



**Regional
Network for
Interprofessional
Education
in the Americas**

Guidelines 2017



Introduction

The Regional Network for Interprofessional Education in the Americas (REIP, Spanish acronym) constitutes a strategy for coordination and technical cooperation between educational institutions, professional organizations, and ministries of Health and Education, for the purpose of promoting interprofessional education and collaborative practice in health care in the Region of the Americas.

This network was proposed during a meeting promoted by PAHO/WHO: Interprofessional Education in Healthcare: Improving Human Resource Capacity to Achieve Universal Health, held in Bogotá (Colombia) in 2016. The network constitutes a strategy among countries interested in the development of interprofessional education, with a view to improving the quality of health services and enhancing the education of human resources for health through the work of interprofessional teams.

Objectives of the Network

1. Propose actions for the development of Interprofessional Education (IPE) to achieve Universal Health.
2. Share experiences, information, scientific knowledge and evidence, methodologies and technological resources for teaching activities, and research and information on IPE.
3. Accompany, contribute to, and disseminate the actions taken by countries. .
4. Identify common problems, interests and priorities related to the initial and continuing interprofessional education of health professionals, while generating shared options for transformation.
5. Strengthen the development of intersectoral and multicenter research among the members of REIP..
6. Lend visibility to the situation and trends that define interprofessional education in health care, facilitating the identification of priorities for the development of IPE.
7. Help to promote coordination between IPE and professional practice in order to improve people's access to health.

Values

The Regional Network for Interprofessional Education in the Americas shares the values of Equity, Excellence, Solidarity, Respect, Integrity, and Social responsibility.

Mission

To cooperate with the countries of the Region of the Americas to develop and advance toward interprofessional education and collaborative practice in health care.

Vision

Coordinate and share experiences, knowledge, and the production of scientific evidence on interprofessional education to support policies that contribute to Universal Health.

Members of the Network

REIP will comprise mainly educational institutions, professional organizations, and ministries of Health and Education in the countries of the Region of the Americas. The main activities of the members are to:

- Participate in the preparation of the work plan
- Participate in periodic on-site and virtual meetings
- Organize development-oriented activities in their institution or country, on behalf of the network and within the framework of the work plan
- Contribute news on IPE for the Network's reports
- Construct a space in which to disseminate the Network's activities (Regional Observatory on Human Resources)
- Participate actively in the Network's plans and projects

Coordination

The Regional Network for Interprofessional Education in the Americas will be coordinated by three countries over a two-year period. Each country should have a representative from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, and a public educational institution or professional association from within the Region. These representatives will be elected by the members of the Network.

Biennial Work Plan

Every two years, the Network will prepare a work plan—to be discussed by the members—that will include a set of regional and/or national activities, with a brief description.

BIENNIAL WORK PLAN 2018-2019

Activity 1	Title:	NETWORK MEMBERS
	Description:	Identify people/organizations in academia, services, and government that work (or are interested in working) on this subject and disseminating the guidelines
	Objectives:	Establish the network
	Responsible parties:	Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, and Chile
	Partners:	Ministries of Health and Education, and universities
	Expected results:	Identify at least 3 people/institutions per country
	Term:	6 months

Activity 2	Title:	BIENNIAL WORK PLAN REGIONAL/ NACIONAL
	Description:	Identify opportunities and barriers to implementation of IPE
	Objectives:	Develop the national plan, identifying opportunities and barriers in the implementation of IPE
	Responsible parties:	Coordinator for each country
	Partners:	Ministries of Health and Education, and universities
	Expected results:	Develop the regional/national plan, based on the identified opportunities and barriers
	Term:	6 months

BIENNIAL WORK PLAN 2018-2019

Activity 3	Title:	LAUNCH OF THE IPE NETWORK
	Description:	Launch the IPE Network at the 2nd Regional Technical Meeting
	Objectives:	Formalize the Constitution of REIP
	Responsible parties:	Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, and Chile
	Partners:	PAHO/WHO
	Expected results:	Establish the formally constituted Regional Network for Interprofessional Education in the Americas.
	Term:	December 2017

Activity 4	Title:	VIRTUAL SEMINARS
	Description:	Promote actions to disseminate the subject at the regional level
	Objectives:	Develop strategies to disseminate the subject of IPE at the regional level with experts from the following institutions: CAIPE, WHO CC, AFRIPEN, University of Washington, and other members of the Network
	Responsible parties:	Representatives of Argentina, Brazil, and Chile
	Partners:	PAHO/WHO
	Expected results:	Hold a virtual seminar every 60 days on the PAHO/WHO Webex platform
	Term:	Starting March 2018.

BIENNIAL WORK PLAN 2018-2019

Activity 5	Title:	NETWORK WEBSITE
	Description:	Use a website to disseminate actions and projects proposed at the regional level
	Objectives:	Develop the Network's website
	Responsible parties:	Argentina, Brasil and Chile
	Partners:	PAHO/WHO
	Expected results:	Website developed
	Term:	6 months

Activity 6	Title:	ANNUAL EVENT
	Description:	Organize an annual event on IPE and collaborative practices
	Objectives:	Organize an annual event where members of the Network can meet; review the biennial work plan and disseminate experiences on the subject, in 2017, jointly with the regional event.
	Responsible parties:	Argentina, Brasil and Chile
	Partners:	PAHO/WHO
	Expected results:	Annual event held
	Term:	December 2017 and September 2018

BIENNIAL WORK PLAN 2018-2019

Activity 7	Title:	ACCREDITATION OF SCHOOLS/FACULTIES
	Description:	Establish levels of interprofessional education by including IPE in accreditation standards and criteria
	Objectives:	Propose the inclusion of IPE in accreditation processes
	Responsible parties:	NETWORK MEMBERS
	Partners:	PAHO/WHO
	Expected results:	Presence of standards for interprofessional education in documents that define health sciences programs.
	Term:	2018

Activity 8	Title:	COORDINATION BETWEEN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND THE HEALTH SYSTEM TO PROMOTE COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE
	Description:	Collaborative practice as a key element of IPE in different scenarios requires interaction among the different sectors involved in order to respond to public demands regarding the health system
	Objectives:	Promote actions for coordination between education and health systems
	Responsible parties:	NETWORK MEMBERS
	Partners:	PAHO/WHO
	Expected results:	Coordination established between the education and health systems, including activities with a collaborative practice approach
	Term:	2018

BIENNIAL WORK PLAN 2018-2019

Activity 9	Title:	INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION IN CONTINUING EDUCATION PROCESSES
	Description:	Incorporate and disseminate the concept of interprofessional education in professional practice in order to establish health teams that can respond to demands, improving access to the system
	Objectives:	Develop mechanisms that address continuing education from the perspective of interprofessional education
	Responsible parties:	NETWORK MEMBERS
	Partners:	PAHO/WHO
	Expected results:	Inclusion of IPE as a subject in continuing education processes.
	Term:	2018

Activity 10	Title:	INCORPORATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL TOOLS FOR EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION AND TO SUPPORT INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE
	Description:	Use innovative technologies in educational processes focusing on interprofessional education
	Objectives:	Compile and disseminate experiences in the use of technologies in interprofessional education and collaborative practices
	Responsible parties:	NETWORK MEMBERS
	Partners:	PAHO/WHO
	Expected results:	Experiences in the use of technologies to strengthen IPE and collaborative practices
	Term:	2018

