

Lessons learned from the Integrated Knowledge Translation strategy to enhance evidence-informed newborn and child health guidelines in Malawi: The Global Evidence, Local Adaptation (GELA) project



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BACKGROUND

- Integrated Knowledge Translation (IKT) has a potential to enhance knowledge co-production and promote uptake of research evidence in health programs, policies and practices.
- In low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) the use and impact of IKT have been insufficiently documented.
- In Malawi, an IKT strategy was implemented through the Global Evidence, Local Adaptation (GELA) project
- GELA aimed at enhancing researchers and decision-makers' capacity to use global research to develop locally relevant guidelines for new-born and child health in Malawi, Nigeria and South Africa.

OBJECTIVE

Main objective is to share the lessons learned and experiences with developing and implementing the IKT strategy to inform effective stakeholder engagement approaches in future research

GELA WORK PACKAGES

ENGAGE Set priorities SYNTHESISE Gather

evidence

DECIDE From evidence to decision

SHARE Knowledge translation

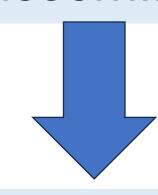
- LEARN guideline panel & methodologists/ researchers, students
- **EVALUATE** impact on evidence use and evidence-informed policy

PROCESSES

Define purpose



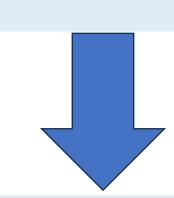
Discuss relevance of GELA IKT locally. Raise awareness, engage stakeholders, disseminate outcomes.



Identify Stakeholders



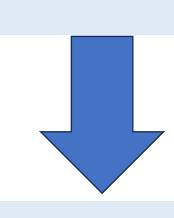
Leverage existing relationships, consult experts, snowball sampling.



Stakeholder Analysis & Mapping



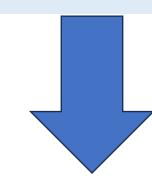
Interest-Influence matrix used to rank stakeholders.



Stakeholder Engagement



Inform, consult, involve, collaborate, empower. Engagement approaches updated.



Monitoring



Track indicators: reach, usefulness, relationships, feedback, engagement status, challenges.

CONCLUSION

Although, the IKT Champions had prior capacity in evidence informed decision-making obtained through various training programmes, the process of stakeholder mapping, determining their level of interest and influence as well as identifying realistic indicators for monitoring the strategy was complex and challenging. The initial orientation and subsequent regular meetings for IKT champions provided the required guidance for developing the IKT strategy for Malawi.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This poster was produced by the GELA project which is part of the EDCTP2 programme (grant number RIA2020S-3303-GELA) supported by the European Union. The views and opinions of the authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of EDCTP.

Twitter: @CochraneAfrica Facebook: facebook.com/Global Evidence Local Adaptation – GELA Email: gela@mrc.ac.za Website: https://africa.cochrane.org/projects/GELA





The GELA project is a partnership coordinated by the South African Medical Research Council, including the Norway University of Applied Sciences, Stellenbosch University, Cochrane Nigeria at the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital, Nigeria, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences, Malawi, Cochrane and Stiftelsen MAGIC Evidence Ecosystem, Norway.















