

Workshop: Experts meeting for capacity building through education and training in occupational health (Preliminary Agenda) October 22-23, 2009

Workshop conveners:

GPA 3 Managers: Timo Leino and Leslie Nickels

Learning Repository Initiative Leaders: Jonny Myers and Linda Grainger

The WHO Global Plan of Action for Workers' Health sets the objective of improving coverage of and access to occupational health services. Building human resource capacities for occupational health is seen as one of the main strategies to achieve for achieving this objective. This is complemented by institutional development, service delivery standards and financing mechanisms.

Under their 2009-2012 workplan WHO collaborating centres for occupational health work towards building critical core capacities for occupational health through education and training, particularly targeted to settings, sectors and countries in greatest need, such as small and medium enterprises, resource constrained settings, agriculture, construction, informal economy, migrant workers, low and medium income countries. This work requires establishment of synergies and better coherence of training and education programmes of individual collaborating centres and other international partners as well as a platform to reach out to those in greatest need.

Recent international efforts in building human resource and institutional capacities for delivery of occupational health services, such as the meetings held at ICOH (March 2009) and Chile (May 2009) as well as other local and regional WHO meetings; and the expected outcomes of the October 2009 CC meeting work group, have defined a number of including other existing or proposed mechanisms which support building capacity.

In follow up of these efforts, WHO convenes this workshop for experts from collaborating centres and international partners to develop a proposal for scaling up international and national efforts on training and education in occupational health. The overall goals of the workshop are:

- (1) to develop a plan for creating an open educational resource repository and a community of educators for increasing access to occupational health education and training and
- (2) to define a mechanism for maximizing participation of local and regional educators and dissemination of good practice programs in OH education and training

The specific objectives are:

- 1) 1.1 To describe assets and gaps arising from from the experiences of, and needs identified for, educational and training resources in the activities of the WHO CCs e.g. in Africa (WASA/Fogarty), Central America (WASA) and Asia (Afghanistan, Thailand and Vietnam), These include: learning methodologies, partnerships, technologies, successes and barriers, and strategies for sustainability from the regional case studies. Specifically to discuss features, advantages and limitations of online or e-platforms for education and training in capacity building in low and medium income countries.
- 1.2 to produce an inventory of existing CC projects and how they fit with proposed facilitating projects (partially defined in CC work group session)
- 1.3 to link the above to a broad preliminary framework for OH disciplines and competencies (distribute materials prior to meeting) including common and unique elements
- 1.4 to develop and plan for creating an open educational learning repository
- 2) To identify a community of educators for increasing access to occupational health education and training in resource-constrained (low and medium) countries (background material circulated prior to meeting).

- 3) To create an outline for the way forward for communicating, promoting, facilitating maximal participation, acquisition and evaluation of educational resources and activities outlined above, in ways that emphasise local and regional ownership and sustainability.

Outcomes:

- 1) Map of competencies in relation to discipline descriptions
- 2) Annotated list of existing resources potentially suitable for inclusion in an occupational health education and training repository.
- 3) List of educators willing to participate in a global network linked to the repository
- 4) Strategic outline for
 - a. Establishing sustainable housing for occupational health education and training resources above the repository.
 - b. Establishing a mechanism or structure for continued participation and contribution to the repository or network in ways that are inclusive of local and regional needs. This could begin with the subset of WHO CCs actively engaged in educational and training activities.

<u>Education and training in occupational health (Preliminary Agenda) October 22-23, 2009</u>		
Workshop conveners: GPA 3 Managers: Timo Leino and Leslie Nickels Learning Repository Initiative Leaders: Jonny Myers and Linda Grainger		
	Thursday 22 October 2009	
Time	Topic	Outcome
1:00-1:30	Welcome, review of CC work group outcomes and purpose of Workshop	
1:30-2:15	Case study presentations on capacity building	Models for capacity building emphasizing educational and training needs for appropriate services configuration
2:15-3:00	Review and discussion of existing assets and gaps in ed. and training projects	List of resources emphasizing needs Recommendations for desired features for users in different regional settings
3:00-3:30	Break	
3:30-5:30	Demonstration and discussion for CC participation in creating a repository	List of content and features
5:30-6:15	Dinner	
6:15-7:30	Creating a global network for education and training	List of experts and teachers
7:30-9:00	Experts view on the way forward	Strategic outline for creating structural mechanisms for partnerships to support implementation, housing, ongoing contribution and use of E&T resources and sustainability.
9:00	Adjourn	
	Friday 23 October 2009	
9:00-10:30	The way forward for promoting, communicating, facilitating participation, housing and evaluating the educational and training repository and the global educators	Further development of preliminary planning detail for workshop
10:30-10:45	Break	
10:45-11:30	Next steps and closing	Plan for next 2 years for GPA 3.2