

## Virtual Campus for Public Health

### Country node management

#### Training and exchange meetings 2023

The Virtual Campus for Public Health (VCPH) is the educational platform of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) that aims to contribute to the development of the skills and competencies of health workers, by supporting the transformation of public health services and practices in the Region of the Americas. It works as a decentralized network of people, institutions, and organizations that share open educational resources and courses on public health issues relevant to the countries of the region, through the use of information and communication technologies.

The **country nodes** constitute the basic structure of the VCPH and are a form of organization that facilitates the management of training priorities, through decentralization in the PAHO Country Offices and in the national teams, enabling the achievement of a work dynamic that supports the processes of technical cooperation of each country.

In recent years, the VCPH has provided guidelines for the management of country nodes, updated documents for guidance on educational management, and offered self-training materials for the training of tutors and coordinators of virtual educational projects.

In 2022, a broad program of technical support and strengthening of the country nodes throughout the region was developed; the consolidation of technical teams was achieved in most of the nodes, updating of the portals, formalization of new inter-institutional agreements and formulation of work plans.

The use of the VCPH in the country nodes presents a diversity of realities: intensive use of regional courses, development of courses in collaborative work by subregions, use of classrooms through collaboration with national health authorities, etc.

This webinar program seeks to offer training on priority topics in the management of virtual education and to continue strengthening the collaborative work network between the subregions and the VCPH country nodes. It include presentation of topics related to the management of virtual education, the strategic use of the information generated by the campus, and the synergy between the training instances and PAHO's technical cooperation.

It is expected that one webinar per month will be facilitated with the participation of experts from organizations linked to virtual education and PAHO, and ensuring simultaneous translation in Spanish and English.

The program is aimed at managers of country nodes, teachers and researchers from educational institutions that are part of the network of nodes, and health professionals interested in permanent health education.

A virtual classroom will be opened to monitor the materials offered in the webinars and a participation certificate will be awarded to those who participate in 80% of the meetings.

## Objectives

- To disseminate the work of the VCPH and its country nodes
- To strengthen knowledge of the VCPH Educational Approach within the framework of Permanent Education in Health
- To present challenges in the management of virtual training within the framework of the VCPH country nodes
- To promote the strategic use of the information generated in the nodes and portals of the VCPH
- To promote the collaborative work and the creation of communities of practice of PEH managers within the framework of the VCPH

### Preliminary schedule of activities

**Day:** one monthly webinar on Thursday between April and October

**Time:** 12:00 pm Washington DC time, please review your local time

**Language:** Spanish and English

No	DATE	TOPIC	AGENDA
1	April 20	<b>Launch of the 2023 webinar program for the management of VCPH country nodes.</b>	<p>Presentation of the Program and the schedule of meetings.</p> <p>The VCPH as a PAHO educational platform for the technical cooperation.</p> <p>Main projects 2023. Use of VCPH information in the country nodes. The VCPH App.</p> <p>The Mental Health courses on the Campus.</p> <p>Guest: PAHO Mental Health Unit. Experiences with virtual courses</p>
2	May 18	<b>Teaching and learning in virtual environments. Training management.</b>	<p>Trends in virtual education in the post-pandemic. The perspective of education throughout life and permanent education in health.</p> <p>Training and transformation of practices in health services. The perspective of micro-credentials and training itineraries.</p> <p>Guest: expert in development of training itinerary</p>
3	June 15	<b>Networks and communities of practice. Collaborative work and consensus building.</b>	<p>The articulation between training and institutional strengthening.</p> <p>Virtual spaces for collaboration, challenges in their organization and coordination.</p> <p>Guest: the network of technical schools in health (NTSH). The experience of the network of technical schools EPSJV. Fiocruz</p>
4	July 20	<b>The evaluation of virtual educational processes.</b>	<p>Formative Assessment. Process evaluation and Impact evaluation. The articulation with work processes and technical cooperation.</p>

No	DATE	TOPIC	AGENDA
			<p>Presentation of guiding documents of the VCPH.</p> <p>Guests: experience evaluation of EPHF courses</p>
5	August 17	<b>Experiences in diffusion and communication of virtual educational programs</b>	<p>The experience of the VCPH in the dissemination of its activities.</p> <p>Challenges in approaching new users.</p> <p>Guests: LAIS / UFRN. WHO Collaborating Center for VCPH</p>
6	September 21	<b>Teaching skills in Public Health.</b>	<p>Presentation of the WHO experience on competencies in public health.</p> <p>VCPH experience in the development of the proposal “<b>Teaching Competencies in Public Health</b>”, in collaborative work with ASPPH.</p> <p>Guests: Laura Magaña, Juana Conejero. ASPPH</p>
7	October 19	<b>Design, use and circulation of Open Educational Resources (OER).</b>	<p>Strategic alliances between educational institutions and the health sector for the systematization and dissemination of virtual education processes.</p> <p>Use of networks for the dissemination of materials (OER)</p> <p>Publication of experiences in scientific journals</p> <p>Guest: OER expert</p>