



**NECOBELAC network**  
to promote information production  
and diffusion in public health

A possible application in the field of rare diseases

**Paola De Castro** (*Istituto Superiore di Sanità*)  
and the NECOBELAC Working team

# I am going to talk about...

**WHAT** is **NECOBELAC**

**WHY** I am here

**WHAT** after my talk...





# NECOBELAC Project



# the partners



## PROJECT COORDINATOR

Istituto Superiore di Sanità  
Rome, Italy



The University of Nottingham  
Nottingham, UK



Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas  
Madrid, Spain

Centro Latino Americano e do Caribe de Informação  
em Ciências da Saúde  
Sao Paulo, Brazil



BIREME • PAHO • WHO



Universidad Nacional de Colombia  
Instituto de Salud Pública  
Bogotá, Colombia

Universidade do Minho  
Braga, Portugal



Universidade do Minho



# the project in brief

**NECOBELAC** is a project to develop a

**NEtwork of COllaboration Between Europe  
and Latin American Caribbean (LAC) countries**

**AIM** to spread know-how in:

- ★ scientific writing
- ★ open access publishing

★ **TARGET** All stakeholders in scientific communication

★ **AREA** public health



# the project background

**DIFFERENT** experiences



from Europe and LAC countries  
based on:

- ★ different socio-cultural scenarios
- ★ different methodological and technical approaches

**ONE** goal



# the project strength

## COMPARE AND GROW



### PROMOTING

- ★ cultural change
- ★ bidirectional approach (EU-LAC)



### CREATING AWARENESS

- ★ on document production and diffusion at different levels



# the project foreground

## WIDER COORDINATION

for the development of:

- ★ training programmes  
in information production and dissemination  
*(including technical and ethical issues)*
- ★ networks of existing health-related  
information infrastructures  
*(in Europe and LAC countries)*





# the project approach

## KEY POINTS

- ★ **SHARED** strategy and continuous evaluation of its efficacy
- ★ **WEBSITE** as a reference point for information and communication
- ★ **IMPLEMENTATION** of local activities involving local staff
- ★ **CONSTRUCTION** of flexible prototype training programme

*involving all stakeholders*



# the project details

**Duration**



**Three years: February 2009 – January 2012**

**Languages**



**English, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish**

**EC contribution**



**800,000 Euros**

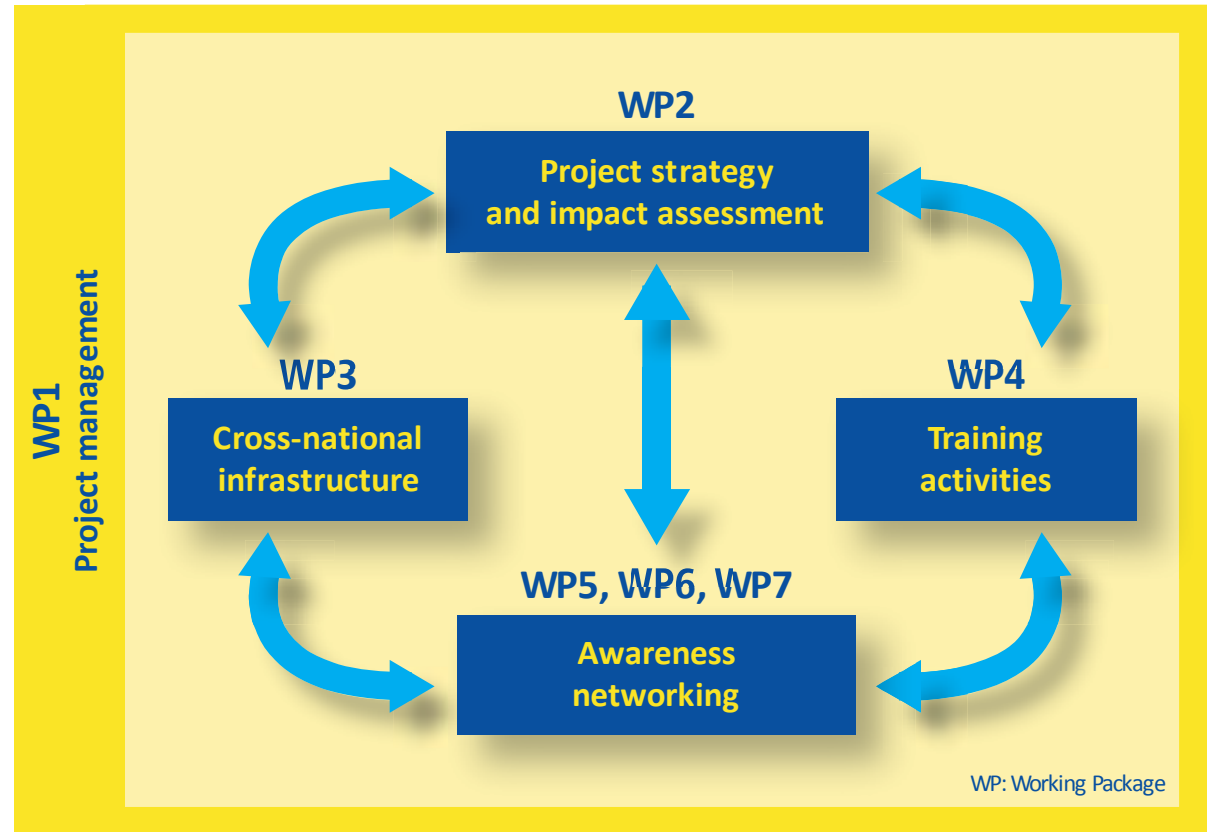
**Project number  
230583**

**Detailed information is available from**

**[www.necobelac.eu](http://www.necobelac.eu)**



# the project overview



All partners are involved in all WPs, except WP1.



# WP1

## Project management

### MISSION

Implementation and administrative aspects of the project management directly associated with WPs development and “rules and procedures” to be followed by project management.

#### *Lead Beneficiary*

Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS, Italy)

Elisabetta Poltronieri (elisabetta.poltronieri@iss.it)

Daniela Marsili (daniela.marsili@iss.it)



# WP2

## Project strategy and impact assessment

### MISSION

**Definition of appropriate strategies and networking Europe-LAC within a shared operational plan, as well as assessing the impact of the project activities as a whole.**

#### *Lead Beneficiary*

Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS, Italy)

Paola De Castro (paola.decastro@iss.it)

*sub-contract to*

Key Perspectives Ltd – UK (Alma Swan)



# WP3

## Cross-national advocacy infrastructure

### MISSION

**Development of a cross-national advocacy infrastructure including a website for all stakeholders within the network Europe-LAC countries.**

*Lead Beneficiary* The University of Nottingham (UNOTT, UK)  
Bill Hubbard (bill.hubbard@nottingham.ac.uk)



# WP4

## Training activities

### MISSION

**Organization of training activities for trainers to spread know-how in health information production, dissemination and use in Europe-LAC countries.**

#### *Lead Beneficiary*

Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC, Spain)  
Reme Melero (rmelero@iata.csic.es)

#### *Third party*

Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia – Spain  
(Alicia López Medina)



# WP5

## Promoting the project infrastructure to guarantee its usage in Europe-LAC countries

### MISSION

Development of the most appropriate actions so that the new infrastructure is fully utilized in Europe-LAC countries and training activities fully developed.

*Lead Beneficiary* Universidade do Minho (UMINHO, Portugal)  
Eloy Rodrigues (eloy@sdum.uminho.pt)





# WP6

## Networking LAC-Europe countries

### MISSION

**Stimulation of the production of information tools and infrastructures on ongoing health activities in LAC and Europe countries.**

### *Lead Beneficiary*

Centro Latino Americano e do Caribe de Informação em Ciências da Saúde (BIREME, Brazil)

Abel L. Packer ([abel.packer@bireme.org](mailto:abel.packer@bireme.org))



# WP7

## Focus on health-related structures in LAC countries

### MISSION

**Creation of awareness and collaboration among health-related structures in LAC countries to further increase the impact of the project.**

#### *Lead Beneficiary*

Universidad Nacional de Colombia (ISP, Colombia)  
Carlos Agudelo (caagudeloc@unal.edu.co)





# Final considerations

## IMMEDIATE PROGRESS

Thanks to use of existing technologies and infrastructures rather than new ones

## EXCELLENT APPROACH

Thanks to one subject discipline: health is a global issue

## LANGUAGE BARRIERS

Thanks to partners having different language backgrounds

## OPEN APPROACH

Thanks to new collaborations with institutions interested in the project (FAO and WHO)



# Further considerations

## NECOBELAC is a large-scale project

- ★ difficult to evaluate its immediate impact  
*(many long term effects will be produced after the project time-span)*
- ★ significant benefits lasting in time with:  
development of health information communication,  
collaborations between Europe and LAC countries.

## NECOBELAC is a MODEL

can be followed in other countries and continents  
can be developed and adapted to different scenarios

Possible re-submission  
for a continuation



# CONCLUSIONS...

WHAT is NECOBELAC

WHY I am here

WHAT after my talk...

**NECOBELAC is a new and promising project on information diffusion**

**WE am looking for partners to share & apply NECOBELAC strategy**

**WE are ready to start new working groups, as from now**

contact: [paola.decastro@iss.it](mailto:paola.decastro@iss.it)

