

Folder eCC_00000801 is in stage Expiration in 2 Years

Institution Name Agenzia Regionale della Sanità

Name of Department, unit, section or area of the institution designated as WHO.CC

Health Information Systems, Standards and Coding Systems and Epidemiological Department

City Udine

Country ITALY

Country ID

Title WHO Collaborating Centre for Family of International Classifications

Report Year 07/2007 to 07/2008

1. Implementation of the work plan. For each main activity briefly explain how the activity was implemented, the outcome and impact and, if available, the results of the evaluation (e.g. evaluation of a course by the participants). Also explain difficulties (if any). Do not provide technical results in this form (technical results, if applicable, are to be sent directly to the WHO Department you work with).

Activity 1 Promote development and use of WHO-FIC

Explanation

In 2008 the availability of the ICF and ICF-CY electronic Italian versions has been the main objective of the Collaborating Centre activity as a first and crucial step toward the use of classifications in information systems. A first implementation of the ICF and ICF-CY use in information systems has been realized to support the data collection of ICF functioning profiles in 8 Italian Regions participating to a research project founded by the Ministry of Labour, Health and Welfare. ICF has been implemented in the Open Clinica, a web based Electronic Data Capture (EDC) platform. ICF in CLaML format was used as the basis for the creation of the EDC internal data model, later imported into the OpenClinica platform. From this visual representation, a group of experts designed the set of forms that comprise the web application; later, the database structure and the final application templates were fixed and published on a public web site. The joint use of ICF as a representational model for an Electronic Data Capture system, coupled with the choice of Open Source software, allowed to reduce in a significant way the cost and implementation time of a multiregional EDC system. A poster on this experience will be presented to the Annual Meeting of WHO FIC Network 2008.

Activity 2 Contribution in development of methodology for the use of WHO-FIC

Explanation

The Collaborating Centre has been involved directly, and with his partners, in collaborating to the European Research Project "Mhadie" (Measuring Health and Disability in Europe) led by the Besta Research Institute (Milan) with the participation of WHO too. The Project allowed a large and multi country collection of clinical data based on an ICF model and structure, and a comparison between different national surveys on health and disability. The Mhadie research report and results has been discussed in several seminars. A list of proposal about measurement strategies, methodological suggestions and policy recommendations has been presented to the official delegates of European Commission.

Activity 3 Support

Explanation

To support the activities of the Italian Collaborating Centre, a network of institutional subjects was established. The network is composed by ISTAT (National Institute of Statistics), "Carlo Besta" Neurological Research Institute and the "Medea" Rehabilitation Institute.

On the first year of designation, we were involved in the organization of two important events:

- 1) the Annual Meeting of the WHO FIC Network (Trieste, 28th Oct. – 03rd Nov 2007)
- 2) the official presentation of the ICF CY in Venice (26th Oct 2007) with the participation of the WHO staff, the most important national and international authorities

In spring 2008 we have helped the incoming Indian WHO CC to collecting the registration fees for the Annual Meeting in New Delhi 2008.

In the first year of designation an important aim was the involvement and participation of Italian CC members to the activities of different groups and committee of the WHO FIC Network and mid-year and annual meetings:

In particular during the first year of activity we participate to the work of:

- Planning committee (mid year meeting in Japan April 2007 and mid year meeting Geneva 2008)
- Education Committee (Monica Pace, Andrea Martinuzzi, Matilde Leonardi)
- Electronic Tools Committee (Carlo Francescutti, Vincenzo Della Mea)
- Function and Disability Reference Group (Matilde Leonardi, Andrea Martinuzzi)
- Mortality Reference Group (Monica Pace)
- Morbidity reference Group (Giulio Borgnolo)

Activity 4 Develop education and training material.

Explanation

An intense education and training work on ICF continued from previous years in 2008 and involved more than 1.000 professionals, in several Italian Regions and in different settings: rehabilitation, education, social work, psychology. The Italian web training platform was consolidated.

The training of Mhadie (Measuring Health and Disability in Europe project) researchers collecting clinical data with ICF has been carried out by the Italian expert of the Collaborating Centre and it was based on the training materials and tools developed in the Italian training experience.

With ISTAT (National Institute of Statistics) two initiatives for the training of mortality coders has been planned for the end of 2008 and the beginning of 2009.

Activity 5 Develop research

Explanation

The main research projects related to the use of ICF that has been developed and continued in 2008 regarded:

- a) the use ICF in clinical settings (Mhadie project);
- b) the use of ICF in disability certification (project financed by the Italian Ministry of Labour, Health and Welfare);
- c) the use of ICF in evaluating functioning of adults and young people with disability in residential setting (joint project of Friuli Venezia Giulia and Tuscany Region);
- d) the use of ICF in evaluating health and disability with AIDS in Mozambique
- e) the use of ICF in describing functioning profile of adults and young people with disability involved in projects of labour inclusion.

Activity 6 Maintain Italian language edition of ICF.

Explanation

The Collaborating Centre staff translated ICF-CY in Italian and the electronic versions of ICF and ICF-CY were prepared using the CLaML format. The electronic versions of the classifications were sent to WHO in June 2008.

The printed version of ICF-CY in Italian has been prepared and distributed in October 2008.

The availability of the electronic version of ICDX in Italian has been planned for 2009 and the work started in the second half of 2008.

An agreement with the Italian Ministry of Labour, Health and Welfare is under evaluation concerning the joint development of the National Web Portal of International Classification and the translation of ICDX 1996-2007 updates. The National Portal will be ready for the beginning of year 2009.

Activity 7 To promote and support

Explanation

The Collaborating Centre developed a cooperation project related to the use of ICF and ICF related assessment instruments in Mozambique, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health of Mozambique and an Italian NGO operating locally (CESTAS). The project has been supported by the administration of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region (decentralized cooperation funds). The application of ICF will support the evaluation of health status and disability of children with Aids.

During the year 2008 the Collaborating Centre prosecuted the activity of the Alpe Adria Network (Friuli Venezia Giulia and Veneto Region/Italy, Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia) organizing three meetings on topics related to ICF and labour policies, ICF and Long Term Care and ICF and rehabilitation. The last event has been planned for the end of 2008.

Activity 8 To collaborate with national authorities

Explanation

In the year 2008 the Italian Collaborating Centre received a grant from the Ministry of Labour, Health and Welfare for the development of a research and implementation of a two year project in order to define a common national framework for disability certification based on the conceptual model of ICF. The project involve all the Collaborating Centre partners (ARS, ISTAT, BESTA and MEDEA research Institutes), 8 Italian Regional Administrations, and a pool of national experts in disability evaluation and medico-legal sciences. A poster with the main methodological features of the project will be presented at the annual meeting of WHO-FIC Network 2008.

The Collaborating Centre collaborate to the development of the new Italian guidelines for the evaluation of children with special educational needs and the use of ICF as a common language to describe the functioning profile of children. The new guidelines has been approved by the Italian Government in June 2008.

Activity 9 To present periodic reports on the Centre s activities

Explanation

This is the first annual report. Due to technical problems in accessing the web platforms this document has been uploaded in 2009, but our reports as been regularly sent, by e-mail to WHO CTS group.

2. Other information related to the Collaboration between the centre and WHO. Briefly describe visits by WHO staff to the centre, visits by the centre staff to WHO (HQ and/or Regional Office), use of the centre staff by WHO, support provided by centre staff for courses cosponsored or organized by WHO (HQ and/or Regional Office), WHO financial support to the centre through contractual or Technical Services Agreement or other type of support provided by WHO, any other collaborative activities. Please mention any difficulties encountered in the collaboration and suggestions for increased and improved collaboration with WHO.

We have had a close and intensive collaboration with the WHO staff especially during the first year of designation, to support the designation process (site visit and meeting with Ministry of Health, official ministerial in spring 2007) and to support the organization of either the annual meeting of WHO FIC Network in Trieste and the official presentation of the ICF CY in Venice.

3. Collaboration with other WHO Collaborating Centres: Briefly describe the nature and outcome of the collaboration and the name(s) of the other WHO collaborating centre(s) with which the centre has collaborated. If applicable, please mention the name of the network of WHO CCs to which the centre belongs. Also include suggestions for increased and improved collaboration with other WHO CC

In June 2007 we visited the WHO German Collaborating Centre in Cologne (at DIMDI) to discuss about Collaborating Centre organization, activities and electronic tools for the maintenance and development of classifications. During the 2007 Annual meeting we established connections with the European Collaborating Centres in order to prepare and define a strategy of collaboration at European level.