

Social Network and Health Researchers and Professionals Mobility in Africa: Lessons Learned from AFRICA BUILD Project

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Abstract

Objective: Promote mobility between South-South and South-North for improving level of researchers, staff and students through a platform. **Methods:** The methodology is based a filling of a questionnaire about offer or demand. Material is composed a computer connected Internet. **Result:** we registered about 203 demands and 31 offers from partners. 43 mobilities were executed completely. **Conclusion:** The results indicate a real need of mobility for researchers and health professionals in Africa. The important number of mobility demands made by external researchers and professionals (from outside the AFRICA BUILD Consortium) may be constrained by the difficulty to find adequate funding.

Keywords:

Personel mobility; Health; Africa Build Project.

Introduction

Scientific research is the key to change as it is on research's validated outcomes and reflections on reality that policy makers can base their decisions. At university, scientific research allows students to improve their knowledge [1].

One of AFRICA BUILD project objectives is to facilitate the mobility between learners.

Methods

The hardware consists of a platform via a computer connected to the Internet. This platform had a demand or offer form (depending on the chosen necessary) that the interested have to fill [3].

Definition of mobility

In AFRICA BUILD, mobility (or exchange programs) was defined as the exchange of students and other forms of personnel mobility aiming to conduct a training or research task in other organization.

Results

Forty three (43) mobility initiatives were completed including cases of North-South, South-North and South-South mobility (table 1). Health informatics was the more representative field of interest for this mobility with a total of 13 cases (Table 2).

Table 1: Completed mobilities by type

Mobility type	Number of mobilities
North-South	12
South-North	14
South-South	9
Other*	8
TOTAL	43

Table 2: Completed mobilities initiatives by fields

Fields	Frequencies	Percentages (%)
Health	13	30.23
Informatics		
Public Health	3	6.98
Elearning	9	20.93
Other	18	41.86
Total	43	100

Conclusion

The results of this work show that mobility is an interesting alternative for capacity building of individuals and strengthening institutions.

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