, the Canadian government, WAHO and the entire project team. The group photograph below gives an overview of participants including the Director of Health of Senegal and the WAHO DDC



During the three-day workshop, participants listened to presentations and were involved in group work on: The findings of the situation analysis based on 3 focus areas namely:

i) Knowledge Translation and the Use of Evidence in MNCH, ii) Factoring in Gender and Equity aspects in Mother and Child Health Programmes, iii) Health System Factors influencing Mother and Child Health.

Key messages, potential users and sharing approaches for research projects.



-The Monitoring and Evaluation framework of the Innovating for Maternal and Child Health in Africa (ISMEA). The presentation focused on the Logical Framework of the Initiative, and Assessment Indicators of WAHO and Research Teams;
-Next steps towards implementation of research projects and MEP project taking into account the outcomes of the situation analysis and discussions.

Platform experiences on knowledge translation and collaboration between policy makers and researchers were presented. Thus, the National Evaluation Platform (NEP) in Mali, the platform of Ebony State University, Nigeria and Cochrane centre in Nigeria shared their experiences, challenges and lessons learned.



A cross-section of partners at the Workshop

A PROPOS DU PROJET

- **Project Number:** 107892-001
- **Name :** *Moving Maternal Newborn and Child Health Evidence into Policy* in West Africa (MEP)
- **Date of signing of contract with IRDC :** 1st November, 2014
- **Overall objective:** Improve demand for the production and use of research results in Mother and Child Programmes in ECOWAS
- **Components :** Strengthen the capacities of researchers and policy-makers in the area of evidence; creation of exchange platforms; capitalisation and institutionalisation of gains
- **Beneficiaries :** mothers and children of West Africa
- **Budget :** CAD \$2 600 000 financed by IRDC and ECOWAS
- **Duration:** 68 months
- **Intervention Countries :** Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal

WAHO gives credit to IDRC

At the Dakar workshop, the DG WAHO awarded a certificate of recognition to the IDRC for supporting research promotion in the ECOWAS region



Thank you Mr. Director for your dedicated service.

Dr. Stanislas Sansan KAMBOU, Director of Research and Health Information at WAHO is one of the Institution's first Professional Officers. After 13 years of distinguished and dedicated service to ECOWAS, he has retired to enjoy a well-deserved rest. Tribute was paid to him during the Dakar workshop and also by all WAHO Staff during a sendoff ceremony.



K4H and Intrahealth advocating for a Culture of Knowledge Management at WAHO

Anne Ballard (K4H) and John Liebhardt (Intrahealth) visited WAHO from February 29 to March 6 to advocate for a culture of daily Knowledge Management at WAHO.

Equipe de Direction : Dr Xavier CRESPIEN, Dr Laurent ASSOGBA, Dr Sansan S. KAMBOU, Dr Kofi BUSIA,

Equipe du Projet : Prof. Issiaka SOMBIE, Dr. Ernel JOHNSON, Dr Yves MONGBO, Dr Aissa ADO BOUWAYE, Dr Namoudou KEITA, Dr Virgil LOKOSSOU, M. Mohamed ZONGO, M. Mactar TRAORE

Pour tout besoin d'informations sur le Projet MEP, s'adresser à l'Investigateur Principal : Prof. Ag. Issiaka SOMBIE, isombie@wahooas.org

Prière adresser vos suggestions et commentaires à jermel@wahooas.org (Dr Ernel JOHNSON, Chargé de Mise en Œuvre)