

World Health Organization
Family of International
Classifications Network (WHO-FIC)



WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre for the African Region

DRAFT STRATEGIC WORK PLAN 2018-2020

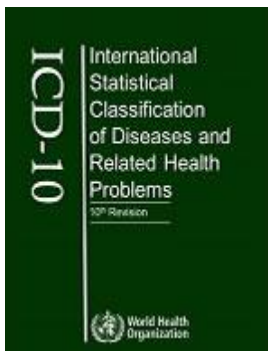
Comments welcome until 31 March 2018

INTRODUCTION

The United Nations [Sustainable Development Goals](#), that all UN Member States have agreed to, aim to achieve Universal Health Coverage by 2030. This includes financial risk protection, access to quality essential health care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

The [WHO Family of International Classifications \(WHO-FIC\)](#), by enabling systematically coded data to underpin the provision of health services, is pivotal in delivering Universal Health Coverage.

WHO-FIC includes three classifications that encompass different aspects of health and health care:



[International Classification of Diseases](#) (ICD)



[International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health](#) (ICF)



[International Classification of Health Interventions](#) (ICHI)

The WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre for the African region is hosted by [the South African Medical Research Council](#) in Cape Town, South Africa. The Centre supports the development, implementation and maintenance of WHO-FIC across the region, and through [the global WHO-FIC Network](#).

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WHO-FIC COLLABORATING CENTRE FOR THE AFRICAN REGION

The terms of reference can be summarised as (A) supporting the development, revision, maintenance and evaluation of WHO-FIC internationally, and in South and Southern Africa (WHO/AFRO); and (B) participating in joint WHO-FIC development and maintenance activities through the WHO-FIC network.

In more detail the terms of reference are:

1. Assisting WHO in developing, maintaining and revising the WHO Family of International Classifications, Terminologies and Standards (WHO-FIC), in particular the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF), the International Classification of Health Interventions, and relevant terminological and ontological aspects.
2. Supporting global work with active participation to Committees, as for Implementation & Education, Update & Revision, Electronic Tools & Terminology, and Family Development and Reference Groups, as for Mortality, Morbidity, Functioning & Disability that assist WHO in the development, testing, implementation, use, improvement, updating and revision of members of the WHO-FIC.
3. Collaborating with local and regional users of classifications by networking and providing support, disseminating information about the WHO-FIC and other health-related classifications, regarding the availability, suitability and applicability of the classifications for different purposes, as reporting and coding, availability of tools for implementation, data analysis, and interpretation, in coordination with WHO.
4. Promoting use of the WHO-FIC, developing, formulating and sharing teaching materials, organizing and conducting local, regional and global training courses and translating international WHO-FIC materials to the relevant language for local use, in coordination with WHO.
5. Improving the level and quality of implementation of WHO classifications, supporting quality assurance procedures of the WHO-FIC regarding mechanisms, norms and standards of classification use, data collection, and data analysis, in coordination with WHO.

OBJECTIVES OF THE NETWORK

The objectives of the WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre for the African region are to:

1. Reach consensus regarding the strategic implementation plan;
2. Build an effective WHO-FIC Network in the WHO African region;
3. Build strong international links with the international WHO-FIC network and other WHO-FIC regional networks;
4. Contribute to the development and maintenance of the member classifications of the WHO-FIC aligned to the needs of the African region;
5. Provide evidence and support for the effective utilisation of WHO-FIC in the development and provision of Universal Health Coverage and Health Information Systems,
6. Keep a growing WHO-FIC Network in Sub-Saharan Africa informed about the activities of and educational resources available from the Collaborating Centre, the international WHO-FIC network and other related stakeholders;
7. Deliver educational resources for ICD, ICF, ICHI and Cause of Death Certification, and
8. Obtain funding for WHO-FIC projects in Sub-Saharan Africa.

VALUES

The WHO-FIC Regional Network for Africa shares the values of Equity, Excellence, Solidarity, Respect, Integrity, Ubuntu and Social responsibility.

MISSION

To cooperate with the countries and other stakeholders in the WHO African region to develop and advance WHO-FIC.

VISION

Coordinate and share experiences, knowledge, and the production of scientific evidence on WHO-FIC to contribute to Universal Health Coverage and strong health information systems in the WHO African region.

MEMBERS OF THE NETWORK

The WHO-FIC Network for the African region will comprise mainly of individuals from educational and research institutions, professional organisations, WHO structures in the Region, and Ministries and Departments of Health, Education and Statistics in the countries of the Region.

The main activities of the members are to:

- Participate in the preparation of the work plan
- Participate in periodic face-to-face and virtual meetings
- Organize development-orientated activities in their institutions, regions or country, on behalf of the Network and within the framework of the work plan
- Contribute news on WHO-FIC for the Network's website and newsletter
- Construct a space in which to disseminate and promote the Network's educational resources
- Participate actively in the Network's plans and projects.

STAFF ASSOCIATED WITH THE COLLABORATING CENTRE *(from the Collaborating Centre designation document)*

- Prof Debbie Bradshaw, MSc DPhil (Unit Director, SAMRC Burden of Disease Research Unit and Co-Head of WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre)
- Dr Lyn Hanmer, MSc(Eng) PhD (Specialist Scientist, SAMRC Burden of Disease Research Unit and Co-Head of WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre)
- Dr Pamela Groenewald, MBChB MPH (Specialist Scientist, SAMRC Burden of Disease Research Unit)
- Dr Jané Joubert, MA PhD (Specialist Scientist, SAMRC Burden of Disease Research Unit)
- Ms Glenda de Beer, AAPC Certified Professional Coder (Private Healthcare Information Standards Committee)
- Prof Jennifer Jelsma, PhD (Professor, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Cape Town)
- Dr Soraya Maart, MPH PhD (Head of Division: Physiotherapy, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Cape Town)
- Ms Sithara Satiyadev, RN RM MPH Certified Professional Coder (Clinical Governance Initiative, University of the Witwatersrand)
- Dr Warrick Sive, MBChB MSc MBA (Clinical Governance Initiative, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand)
- Dr Stefanus Snyman, MB ChB MPhil DOM (Project Manager, WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre for the African region).
- Mr Maluta Tshivhase, BOccTher DPH (Non-communicable Diseases Cluster, National Department of Health)
- Dr Maletela Tuoane-Nkhasi, PhD (Manager: Vital Statistics, Statistics South Africa)
- Ms Thulile Zondi, MPH (Cluster Manager: Health Informatics, Epidemiology and Research, National Department of Health).

COORDINATION

The WHO-FIC Network for the African Region is coordinated by the Burden of Disease Research Unit at the South African Medical Research Council, and enjoys good relations with the WHO Regional Office for Africa through Dr Hongyi Xu, .Health Information & Knowledge Management Unit, Health Systems and Services Cluster.

Ideally, each country within the Region should have a representative from the Ministry or Department of Health and a public educational institution or professional association associated with the Collaborating Centre.

The current designation of the Collaborating Centre ends in January 2020.

TRIENNIAL WORK PLAN

Every three years the Network will prepare a work plan – to be discussed by the members – that will include a set of regional and/or national activities with a brief description.

GOAL OF PROJECT

To cooperate with the countries and other stakeholders in the WHO African region to promote sustainable and effective utilisation of the WHO Family of International Classifications among stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa.

PLANS

1 Strategic work plan	Description	It is important for stakeholders to have ownership of the WHO-FIC CC's strategic plan. The aim is to reach consensus on the proposed plan
	Objectives	To reach consensus regarding the strategic work plan
	Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile a draft plan • Distribute the plan for comment • Publish and distribute the final plan
	Outputs	Published 3 year work plan for the WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre (African region)
	Outcomes	A strategic plan, reached through consensus, guiding the actions of the WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre (African region)
	Indicators	Wide consensus on the envisaged plans to cooperate with the countries and other stakeholders in the WHO African region to promote the sustainable and effective utilisation of the WHO Family of International Classifications among stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa.

<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Effective WHO-FIC Network in WHO African Region</p>	Description	Currently there is not a well-established WHO-FIC network in Sub-Saharan Africa. The aim is to develop the WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre (African region) to involve stakeholders from various sectors (government, health and social services, education and health informatics)
	Objectives	Develop an effective WHO-FIC Network in Sub-Saharan Africa.
	Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre (African region) database of stakeholders • Liaise with other regional networks to widen range of influence and collaboration (e.g. WHO African region; AfriNEAD, AfreHEALTH, AfriPEN, PrimaFamed, WONCA Africa, ECSACON, etc.) • Arrange Network meetings in Sub-Saharan Africa • Lobby governments for their support of the Network • Support the establishment of other WHO-FIC collaborating Centres in the Region • Develop a strong leadership team to take the Collaborating Centre beyond 2020
	Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Database of representatives of WHO-FIC stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa • Agreements of collaboration with other regional networks • Three (3) Network meetings in Sub-Saharan Africa – face-to-face or virtual • Government representation in the WHO-FIC (African region) Network • WHO-FIC Collaborating Centres in Central, East, Southern and West Africa • Contingency plan to ensure strong Collaborating Centre leadership post 2020
	Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ownership of the project as well as trust relationships between well-informed stakeholders representing countries and networks in Sub-Saharan Africa. • Well-represented and active working groups in the Network • Strong leadership team post 2020
	Indicators	Effective and well-represented working groups addressing WHO-FIC priorities in Sub-Saharan Africa.

<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keeping stakeholders informed</p>	Description	Our stakeholders need continuous professional development and motivation regarding the use of WHO-FIC. The aim is to communicate effectively with stakeholders.
	Objectives	Keep a growing WHO-FIC Network in Sub-Saharan Africa informed about the activities of and educational resources available from the Collaborating Centre, the international WHO-FIC network and other related stakeholders.
	Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and maintain a website 2. Distribute regular newsletters and social media postings 3. Conduct workshops and conferences.
	Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre Website at SAMRC 2. Regular Newsletters 3. Information sharing events like workshops and symposia.
	Outcomes	More informed stakeholders regarding the activities of the Collaborating Centre and the use of WHO-FIC.
	Indicators	<p>Page visits to the website.</p> <p>Followers on Twitter and Facebook.</p> <p>Number of subscriptions and actual reading of newsletters.</p> <p>Number of attendees at events.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>WHO-FIC classifications aligned to the needs of the African region</p>	Description	Collaborating centres contribute extensively to the development and maintenance of the WHO-FIC reference classifications (ICD, ICF and ICHI). Participation from the African Region is essential to ensure that the needs of the Region, and other low-resource settings, are taken into account in the development of the Classifications.
	Objectives	Contribute to the development and maintenance of the member classifications of the WHO-FIC.
	Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO-FIC stakeholders from the African region participate in all committees and reference groups related to the development and maintenance of ICD (ICD-10 and ICD-11), ICF and ICHI. • WHO-FIC stakeholders from the African region serve as co-chairs of relevant committees and reference groups. • WHO-FIC stakeholders from the African region contribute to the update and revision processes for ICD-10 and ICF. • WHO-FIC stakeholders from the African region participate in the testing of the Classifications under development during the designation period: ICD-11 and ICHI.
	Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New WHO-FIC classifications – ICD-11 and ICHI - which meet the needs of users in low-resource settings, including in the WHO African region • Updates to existing WHO-FIC reference classifications – ICD-10 and ICF – which ensure that the classifications meet the needs of users in the African Region.
	Outcomes	WHO-FIC classifications which meet the needs of all stakeholders, including those in low resource settings.
	Indicators	Registered users of ICD, ICF and (when available) ICHI from the African Region.

<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>Educational resources for ICD, ICF, ICHI and Cause of Death Certification</p>	Description	There is a shortage of WHO-FIC training material and training courses in Sub-Saharan Africa. The aim is to develop adaptive learning training courses.
	Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop educational resources for ICD, ICF, ICHI and Cause of Death Certification To present online and face-to-face training courses
	Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop training courses for ICD, ICF, ICHI and Cause of Death Certification in partnership with other stakeholders, locally and abroad Pilot and refine the courses Conduct train-the-trainer courses in collaboration with various stakeholders Ensure the development of online and adaptive learning materials Investigate translation of the classifications into African languages.
	Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train-the-trainer manual for Cause of Death Certification course. Online training courses – dependent on requirements and available resources. Adaptive learning material for Cause of Death Certification.
	Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train the trainer course for Cause of Death certification. Online training courses with adaptive learning materials, resources permitting. Teams translating classifications into African languages, resources permitting.
	Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of trainers trained Number of students successfully completing the training courses Number of completed translations.

<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>WHO-FIC in the development of Health Information Systems and provision of Universal Health Coverage</p>	Description	Currently countries in Sub-Saharan Africa are at various stages of developing health information systems and the rolling out of services aiming at universal health coverage. The value WHO-FIC can add to these processes are not always realised, acknowledged and valued.
	Objectives	To provide evidence and support for the effective utilisation of WHO-FIC in the development and provision of Universal Health Coverage and Health Information Systems.
	Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a report and video explaining the value that WHO-FIC can add to HIS and UHC in Sub-Saharan Africa • Advertise our services to help design and implement WHO-FIC into HISs and for UHC.
	Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on WHO-FIC and UHC in Sub-Saharan Africa • YouTube video on WHO-FIC and UHC in Sub-Saharan Africa • Advisory service.
	Outcomes	An awareness of the value of WHO-FIC and support services available through the Collaborating Centre and the WHO-FIC regional network.
	Sources of evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of downloads and sharing of the report • YouTube views, downloads and sharing • WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre (African region) is invited to help develop systems relating to HIS and UHC.

<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>International liaison</p>	Description	The WHO-FIC CC (African region) is internationally valued for its leadership and neutrality within the global Network. The aim is to further strengthen these international links and involvement.
	Objectives	Build strong international links with WHO-FIC Networks.
	Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO-FIC stakeholders from WHO African region participate in every WHO-FIC committee / reference group • Active participation in ICFEducation.org • Market our strong leadership team within WHO-FIC Network globally. • Ensure cost-effective access to the WHO-FIC member classifications by stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa.
	Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participation in all WHO-FIC and ICFEducation.org meetings • WHO-FIC classifications available to stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa.
	Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WHO-FIC classifications widely available in Sub-Saharan Africa • ICFEducation.org used by stakeholders • Representation from Sub-Saharan Africa on all WHO-FIC committees and reference groups.
	Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO-FIC attendance lists • Leadership positions filled in WHO-FIC by stakeholders from Sub-Saharan Africa • Usage of ICF education.org • Distribution numbers of the WHO-FIC classifications in Sub-Saharan Africa

<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>Obtain funding for the WHO-FIC projects in WHO African region</p>	Description	There is currently no guaranteed funding available after March 2017 to deliver on this work plan. New funding should be sought to cooperate with the countries and other stakeholders in the WHO African region to develop and advance WHO-FIC.
	Objectives	To identify and apply for funding to deliver on this strategic plan
	Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile a detailed budget • Identify suitable funding opportunities • Apply for funding • Ensure the redesignation of the Collaborating Centre from 2020.
	Outputs	Funding proposals.
	Outcomes	<p>Funding to implement this plan</p> <p>Successful bid to continue hosting the Collaborating Centre after 2020.</p>
	Indicators	<p>Successful funding application(s)</p> <p>Redesignated Collaborating Centre.</p>