



NECOBELAC

News 6. October 2011

Network of Collaboration Between Europe and Latin America-Caribbean Countries

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Progress in NECOBELAC training activity

From April 2010 to October 2011 numerous NECOBELAC training activities are being delivered in Europe and Latin American countries

- **n. 7** training for trainers
- **n. 26** training replication activity at local level, including some virtual courses.

NECOBELAC LOCAL COURSES

during the **OPEN ACCESS WEEK**

Italy

Rome, October 25-26, 2011 [more](#)

Vercelli, October 28, 2011 [more](#)

Colombia

Bogotá, October 26, 2011 [more](#)

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NECOBELAC Editorial for OA week



On the occasion of the International Open Access week, a global event now in its 5th year, promoting Open Access (OA) as a new norm in scholarship and research, the NECOBELAC project partners wrote the editorial

[NECOBELAC supporting Open Access, a path to open science](#)

to stimulate the scientific community to take action and make their work open access to disseminate free health information worldwide.

NECOBELAC editorial is now published in SciELO Highlights



and in SciELO Public Health



Moreover, the editorial will be published in the coming volumes of some of the Journals included in SciELO Public Health, such as *Annali dell'Istituto Superiore di Sanità* (Italy) and *Revista de Salud Pública* (Colombia).





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Don't miss the opportunity to take part in the coming NECOBELAC local activities in Latin America

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Colombia

Evaluación de Artículos Científicos. Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá.
November 8, 2011

Ecuador

A NECOBELAC day within the International Seminar "Cambio Climático, Ambiente y Salud", at the Universidad Tecnológica Equinoccial of Quito. It is a new kind of replication activity including updating on environmental health and dissemination issues.
[See the programme.](#)
November 28-30, 2011

Mexico

NECOBELAC course within the 2nd Meeting of Editors of Artemisia online, Cuernavaca
December 1-2, 2011

info@necobelac.eu

See all replication activities performed up to now in Europe and Latin America in the homepage of the project website.

Developing NECOBELAC network and collaborations in Environmental Health

The NECOBELAC partner ISS participated in the workshop "Latin America chapter. Pensando una agenda de investigación en salud ambiental para América Latina: compartamos un sur, within the International Society of Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) annual Conference, held in Barcelona on September 13-16, 2011.



As a consequence, a new commitment was taken by NECOBELAC ISS partner to support the new Latin American ISEE group and related initiatives.



READ the following text resulted from the Latin American ISEE meeting and take the opportunity to participate in the new research network.



The University of Nottingham





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Developing a research network in environmental health for Latin America

Fabian Mendez (1) and Nelson Gouveia (2) for the ISEE Latin American Chapter

1) Universidad del Valle, Cali, Colombia 2) Universidade de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil

During the last ISEE conference a group of researchers from Latin America (Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico and others interested in collaborating with our countries) met in Barcelona to discuss and agree on how to work together and contribute to improve the environmental health in the region. This initiative was motivated by the perceived need of a more active and collaborative agenda of research in Latin America, focused on the specific contexts of our region. Specifically we prepared working documents and discussed about three selected topics considered of common interest: **community participation, environmental justice and transdisciplinarity**. Based on groups' discussion for each one of these three topics we identified barriers, facilitators and alternatives of action.

In brief, we identified that the main barriers regarding these three topics are associated to negative or ambivalent attitudes of researchers, stakeholders and funding organizations, and also to a lack of knowledge and training for properly incorporating these issues in investigation. However, if a consistent and appropriate approach is developed to incorporate them from very early stages of study design, these issues could facilitate a comprehensive understanding of complex environmental problems and would help to translate results into action.

In addition, we discussed and preliminarily agreed on developing a common agenda of collaboration with several purposes. **Particularly, we will start by completing an inventory that will include, among other aspects, research groups, capabilities, topics of interest and ongoing projects currently being developed in the region. Other purposes of this academic network were discussed (i.e.; training, information sharing, collaborative multisite studies) taking into account the need of setting achievable goals in a time frame that will gradually develop our common objectives.**

Latin America is an area of contrasts with growing economies, urban concentration and large disparities, and research is a fundamental component for sustainable development. We, from the academia, need to make visible in the regional agenda the future challenges for a more equitable development. This will be possible if we make the proper questions, develop high quality research and engage stakeholders and the general community for diffusion and use of study results.

The emergent network is open to all interested in making this to happen. A web-based community will be initially working on gradually developing activities, and all contributions are welcome. Visit www.grupogesp.org for additional and updated information.

The preconference workshop during the 23rd ISEE meeting in Barcelona was possible and in part funded by the IDRC from Canada, the Universidad del Valle in Cali-Colombia and the participation of researchers.

Para más informaciones sobre esta iniciativa, contactar:

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To include your News in the next issue
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