



Working together to promote health equity and well-being for Latin American communities

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2018: 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM PST

Webinar: Knowledge-Sharing and Action Network on Health Equity in the Americas

PARTICIPANTS:

Jessica Allen, UCL Institute for Health Equity
Francisco Armada, Instituto Suramericano de Gobierno en Salud/ UNASUR
Ximena Avellaneda, GESMujer
Xochitl Castaneda, UC Berkeley/UC Mexico Initiative
Arachu Castro, Tulane University
Anne Dubois, Dubois Betourne & Associates / UCLA Blum Center
Alvaro Franco, Universidad de Antioquia
Luis Galvão, Fundación Oswaldo Cruz (FIOCRUZ)
Juan Pablo Gutierrez, INSP
Bri-Ann Hernandez, UCLA Blum Center
Andrea Leiva, UCLA Blum Center
Pastor Murillo, PAHO Equity and Health Commission
Paulina Pacheco, ONIS – Observatorio Nacional de inequidades en Salud
Michael Rodriguez, UCLA Blum Center
Rocio Saenz, National University Costa Rica
Sebastian Garcia Saiso, ONIS – Observatorio Nacional de inequidades en Salud
Donald Simeon, University of West Indies St. Augustine
Melissa C. Smith, UC Santa Barbara
Manuel Urbina, Investigacion en Salud y Demografia - INSAD

NOTE: For additional details, the March webinar notes, recording and pptx can be found at <https://blumcenter.ucla.edu/xowiki/summit>

1. Welcome - Michael Rodriguez, UCLA Blum Center

Starting next month, we will transition to a new Webinar platform, VoiceBoxer, which allow interpretation of the presentation and conversation in both English and Spanish in real time.

Action Item: By April 16, UCLA Blum Center will send VoiceBoxer “how-tos” and instructions for signing into this new platform.

2. Network Members' Related News/Events – Jessica Allen, UCL Institute for Health Equity

PAHO Independent Commission Meeting

The commissioners gathered in Atlanta in early March to address health inequalities facing minority populations including African Americans, Latinos, and indigenous populations.

During the meeting, the commissioners met with civil rights leaders including Martin Luther King Jr.'s sister, Christine King Ferris. The commissioners also heard from young leaders from the Atlanta region in civil rights groups who are actively campaigning in a variety of different movements related to African American, Latino and indigenous communities. This 2-day meeting focused on leadership, leadership building and taking action in order to prepare the Commission for releasing its executive summary of recommendations in September 2018.

Jessica presented the Commissioners and meeting participants a fact sheet on the Network and led a discussion on the goals and projected impact of the Network, which were received with enthusiasm by the Commissioners. Commissioners also learned about the evidence gathered by the Network, the contributing participants, and their leadership roles. Contributions are still welcomed from the Network. The UCLA Blum Center are now summarizing the Network-contributed articles.

The Commissioners' Secretariat continues to review other solicited materials, including 13 evidence reviews, which will be published after the executive summary. The executive summary of the report will be released in September and will include the director of PAHO and Sir Michael Marmot to discuss recommendations. Two additional events are being considered to increase visibility for activities, implementation and advocacy for the Commission's recommendations; Brazil and Canada are being considered as possible meeting venues.

Action Item: See below, Item 3.a.

Other Members' News:

As a recurring meeting agenda item, Network members are encouraged to share news of their work that corresponds to the goals/objectives of the Network. News to be shared may include new collaborations, upcoming events, news from member institutions, publication opportunities, research findings, successful interventions, proven policies, etc.

Action Item: Members with news, training or other information related to the Network should email Mrodriguez@mednet.ucla.edu to provide a brief description of the information they would like to share at the next webinar

3. ACTION Items from the 28 February 2018 Webinar

a. PAHO Report Contributions

11 members representing six countries have contributed a total of 97 articles to the PAHO Commission. The broad topic areas for contributions include health, migration, education and climate change. As mentioned by Jessica Allen, the Network is currently preparing a summary of materials to be able to share.

As suggested by Juan Pablo Gutierrez an evidence map should be developed to show where there are gaps.

Action Item: Members are encouraged to submit materials and participate in the platform. If invitation to site has not been received or if you are having issues with uploading files, please email andrealeiva@mednet.ucla.edu for assistance.

b. Funding Opportunities

Several funding prospects were mentioned and are being or will be explored:

- 1) Robert Wood Johnson for initial funding for infrastructure of the Network
- 2) FUNSALUD, through Elyse Bautista
- 3) Horizontes 2020 as recommended by Pedro Mas
- 4) Gates Global Challenge, in collaboration with Melissa Smith
- 5) Funding Sources recommended by Rocio Saenz (icap.ac.cr)
- 6) Suggestion from Francesco Armada: review <http://www.unasursg.org/es/fondos-de-iniciativa-comun-de-unasur>

Action Item: Please submit potential funding resources and/or collaboration ideas to mrodriguez@mednet@ucla.edu

c. Preliminary Inventory of Network Expertise

Preliminary information about the depth of expertise of Network members was presented and can be found in the presentation uploaded to <https://blumcenter.ucla.edu/xowiki/summit>

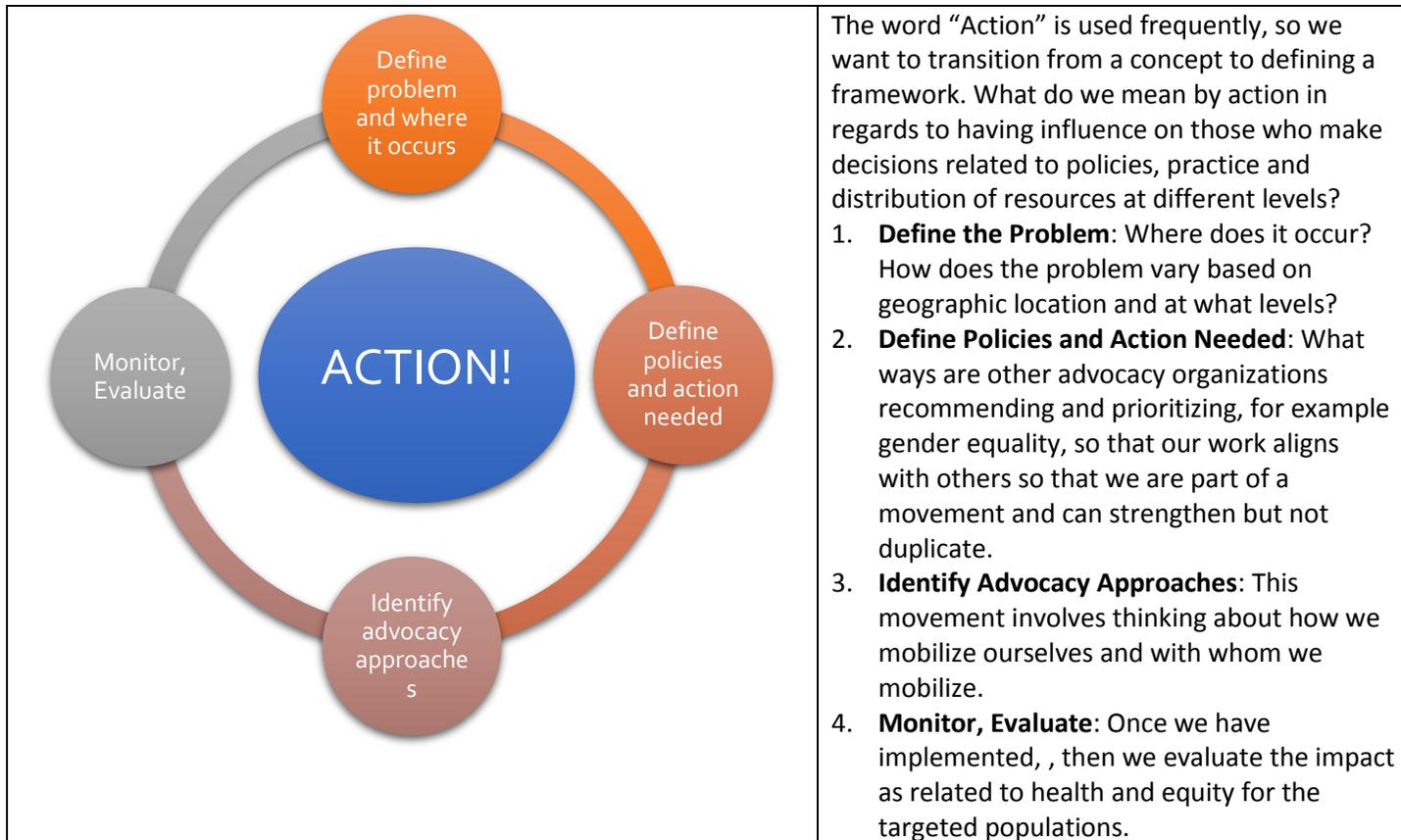
4. Project ACTION: Refining Priority Areas – Poll Results

Based on the results of the poll form the February webinar, we have identified two priority areas for the Network's work: gender equality and race/ethnicity/immigrant/indigenous populations. We will refine these focus areas as we look into policies that are important and relevant.

5. UN Commission on the Status of Women – Mabel Bianco, Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer

Although Mabel was unable to attend the webinar, Michael reported on her work as a member of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and the March 12-23 meeting of this commission in New York City. The meeting focused on advocacy on a global level to identify policies of high priority to promote gender equality. Discussions were also held on how gender equality is achieved through various sectors working together and how advancing gender equality will work toward improvement in specific health areas, eg, non-communicable chronic diseases. For more information about this CSW, see <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw62-2018>

6. Discussion: ACTION Steps to Address Priority Areas



All steps in this framework are completed and strengthened by a collaborative approach. Through the network, we will not only work to communicate between ourselves and refine our communication process so we can share our experiences, but also to work with others who are already in the field. We will work collaboratively so that the Network becomes a vehicle to for forward action and progress.

From Manuel Urbina: It is important in the defining the problem to identify the causes and effects so we can map out interrelated problems and objectives as a base for which we identify and define potential policies and proposals.

From Rocio: Emphasized the importance to include all the different populations affected by a particular problem.

7. Network Activities:

Governance/Structure Committee Report: Rocio Saenz, National University Costa Rica

Chair of Governance Committee Rocio Saenz, and Governance Committee members, Elyse Bautista, Mabel Bianco, Anna Coates, Anne Dubois, Luiz Galvao, Juan Pablo Gutierrez, and Manuel Urbina met last week to collaborate and discuss the responsibilities and roles of the committee in regard to structuring the Network,. Network responsibility areas have been identified as:

- Network organizational structure, leadership patterns and systems designs
- Network membership definition, terms and criteria
- Network policies and procedures

- Network strategic plan
- Network plan for ongoing performance evaluation and progress towards goals
- Guidance on specific Network activity

Network Communications:

Fact Sheet

The Network fact sheet is attached to these meeting notes. Please feel free to share with others. A Spanish version is being prepared and will be ready by mid-April.

Advocacy and Communications Committee

Eugenia Tarzibachi has accepted has accepted the role of co-chair for the Committee. The Advocacy and Communications Committee, under Eugenia's leadership and together with a co-chair, will develop strategic advocacy and communications plans. Members are currently being invited.

From Jessica Allen: when the Committee is established in the coming months, we would need to plan so that when the recommendations are submitted, we are ready to move forward and be part of promoting strategic implementation.

Action Item: If you would like to volunteer and be part of the Advocacy and Communications Committee, please email andrealiva@mednet.ucla.edu.

Logo Development and Network Naming

A logo for Network is under development and the official name of the Network is under consideration:

Red de Equidad en Salud de las Américas (RESA)
Políticas y Acciones Sostenibles para el Bienestar

Health Equity Network of the Americas (HENA)
Sustainable Policies and Actions for Well-Being

Arachu Castro commented that perhaps only one acronym should be used. RESA is simple and sounds good.

Action Item: The UCLA Blum Center, along with the Advocacy and Communications Committee, will vet the naming convention and logo concepts to key stakeholders as these important branding items take shape. Network members are invited to submit concepts and ideas to help us prepare the most appealing and appropriate action-oriented name and logo. Please submit any ideas to ad@duboisbetourne.com.

8. Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 8 AM PT.