## A NAME for Health:

## supporting access to Health Information in a Portuguese language medical education network through a virtual library





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- ICT for Global Health: contributes to the creation and strengthening of knowledge networks by:
  - sharing and disseminating health information among health professionals
  - supporting continuing education of health professionals
  - improving health communication (information flows between health professionals, creating new opportunities for health promotion, etc.)



## **Project Purpose**

A NAME for Health – "A Network Approach for Medical Education for the Pursuit of Quality of Higher Education Institutions and Health Systems " is a project supported by EDULINK Programme

#### Main Goal

To improve health through Medical Education, linking and empowering partner HEIs devoted to the education of medical professionals

#### Specific Objective

To strengthen the capacity of partner institutions to improve academic competencies and clinical expertise in priority health areas (Maternal and Child Health Care and Infectious Diseases) related to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)





## **Expected Impact**

 It is expected that a quality cycle of medical education/clinical practice will be created through A NAME for Health by transfer of specific knowledge and supported by information technologies



- will improve the competencies of the target groups at the under- and postgraduate levels of medical education
- will create a dynamics of institutional "brain gain", multiplied at the inter-institutional level, and provide academic/clinical quality.



• In the long term, the populations of Angola and Mozambique will therefore be the ultimate beneficiaries of the project.



## **University Network**

#### **Project Coordinator:**

Faculty of Medicine of the University of Porto (Porto, Portugal)

#### **Partners:**

Faculty of Medicine of the University Agostinho Neto (Luanda, Angola)
Faculty of Medicine of the University Eduardo Mondlane (Maputo, Mozambique)
Faculty of Health Sciences of the University Lúrio (Nampula, Mozambique)

#### **Associates:**

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (Lisbon, Portugal) Hospital S. João E.P.E. (Porto, Portugal)





# "A NAME for Health": A Medical Education E-learning Platform in Portuguese Language



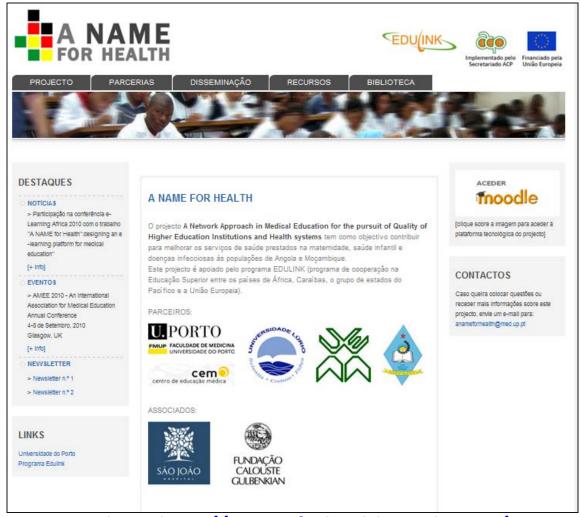
## A Medical Education E-learning Platform in Portuguese Language

## **Communication and ICT Training**

- A NAME for Health's website (created to publicize the project's progress and results to the participants and to the general public)
- Biannual newsletter (created by all participants to disseminate the project's progress and results to the partners)
- ICT Training sessions and collaborative content production (African and Portuguese teams)







Website <a href="http://anameforhealth.med.up.pt/">http://anameforhealth.med.up.pt/</a>









Newsletter n.º 1 (December, 2009)

Educational material on the use of the technological platform delivered to participants in staff development



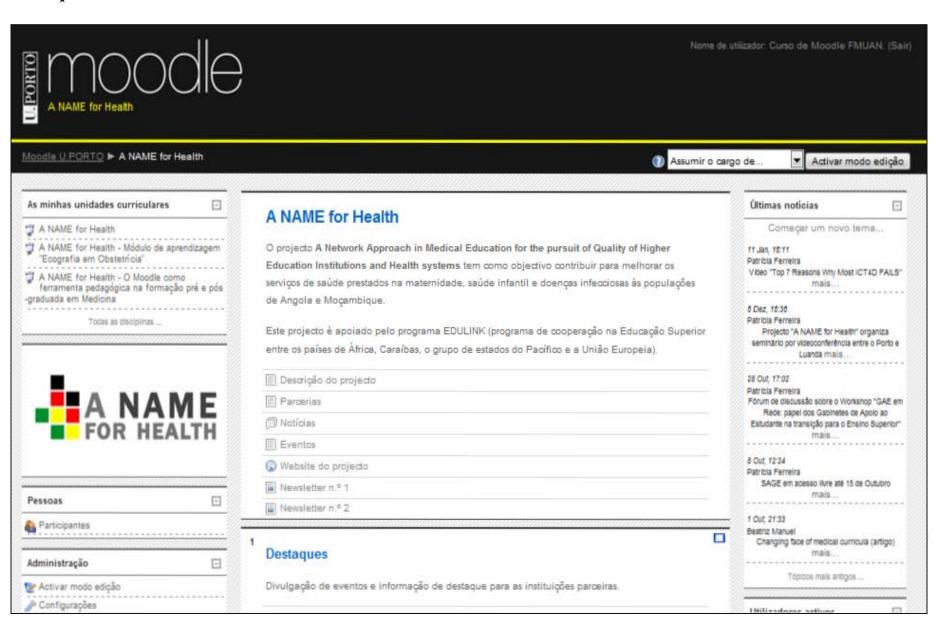
## A Medical Education E-learning Platform in Portuguese Language

#### **E-learning**

- Medical content repository (Priority areas for intervention: Paediatrics, Gynecology & Obstetrics, Infectious Diseases)
- Educational content repository (Medical Education, Health Education, Health Promotion)
- Curricular reform, clinical mobility and pedagogical training for medical teachers (using video sessions, interviews and videoconference)
- Student Support Offices and Medical Education Centres activities' dissemination















## A Medical Education E-learning Platform in Portuguese Language

## **Support to Post-Graduation – blended learning**

 2nd edition of the Master in Medical Education in the Faculty of Medicine of the University Agostinho Neto, Luanda, Angola (shared teaching with the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Porto)

#### **Clinical Seminars**

 Videoconference sessions on clinical subjects, planned to allow sharing knowledge in medical and pedagogical among Portuguese language health professionals - integrated in activities of e-learning in clinical workshops and synchronous discussion of learning modules









## A Medical Education E-learning Platform in Portuguese Language

#### **Access to Health Information**

- Development of a virtual library will help to fill the insufficient access to bibliography reported by the academic staff and students of African HEI.
- The virtual health library will include publications mostly in Portuguese Language:
  - content of the medical courses of the participant institutions;
  - documents produced specifically for the virtual library;
  - databases of articles in journals written in Portuguese;
  - other relevant materials in open access, that can be copied to or linked from the virtual library.



## First steps

- Partnership between the project "A NAME for Health" and the Virtual Library of the University of Porto
- A medical education library proposal was submitted to BIREME/OPAS/OMS (Latin-American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information/Pan-American Health Organization/World Health Organization).
- Discussion of the proposal with BIREME 14<sup>th</sup> June 2011, in Porto



#### **BVS** model

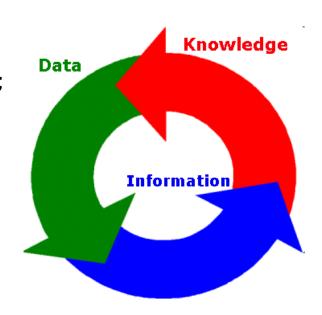
- The BVS (in portuguese *Biblioteca Virtual em Saúde*) model is a very flexible platform and can be adapted to specific needs.
- The BVS can be developed through multiple approaches: BVS for different countries, BVS for specific medical specialties or health professions, BVS for supporting different medical curricula, and so on.





#### **BVS** model

- BVS already exist in the eight Portuguese speaking countries and, when applied to the construction of a Medical Education Virtual Health Library will enable broad access to:
  - collections of good quality and scientific evidence information sources;
  - social networks to support decision-making processes;
  - training;
  - management in medical education.







- 1. Social Networks
- 2. Content Networks
- 3. Learning Environments







## **BVS** development and management

- Definition of the BVS scope;
- Creation of the Advisory Committee;
- Definition of the coordinator institution Executive Secretary;
- Workplan for 2-3 years BVS development.



## **BVS** management

- The Medical Education library will be managed by CEM-FMUP, the Virtual Library of the University of Porto with the cooperation of partner HEIs in Africa and Brazil.
- The technical support from BIREME/OPAS/OMS will be of great value to the quality and success of this library, as well its dissemination through the WHO e-Portuguêse network.



## **BVS** development

The BIREME BVS model will both promote the **Portuguese Language Medical Education Network** by:

- Supporting access to scientific information and in the development of joint actions in Medical Education and Clinical Practice;
- Supporting the training of undergraduate and postgraduate students (namely, the second edition of the Master in Medical Education in the Faculty of Medicine of the University Agostinho Neto, in Angola);



## **Initial Conclusions**

- Using ICTs in sharing health knowledge in Africa, particularly in projects of cooperation in higher education, supports collaborations to improve Health in this continent.
- The creation of a health virtual library integrated in the Medical Education Network will play a leading role in the Postgraduate and Master curricular models, as well as in future projects.

The Project "A NAME for Health" is supported by EDULINK Program, Contract nr. 9 ACP RPR 118 # 29).

The involvement of the partner institutions coordinators and respective teams, is being crucial for the development of the network.

#### Thank you!

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