

HEALTH TECHNICAL SCHOOLS NETWORK OF THE UNASUL Work Plan

1. Introduction

In the 1st meeting of the Technical Group of Development and Management of Human Resources for Health of the Unasul Health Council that took place 24-25 September 2009 in Rio de Janeiro, it was approved for the deliberation of the Unasul Health Council, the creation of the Health Structuring Institutions Network, among them, the Health Technical Schools Network of Unasul.

The Structuring Networks should take action through the exchange among the member institutions that work in the education of personnel for the national health systems, with the intention of overcoming the existing educational asymmetries aiming at strengthening their capacity of education, research and technological development.

By having the International Education Network for Health Technicians (RETS) in the region, which Executive Secretariat is located at the Joaquim Venancio Polytechnic Health School (EPSJV) since 2005, the Technical Group took into consideration the articulation of the Technical Schools Network of Unasul with the RETS, in order to be able to guarantee in a more organic way the cooperation actions among the countries, at the same time as it becomes possible the development of joint efforts for the improvement in the education of health technicians.

In this sense, the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) through the Joaquim Venâncio Polytechnic Health School presents the work plan of the Health Technical Schools Network, the result of the discussions that took place 9-11 December 2009, during the 1st Meeting of the Health Technical Schools Network of the Unasul in Rio de Janeiro.

2. Development strategies, objectives and actions

2.1 Organization and Network Management

The Health Technical Schools Network of Unasul is composed by the government organs responsible for the formulation of education policies for the health area technicians and by the education institutions that execute programs of technical workers education in the health area, designated by the Ministries of Health of the Unasul member states.

The member institutions must:

- Maintain the articulation with the counterparts of human resources of the member states in order to guarantee the convergence of the actions in the scope of the education of health technicians;
- To promote the technical cooperation among its peers and among the other organs of service, education, research and the like;
- To develop and maintain monitoring systems of the workforce and the education of health workers.

The network management will be in charge of one of the member institutions, defined by the Technical Group of Development and Management of Human Resources for Health of the Unasul and will be granted a 4-year mandate.

2.2 General Objective

To strengthen the education of health technician workers in the countries that are part of the Unasul, through the exchange of experiences and the development of technical cooperation, aiming at expanding and improving the education, research and technological development activities, leading to an improvement of the national health systems and its suitability to the needs of its population and regional integration.

2.3 Specific Objectives

- 1) To monitor and systematize, permanently, the information related to the area of the education of health technician workers and its interface with the health work organization, helping to identify the trends and educational needs, hoping to support the elaboration of public policies for the area;
- 2) To promote the technical-scientific cooperation among the member institutions for the elaboration of educational proposals, curriculum projects, courses, didactic materials, methodologies and capacity building for teachers in the priority areas, searching for options and experiences that can be shared;
- 3) To develop mechanisms that facilitate the production, dissemination and systematization of information and communication about the education of health technicians area among the members of the subnetwork.
- 4) To stimulate the development of research among the member institutions in the interface of the Health, Education and Work areas that allows the expansion and strengthening of its education activities and technical cooperation.

3. Activities

Specific objective #1

To monitor and systematize, permanently, the information related to the area of the education of health technician workers and its interface with the health work organization, helping to identify the trends and educational needs, hoping to support the elaboration of public policies for the area.

Related actions

1.1 To generate an information system based on the data originated from the official organs of education or Observatories of Human Resources:

1.1.1 To stimulate the creation of Observatories of Human Resources;

1.1.2. To strengthen the technicians area in the Observatories of Human Resources;

1.2 To identify the levels and degrees of the technicians education (credit hours, admission requirements; areas or subareas; levels connected to each subarea);

1.3 To compile the education, health and work laws of each country;

1.4 To characterize the institutions of education of health technicians in each country;

1.5 To analyze the education plans of the courses of the technicians education;

1.6 To analyze the suitability between the profile and professional performance of the technical workers;

1.7 To identify the needs of permanent and continuous education for the technical workers;

1.8 To generate mechanisms to follow-up, with a minimum set of data, the insertion in the job market of graduates of educational institutions of health technicians;

1.9 To systematize the information derived from the current work baselines in the distinctive jurisdictions and collective arrangements, regarding the occupation of technical workers available (inclusive categories, salaries, salaries compared to other professions, etc)

Specific Objective #2

To promote the technical-scientific cooperation among the member institutions for the elaboration of educational proposals, curriculum projects, courses, didactic materials, methodologies and capacity building for teachers in the priority areas, searching for options and experiences that can be shared;

Related Actions

2.1 To elaborate common frameworks of education and reference curricula, according to the identified priority areas (Health Surveillance; Nursing, Information and Health Records);

2.2 To produce and exchange didactic material according to the common frameworks of education with the reference curricula and with the identified priority areas;

2.3 To share the experiences of overcoming obstacles and/or capacity building for professionals with no formal education, assistants and experienced technicians, and newly graduates in articulation with the educational institutions, professional associations of technicians and other players in the job market;

2.4 Elaboration of a joint project for the capacity building of teachers for the education of health technicians.

Specific Objective #3

To develop mechanisms that facilitate the production, dissemination and systematization of information and communication about the education of health technicians area among the members of the subnetwork.

Related Actions

3.1 To elaborate a base with the minimum content for the educational institutions that allows the organized input of information from the institution to the subnetwork;

3.2 To generate an online or printed bulletin, bimonthly or monthly, that will reach all the educational institutions;

3.3 To promote the online or printed publication of the most valuable experiences derived from the conferences or meetings.

Specific Objective #4

To stimulate the development of research among the member institutions in the interface of the Health, Education and Work areas that allows the expansion and strengthening of its education activities and technical cooperation.

Related Actions

4.1 To promote studies that allow the evaluation of the needs and availability of health technicians in the member countries.

4.1.1 To identify new profiles required in the framework of the health policies and of the development of human resources.

4.2 To carry out researches about the insertion of technicians in the work market and the work process that they go through in relation to their education.