



**Pan American  
Health  
Organization**



Regional Office of the  
World Health Organization

**BIREME | PAHO | WHO**  
**Latin-American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information**  
Knowledge Management and Communications Area (KMC)

**Report: BIR IT 088-IN/13**

## **Executive Report**

# **I Session for the Installation of the Scientific Committee of BIREME**

**July 25<sup>th</sup> 2013**

São Paulo, July 2013

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# 1 Institutional

The Statute and the Maintenance and Development Agreement of BIREME continues to coexist as the institutional frameworks of the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/World Health Organization (WHO) Specialized Center, part of the Area of Knowledge Management and Communications (KMC), since the new institutional framework of the Center is in process of implementation in the 2012-2013 biennium.

The Maintenance and Development Agreement of BIREME is valid until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013, in coordination with its signatories, PAHO/WHO, and the institutions representatives of the Government of Brazil, the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, the Health Secretariat of the State of São Paulo (SES-SP), and the Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP) as the Agreement of Headquarters of BIREME in Brazil and the subsequent Agreements are being established between the parties.

The efforts undertaken in the maintenance and development of the institutional framework of BIREME are characterized by uninterrupted cooperation between PAHO and the Government of Brazil in the last four decades, in order to ensure the maintenance, development and institutional strengthening of the Center.

Cooperation between PAHO and the signatories of Brazil aiming the maintenance and development of BIREME, which dates from the foundation of BIREME in 1967, constitutes an example of south-south cooperation with large impact on the democratization of the access and publication of scientific information for the great majority of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (LA&C) and indirectly for the developing countries of Africa and of Asia<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The mission of BIREME/PAHO/WHO is aligned with PAHO/WHO Strategic Objective SO 11 – “To strengthen the leadership, the governance and scientific evidence of health systems” and with the Regions’ Expected Result (RER) 11.03 “Member States supported through Technical Cooperation in order to increase the equitable access, dissemination and use of information, knowledge and evidence in health to support decision-making” see PAHO/WHO (September 2009). Strategic Plan 2008-2012. Pan American Health Organization. Available at: <http://www.paho.org/french/gov/csp/od328-full-e.pdf>

BIREME as an International Organization and Reference Center in scientific information and communication has ensured to the countries of the Region the continuity of the governance, development, operation, and innovation of products, services, events, systems, methodologies, and technologies of scientific and technical information following the international state of the art. Thus, BIREME contributes systematically and efficiently to sustain, strengthen, and increase the capacities and infrastructures of scientific information and communication in Brazil and in the Region.

The progress of BIREME's operation is made evident by the fact that the technical cooperation by means of the Virtual Health Library (VHL) and Associated Networks is present in 30 (thirty) countries and it includes over 2000 (two thousand) institutions. The Annex document has information on the technical cooperation of BIREME via VHL and its regional strategic network of institutions.

The VHL is a component of the Strategy and Plan of Action on Knowledge Management and Communications approved in 2012, at the 28<sup>th</sup> Pan American Sanitary Conference, as well as of the Strategy and Plan of Action on eHealth approved in 2011, in the 51<sup>st</sup> Session of the Directing Council of the Organization.

Among the main characteristics of BIREME's actions, it is remarkable, on the one hand, the cooperative work through the networks of individuals and institutions in information management and knowledge sharing. On the other hand, it points out the pursuit of the international state of the art in the development, adoption, and adaptation of indexing and retrieving methodologies and technologies for scientific and technical information, according to the economic, cultural and of infrastructure conditions of the Region.

No other developing region relies, in its public health systems, with an entity similar to BIREME, what can explain the greater development and dynamism of information and scientific communication in health in the Region. BIREME historically contributes to the insertion of the scientific output of LA&C in the global flow of scientific information and in overcoming the access barriers to scientific information, including connectivity, language, culture, and financial resources.

The Statute of BIREME approved on 2009 in the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the Directing Council of PAHO (CD49.R6), then valid from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010, represents a historical recognition of PAHO country members on its importance as a specialized center oriented to the democratization of the access to information, knowledge and scientific evidence, as an essential condition for the advance of the equity in health based on the continuous increase of the capacities of research, education and health care systems.

Regarding the organizational management of the Center, Adalberto O. Tardelli was selected by international selection process and nominated Director of BIREME starting in July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. Tardelli, an international PAHO employee, held the post of Information Advisor of Information and was the Health Systems and Manager of Administration of Sources of Information in BIREME.

Still regarding the management of BIREME, PAHO/WHO Office in Brazil (PWR BRA), in coordination with the corresponding regional areas, the Area KMC and the Area of Health Surveillance and Disease Prevention and Control (HSD), assumed the leadership in the harmonization of the institutional managerial processes in all its dimensions, regulating work sharing and cooperation between PAHO Offices and Centers in Brazil. In this regard, a script was also elaborated for the integration and institutional harmonization of the Centers in the managerial, technical, and administrative areas. All the cooperation activities scheduled with Brazil have been analyzed and the joint implementation with PWR BRA was designed, based on what has been established on the provisions of the country's cooperation strategy.

## 1.1 CRICS9 and VHL6

The Regional Congress on Health Sciences Information (CRICS), one of the main events coordinated by BIREME, had its 9<sup>th</sup> edition accomplished in Washington, DC, USA, at PAHO/WHO headquarters, from October 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> 2012, also in context with the celebrations of the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Organization.

The organization of CRICS9 (<http://www.crics9.org>) was carried out by BIREME in coordination with the Area KMC of PAHO, jointly with the supporting institutions such as the National Library of Medicine (NLM) of the United States, the American Public Health Association (APHA) as well as governmental and nongovernmental institutions of countries, also from outside the Region, that made possible the participation of its collaborators as lecturers, panelists and assistants.

With central topic "**eHealth: reaching universal access to health**", the scientific program of CRICS9 brought together 85 panelists and 20 moderators that presented and shared their experiences and knowledge in 5 plenary sessions and 15 panels to an audience of approximately 400 people from 41 countries. CRICS9 still offered six workshops and presentation space for 87 electronic posters from 17 countries.

CRICS9's program<sup>2</sup> promoted an open forum on Public Health relevant topics in the Americas considering five themes:

- 1) Integration of scientific evidence with health decisions;
- 2) Sharing of experiences and good practices in Health in the Americas;
- 3) Public policies and strategic partnerships on eHealth;
- 4) Use of information technologies in search of solutions to health problems, particularly of the vulnerable populations; and
- 5) Development of capacities, especially for the health services and in response to emergencies and disasters.

During the Congress, PAHO reaffirmed its commitment to the Member States in the establishment of national and regional policies that promote the free, equitable and open

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<sup>2</sup> The complete program of CRICS9, the presentations and recordings of the sessions are available at: <http://programa.crics9.org/en/>

access to information and scientific evidence; the education of health workers to enable them to operate in the information society; the dissemination of critical information on health for the general public, that allows them to make favorable decisions on their wellbeing; and the strengthening of BIREME and the VHL as main tool for an improved governance of the scientific and technical information in health sciences.

Preceding CRICS9, the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Coordination Meeting of the VHL (VHL6) took place on October 20<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>, 2012, also in Washington, DC, USA. The Regional Coordination Meeting of the VHL is the most important live forum of the cooperative network of institutions producers, intermediaries, and users of scientific and technical information in the Virtual Health Library.

VHL6 brought together 220 representatives of the VHL and Associated Networks with the main objective of promoting an extensive discussion on the development of the VHL oriented to the objectives of the Strategies and Plan of Action on eHealth (2012-2017) and Knowledge Management and Communications for Latin America and the Caribbean as well as to discuss the recommendations of the VHL Meetings 2011<sup>3</sup>, and the aspects of scientific health information as a public regional good.

In order to anticipate the debate and the discussions of the VHL Network on the main challenges for the development of the VHL, and bring to VHL6 recommendations for validation and approval by the network participants, three Working Groups were created. Eighteen virtual meetings took place, which relied with the network's broad participation. The recommendations of the VHL6 Working Groups<sup>4</sup> should subsidize the working plan of the VHL Network for 2013 and 2014, to be considered in BIREME's work plan with the support of the BIREME's International Community of Practice (CoP-BIREME).

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<sup>3</sup> Recommendations of VHL Meetings 2011 available at <http://bvsencuentros2011.bireme.org/>

<sup>4</sup> Information on the working groups, meetings, reports and abstracts of the discussions are available at <http://bvs6.crics9.org/es/category/grupos-de-trabajo/>



## 2 New Institutional Framework

Since 2009 BIREME benefits from the important institutional progress expressed by the approval of the new institutional governance, operation and financing framework, in response to the growing breadth, density and complexity of the functions performed by BIREME in national, regional and global levels<sup>5</sup>.

The new institutional framework replaces the foregoing established by the Maintenance and Development Agreement of BIREME signed by PAHO and the Government of Brazil, through the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Health Secretariat of the State of São Paulo (SES-SP) and UNIFESP, in which campus BIREME is physically located. Since 1967, the Agreement is being renewed to every four or five years. The current version is being extended in order to serve the transition period for the implementation of the new institutional framework.

The main document that defines the new institutional framework is the Statute of BIREME, approved in the 49<sup>th</sup> PAHO Directing Council, which took place from September 28<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. The approval of the new statute is the result of a large process of consultation led by PAHO with its Member States and particularly with Brazil under the leadership of the Ministry of Health.

The resolution of the 49<sup>th</sup> PAHO Directing Council (CD49 .R6) established the structure of the new legal framework formed by the Statute of BIREME and two complementary legal instruments: 1) the Headquarters Agreement of BIREME in Brazil, to be established between PAHO and Government of Brazil; and 2) the Installations and Operation Agreement of BIREME in UNIFESP, to be established between PAHO, the Government of Brazil and UNIFESP itself.

The Statute of BIREME also determines the new structure of governance of BIREME, with the following composition:

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<sup>5</sup> See Newsletter VHL edition 094 available at <http://espacio.bvsalud.org/boletim.php?newsletter=20091116&newsLang=en&newsName=Newsletter%20VHL%20094%2016/November/2009&articleId=11121653200918>

**A) BIREME Members** defined in the categories: a) Member States: all Member States, Participating States, and PAHO Associated Members; b) Participating States: the WHO Member States besides those that are PAHO Members; and c) Participating Organizations: public international organizations with specific qualification related to information and scientific and technical communication. The participation of new members shall be defined by PAHO;

**B) Advisory committee:** formed by PAHO and the Government of Brazil as permanent members and by five of PAHO Member States as non-permanent members. At the 49<sup>th</sup> PAHO Directing Council (CD49.R6) Argentina, Chile, and the Dominican Republic were nominated, with a three years mandate (2010-2012) and Mexico and Jamaica for a two years mandate (2010-2011). At the 51<sup>th</sup> PAHO Directing Council (CD51.R2) Bolivia and Suriname were named for a three years mandate (2012-2014). At the 28<sup>th</sup> PAHO Pan American Sanitary Conference (CSP 28.R5) Cuba, Ecuador, and Puerto Rico were nominated for a three years mandate (2013-2015). The role of this Committee is to make recommendations to the Director of PAHO on the programming functions, the working plan and the financing of BIREME. Three Sessions of the Committee occurred in compliance with the implementation of the new institutional framework of BIREME, following Resolution 5 of the 49<sup>th</sup> PAHO/WHO Directing Council (CD49.R5);

**C) Scientific Committee:** permanent organ of BIREME formed by scientific information specialists appointed by the Advisory Committee of BIREME. Its function is helping to maintain and improve BIREME's capacity to follow the development of methodologies, technologies, products, services, and events that characterize the national and international systems of information and scientific communication and the challenges for their contextualization in the LA&C. The process of indication of its members by the national authorities, appraisal, and nomination of members of the Scientific Committee was concluded in December 5<sup>th</sup> 2012, in the III Session of the Advisory Committee. The four members named were indicated by Canada, Honduras, Trinidad and Tobago and Brazil and, a fifth member from the National Library of Medicine of United States was indicated by the Director of PAHO. The meeting for installation of the Committee is programmed for July 2013; and

**D) Secretariat:** permanent organ of BIREME, formed by the Director and by the technical and administrative teams of the Center. It is responsible for the management and execution of the programming functions of BIREME's biennial work plan 2012-2013 that was developed in coordination with the Area KMC of PAHO being characterized as sub-plan of work of the Area KMC.

<b>Distribution of the staff of BIREME according category of employment</b>		
<b>Type of contract</b>	<b>Staff</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
SPDM-HSP (CLT)	60	72%
UNIFESP – Government	19	23%
PAHO (3 P and 1 NPO) (*)	4	5%
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100%</b>

(\*) 2 PAHO posts are vacant

<b>BIREME Personnel Evolution per Category of Employment</b>											
<b>Distribution per Category of Employment</b>	<b>2008 - 1st Sem</b>	<b>2008 - 2nd Sem</b>	<b>2009 - 1st Sem</b>	<b>2009 - 2nd Sem</b>	<b>2010 - 1st Sem</b>	<b>2010 - 2nd Sem</b>	<b>2011 - 1st Sem</b>	<b>2011 - 2nd Sem</b>	<b>2012 - 1st Sem</b>	<b>2012 - 2nd Sem</b>	<b>2013 - 1st Sem</b>
SPDM-HSP (CLT)	97	97	102	98	76	78	76	68	65	65	60
UNIFESP (Federal Professionals)	22	22	21	21	21	21	19	19	20	20	19
PAHO (P* and NOC)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
PAHO (NAP)	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trainees	33	33	27	27	8	11	4	1	1	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>83</b>

## 2.1 Situation of implementation

The new Statute of BIREME is effective since January 2010, coexisting with the Maintenance and Development Agreement of BIREME, until the new institutional framework of the Center is totally implemented. When the Headquarters Agreement is signed by the parties, the Maintenance and Development Agreement will be extinguished.

The full effectiveness of the new institutional framework of BIREME demands the following implementations:

- Implementation of the Headquarters Agreement of BIREME in Brazil between PAHO and Government of Brazil, represented by the Ministry of Health. This process is ongoing, and several meetings with the Ministry of Health are being carried out since 2010. The Headquarters Agreement of BIREME, being negotiated, foresees the establishment of a National Advisory Committee composed by members indicated by PAHO and the Brazilian Government;
- Implementation of the Installations Agreement of BIREME in the Campus of UNIFESP through dialogues among PAHO, the Ministry of Health and UNIFESP. This process is also ongoing since 2010. The Installations Agreement of BIREME in the Campus of UNIFESP, being negotiated, foresees the establishment of a specific technical cooperation project between BIREME and UNIFESP;
- Implementation of the Scientific Committee of BIREME with an agenda centered on the analysis and recommendations on BIREME working plan, its products, services, methodologies, and scientific information technologies; and
- Based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee of BIREME, definition by common consent with PAHO and the Ministry of Health on the regular year-financial contributions to BIREME.

## **2.2 BIREME financial structure**

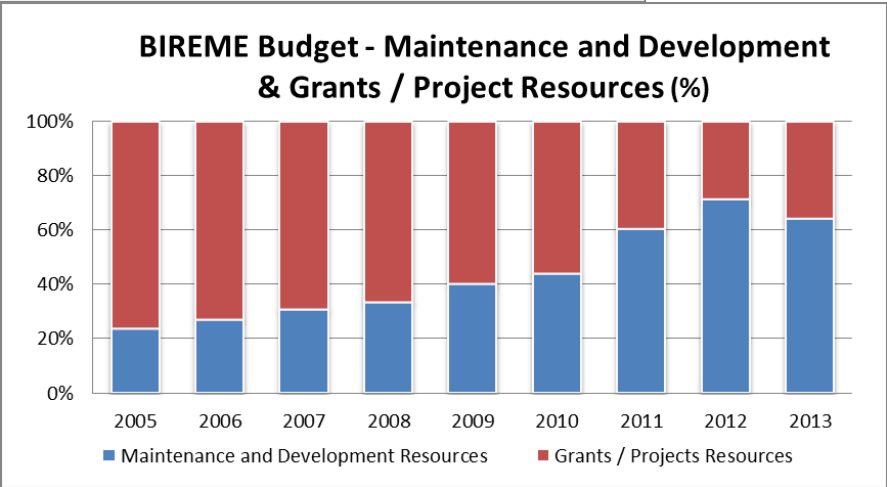
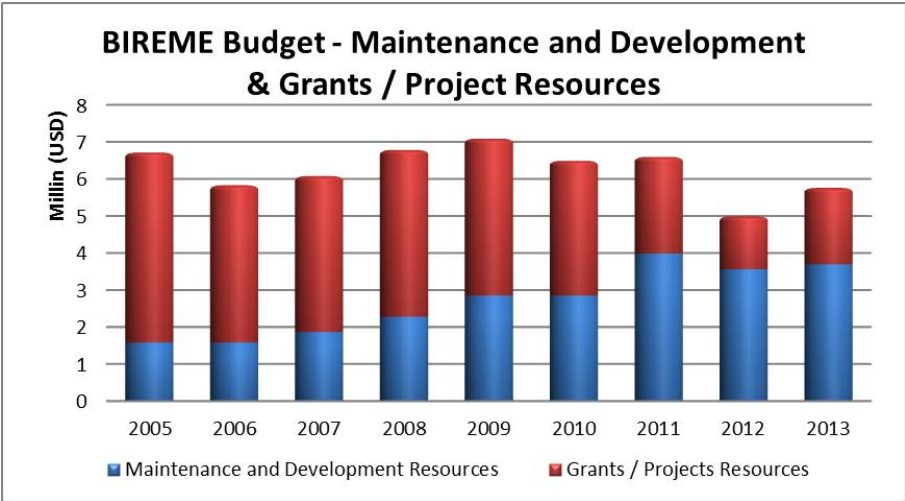
The establishment of a stable and balanced structure for financing BIREME was one of the main motivations for the BIREME's institutional reform. The Statute of BIREME foresees that this structure of financing is analyzed and recommended by the Advisory Committee of BIREME, also recommending the financial contributions from Brazil and from PAHO, and from the participating members of BIREME.

In recent years, BIREME and its national signatories discussed the need for balancing the regular contributions with the non-regular contributions originated from projects, agreements and delivery of services. According to this model, PAHO and the Ministry of Health should contribute together with 50% of BIREME's annual budget. As new participating members join BIREME, the sources of contribution as regular resources shall increase. At the same time, BIREME should be able to mobilize the additional resources through projects, agreements, grants, and delivery of services.

Considering that the average budget of BIREME in recent years was around US\$ 5 million / year, the regular equivalent contributions from the Ministry of Health and PAHO would be about for US\$ 1.25 million/institution/year. The other 2.5 million should be mobilized by BIREME.

In 2012, the contribution from the Government of Brazil, from the Ministry of Health was of US\$ 1.9 Million, a contribution formalized in mid-October, via the 20<sup>th</sup> Additive Term to the Maintenance and Development Agreement of BIREME. The 2013 contribution from the Government of Brazil is being negotiated.

The charts below show the evolution of BIREME budget in absolute values and in percentage considering the Maintenance and Development Resources (in blue) and Grants and Projects Resources (in red).



The detailed demonstration of the contributions for BIREME budget is presented in the following table.

Allotment	Financing Institution	Description	USD	%	
AM/BIR/CLG-010-RB /1213	PAHO	BIREME Maintenance and Development Resources	112,500.00	1.9%	
AM/BIR/CLG-810-RB /1213	PAHO	Vacant post resources	154,800.00	2.6%	
AM/BIR/OTC-010-RB /1213	PAHO	CRICS9   VHL6 activities	45,000.00	0.7%	
AM/BIR/S00-020-PG /1213	Ministry of Health	BIREME Maintenance and Development Resources	1,871,921.00	31.1%	
AM/BIR/S00-022-PI /1213	Various	BIREME Services (2011 balance transferred to 2012)	507,118.00	8.4%	
	Various	BIREME Services	542,960.00	9.0%	
	PAHO	Funds advance	250,000.00	4.1%	
AM/BIR/S11-123-PG /1213	Ministry of Health via PWR/BRA	Project RedeNutri - Phase II	29,138.00	0.5%	
AM/BIR/S11-125-PG /1213	Ministry of Health via PWR/BRA	Project BVS ECOS (2011 balance transferred to 2012)	215,408.87	3.6%	
		Project BVS Brasil (TC 50 - 3TA)	43,712.13	0.7%	
AM/BIR/S11-130-PG /1213	FIOCRUZ	Project Books (2011 balance transferred to 2012)	9,279.00	0.2%	
AM/BIR/S11-142-PG /1213	Ministry of Health via PWR/BRA	BVS Cancer	125,908.00	2.1%	
AM/BIR/S11-145-PG /1213	Ministry of Health via PWR/BRA	Project BVS Brasil (TC 50 - 5TA)	25,410.00	0.4%	
AM/BIR/S11-155-PG /1213	Ministry of Health via PWR/BRA	Project BVS Brasil (TC 50 - 7TA)	472,215.00	7.8%	
AM/BIR/S11-162-PG /1213	Health Secretary of the State of Sao Paulo	BIREME Maintenance and Development Resources	39,408.00	0.7%	
AM/BIR/S11-203-PG /1213	São Paulo City Hall	Project BVS SMS-SP	41,414.00	0.7%	
AM/BIR/S11-219-PL /1213	Ministry of Health via PWR/BRA	Project EVIPNET Brasil	189,803.00	3.1%	
AM/BIR/S11-220-PG /1213	Ministry of Health via PWR/BRA	BVS APS (TC 57) (2011 balance transferred to 2012)	531,966.00	8.8%	
AM/BIR/S11-221-PG /1213	Health Secretary of the State of Sao Paulo	Project BVS RIC ( <i>Rede de Informação e Conhecimento</i> )	79,250.00	1.3%	
AM/BIR/S11-231-PG /1213	RIPSA	Project BVS RIPSA Fase III	326,030.00	5.4%	
AM/BIR/S11-328-PG /1213	Ministry of Health via PWR/BRA	BVS Bioética (TC 41) (2011 balance transferred to 2012)	224,966.00	3.7%	
		VCPH (TC 41) (2011 balance transferred to 2012)			
		BVS PanAmazônica (TC 41) (2011 balance transferred to 2012)			
		BVS Bioética (TC 41)	24,615.00	0.4%	
AM/BIR/S11-410-PG /1213	Spanish Collaboration (TC with Europe)	Availability of Cochrane content in the VHL	164,000.00	2.7%	
Resource: Report AMPES/OMIS BUD.6.1.1 in 21/Jun/13			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,026,818.00</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 1. BIREME Financial Resources from Budget 2012-2013

# Attachments

## A.1 Overview of VHL Network

The VHL (Virtual Health Library) is the result from technical cooperation on health sciences information delivered by BIREME/PAHO/WHO since its foundation in 1967. The VHL model of information management and knowledge sharing through the Internet as a platform for production of sources and flow of scientific and technical information was launched in 1998 at the IV Regional Congress on Health Sciences Information (CRICS4), by means of the Declaration of San José “Towards the Virtual Health Library”.

The VHL is the strategy that PAHO/WHO leads through BIREME and their networks for the development and strengthening of national and regional capacities of scientific and technical information in health. The ongoing goal of VHL is to promote equity of access and publication of information, knowledge and scientific evidence on health.

This proposal receives special relevance due to the recognition of the VHL as part of the strategy for eHealth by the area of Knowledge Management and Communications from the Pan American Health Organization (KMC/PAHO/WHO) and approved at the Meeting of the PAHO Governing Board in 2011. The VHL Network is coordinated by BIREME and operated in a decentralized way by national, regional and thematic networks. Each of these networks converge its operation on an instance of the VHL, with a portal that follows common methodologies for storing and publishing of content. Thus, besides the Regional VHL instance operated by BIREME, there are instances of VHL in 30 countries, with a total of 110 regional, national, thematic and institutional active instances.

Figure 1 shows the distribution of VHL instances according to region and includes regional thematic instances.



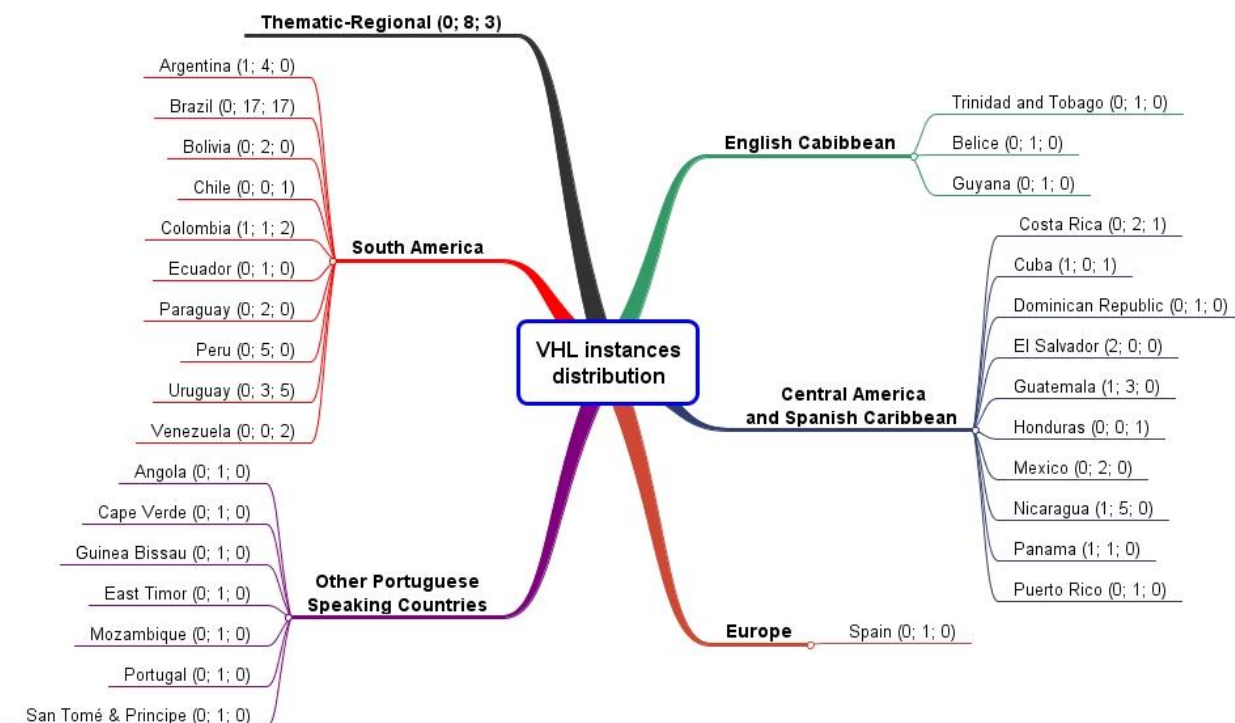


Figure 1 – VHL instances distribution in June/2013

## A.1.1 VHL Regional

In the first semester of 2013, 5.8 million visits to the VHL Regional Portal and the VHL Search Service were registered, which resulted in 18.6 million interactions. In absolute numbers, most of them (5.4 million - 92% of the visits) were originated from users from Latin America and the Caribbean (LA&C).

**LILACS indicators** – Latin America and Caribbean Literature on Health Sciences Information

- 862 journal titles from 19 LA&C countries
- more than 640,000 records since 1985
- 892 LA&C libraries cooperate with LILACS

**SCAD Service indicators** – Cooperative Service for Accessing Documents

- In 2013, until May, 41,061 requests were processed and from which 35,148 (86%) were fulfilled
- 596 LA&C libraries cooperate with SCAD

## A.1.2 South America

### A.1.2.1 Argentina

Coordination: cooperative work of *Red Nacional de Información en Ciencias de la Salud* – RENICS, and support from PAHO/WHO Representative (PWR) Argentina

**BVS Argentina** - <http://www.bvs.org.ar/>

**BVS HPCS Argentina** - <http://www.bvs-hpcs.fcm.unc.edu.ar/>

**BVS Pediatría Argentina** - <http://www.bvspediatria.org.ar/>

**BVS Psicología Argentina** - <http://bvs.psi.uba.ar/>

**BVS Adolescência Argentina**

### A.1.2.2 Bolívia

**BVS Povos Indígenas Bolivia** - <http://pueblosindigenas.bvsp.org.bo/>

Coordination: *Universidad Mayor de San Andrés* (UMSA) and PWR Bolívia

**BVS Saúde Pública Bolívia** - <http://saludpublica.bvsp.org.bo/>

Coordination: *Ministerio de Salud y Deportes* and PWR Bolívia

### A.1.2.3 Brazil

In Brazil, there are 34 instances and the Portal BVS Brasil gathers all the Brazilian initiatives integrating their social and information source networks, strengthening and giving visibility.

**Portal BVS Brasil** - <http://brasil.bvs.br>

#### - Thematic instances

**BVS Adolescência** - <http://www.adolesc.br>

Coordination: *Ministério da Saúde* and BIREME

**BVS Adolpho Lutz** - <http://www.bvsalutz.coc.fiocruz.br>

Coordination: *Casa de Oswaldo Cruz / Fundação Oswaldo Cruz* (COC/Fiocruz)

**BVS Aleitamento Materno** - <http://www.bvsam.iciet.fiocruz.br/>

Coordination: *Biblioteca da Saúde da Mulher e da Criança/ICICT/Fiocruz* and *Instituto Fernandes Figueira/Fiocruz*

**BVS Atenção Primária à Saúde** - <http://aps.bvs.br>

Coordination: *Departamento de Gestão da Educação na Saúde - DEGES/Ministério da Saúde* and BIREME.

**BVS Bioética and Diplomacia em Saúde** - <http://bvsbioeticaediplomacia.fiocruz.br>

Coordination: *Núcleo de Estudos sobre Bioética e Diplomacia em Saúde* (Nethis/Fiocruz)

**BV Carlos Chagas** - <http://www.bvschagas.coc.fiocruz.br>

Coordination: *COC/Fiocruz*

**BVS Determinantes Sociais da Saúde** - <http://bvsdss.iciet.fiocruz.br>

Coordination: *Centro de Estudos de Políticas e Informação sobre Determinantes Sociais da Saúde* (CEPI-DSS) / *Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública Sergio Arouca* (ENSP) / *Fiocruz*

**BVS Doenças Infecciosas and Parasitárias** - <http://www.bvsdip.icict.fiocruz.br>

Coordination: *Biblioteca de Ciências Biomédicas/ICICT/Fiocruz*

**BVS Economia da Saúde** - <http://economia.saude.bvs.br>

Coordination: *Departamento de Economia da Saúde, Investimentos e Desenvolvimento from Ministério da Saúde.*

**BVS Educação em Ciências da Saúde** - <http://www.bvs.fm.usp.br/>

Coordination: *Faculdade de Medicina from Universidade de São Paulo (USP)*

**BVS Educação Profissional em Saúde** - <http://www.bvseps.icict.fiocruz.br/>

Coordination: *Escola Politécnica de Saúde Joaquim Venâncio/Fiocruz*

**BVS Enfermagem** - <http://enfermagem.bvs.br>

Coordination: *Escola de Enfermagem from Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais*

**BVS Evandro Serafim Lobo Chagas** - <http://bvsechagas.iec.pa.gov.br>

Coordination: *Instituto Evandro Chagas in partnership with Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz.*

**BVS Hanseníase** - <http://hansen.bvs.br/>

Coordination: *Instituto Lauro Souza Lima / Secretaria Estadual de Saúde de São Paulo (SES-SP)*

**BVS Homeopatia** - <http://homeopatia.bvs.br>

Coordination: *Associação Paulista de Homeopatia*

**BVS Integralidade** - <http://www.bvsintegralidade.icict.fiocruz.br>

Coordination: *Laboratório de Pesquisas sobre Práticas de Integralidade em Saúde from Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro (LAPPIS/UERJ) and Instituto de Comunicação e Informação Científica e Tecnológica em Saúde (ICICT/Fiocruz)*

**BVS Odontologia** - <http://odontologia.bvs.br>

Coordination: *Faculdade de Odontologia (FO/USP)*

**BVS Prevenção and Controle do Câncer** - <http://controlecancer.bvs.br/>

Coordination: *Instituto Nacional de Câncer - INCA*

**BVS Psicologia** - <http://www.bvs-psi.org.br>

Coordination: *Serviço de Biblioteca e Documentação of the Instituto de Psicologia (SBD/IPUSP), Conselho Federal de Psicologia (CFP) and BIREME*

**BVS RIPSAs** - <http://www.ripsa.org.br/>

Coordination: *Rede Interagencial de Informações para a Saúde*

**BVS Saúde Pública** - <http://saudepublica.bvs.br>

Coordination: *Comitê Consultivo Nacional (Ministério da Saúde, Associação Brasileira de Pós-Graduação em Saúde Coletiva (ABRASCO), Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública da Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (ENSP/Fiocruz), Faculdade de Saúde Pública (FSP/USP), Instituto de Saúde Coletiva from Universidade Federal da Bahia and PWR Brazil)*

**BVS Veterinária** - <http://www.bvs-vet.org.br/>

Coordination: *Faculdade de Medicina Veterinária e Zootecnia/USP with support from Conselho Regional de Medicina Veterinária de São Paulo*

**BVS Violência and Saúde** - <http://www.bvsvs.icict.fiocruz.br/>

Coordination: *Centro Latino-Americano de Estudos de Violência Jorge Careli (CLAVES/ENSP/Fiocruz) with support from ICICT/Fiocruz and BIREME*

- Institutional Instances

**BVS Fiocruz** - <http://bvsfiocruz.fiocruz.br/>

Coordination: ICICT/Fiocruz

**BVS Instituto Evandro Chagas** - <http://bvs.iec.pa.gov.br>

Coordination: *Instituto Evandro Chagas*

**BV Memorial da América Latina** - <http://www.bvmemorial.fapesp.br>

Coordination: *Memorial da América Latina a Biblioteca Virtual da América Latina*

**BVS Ministério da Saúde** - <http://bvsmms.saude.gov.br/>

Coordination: *Ministério da Saúde do Brasil*

**BVS Secretaria de Estado da Saúde de São Paulo** - <http://ses.sp.bvs.br/>

Coordination: *Rede de Informação e Conhecimento da Secretaria de Estado da Saúde de São Paulo*

**BVS Secretaria Municipal de Saúde da Cidade de São Paulo** - <http://sms.sp.bvs.br>

Coordination: *Escola Municipal de Saúde, Coordenação de Gestão de Pessoas (EMS/CGP)*

**BVS Secretaria de Estado da Saúde do Rio Grande do Sul** - <http://biblioteca.saude.rs.gov.br>

Coordination: *Secretaria de Estado da Saúde do Rio Grande do Sul - Escola de Saúde Pública*

**BV UNIFESP** - <http://bv-unifesp.bvs.br/>

Coordination: *Biblioteca Central da Universidade Federal de São Paulo*

#### **A.1.2.4 Chile**

**BVS Chile** - <http://www.bvs.cl>

Coordination: *Biblioteca Central de la Facultad de Medicina de la Universidad de Chile and Ministerio de la Salud de Chile*

#### **A.1.2.5 Colômbia**

Coordination: PWR Colombia

**BVS Vigilância em Saúde Pública** - <http://www.bvs-vspcol.bvsalud.org>

Coordination: *Ministerio de la Protección Social*

**BVS Colômbia** - <http://www.bvs.org.co/>

Coordination: *PWR Colômbia and Instituto de Salud Pública de la Universidad Nacional de Colombia*

**BVS Psicologia ULAPSI** - <http://www.bvs-psi.org.co/>

Coordination: *Asociación Colombiana de Facultades de Psicología (ASCOFAPSI) and Universidad del Valle*

**BVS Enfermagem Colômbia**

Coordination: *Facultad de Enfermería da Universidad Nacional de Colômbia and Facultad de Enfermería de la Universidad de la Sabana*

#### **A.1.2.6 Ecuador**

**BVS Ecuador** - <http://bvs-ecuador.bvsalud.org/>

Coordination: *Ministério de la Salud, Secretaria Nacional de Ciência y Tecnología (SENACYT), Fundación para la Ciencia y la Tecnología (FUNDACYT) and PWR Ecuador*

### A.1.2.7 Paraguay

Coordination: *Instituto Nacional de Saúde (INS)* with support from PWR Paraguay, together with the *Red de Bibliotecas y Centros de Documentación del Sector Salud de Paraguay*

**BVS Paraguay** - <http://www.bvs.org.py/>

**BVS Psicología Paraguay**

### A.1.2.8 Peru

**BVS Peru** - [www.bvs.org.pe](http://www.bvs.org.pe)

Coordination: *Ministerio de Salud*

**BVS Prevenção and Atenção de Desastres** - <http://bvpad.indeci.gob.pe>

Coordination: *Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil de Perú (INDECI)*

**BVS Psicología**- <http://www.bvs-psi.org.pe/>

Coordination: *Universidad Ricardo Palma* and *Universidad Autónoma de Perú*

**BVS Instituto Nacional de Salud** - <http://www.bvs.ins.gob.pe/>

Coordination: *Centro de Información y Documentación Científica – CINDOC*

**BVS Ministerio de la Salud del Perú** - <http://bvs.minsa.gob.pe/>

Coordination: *Ministerio de la Salud de Perú*

### A.1.2.9 Uruguay

**BVS Enfermería** - <http://www.bvsenf.org.uy>

Coordination: *Facultad de Enfermería de la Universidad de la República Oriental de Uruguay,*

**BVS Odontología** - <http://bvs.odon.edu.uy>

Coordination: *Departamento de Documentación y Biblioteca, Facultad de Odontología, Universidad de la República*

**BVS Oncología** - <http://www.bvsoncologia.org.uy/>

Coordination: *Comisión Honoraria de Lucha Contra el Cáncer, Uruguay*

**BVS Psicología** - <http://www.bvspsi.org.uy/>

Coordination: PWR Uruguay

**BVS Saúde Pública** - <http://www.bvssp.org.uy/>

Coordination: PWR Uruguay and *Ministerio de Salud Pública*

**BVS Centro Latinoamericano de Perinatología Salud de la Mujer y Reproductiva** -

<http://perinatal.bvsalud.org>

Coordination: *Centro Latinoamericano de Perinatología, Salud de la Mujer y Reproductiva (CLAP)*

**BVS OPS Uruguay** - <http://www.bvsops.org.uy/>

Coordination: PWR Uruguay

**BVS Sindicato Médico del Uruguay** - <http://www.bvssmu.org.uy/>

Coordination: *Sindicato Médico del Uruguay*

### A.1.2.10 Venezuela

**BVS Venezuela Nacional** - <http://www.bvs.org.ve/>

Coordination: *Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Salud, through the Servicio Autónomo IAES Dr. Arnoldo Gabaldon, Sistema Público Nacional de Salud.*

**BVS Segurança and Saúde no Trabalho** - <http://bvsst.org.ve/>

Coordination: *Instituto Nacional de Prevención, Salud y Seguridad Laborales, del Ministerio del Poder Popular para el Trabajo y Seguridad Social*

## **A.1.3 Central America and Spanish Caribbean**

### **A.1.3.1 Costa Rica**

Coordination: *Biblioteca Nacional de Salud y Seguridad Social (BINASSS), with the support of Caja Costarricense de Seguro Social (CCSS)*

**BVS Costa Rica** - <http://www.bvs.sa.cr/>

**BVS Adolescência** - <http://www.binasss.sa.cr/adolescencia/adolec.htm>

**BVS História e Patrimônio Cultural da Saúde** - <http://hpcs.bvs.sa.cr/>

### **A.1.3.2 Cuba**

**BVS Cuba** - <http://www.bvscuba.sld.cu/>

Coordination: *CNICM (Centro Nacional de Información en Ciencias Médicas)*

### **A.1.3.3 El Salvador**

Coordination: *PWR El Salvador*

**BVS El Salvador** - <http://www.bvselsalvador.org/>

**BVS Desastres** - <http://www.bvs.edu.sv/bvs/desas>

### **A.1.3.4 Guatemala**

**BVS Guatemala** - <http://guatemala.bvsalud.org>

Coordination: *PWR Guatemala and INCAP*

**BVS Adolescência** - <http://medicina.usac.edu.gt/adolec/>

Coordination: *Facultad de Ciencias Médicas, Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala*

**BVS Segurança Alimentar and Nutricional** - <http://www.bvssan.incap.org.gt/>

Coordination: *Instituto de Nutrición de Centro América y Panamá (INCAP/OPAS)*

**BVS Desastres** - <http://desastres.usac.edu.gt/>

Coordination: *Red Centroamericana de Información de Salud y Desastres del proyecto NLM/CRID and Facultad de Ciencias Medicas de la Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala*

### **A.1.3.5 República Dominicana**

**BVS República Dominicana** - <http://www.bvs.org.do/>

Coordination: *INTEC and PWR República Dominicana.*

### **A.1.3.6 Honduras**

**BVS Honduras** - <http://www.bvs.hn/>

Coordination: *Biblioteca Médica Nacional* and PWR Honduras

### **A.1.3.7 México**

**BVS México** - <http://bvs.insp.mx/>

Coordination: INSP - CENIDS

**BVS VIH/SID** - <http://bvssida.insp.mx/>

Coordination: CENSIDA and INSP

### **A.1.3.8 Nicaragua**

**BVS Nicaragua** - <http://www.bvs.org.ni/>

Coordination: *Universidad Centroamericana (UCA)* and PWR Nicaragua

### **A.1.3.9 Panamá**

**BVS Panamá** - <http://bvspanama.bvsalud.org/>

Coordination: *Coordinación de Bibliotecas de la Universidad de Panamá*

### **A.1.3.10 Puerto Rico**

**BVS Puerto Rico** - <http://puerto-rico.bvsalud.org/>

Coordination: *Biblioteca Conrado Asenjo de la Universidad de Puerto Rico - Recinto de Ciências Médicas, Departamento de Saúde de Puerto Rico, Escola Graduada de Ciências y Tecnologías de la Información de la Universidad de Puerto Rico - Recinto de Río Piedras*, PWR Puerto Rico and support from BIREME

## **A.1.4 English Caribbean**

### **A.1.4.1 Belize**

**VHL Belize** - <http://belize.bvsalud.org/>

Coordination: Belize National Library, Service and Information System (BNLSIS)

### **A.1.4.2 Guyana**

**VHL Guiana** - <http://guyana.virtualhealthlibrary.org/>

Coordination: PWR Guiana.

### **A.1.4.3 Trinidad and Tobago**

**VHL Trinidad and Tobago** - <http://www.vhl.org.tt>

Sanctioned by the Ministry of Health, and supported by BIREME, in collaboration with the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS) and the Medical Sciences Library of The University of the West Indies at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex.



## A.1.5 ePORTUGUÊSe Network (except Brazil)

The development of the VHL in the countries of Africa and Portugal is aligned with the ePORTUGUÊSe initiative, led by WHO in order to support the development of human resources for health in Portuguese-speaking countries: Angola, Brazil (see A.1.2.3), Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe and East Timor, through the development of the VHL in these countries.

**BVS Angola** - <http://angola.eportuguese.org/>

**BVS Guiné Bissau** - <http://guine-bissau.eportuguese.org/>

**BVS Cabo Verde** - <http://cabo-verde.eportuguese.org/>

**BVS em Moçambique** - <http://mocambique.eportuguese.org>

**BVS em Portugal** - <http://portugal.eportuguese.org/>

**BVS em São Tomé and Príncipe** - <http://sao-tome-principe.eportuguese.org>

**BVS em Timor Leste** - <http://timor-leste.eportuguese.org>

## A.1.6 Regional Thematic Instances

The regional thematic initiatives of the VHL integrate more than one country for the development of a thematic area in the VHL network.

**BVS Comunicação Científica em Saúde (CCS)** - <http://ccs.bvsalud.org>

Coordination: BIREME

**BVS Inocuidade de Alimentos** - <http://bvs.panalimentos.org/>

Coordination: *Grupo Técnico de Inocuidade de Alimentos* (PANALIMENTOS) and BIREME.

**BVS Fronteira México – Estados Unidos** – <http://www.infofrontera.org>

Coordination: PWR U.S.-Mexico Border

**BVS Desenvolvimento Sustentável and Saúde Ambiental** - <http://dss.bvsalud.org>

Coordination: *Área de Desarrollo Sostenible y Salud Ambiental* SDE/PAHO and BIREME

**BVS Enfermagem** - <http://bvsenfermeria.bvsalud.org/>

Coordination: *Escola de Enfermagem da Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais*

**BVS Gênero and Saúde** - <http://genero.bvsalud.org/>

Coordination: *Centro de Investigaciones en Estudios de la Mujer de la Universidad de Costa Rica*

**BVS História and Patrimônio Cultural da Saúde** - <http://hpcs.bvsalud.org/>

Coordination: COC/Fiocruz

**BVS Psicanálise** - <http://www.bivipsil.org/>

Coordination: *Federação Psicanalítica de América Latina* with support from PWR Argentina

**BVS Psicologia ULAPSI** – <http://www.ulapsi.bvsalud.org/>

Coordination: *Rede Brasileira de Bibliotecas da Área de Psicologia – ReBAP and União Latino-Americana de Entidades de Psicologia – ULAPSI*

**BVS Saúde Pública Veterinária** - <http://bvs.panaftosa.org.br/>

Coordination: *Unidade de Saúde Pública Veterinária* PANAFTOSA/PAHO/WHO



## A.1.7 Europa

**BVS Espanha** - <http://bvs.isciii.es/>

Coordination: *Biblioteca Nacional de Ciências de la Salud del Instituto de Salud Carlos III*  
(BNCS/ISCIII)

## **A.2 Initiatives at Institutional, National and International levels**

### **A.2.1 Institutional**

#### **A.2.1.1 World Health Organization (WHO)**

##### **Evidence-Informed Policy Network - EVIPNet**

EVIPNet - Evidence-Informed Policy Network is an initiative that arises from the announcement of WHO, to establish mechanisms to facilitate the use of scientific evidence in the formulation and implementation of health policies. To meet this purpose, EVIPNet provides the methodology to Network participating countries, which promotes among decision makers and health researchers the so-called knowledge translation.

Since 2005, BIREME/PAHO/WHO has collaborated with WHO and PAHO to develop technical cooperation activities to information management for EVIPNet, both in the availability of the content on the Portal of Evidence of the VHL to meet the needs of the network, and in the management of EVIPNet Portal and developing policy brief - summary of evidence for informed policy.

##### ***Global Health Library (GHL)***

The Global Health Library (GHL) was publicly launched in September 2005, during the 9th World Congress on Health Information and Libraries (ICML9) and 7th Regional Congress on Health Sciences Information (CRICS7) performed simultaneously in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil.

The GHL aims to organize, index, interrelate and provide international, national and local information sources, including sources available in the libraries of regional offices of WHO. Thus, health has a comprehensive Internet-accessible library available to all.

##### ***TropIKA.net – Tropical Diseases Research to foster Innovation and Knowledge Application***

The TropIKA.net - Tropical Diseases Research to Foster Innovation and Knowledge Application project is a program of the TDR/WHO, developed in partnership with BIREME/PAHO/WHO, Fred Toth Associates, Dynamic Diagrams, HINARI, National Library of Medicine (NLM) and Public Library of Science (PLoS).

The platform was launched during the Global Forum for Health Research - Forum 11, on October 30th 2007 - <http://www.eventos.bvsalud.org/tropikalaunch/> and since then, BIREME/PAHO/WHO hosts, operates and collaborates with the development of the TropIKA technology platform, including the role of portal webmaster.

## **ePORTUGUÊSe – Network of Health knowledge and information sources for Portuguese speaking countries**

The ePORTUGUÊSe initiative is led by WHO and has as one of its main lines of action to adopt and implement the VHL in the eight Portuguese-speaking countries in the world: Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe and East Timor. The ePORTUGUÊSe Network has the formal support of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), and maintains the operation of its global portal and collections and national portals in eight countries. The portal was launched in May 2009.

### **A.2.1.2 Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)**

#### **Annotated Medicines Hyper Lists (MedList)**

MedList is a technical cooperation project between BIREME/PAHO/WHO and the unit HSS/MT - Drugs and Technologies in Health – from PAHO headquarters in Washington, DC, which aims to manage and publish Drug Lists. The MedList is a component of the Regional Platform for Innovation and Access to Health Technologies (PRAIS - <http://www.paho.org/prais>), coordinated by the staff of HSS/MT and whose launch took place on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 .

## **A.2.2 National**

### **A.2.2.1 Ministry of Health**

There are a lot of technical cooperation projects between BIREME and the Ministry of Health of Brazil, considering several technical cooperation agreements between PAHO and the Brazilian government. Besides the development of the national VHL (<http://brasil.bvs.br/>) and various thematic instances, such as Public Health (<http://saudepublica.bvs.br>), Infectious Diseases (<http://www.bvsdip.icict.fiocruz.br>), Primary Health Care (<http://aps.bvs.br>) and others (see more - <http://bit.ly/brazil-vhl-instances>) , BIREME has promoted, in the context of this technical cooperation, some innovations for the VHL, such as mobile interface and web accessibility in accordance to W3C. The first VHL instance that reached the triple A (AAA) level of accessibility was the Institutional VHL of the Ministry of Health of Brazil (<http://bvs.saude.gov.br/>).

#### **EVIPNet Brazil**

The development of EVIPNet in Brazil, started in 2008, has been led by the *Departamento de Ciência and Tecnologia* from *Secretaria de Ciência, Tecnologia and Insumos em Saúde* (SCTIE/DECIT) of the Ministry of Health, with the cooperation of BIREME/PAHO/WHO for activities of information management and knowledge transfer directly related to its implementation

plan. In 2009 and 2010, important results have been achieved, especially for the production of the first synthesis of evidence EVIPNet Brazil on reduction of perinatal mortality in the North and Northeast of Brazil, with options for intervention in primary care. <http://sintese.evipnet.net>.

### **VCPH Project**

The VCPH projects as a convergence space for action of individuals and institutions networks oriented to the development of individual skills and institutional capacities in Public Health in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its focal point is the educational institutions of the region, in order to strengthen the strategies and mechanisms to bring the knowledge to the practice in the area of public health. The VCPH is promoted and coordinated by PAHO and its implementation and operation are decentralized in the countries. Each country has a leading institution that represents it in the VCPH network, while each country, depending on their ability, can shape a national network of institutions integrated to VCPH.

### **Registry of Clinical Trials Platform in the Brazilian context (REBRAC) and Latin American (RECLAC)**

BIREME/PAHO/WHO has contributed since mid-2007 in the discussions on clinical trials registries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LA&C).

REBRAC - the Brazilian Registry of Clinical Trials (<http://www.ensaiosclinicos.gov.br/>), operated by ICICT/Fiocruz, is the first clinical trials registry in Portuguese language in accordance with ICTRP/WHO criteria. REBRAC has been recognized as a WHO primary registry since March 2011.

BIREME is responsible of the technological platform development – OpenTrials – (<http://trac.reddes.bvsalud.org/projects/clinical-trials>) used by REBEC, which is a free and open source software (FOSS) available for download, use and customization by any country or region. OpenTrials platform is a product of a technical cooperation project involving Brazilian Government (Ministry of Health and Fiocruz), PWR/Brazil, HSS/PAHO and BIREME.

### **A.2.2.2 Secretary of Health of State of São Paulo**

The Secretary of Health of the State of São Paulo (SES-SP acronym in Portuguese) is a member of BIREME National Advisory Committee and since 2006 has been developing technical cooperation projects on knowledge and information management with BIREME. The SES-SP adopted the Virtual Health Library (VHL) model to develop its Information and Knowledge Network Portal (<http://ses.sp.bvs.br>), which provides access to the scientific and technical production from its thirteen research institutes. Besides this portal, the SES-SP also operates, with BIREME

support, a Portal of Journals (<http://periodicos.ses.sp.bvs.br>), which provides full text access to the scientific and technical articles published by five research institutes.

### **A.2.2.3 Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz)**

#### **Development of methodologies and systems for electronic publishing of scientific books from university publishers (SciELO Books)**

The methodologies and technological platform of the SciELO Books project were developed by BIREME/PAHO/WHO, in cooperation with university publishers from Fiocruz, UNESP (*Universidade Estadual Paulista*) and Ufba (Federal University of Bahia), with the goal of creating and develop capacities and conditions for the establishment and consortium operation of a network of online collections of scientific books.

#### **PROQUALIS**

The Collaborating Centre for Quality of Care and Patient Safety (PROQUALIS) is coordinated by the *Instituto de Comunicação and Informação Científica and Tecnológica em Saúde* [Institute of Communication and Scientific and Technological information in Health] (ICICT/Fiocruz).

PROQUALIS aims to identify, organize and disseminate the health information related to quality of care and patient safety.

BIREME cooperated with ICICT to design, develop and operate the PROQUALIS web portal ([www.proqualis.net](http://www.proqualis.net)), giving access for this health information organized in different areas, such as patient safety (adverse events, medicines, Brazilian experiences and global initiatives) and clinical information (safe births, asthma, diabetes mellitus, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, arterial hypertension and heart failure).

## **A.2.3 International**

### **A.2.3.1 Spain Government**

#### **COCHRANE**

Within the Agreement between PAHO and the Spanish Collaboration, BIREME, the Cochrane Collaboration, the Ibero-American Cochrane Centre and the Cochrane Center in Brazil established agreements to operate the Cochrane Library (BC) collections in the VHL, offering access for the countries of the Region of Latin America and the Caribbean.

## A.3 Regional and Strategic Network of Institutions

Following are the institutions in the national, regional, and global ambits, with which the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME/PAHO/WHO) maintain technical cooperation for the development, adoption and dissemination of the Virtual Health Library (VHL) as strategy, model, and operational framework in scientific and technical information and knowledge management, and in the development of capabilities.

This document also converges two issues (“Framework for Inter Institutional work” and “Relationship with national counterparts”), considering the activities of technical cooperation of BIREME, also reflecting its relationship with the networks of the VHL associated networks (VCPH, ePORTUGUÊSe, EvipNet, GHL, SciELO, ScienTI and TropIKA.net).

The list of authorities, institutions, and organizations is ordered by type of authority and activity or working relationship, as follows.

Type of authority:

1. **United Nations** – including the Inter-American system, groups and Inter institutional committees in which the Center participates;
2. **Nationals** – national authorities related to the technical cooperation work plan of the Center;
3. **Bilateral** – bilateral organizations and Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs); and
4. **Others** – other types of authorities.

Type of activity or working relationship:

1. **Maintenance** – maintenance and sustainability of the Center;
2. **Exchange** – exchange of products and services;
3. **Technical Cooperation** – technical cooperation projects;
4. **International Committees** – international committees and systems;
5. **National Committees** – national committees and systems;
6. **Security** – security management systems of the United Nations; and

7. **Others** – other types of activity or working relationships.

In addition, the directory of the VHL Network available at <http://centros.bvsalud.org> organizes contact data from education and research institutions, hospitals, societies and associations, ministries and governmental organisms, Specialized centers and PAHO/WHO Representative Offices and Cooperating Centers of the Latin American and Caribbean Health Sciences Literature (LILACS) and the Cooperative Service for Access to Documents (SCAD) networks.

Institution/Organization	Type of authority	Type of activity
<i>Associação Brasileira de Editores Científicos (ABEC)</i>	2	5
<i>Associação Brasileira de Normas Técnicas (ABNT)</i>	4	3
<i>Associação Brasileira de Pós-Graduação em Saúde Coletiva (ABRASCO)</i>	2	5
<i>Associação Paulista para o Desenvolvimento da Medicina (SPDM) / Hospital São Paulo (HSP)</i>	2	1
<i>Centro Cochrane do Brasil</i>	2	2
<i>Centro Cochrane Iberoamericano</i>	4	2
<i>Coordinación de Comunicación del Programa Sociedad de la Información (CEPAL)</i>	1	4
<i>Comissão Europeia, Istituto Superiore di Sanità</i>	4	2
<i>Conselho Federal de Psicologia</i>	2	3
<i>Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico and Tecnológico (CNPq)</i>	2	1
<i>Conselho Regional de Biblioteconomia 8ª Região (CRB)</i>	2	5
CrossRef	4	4
<i>Secretaria Municipal de Saúde de São Paulo, Escola Municipal de Saúde (SMS)</i>	2	3
<i>European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL)</i>	4	4
<i>FAO, Oficina de Intercambio de Conocimientos, Investigación y Extensión (OEKCS)</i>	1	2
<i>Federação Brasileira de Associações de Bibliotecários, Cientistas da Informação and Instituições (FEBAB)</i>	2	5
<i>Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), Centro de Estudos, Políticas and Informação sobre Determinantes Sociais da Saúde (DEPI-DSS)</i>	2	3
<i>Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), Casa de Oswaldo Cruz (COC)</i>	2	3
<i>Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública (ENSP)</i>	2	3
<i>Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), Instituto de Informação Científica and Tecnológica em Saúde (ICICT)</i>	2	3
<i>Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), Presidência</i>	2	3
<i>Fundação de Apoio à UNIFESP (FapUNIFESP)</i>	2	1
Indiana University	4	3
International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) - Health and Biosciences Libraries Section	4	4
International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) - LAC - Latin America and the Caribbean Section	4	4
<i>Instituto Brasileiro de Informação Científica and Tecnológica (IBICT)</i>	2	5
<i>Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII)</i>	4	2
<i>Instituto Lauro Souza Lima (ILSL)</i>	2	3
Lund University Libraries	4	4
McMaster University	4	2
Medical Library Association (MLA)	4	4

Institution/Organization	Type of authority	Type of activity
<i>Ministério da Educação, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES)</i>	2	1
<i>Ministério da Saúde, Coordenação Geral de Documentação and Informação (CGDI)</i>	2	3
<i>Ministério da Saúde, Departamento de Ciência and Tecnologia (DECIT)</i>	2	3
<i>Ministério da Saúde, Secretaria Executiva</i>	2	1
<i>Ministério da Saúde, Secretaria de Gestão do Trabalho and da Educação na Saúde (SGETS) / Departamento de Gestão da Educação na Saúde (DEGES)</i>	2	3
<i>Ministério da Saúde, Departamento de Informática do Sistema Único de Saúde (DATASUS)</i>	2	3
<i>Ministério da Saúde, Instituto Nacional de Câncer (INCA)</i>	2	3
National Library of Medicine (NLM)	4	2
Netherlands Bioinformatics Centre	4	2,3,4
WHO, ePORTUGUÊSe	1	3
WHO, Evidence-Informed Decision Making Program of RPC (EVIPNet)	1	3
WHO, Knowledge, Management and Sharing	1	3
WHO, Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR)	1	3
<i>Organização do Tratado de Cooperação da Amazônia (OTCA) – Coordenação Saúde</i>	3	3
Osti.gov - Office of Scientific & Technical Information	4	3
Public Library of Science (PLoS)		4
<i>Secretaria de Estado da Saúde de São Paulo (SES-SP)</i>	2	1
<i>Secretaria de Estado da Saúde do Rio Grande do Sul (SES-RS)</i>	2	3
<i>Sistema Integrado de Bibliotecas da USP (SiBiUSP)</i>	2	3
<i>Sociedade Brasileira de Medicina de Família and Comunidade (SBMFC)</i>	2	5
The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)	4	4
UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	1	6
UNESCO, Information Society Division	1	2
<i>Universidade Federal de São Paulo (UNIFESP), Reitoria</i>	2	1
<i>Universidad de Granada</i>	4	2,3
<i>Universidade de Brasília</i>	2	3
<i>Universidade de Brasília / Núcleo de Estudos de Saúde Pública</i>	2	2,3
<i>Universidade de São Paulo (USP)</i>	2	3
<i>USP, Faculdade de Medicina Veterinária and Zootecnia - FMVZ/USP</i>	2	3
<i>USP, Faculdade de Medicina</i>	2	3
<i>USP, Faculdade de Odontologia</i>	2	3
<i>USP, Instituto de Psicologia</i>	2	3
<i>USP, Faculdade de Saúde Pública</i>	2	3
<i>Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG), Escola de Enfermagem</i>	2	3
University of Nottingham	4	4