



Terms of reference for new Operational Partner for HIFA-Spanish

Global Healthcare Information Network (GHI-Net) and the World Health Organization (WHO) seek a new operational partner to further develop HIFA-Spanish.

Start date: February 2022 (flexible)

1. About HIFA-Spanish

HIFA-Spanish (HIFA-español, HIFA-es) is one of six HIFA forums (Healthcare Information For All) which collectively support more than 20,000 professional members in 180 countries, accelerating progress towards universal access to reliable healthcare information and protection from misinformation. HIFA is administered by GHI-Net, a UK-based nonprofit established specifically for this purpose, and it is supported by more than 400 health and development organisations.

Improving the availability of reliable healthcare information in a language that people can understand is critically important. GHI-Net works closely with WHO, including formal MOUs for HIFA-French, HIFA-Portuguese and HIFA-Spanish. These forums are in alignment with UN resolution 61/266 on multilingualism adopted by the UN General Assembly on 16 May 2007. They contribute directly to two of WHO's priorities in multilingualism, which are seen as necessary for quality universal health coverage:

- (1) **global health communication:** establishing cross-linkages among health professionals, policy-makers and others from groups or regions speaking different languages. The purpose is to value and promote cultural and linguistic diversity and improve mutual sharing, and understanding between these various speaking groups/regions across the world; and
- (2) **meeting the health information needs** of individual people and health workers in a language they can understand - acknowledging that language is critical for delivering quality UHC and promoting innovations in service delivery (specifically culturally competent services) to address major health care disparities.

HIFA-Spanish was launched in 2018 in collaboration with the Escuela Andaluza de Salud Pública (EASP, Andalusian School of Public Health), a WHO Collaborating Centre and public institution located in Granada, Spain, which provides training, consultancy and research services for the healthcare sector). EASP has served as the operational partner since the launch of HIFA-Spanish. Due to structural changes at EASP the latter is unable to continue as an operational partner for HIFA-Spanish. EASP remains available to assist with handover to a new operational partner.

HIFA-Spanish members

1. Share and disseminate experiences and lessons that can be useful for planning, organizing and implementing interventions and activities to improve health.
2. Share reviews of evidence and innovations both in methods or procedures, as well as in experiences and in health care practices.
3. Consult with other members of the HIFA community regarding challenges, challenges, difficulties and needs in promoting the availability of reliability healthcare information and improving the

quality of health care worldwide.

2. The partners

- **New operational partner to be identified (see below)**
- About WHO: WHO is the United Nations agency that connects nations, partners and people to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable – so everyone, everywhere can attain the highest level of health. The MOU is led by the Department of Service Delivery and Safety.
- About GHI-net: GHI-net is a non-profit organization based in the UK, established to launch and implement Healthcare Information For All. HIFA is a global health network with more than 20,000 professionals worldwide, working for a world where every person will have access to the reliable healthcare information they need to protect their own health and the health of others, and will be protected from misinformation.

3. Contacts

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EASP: Alberto Fernandez: alberto.fernandez.easp@juntadeandalucia.es

4. Responsibilities: All partners

The parties collaborate to design, moderate and coordinate the HIFA-Spanish discussion forum to:

- Build and nurture the HIFA-Spanish membership so that it continues to grow and serve actively for the purposes described herein
- Ensure continued growth in membership, including representation from the full range of Spanish-speaking stakeholders (policy-makers, health professionals, researchers, representatives of civil society, etc.)
- Promote sharing of experience and expertise among HIFA-Spanish members, thereby supporting individual and collective efforts to improve the availability of healthcare information in Spanish for the public, health workers and policymakers worldwide
- Facilitate communication between HIFA-Spanish members and members of other relevant forums including other HIFA Forums (in English, French, Portuguese or other languages).
- Develop strategic directions for HIFA-Spanish, as appropriate, in alignment with other HIFA forums
- Encourage and support volunteerism among the HIFA-Spanish members, including moderators, country representatives, and administrative support
- Encourage in-kind support from appropriate health and development organizations that are committed to improve quality of health care in Spanish speaking countries
- Provide input to the main HIFA Steering Group as a steering group member
- Guarantee adequate technical resources to fulfil the responsibilities stated in this TOR.

5. Responsibilities: New operational partner

- All above in collaboration with other partners
- Day-to-day building and nurturing of the HIFA-Spanish membership in collaboration with other partners
- Day-to-day operational running of HIFA-Spanish, including moderation in collaboration with other partners

6. Criteria for new operational partner

Essential

- Academic institution or NGO status

- Commitment to improve quality of health in Spanish-speaking countries worldwide, and particularly the health of the vulnerable
- Absence of commercial interests

Desirable

- Active WHO Collaborating Centre or
- Active NGO in Official Relations with WHO

Please send expression of interest to admin@hifa.org by 21 December.

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