

# TRAINING IN SCIENTIFIC WRITING AND OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING IN EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA

## Common goals in different scenarios

Paola De Castro\*, Daniela Marsili\*, Elisabetta Poltronieri\*,  
and the NECOBELAC Working Team

*\*Istituto Superiore di Sanità*

## Two basic concepts

1. HEALTH IS A RIGHT FOR ALL
2. EQUITY IN HEALTH

## FOCUS ON

A networking experience  
in Europe and Latin America  
for the safeguard of public health

The betterment in production and dissemination of scientific information in the field of public health is a **shared commitment in a global society** involves an increasing number of scientific institutions

# PRE-REQUISITES FOR NETWORKING

## 1. Share common goals

**"GUARANTEE FREE ACCESS  
TO INFORMATION FOR ALL"**

Regardless of geographical, cultural  
institutional and legal barriers

## 2. Work together and find joint solutions

Benefit from different socio-cultural backgrounds

Share technical skills





# **NECOBELAC NETWORK**

**[www.necobelac.eu](http://www.necobelac.eu)**



# NECOBELAC

is a three years project (2009 – 2012)  
funded by the EU to develop a

NEtwork of COllaboration Between Europe  
and Latin American Caribbean countries



**AIM** to spread know-how in:

- ★ scientific writing
- ★ open access publishing

to develop research collaboration EU-LAC

★ **TARGET** All stakeholders in scientific communication

★ **AREA** public health  
and health-related disciplines

# Europe - Latin America collaborations in EC Research 102 projects



- 3 Science in Society (NECOBELAC)
- 9 International Cooperation
- 17 Health
- 13 Information Communication Technologies
- 6 Infrastructures
- 7 Socio economic sciences and humanities
- and many others

[http://cordis.europa.eu/home\\_it.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/home_it.html)

# NECOBELAC STRATEGY

## BI-DIRECTIONAL APPROACH EU-LAC



Visite  
1 1.136

# NECOBELAC STRATEGY

## BI-DIRECTIONAL APPROACH EU-LAC

1. **Development of a network** of people (research communities) and institutions
2. **Development of a 2-level training program**



## TOOLS

- existing technologies
- online resources (topic maps)

## Focus on PUBLIC HEALTH



# 1. NECOBELAC network

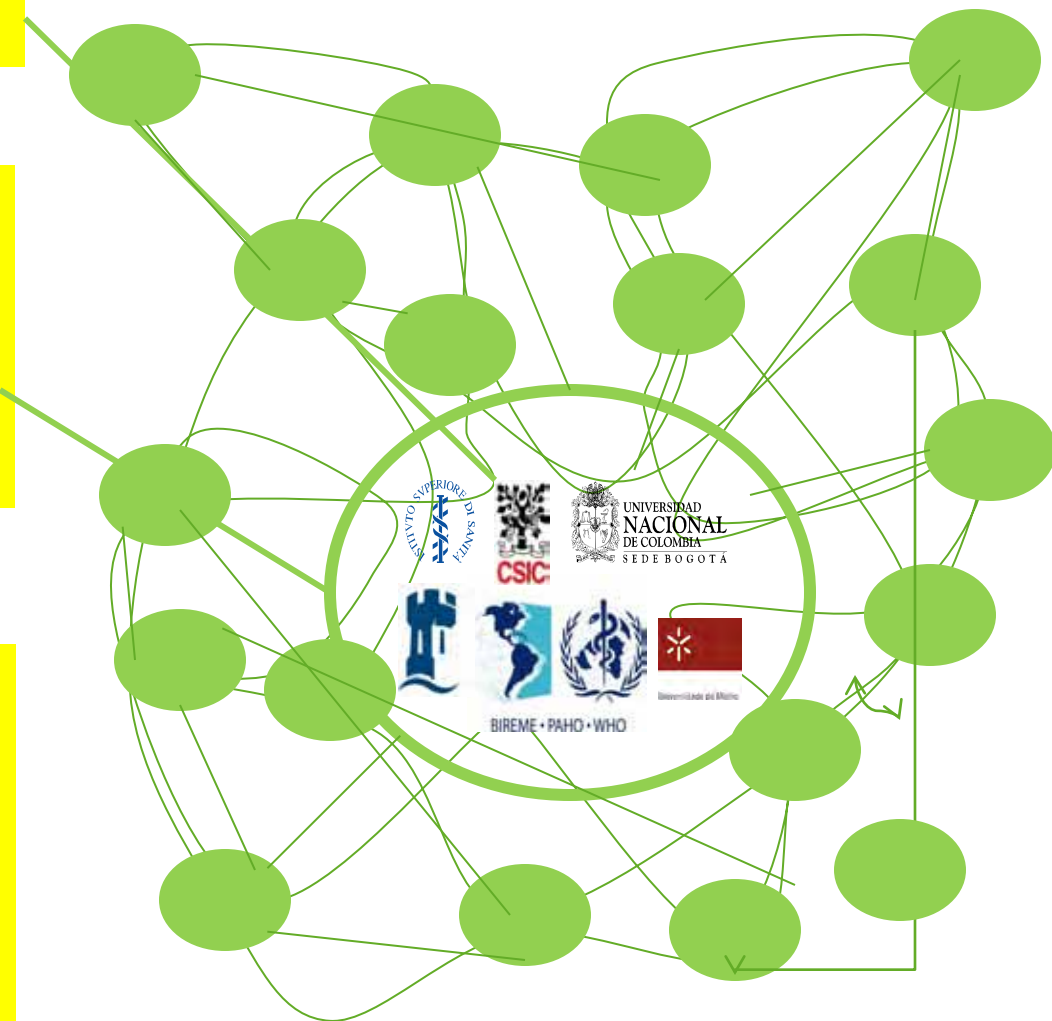
EU-LAC Partners NECOBELAC

+

Participants in the 2- level training programs  
T1 Courses for trainers  
T2 Courses at local level

=

Public health institutions, academic and research bodies acting in the field of public health  
editors, librarians, authors, information specialists  
Europa –Latin America and Caribe





Home Page

- [Home](#)
- [Overview](#)
- [News and Events](#)
- [Training Courses](#)
- [Reports & Publications](#)
- [Wiki](#)
- [Work Packages](#)
- [Partner Login](#)
- [Contacts:](#)  
[info@necobelac.eu](mailto:info@necobelac.eu)



NECOBELAC is a European project to improve the production and dissemination of scientific information in public health, coordinated by the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS), Rome, and funded under the 7th Framework Program of the European Commission. NECOBELAC stands for a *Network of Collaboration Between Europe and Latin American-Caribbean Countries* and the project lasts three years, starting from 1st February 2009.

***Project aim - to spread knowledge in scientific writing and open access publishing***

The NECOBELAC project aims to establish a network of collaboration between European countries (EU) and countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), to spread knowledge on the methods of scientific writing and publishing and on appropriate tools for the open access dissemination of information for the protection of public health. In this context, the project aims to implement a cultural change and not just establish an infrastructure for two-way exchange (EU-LAC / LAC-EU) of health information for both researchers and stakeholders.

***NECOBELAC partners***

NECOBELAC partners include [Istituto Superiore di Sanità](#) (ISS) from Italy, [Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas](#) (CSIC) from Spain, the [University of Nottingham](#) (SHERPA) from the UK, [BIREME](#) from Brazil, the [Instituto de Salud Pública](#) (ISP) from Colombia, and the [Universidade do Minho](#) (UMINHO) from Portugal.

See also: [Related projects](#)

***Become a part of the NECOBELAC community***

***Toolkit***



Subscribe to the NECOBELAC email discussion list by sending an email to [info@necobelac.eu](mailto:info@necobelac.eu) with the message "subscribe NECOBELAC" in the subject field.

**Event: Scholarly Outputs in Health Sciences: Publication Process and Open Access**  
First NECOBELAC training course for trainers to foster collaboration between Europe and LAC countries. São Paulo (Brazil), 13-15 April, 2010 - [More >>](#)

**NECOBELAC Survey**

**Questionnaire**

This questionnaire is part of a strategy to gather information on institutions and their activities.

**Four languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian**

- [Home](#)
- [Overview](#)
- [News and Events](#)
- [Training Courses](#)
- [Reports & Publications](#)
- [Wiki](#)
- [Work Packages](#)
- [Partner Login](#)
- [Contacts:](#)  
[info@necobelac.eu](mailto:info@necobelac.eu)

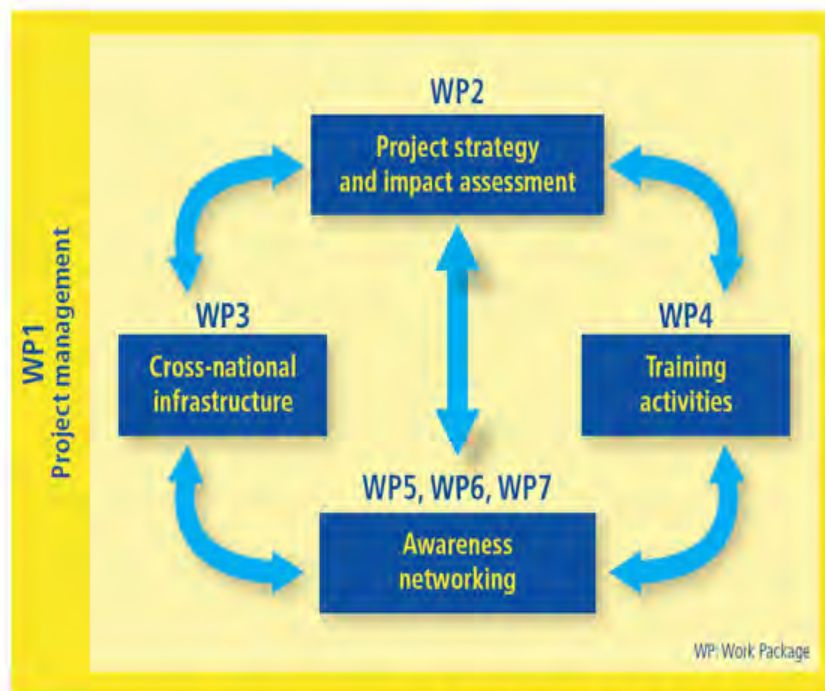


All partners participate in all WPs

## General Overview

Partners bring to the project a wealth of experience in scientific writing and Open Access and in the provision of health information. Partners are closely involved in related initiatives such as the DRIVER project (<http://www.driver-community.eu/>) and the Virtual Health Library (<http://www.bireme.br/>).

NECOBELAC will use and build on this knowledge and experience to analyse the different socio-cultural landscapes in Europe and the LAC countries with regard to health information. NECOBELAC will identify the specific health information needs of the areas involved and identify the best strategies to address those needs.



All partners are involved in all WPs, except WP1.

The project will address these needs and strengthen awareness about the benefits of Open Access. NECOBELAC will create a network of institutions closely collaborating in ad hoc training programs; the first steps will regard the necessity to develop and exchange know-how in information production and diffusion (including technical and ethical issues) among all stakeholders. Specific communication infrastructures will be developed to promote cultural change.

## Major benefits



## 2. NECOBELAC TRAINING (two levels)

### • TRAINING 1 (T1)

- Participants are experts
  - scientific writing
  - open access
- Plenary discussions  
Working groups
- Focus on local their role of future training (T2) and cooperation

### • TRAINING 2 (T2)

- Participants are not experts
  - scientific writing
  - open access
- Ad hoc training programs
  - Local requirements
  - Technical issues
  - Socio-cultural-economic issues

**COMMON VISION, COMPETENCE, FLEXIBILITY**

# IMPACT OF TRAINING ACTIVITY



## NECOBELAC T1

4 courses in LAC

+

4 courses in Europe

30 participants each

= 240 participants

## NECOBELAC T2

Over 7000 participants LAC -EU

Potential **240** trainers at local level

### Details T2

- Personalized program  
(selection of T1 basic modules)
- Duration according to local requirements
- Sustainability

# First Training course for trainers T1

- **Sao Paolo, Brasil**
  - April 2010
    - 30 participants from LAC public health institutions
- **Teachers**
  - NECOBELAC partners and local experts
- **Major feedback**
  - Understanding cultural differences and local requirements



# NEXT TRAINING SCHEDULE

## TRAINING T1

### 2010

- Italy  
Rome 18-20 October (OA week)
- Colombia  
Bogotá (9-11 November)

### 2011

- Spain  
Madrid (28 February-2 March)
- Cuba ?
- Mexico?

## • TRAINING T2

### 2010

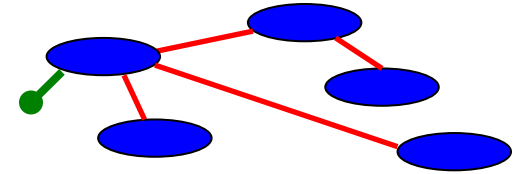
- Colombia  
Bogotá (2-5 August)

### 2011

- Uruguay ?
- Argentina?
- Brasil?
- Italy?

**+ communications  
in relevant events**

# Training tools across national borders: topic maps



**Topic maps use the semantic web to represent online resources and their associations**

- TOPICS represent concepts (people, objects, modules)
- ASSOCIATIONS represent relationship among concepts
- OCCURRENCES represent information sources

**Topic maps allow the best use of technologies according to different scenarios**



# Attributes of topic maps

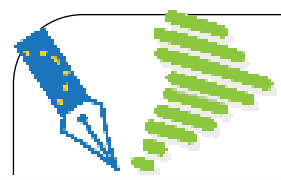


According to Ontopia Project,  
editor of the topic maps, contents should be

- Modular
- Extensible
- Flexible
- Portable
- Reusable

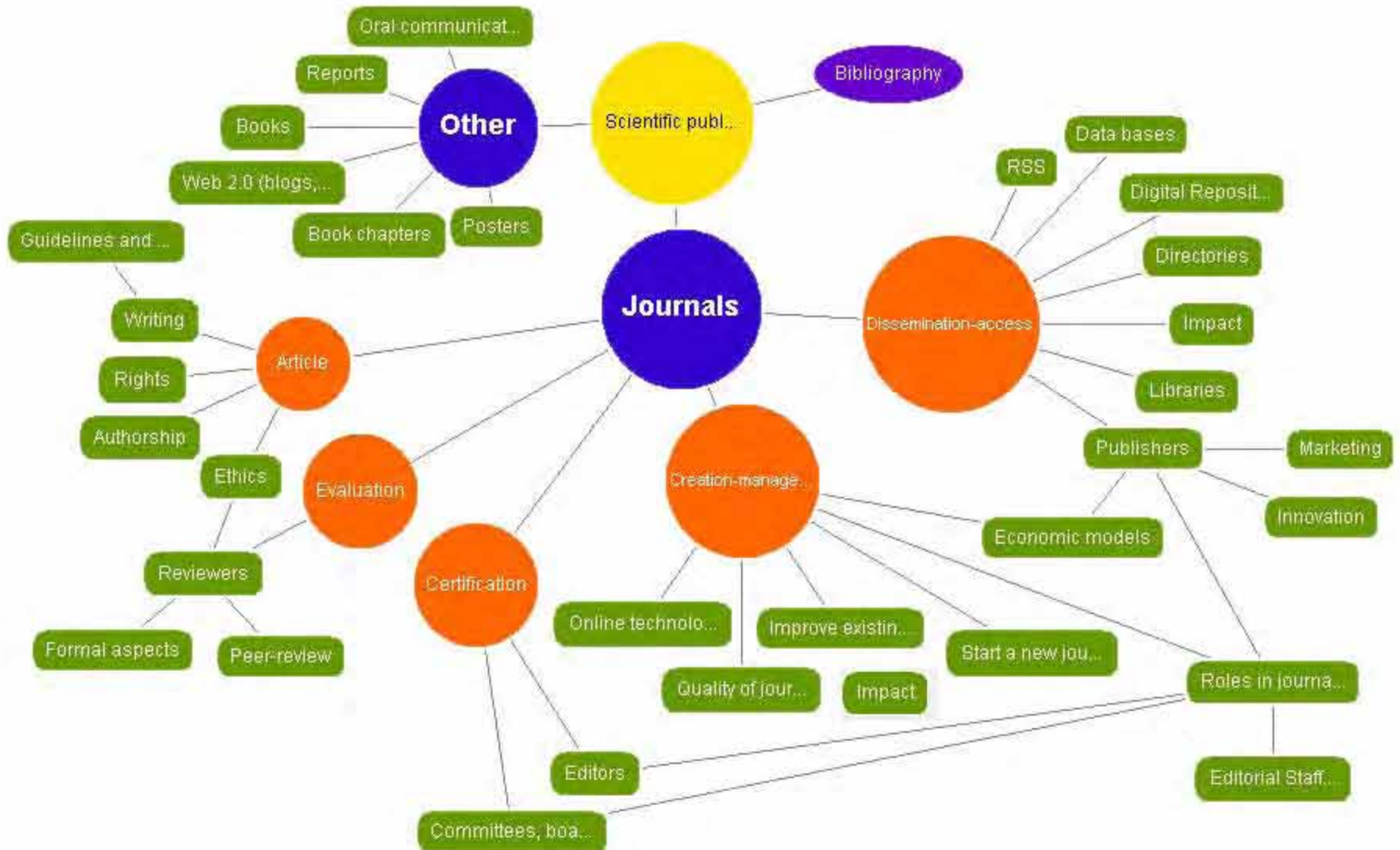
This is a perfect solution  
for NECOBELAC  
training strategy

<http://code.google.com/p/ontopia/>



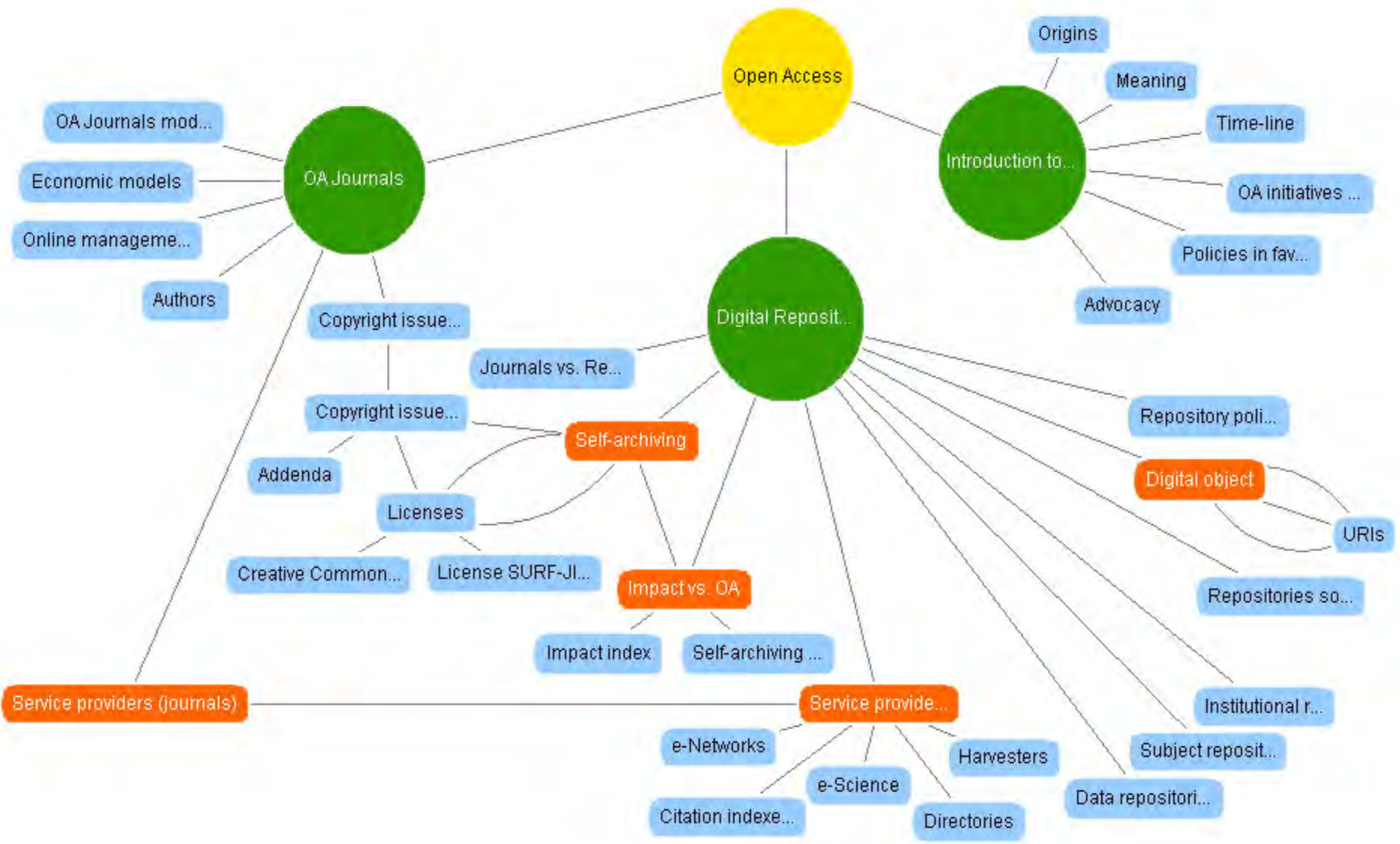
# Projecto NECOBELAC

NECOBELAC Topic map created for Scientific publication



# Projecto NECOBELAC

Topic map created for Open access vs public health



# NECOBELAC training course T1

## PLENARY SESSION



Introduction to NECOBELAC project: objectives and strategy  
The scientific communication system  
Journals and other communication channels

## PARALLEL SESSIONS (discussion and group work to create a T2 program)

### Scientific publication

Scientific journal: creation and management  
Article  
Peer-review  
Dissemination  
Evaluation and impact

### Open Access

Introduction to OA  
OA Journals  
Repositories  
Policies

## PLENARY SESSION

Presentation of group work  
Final Discussion  
Evaluation Questionnaire

# Join the NECOBELAC Community

## MAIN ADVANTAGES

- be involved in an international network of Public Health institutions, editors, librarians, authors and information specialists in Europe and LAC
- attend the NECOBELAC Training Courses for Trainers (T1) or NECOBELAC Training Courses at local level (T2)
- develop research collaborations and publish in OA journals
- benefit from support of having OA publication fees funded provided that articles have European and LAC co-authors

Subscribe to the discussion list  
Answer the online questionnaire

# Final considerations

- Networking is essential in a global society
- Technologies help to create and sustain the network
- The **human factor** plays a basic role for the success of any initiative (bidirectional approach, flexibility)



Results can be achieved thanks to the hard work, commitment and enthusiasm of people working in the network.

# Contacts

info@necobelac.eu

**NECOBELAC - [www.necobelac.eu](http://www.necobelac.eu)**

**contact individual partners**

(Italy, Spain, Portugal, UK, Colombia, BIREME/PAHO/WHO)

**ISS NECOBELAC Coordination Team**

paola.decastro@iss.it

daniela.marsili@iss.it

elisabetta.poltronieri@iss.it

**Thank you**

