

Appendix 1: Template for Summary of Activities in Support of the Implementation of PAHO Policy on Research for Health

Instructions:

Template to be completed by the Staff member.

Complete one set (up to 4 tables) per activity. The complete set for each activity should not exceed two pages. Use the tables in the template provided below. If you need to provide additional information, such as graphs, tables, reports, please do so as an attachment. The essential information, however, should be included in the summary.

Table 1: Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011. Briefly please describe main events and outputs (e.g. workshop, publication with indicators [metrics and/or qualitative] showing the trend in activity). Describe the main outcome/impact of the activity.

Table 2: Activities Planned for 2012-2013. Provide a brief description of main activities planned and the intended outcome/impact of undertaking those activities.

Table 3: Future Developments. Indicate the longer term objectives of your program and if appropriate include other key players. Indicate the challenges (dependencies and/or constraints) and opportunities to achieving the goals of your program.

Table 4: Key issues. List up to three issues, and for each indicate whether they are intended for ACHR/CAIS information, discussion, or decision..

The table below is provided to assist you in completing the information requested in the template that follows.

	PAHO Policy on Research for Health
	(a) Promote the generation of relevant, ethical, and high quality research
	(b) Strengthen research governance and promote the definition of research agendas
	(c) Improve competencies and support for human resources involved in research
	(d) Seek efficiencies, enhanced impact, and ownership of research
	(e) Foster best practices and enhanced standards
	(f) Promote dissemination of and utilization of findings

The template will be discussed with the relevant ACHR Members and used to guide the development of summaries.

Activity: Governance

Policy Goal: Priorities

Staff member: Luis Gabriel Cuervo

Table 1. Headline Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011		
Event/Output	Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
Delivered tools for better health research governance, accountability and trust in research	Developed a wiki Map/Inventory to reflect Priorities on Research for Health in Member States and the Region.	Document and published priority setting activities done during the past biennium.
	Collated information about national guidelines issued by health authorities, and guidelines for guidelines at PAHO/WHO	
	Contributed to the advancement and promotion of research registers and databases, in particular for Clinical Trials , (dominance of registration from the Americas) and Systematic Reviews including those relevant to Health Systems Research , and promoted accessibility and adherence.	Regional consultation on clinical trial registration (Apr 2010) Technical support for the development, implementation and accreditation of the Cuban and Brazilian Registers with WHO's ICTRP. Demonstrated growth of new clinical trial registration in the region.
Supported and promoted national health research agendas and policies on research for health	Technical cooperation to Guyana and Dominican Republic on the setting of national agendas on research for health, and coordination with COHRED to avoid duplication in other countries. Dissemination of Paraguay's Policy on Research for Health.	The dissemination of PAHO's Policy on Research for Health and WHO's Strategy on Research for Health seems to have build momentum.
	Technical cooperation in coordination with COHRED on priority setting for health research agendas	Coordination and distribution of technical cooperation to avoid duplication and enhance effectiveness.
Advanced and tested methodologies to improve priority-setting processes; provided technical cooperation and reference documents.	Developed groundbreaking work and reports illustrating a pragmatic approach to the identification of research questions for public health, and providing specific recommendations for researchers, research sponsors and funders, to address knowledge gaps. Tested priority setting strategies for maternal mortality (MDG5) identifying 319 research questions, and prioritizing them according to potential impact on MDG5 as defined by leading experts.	Revez L, Tellez DR, Castillo JS, Mosquera PA, Torres M, Cuervo LG, Cardona AF, Pardo R. Prioritization strategies in clinical practice guidelines development: a pilot study. Health Research Policy and Systems 2010, 8:7 (6 March 2010) doi:10.1186/1478-4505-8-7. Available at http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content/8/1/7
Influencing the international (Regional and Global) agenda and convening key partners.	Contributions to the scientific board of the 1 st Global Symposium on Health Systems Research (Montreux 2010). Contributions to advisory boards of Campbell Collaboration, Cochrane Collaboration, Justice Health Network, and other influential groups such as 3iE Scientific Advisory Boards for Cochrane Colloquiums and panels with IDRC and GHRI on Priority Setting (Global Forum)	• Participation in the preparatory session of Puyuapi, Chile, and contributions to the meeting. • Contributions to the organization of a panel at HTAi 2011, Rio de Janeiro. • The PAHO-IberoAmerican Cochrane Network Prize for Health Systems systematic reviews relevant to the health agenda for the Americas (2 consecutive years) • Presentation of the EQUILAC set of evaluations (7 countries) and PAHO's Policy on Research for Health in the 1st Global Symposium on Health Systems Research; accompany the 12 EVIPNet presentations at the event.

Capacity building of staff: learning by doing and mentoring	Systematic reviews and analysis of knowledge gaps with technical counterparts in PAHO and WHO, and interns. or neglected diseases.	A systematic review on interventions to contain cholera outbreaks produces a specific list of research questions that need to be addressed by research agencies and sponsors
Initiatives to engage other sectors (economy, education, development, productivity, science & technology) in supporting research for health	Launched the Art for Research project with two exhibitions: Shaping the World and Research on the Move	The initiatives illustrate through images the returns of research for health to society: ability to solve complex problems, competitiveness, productivity, innovation, exports, etc.

Table 2. Headline Activities Planned for 2012-2013		
Event/Output	Intended Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
Put incentives in place to address the unfinished agenda and build capacities with a systems approach, monitoring and evaluation.	Define a mechanism to use grants to prioritize research relevant to PAHO Determine if PAHO should sponsor research or convene research producers and sponsors seeking an alignment with the regional and national agendas.	Replicate the identification of research questions and subsequent prioritization with different PAHO/WHO technical teams. Standardize the strategy and document it.
Plan for the development of a rapid response mechanisms that enable better informed decision making on burning issues for policy makers.	A plan for the implementation and fund raising prepared by 2012	
Expand the Art for Research exhibitions and launch them at the WHA, Global Forum and 2 nd Global Symposium on Health Systems Research.	Engage new partners, launch the exhibits at the WHA and Global Forum for Health Research and in non-health venues.	
Evaluation and standardization of priority setting strategies for technical programs and member states.	A systematic review of priority setting strategies.	Build on ongoing work to refine priority-setting processes with an holistic approach that addresses determinants of health and provides specific research approaches.
Convening key players to align research priorities with funding opportunities.	Generate opportunities and incentives to address regional and national agendas.	
Participate in the 2 nd Global Symposium on Health Systems Research (China)	Coordinate and organize a regional consultation and meeting at the event.	
Steering and contributing to the 3 rd Latin American Conference on Research & Innovation for Health		
Review of ongoing agreements and partnerships	Reports of Memorandums of Agreement, Letters of Agreement, engaging key strategic partners	Coordination meetings with strategic partners.
Publication and dissemination of the EQUILac Projects and other related registered research conducted in PAHO	Mentoring and support on research reporting and dissemination	Coordination with KMC and the development of the publications policy.

Table 3. Future Developments		
Objectives	Challenges/Opportunities	Comments/Additional Information
Priority setting and monitoring strategies for EVIPNet Americas	Ground work being done by postgraduate students linked to PAHO; Internships program.	
Influencing the debate and knowledge body for priority setting for public health		
Engaging North America (US, Canada) on ongoing relevant initiatives where there are shared needs.		
Identify strategies to get research sponsors and countries to set up and follow an agreed research agenda.	An opportunity for PAHO to take a leadership role in convening key partners and helping to set up the agenda.	
Integrate concepts such as determinants of health into prioritization strategies.		
Development of rapid response mechanisms that enable better informed decisions for burning issues.	A perceived need in several countries; allows efficient use of shared resources and existing platforms. Experience from H.E.N. and other initiatives.	

Table 4. Key Issues	Indicate if information is provided for Information, Discussion or Decision
1. Strategies to seek adoption and replication of priority setting for research questions for other technical areas and projects	List of questions being prioritised for maternal mortality.
2. Develop a research agenda for PAHO, disseminate and promote adherence. convene key players to support that the agenda is addressed.	Recommendations from previous recent ACHRs and Policy on Research for Health
3. Refining priority setting strategies so that they result in specific proposals that can be more easily addressed and funded, with a focus that allows addressing determinants of health.	Manuscripts on priority setting: cholera draft (can not be circulated)
4. Identify means to engage and align priority countries	List of countries linked to the research plan of work; difficulty and opportunities in engaging priority countries.
5. Implement a research grants program on health systems research	Recommendations from previous ACHR
6. Begin work towards developing a Strategy and Plan of Action for PAHO's Policy on Research for Health.	Plan of work for the next quinquennium.

Activity:

Policy Goal: Capacities

Staff member: Eleana C Villanueva

Table 1. Headline Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011		
Five different type of capacity building activities were pursued: (1) traditional: workshops, conferences; (2) Train the Trainer ; (3) Online virtual training (webinars by Elluminate and two courses on ethics in the virtual campus); (4) Mentoring (PAHO Staff and interns); (5) “Auto or self-training” materials (key tools and educational materials made available in open access through the web).		
Event/Output	Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
1. TRADITIONAL	Workshops and conferences	
EVIPNet workshops on policy briefs (6) and deliberative dialogs (3) offered jointly with MacMaster and PUCC, the latter with the support of the HPSR Alliance.	Workshops offered in Chile, Guatemala, TRT, El Paso. Thirty professionals from EVIPNet teams in 8 countries were trained and 6 policy briefs and 3 deliberative dialogs are expected to be completed by December 2011.	Level of capacity built is varied. Outsourcing the production of policy briefs is still necessary and/or requires substantive handholding by tutors. Reported in Research Newsletter
Workshops in Guideline Development in partnership with WHO within WHO’s Learning Board activity.	2 workshops offered to PAHO staff especially research focal points. Staff from 19 countries participated. Staff from the Ministry expressed their interest in participating in these “for PAHO staff” workshops. One workshop to be offered to nationals in Chile in November 2011.	WHO to consider allowing ministry staff/counterparts to participate as this would contribute to attain sustainable capacity in the country and help in transition periods when the when the research focal point changes. Reported in Research Newsletter . Videos
Workshops on clinical trial registration:	2 workshops to be offered by the end of 2011 (Chile and Cuba). In Cuba international experts will participate and will also have the opportunity to network, learn about the recommendations of the Consultation Meeting in WDC in 2010 and will learn about Open Trials software. PAHO will be present to offer its support to those interested in trial registration.	Open Trials software needs to be officially made available to countries and PAHO and Bireme offer their support (TC) to countries interested in its implementation.
Workshops on ethics for PAHO staff (as part of WHO’s Learning Board) and another as part of PAHO’s technical cooperation.	3 face-to-face workshops, 2 for about 20 PAHO from HQ and the countries. Another was offered in Honduras to nationals from Honduras and Central America.	In collaboration with the University of Miami, WHO Collaborating Center and the Honduras country office. Playlist and Videos. PAHOERC was transferred to the Gender program beginning in 2011.

Conferences/workshops offered during other technical areas events and/or during external events.	This is a sensitization activity. Themes offered: GRADE at HTA, Río de Janeiro; EVIPNet during the Cochrane Colloquium; Knowledge Translation in Singapore; and 5 about Evemed (COL, DOR, ECU, GUT, HON); how to translate evidence into action re pesticides and vector control and during AIDIS a presentation on water distribution policies.	These conferences take place by invitation and are usually part of a bigger event. Look into how to have a more proactive and strategic approach to have presence in key events.
TRAIN THE TRAINER	Workshops 1-5 days.	
Workshops on Train the Trainer in EPPE offered at UWI-CEU-ERU (English) and at CIDEIM/Colombia (in Spanish). Jointly with WHO/TDR, CIDEIM and UWI.). The “Planning for Success” initiative was established in 2003 to nurture potential trainers in Train the Trainer course.	Four-day workshops offered to researches and administrators. Roughly 340 researchers and 40 facilitators in 15 countries between 2007 and April, 2010 trained to train researchers to effectively plan, implement, monitor and evaluate biomedical research projects to support skill-building for project management in health research in developing countries. Most of the trained investigators work in Latin America or the Caribbean.	Capacity has been established for researchers and administrators in a sustainable manner to manage research projects in the countries under this train the trainer model.
Workshops in KT offered in different countries with the support of the HPSR Alliance	Workshops were offered and institutions that have developed capacities are PUCC, Chile; UWI Jamaica and St. George University in Grenada (tbc) advancing the goal of sustainable capacity in the countries.	Promising model with some examples of success. Need to extract lessons learned.
VIRTUAL TRAINING	Webinars by Elluminate the virtual campus	
Series of online webinars in Spanish jointly with Cochrane Iberoamericana	Six webinars that covered the following topics were executed as planned. www.paho.org/researchportal Close to 1000 researchers participated in one or more of the webinars. A survey administered to participants confirms the need to continue the webinars and the gamut of topics suggested is wide. They, however, agreed that the themes offered had been good choices.	Participants were surveyed and have expressed their desire for PAHO to continue to offer these webinars. Next series should be adjusted and improved, perhaps follow the Canadian Cochrane model. See below. Participants also expressed a desire to obtain a certification if they complete the series.

Webinars in English with Cochrane Canada	More than 20 webinars offered and available now in the web as movies or recorded Elluminate sessions. Very good organized and presented.	The Canadian series is conducted in a very professionally and organized way. What seems to be key is that the series was in the hands of a facilitator who took on the role of presenter, organizer, and Elluminate trainer. Link to CCC
Webinar on Informed consent.	Offered to the University of Temuco.	Research Newsletter , February; 2011.
Virtual course on Ethics in the Virtual campus have been prepared.	Two courses are completed. Need an evaluation of the process and outcome and get recommendations from PAHOERC to assess if in the future research courses should be incorporated.	Development of the courses was longer than expected.
Self Training	Open access materials	
Reporting Guidelines in English and Spanish available through the Equator website	Key guidelines translated into Spanish, as part of the agreement PAHO/Equator. Currently making them known and foster their use in the Americas.	Library of Health Research Reporting Resources in Equator
SUPPORT Collaboration tools	Key tools produced by the Support Collaboration, available in the four official languages.	SUPPORT tools
Evidence Portal	Collaboration with BIREME	Outdated.
Testing Treatments, in partnership with James Lind Library	Made available as it addresses the importance of better, more reliable and unbiased research for the layperson.	Second edition to be published into Spanish and Portuguese.
Videos and webinar recordings available in the web	Materials are available in open access to all	Look into systematizing access and use statistics and ideally survey users.
MENTORING	Individual one on one or internships	
Internships	A number of interns from diverse top universities intern at PAHO year round. Working with the team, interns contribute to research and communications projects and publications. They in turn develop research skills and most prepare a paper for publication.	Interns have the potential to build key lasting relationships for future work. Because interns do not get a stipend, only students who have financial support from their universities and/or families are able to come.

One on One Coaching on peer review of biomedical publications	Offered to PAHO staff to master peer review including learning critical appraisal of biomedical literature, acquiring a sound understanding of research methods and implementation. Makes use of the extensive experience of the Research team in this field. Will train non-researchers enthusiasts about learning and scientific debate, and willingness to advance review processes. Initially to be offered in HQ but will extend to country offices.	Consider incorporating in WHO's Learning Board program.

Table 2. Headline Activities Planned for 2012-2013		
Event/Output	Intended Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
TRADITIONAL	WORKSHOPS and CONFERENCES	
Two Evened workshops in Chile and Colombia.	Two more Evipnet teams consolidated.	Worth pursuing, slim resources though.
Guideline development workshops.	Offered to country officials	To build national capacity in a sustainable manner.
TRAIN THE TRAINER		.
Continue offering EPPE workshop to Spanish and English speaking researchers and administrators.	Continue work with CIDEIM and firm collaboration with UWI to this end.	To be strengthened especially in the Caribbean.
Skills building strategy. UWI Unidad de apoyo INCLEN to create an EPPE team and be named a Cochrane node for the Caribbean.		
VIRTUAL TRAINING ONLINE		
Webinars in English webinars English and Spanish. Tailored by language and level.	Possibly plan a long-term plan for the Canadian series (should include financing). Incorporate the Caribbean.	Renewal of letters of agreement with Cochrane Canada and Iberoamericana and secure its additional funding is needed.
Webinars in Spanish With Cochrane Iberoamericana	Offer a new series taking into account feedback provided and incorporate a g a Facilitator is desirable.	Possibly offer webinars at two levels: clinic type for researches who already have proposals and general ones open to all researchers. The gamut of topics of interest is broad. Structuring the series is key.

Explore developing a course in the Virtual Campus	Virtual course on a selected research team initiative.	Many ifs to be solved but worth exploring.
SELF TRAINING REFERENCE MATERIALS		
In partnership with James Lind Library	Testing treatments 2 nd edition	PAHO will oversee translation into Spanish and Portuguese.
In partnership with MacMaster	Bridge documents	PAHO will oversee translation into Spanish and Portuguese. As the SUPPORT TOOLS, series to be available in French as well.
MENTORING		
Continue internship program.	If possible two interns year round	
One on one peer review training	Launch the initiative more formally.	Consider talking to WHO so to incorporate in the Learning Board.

Table 3. Future Developments		
Objectives	Challenges/Opportunities	Comments/Additional Information
Develop an evaluation plan to assess capacity building initiatives and its results.	Resources are scarce/will make better use of resources as per evaluation recommendations.	Worth investment
Expand collaboration with Equator for improving the quality of studies and subsequent research reporting	Slim resources but together with Partners it might be feasible to tap donors to fund initiatives.	Partnerships are an efficient way to get the work done.
Explore developing courses to offer through the virtual campus or similar venue.	PAHO's virtual campus would need to ensure smooth development process/The campus is open to the Region.	
Expand WHO's course offering through the Learning Board to countries.	To attain sustainability it is key that focal points counterparts be trained in key PAHO initiatives.	
Explore if PAHO should devise a Certificate or diploma for a course on Research.	This might be outside the mandate of the research team/there is a need to be fulfilled.	Explore if this would be best done with Partners or the Human Resources Area in PAHO.
Explore development of a comprehensive skills building strategy for researchers in the public sector.	Systematized strategy to enable a trained human resource force needed to implement the research for health policy.	
Explore how to fund less affluent outstanding students to intern at PAHO.	Opening the possibility to all would address a situation of inequity.	

Explore possibility to offer individualized training at CCCIb to decision makers or other key national personnel who are involved in or inclined to research for health.	Cochrane Iberoamericana to have more presence in the Americas/countries would benefit from this tremendous resource.	
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Table 4. Key Issues	Indicate if information is provided for Information, Discussion or Decision
1. Should a resource mobilization strategy be developed specifically for research for health?	Discussion
2. Should PAHO embark in an evaluation of its research building capacity activities to see how best to continue to handle its capacity building initiatives?	Decision
3. Should PAHO get into developing an academic curricula for research for health? As part of the University curricula, as a certificate? For selected audiences, i.e. decision makers, advisors to decision makers, only?	Discussion
4. Should the Evidence Portal be updated and maintained? Or will the new portal replace it?	Discussion

Activity:

Policy Goal: Foster best practices and enhanced standards for research

Staff member: Ludovic Reveiz

Table 1. Headline Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011		
1.1 To promote the implementation of recommended processes for technical documents and guides at PAHO and Member States using scientific evidence in line with WHO standards		
Events/Outputs	Outcomes/Impacts	Comments/Additional Information
- Training workshops for PAHO Staff, on guideline development, tailored to PAHO Guideline development processes - Promote access and use of technical documents and training (manuals, Videos, publications, WebPages) - Technical cooperation on guideline development provided to countries	- Mobilization of resources for training - Participation of PAHO/WHO staff from 19 LAC countries - Dissemination of WHO standards on guideline development (i.e. WHO Guideline Manual) - Capacity building in countries (Health Technology Assessment congress in Rio de Janeiro 2011)	Links to video
1.2 Clinical trial registration initiative		
Events/Outputs	Outcomes/Impacts	Comments/Additional Information
- Clinical Trials Registry network for Latin America and Caribbean: Consultation and Brainstorming meeting" held in Washington DC on April 27-28 2010. - Mapping legislation on trial registration as well as trial registries in LAC - Help Member States build effective and efficient tools - Advocate for trial registration in the region - Monitoring the impact of the trial registration initiative in Member States	- Concept paper and road map from participants including representatives from various countries of the Americas, delegates from registries contributing to ICTRP, and members of the ICTRP Secretariat - Two National trial registries (from Brazil and Cuba) have been accepted as WHO Primary registries - BIREME/ PAHO have already developed a software called OPEN TRIALS that permit to establish Spanish/Portuguese/English language Primary Register for the Region - Publications to advocate for trial registration - Studies to evaluate the prevalence of trial registration - Monitoring trial registration in the ICTRP	Reference of publications: 1. Krlježa-Jerič I K, Lemmens T, Reveiz L, Cuervo LG, Bero LA. Prospective registration and results disclosure of clinical trials in the Americas: a roadmap toward transparency. Rev Panam Salud Publica 2011;.30(1) 2. Reveiz L, Bonfill X, Glujovsky D, et al Trial registration in Latin America and the Caribbean's: study of randomized trials published in 2010. Journal Clinical Epidemiology (Accepted for publication) 3. Reveiz, L; Cuervo LG. Implementación de la iniciativa de registro de ensayos clínicos. Rev. Col. Anest. 2011;39(1):21-26 4. White L, Ortiz Z, Cuervo LG, Reveiz L Clinical trial registration in Argentina: an overview of current regulatory framework and clinical researchers and sponsor perceptions of barriers Rev Panam Salud Publica (Accepted for publication)
1.3. Strengthening PAHO Health Research Standards		
Events/Outputs	Outcomes/Impacts	Comments/Additional Information
- Implementation of PAHO Research registry - PAHOERC Secretariat (PAHO Ethic Review Committee) - Mapping LAC Ethic Review Committee - PAHOERC members & staff training - Capacity building to Member States in bioethics	- Evaluation of required modifications to the research registry system fimo - PAHOERC Standards Operation Procedures - PAHOERC report - Capacity building on ethic at PAHO and SM - Assessment of ethical and methodological flaws of projects submitted to PAHOERC revision - National ethic commission	Donley G, Saenz C, Reveiz L. What is Impeding Ethics Approval of Research Proposals? A Study of the Ethics Review at the Pan American Health Organization. Developing World Bioethics (Peer review process)

1.4 Research reporting standards		
Events/Outputs	Outcomes/Impacts	Comments/Additional Information
- Letter of agreement with the EQUATOR network - Assessment of research reporting quality in the Americas - Setting standards on best practice report	- Development of the Spanish EQUATOR portal - Translation of a number of reporting guidelines into Spanish - Publications to advocate for adequate reporting of research - Contributions to develop standards for good clinical practice reports of experiences (i.e. maternal mortality contest) - Studies on research reporting quality	1. Simera I, Reveiz L. New alliance between the Panamerican Health Organization and the EQUATOR Network to improve writing and publication of articles on health outcomes research. Med Clin (Barc) 2011; 137(5): 208-10. 2. Moher D, Villanueva E. Improving the quality of randomized trials reports: a collaboration between authors, reviewers and editors. Med Clin (Barc). 2011 137(5):211-2. 3. Reveiz L, Sangalang S, Glujovsky D, et al. Characteristics of randomized controlled trials published in Latin America and the Caribbean according to funding source. Clinical trials (Peer review)

1.5 EVIPNet standards		
Events/Outputs	Outcomes/Impacts	Comments/Additional Information
Training workshops for EVIPNet teams, on policy brief (PB) and deliberative dialogues (DD) development under EVIPNet global standards (Mc Master and SURE)	Capacity building for understanding the processes of knowledge translation and contribute to development of PB and DD with best standards.	Products are expected to publish later 2011 Link con PB Brasil, T&T, etc
Technical cooperation on policy brief and deliberative dialogues development provided to countries	Capacity building "learning by doing" in the reality of each country. Develop and produce policy brief and the reports of DD under standardized processes.	Products are expected to publish later 2011

Table 2. Headline Activities Planned for 2012-2013		
Event/Output	Intended Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
Publication policy on guideline development	- all guidelines in which PAHO are involved should comply with PAHO/WHO standards	
To promote guideline standards in MS and PAHO	- Training activities - Improvement in PAHO guideline quality	
To conform a Trial Registry network in the Americas	- Establishing Network Governance - Organizing knowledge; fostering communication on trial registration through workshops, conferences, newsletters and a website; presenting strategies for implementation of trial registration.	The mission of the network is to support the implementation of clinical trial registration in the Americas
To Promote national trial registries in MS	The "Open Trials" software has been used by regulatory agencies and other institutions to implement trial registries in MS.	
Promoting reporting standards in the Americas	- Translation of relevant reporting guidelines into Spanish and Portuguese - Latin American researchers are part of the EQUATOR network committee.	
Enforcing the use of the PAHO system to collect all research performed or sponsored by PAHO	- All studies performed or sponsored by PAHO are evaluated by PAHOERC	

Table 3. Future Developments		
Objectives	Challenges/Opportunities	Comments/Additional Information
To establish a Regional clinical trial registry platform	- a functional regional clinical trial registry complying with WHO standards for countries that do not have national registries - Equitable access of all the countries to trial registration	Developing national trial registries in every country is difficult and would require significant effort and resources in each of them. By incorporating experience gained during the development of the OPEN TRIAL software and implementation of the clinical trial registry of Brazil, BIREME/PAHO could develop a Regional registry that meets requirements of the ICTRP standards to be designated as a Primary registry
Improve standards of ethic committees in the Americas	-	
Rapid response mechanisms for generating and using research (i.e guidelines, policy brief)	- there is a need of rapid response mechanisms to inform MoH - Evipnet has develop team capacities in countries - Harmonized standards for guideline development, adaptation and implementation need to be met	
Development and implementation of policies to increase the investment in research	- Identification of alternative sources of research funding - Strengthening south –south collaboration in research project	

Table 4. Key Issues	Indicate if information is provided for Information, Discussion or Decision
1.	
2.	
3.	

Activity: Knowledge translation
Policy Goal:
Staff member: Evelina Chapman

The table below is provided to assist you in completing the information requested in the template that follows.

PAHO Policy on Research for Health
(a) Promote the generation of relevant, ethical, and high quality research
(b) Strengthen research governance and promote the definition of research agendas
(c) Improve competencies and support for human resources involved in research
(d) Seek efficiencies, enhanced impact, and ownership of research
(e) Foster best practices and enhanced standards
(f) Promote dissemination of and utilization of findings

Promote dissemination of and utilization of findings

Table 1. Headline Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011		
Event/Output	Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
Conferences at different settings about EVIPNet Americas as response to research policy of PAHO	Sensitization about knowledge translation processes and the EVIPNet as part of the execution of the PAHO's research policy	Honduras, Ecuador, Guatemala, Dominican Republic and Colombia
Presentation of PB " <i>Water and sanitation policy, human rights, equity, and public health</i> " at PAHO headquarters in the World Water Day 2011	Publication of the policy brief for OPS (SDE area) in process and elaboration of policy brief of Dominican Republic and Guatemala, in process.	https://intraapps.paho.org/Display.asp?RecID=30517
Support building EVIPNet VHL platform to be launched on 2012	We are contributing to surveys in the region of the EVIPNet Americas	In process
Re-design Website of EVIPNet at PAHO	Production of videos, audiovisual material and tools. Visibility and utilization, number of visit	

Promote the generation of relevant, ethical, and high quality research

Table 1. Headline Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011		
Event/Output	Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
Protocol and Conducting of systematic review about use of pesticides in public health to vector-borne diseases in LAC countries	One SR to build a policy brief in different countries of the Region. Capacity building in KT processes	Publications of PB is ongoing
Protocol and conducting of policy brief about water policies and human right, equity and public health.	One PB to build evidence informed policies in different countries of the Region. Capacity building in KT processes	Publications of PB is ongoing
Systematic review (Cholera's prophylaxis)	Capacity building of staff from PAHO as well as produce evidence relevant addressing to cholera epidemic (Haiti and others)	Ludovic Reveiz, Evelina Chapman, Pilar Ramon-Pardo, Tracey Perez Koehlmoos, Sylvain Aldighieri, Luis Gabriel Cuervo. Chemoprophylaxis in contacts of patients with cholera: systematic review and meta-analysis. Submitted for publication. February 2011. In peer review
Mapping research GAPs in maternal mortality (MM) research and building research prioritization.	Publications, capacity building through different areas at PAHO and mentoring	Two publications in process: 1) Mapping questions addressing to MM research needs; 2) Priority setting of questions about needs of MM research.

Improve competencies and support for human resources involved in research

Table 1. Headline Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011		
Event/Output	Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
EVIPNet related training in Ecuador organized by the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research (CCGHR, or Coalition) and the long-standing partnership of the University of British Columbia (UBC) and Universidad Andina Simon Bolivar (UASB). Quito, Ecuador, from 4-12 July 2010	Capacity building in explored social determinants of health in Latin America, translating research into action, and strengthening partnerships between Canadian and Latin American researchers. Participation of 9 countries and facilitators from Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, and Venezuela	This was achieved specifically through recruiting pairs of Canadian researchers with Latin American researchers, to reinforce successful examples of health research-to-action.

Training workshops to EVIPNet teams, on policy brief (PB) and deliberative dialogues (DD) development under EVIPNet global standards (Mc Master and SURE)	Capacity building in KT addressing to built KT Platforms in the Region. 30 professionals from EVIPNet teams from 8 countries of LAC were training doing policy briefs (PB) and deliberative dialogues (DD). We hope as results unless 6 PB and 3 deliberative dialogs through December 2011. Resource mobilization	Report EVIPNet Americas Workshop March 2011 - Abridged Publications of 6 PB and 3 dialogues are ongoing
Workshop involved multidisciplinary teams about how translate the evidence (systematic review) to action (policy decision making) about use of pesticides to vector - borne disease control.	To generate a critical mass to formulate local Policy briefs. Resource mobilization Cross-cutting activity with SDE (PAHO) and WHOPES (WHO)	Publication of systematic review is ongoing
Workshop involved multidisciplinary teams about how translate the evidence (Policy brief) to action (policy decision making) about water's public policies and human rights, public health and equity	To generate a critical mass to formulate Policy brief local. Elaboration of policy briefs in 3 countries. Cross-cutting activity with SDE (PAHO)	Informe Dialogo Deliberativo sobre Agua y Saneamiento en Guatemala
EVIPNet Workshop in Madrid (Cochrane Colloquium)	Capacity building in KT addressing to built KT Platforms in the Region. Resource mobilization	
EVIPNet conference in Medellin, Colombia	Sensitization about knowledge translation processes and the EVIPNet as part of the execution of the PAHO research policy	http://www.udea.edu.co/portal/page/portal/BibliotecaProgramas/Expouniversidad/articulos/Innovaci%C3%B3n%20en%20Salud

Strengthen research governance and promote the definition of research agendas

Table 1. Headline Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011

Event/Output	Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
Contribution to development of EVIPNet strategic plan 2012-2015	Launching SP of EVIPNet at 2011-2012	In process
Mapping research GAPS in maternal mortality research and building prioritization.	Prioritization of global research agenda about maternal health	Publications in process.

Table 2. Headline Activities Planned for 2012-2013		
Event/Output	Intended Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
Dissemination of MM research prioritization agenda	2 publications	Publications in process
EVIPNet Workshops in countries	Brazil, Chile and Colombia	Are being planned

Table 3. Future Developments		
Objectives	Challenges/Opportunities	Comments/Additional Information
Support the KT platform of the countries	Partnership with different organizations	
Incorporar EVIPNet a países prioritarios	Partnerships and encourage the inclusion of activities in the biennial plans EVIPNet countries. Partnerships with organizations	

Table 4. Key Issues	Indicate if information is provided for Information, Discussion or Decision
1. It is very important to discuss about put into action of the research policy with adequate resources allocation	Discuss the priority countries that did not incorporate KT platforms despite the advocacy and even participation in workshops in which many resources were mobilized (eg, Bolivia and Honduras) Sustainability of coordination of EVIPNet Secretariat with appropriate position and funds.
2.Note that in 2012 the WHO will work under “there is no health without research”	Window of opportunities to discuss and involving the countries. Important to position the area

Activity:
Policy Goal: Organization
Staff member: Luis Gabriel Cuervo

Table 1. Headline Activities Undertaken in 2010-2011		
Event/Output	Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
PAHO is enabled (has the tools and mechanisms) to identify and characterize research in which it participates	A Research Registry and the requirement to register any research in PAHO are in place; adherence to registration remains low and administrative processes to establish a single point of entry for research remain to be implemented. Political and administrative support is needed to get all partners in the consultations for the development of the registry, to comply with its use and streamline processes with a single entry point for research (the research registry).	Stakeholders involved in the preparation and consultations leading to PAHO's Research Registry need to get together to streamline processes. The registry is functional and they need to engage and promote compliance and use to enhance PAHO's research governance and allow identifying research financial flows and trends. This would be a major improvement to PAHO and would put it as a leading example of good research governance.
Monitoring and evaluation; establishment of baseline situation to monitor progress.	Baseline situation for guidelines and research proposals submitted to PAHOERC has been assessed; it showed plenty of room for improvement in guidelines and PAHOERC's applications shows 100% have substantial methodological shortcomings that are addressed in the review process. Every capacity building activity is evaluated.	Feedback provided in the development of PAHO's publications policy; processes need to be integrated into the policy.
PAHO establishes processes and standards to integrate research results into its technical cooperation. Defined and implementing standards for guidelines, recommendations and technical cooperation	>100 staff from technical programs and country offices trained on: • how to integrate research findings into recommendations and guidelines (2 workshops); third workshop scheduled for November 2011, Santiago, Chile • research ethics and methods. • Knowledge translations (PAHO Staff participating in EVIPNet initiatives and Rocky Mountain workshops on Evidence-based health care) • Peer review through one-on-one mentorships.	Capacity done with support from PAHO Staff, Collaborating Centers, Global Learning Committee and KMC. LOA's, MoU's and other agreements have allowed working with partners to develop reference and training materials customized to the needs of PAHO/WHO Staff, including life and recorded webinars, and manuals. Positive evaluations plus empirical evidence and anecdotes suggest these resources ease people's work and help them do a better job.
Development of opportunities for networking and continuous improvement of staff with interest for research topics.	Research Interest Group and Research Newsletter produced regularly and with sustained enthusiastic response. We have a regular flow of interns and growing interest from staff that find tools useful.	Growing interest and demand are straining staff. Requests for technical support by PAHO staff occur on a regular basis.
Integration of knowledge translation tools and processes into PAHO's technical cooperation.	PAHO Staff participating in EVIPNet national teams and the development of policy briefs and deliberative dialogues (access to water & sanitation, pesticides). Participation of staff in award selection processes requiring critical appraisal skills.	Safe Motherhood Initiative: selection of projects that reward the implementation of research tested practices. PAHO-ICCN Award
Adoption of good research practices and research governance into PAHO administrative processes	PRO & LEG staff trained on identifying research enhancing coordination.	Need to integrate additional administrative processes.
Links established in the programs of work for Member States and technical programs; shared funding.	Technical programs and member states are co-funding knowledge translation strategies.	

Table 2. Headline Activities Planned for 2012-2013		
Event/Output	Intended Outcome/Impact	Comments/Additional Information
Dialogue with counterparts in AD's office, AM, DD, Project Support Unit, Procurement, to streamline the management of research and use of PAHO's Research Registry.	All research proposals are registered and distributed in organized approval/review processes using PAHO's Research Registry	High level support will enable implementation.
Enhance knowledge translation activities with technical groups.	Continuity of work with Knowledge Management & Communications (KMC), Family & Community Health (FCH), Sustainable Development & Environmental Health (SDE), and Gender, Diversity & Human Rights (GDR). Strengthening links with Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief (PED), Health Surveillance, Disease Prevention and Control (SHD), Health Systems based on Primary Health Care (HSS).	Advice on building capacity within the Secretariat to cope with increased demand (demand strains existing resources) Research tools are perceived as facilitating technical cooperation. Publication of new reference materials (Testing Treatments II; Public health version; staff & country teams engaging in regular capacity building activities; standardization of processes and alignment with publications policy) The Evidence Portal integrates resources for evidence informed policy development.
An analysis characterizing PAHO's research, financial flows and resources for research, and the alignment with the work agendas.	Yearly reports for PAHO's research for health Technical units use reports to align their research agendas / activities Financial flows and resources for research become standard in PAHO's reports to the Governing Bodies	

Table 3. Future Developments		
Objectives	Challenges/Opportunities	Comments/Additional Information
PAHO's Research Registry linked links to databases of publications allowing enhanced accountability and visibility to research coming from PAHO		PAHO has defined research agendas and these are aligned with the research registry.
PAHO'S research registry is integrated as a management tool	Research is accounted for	Expertise and capacities for research at PAHO are well identified and maintained.
Effective coordination with WHO and regional offices in an environment of dwindling resources and increased demand	Sharing of resources, collaboration and consistency in research governance. Standardised reporting of research. PAHO/WHO convenes research sponsors to align agendas and funding.	Integration with the Global Learning Board, HRM offices, and administrative processes
Flagship initiatives relay on a robust and stable secretariat (ICTRP, Guidelines for Guidelines, PAHO Research registry)	Research coordination is independent, sustainable, and influential in PAHO	
Tools and strategies communicate efficiently with internal and external partners: dedicated support, resources, and stable platform.	Strategies to address internal overlaps and duplication. Clear delineation of responsibilities and coordination. Integration of databases and administrative tools Projects under the DD and AD offices integrate research methods and processes in a systematic manner into their technical cooperation.	
A system is developed to reflect the mobilization of non-financial resources in budgets	Budget reports include non-financial resources mobilized	

Table 4. Key Issues	Indicate if information is provided for Information, Discussion or Decision
- Integration of existing governance tools into PAHO's administrative structure. - How to address the fragmentation and overlaps in research management; enhancing coordination between entities under different management and hierarchies - How to set up agenda that sponsors and Member States buy into. - Development of priority setting processes with technical areas. - Dealing with overlaps in agendas within the organization; is there a role for research in other technical programs.	
2. Alignment of publications policy with research policy; aligning processes for publications of evidence informed recommendations, guidelines, etc.	
3. Raising the standards and using established methodologies to assist technical cooperation.	
4. Supporting the Secretariat / coordination to remain stable, independent, influential and a strategic part of PAHO's work.	

