

WHAT IS EVIPNet?

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The Evidence-Informed Policy Network, EVIPNet, is a network established by the World Health Organization to promote the systematic use of research evidence in health policy-making in order to strengthen health systems and get the right programs, services and drugs to those who need them.

HOW DOES EVIPNet WORK?

EVIPNet takes the form of a network with distinct country, regional and global nodes. EVIPNet operates by forming country (or sub-regional) teams, composed of policy-makers, researchers and civil society. These teams, in close collaboration with local decision-makers identify country priority topics and ways to address them using the best available research evidence and the insights of those who will be involved or affected by decisions. At the global level, EVIPNet has a Global Steering Group, which acts as a catalyst and supporter of the network, and helps to coordinate its activities.

WHAT DOES EVIPNet DO?

At the country level, EVIPNet teams produce one or more of the following key outputs:

- **Evidence briefs for policy:** reports that bring together global research evidence from systematic reviews, and local research evidence, to clarify a health-system problem and its causes, frame options to address the problem, and identify key implementation considerations.
- **Policy dialogue summaries:** deliberative processes that are informed by an evidence brief and elicit the key insights and proposed next steps from those who will be involved in or affected by decisions on a priority topic.
- **Rapid synthesis:** reports that bring together global and local review evidence on a problem, options or implementation considerations and are completed in days to weeks rather than in several months.

- **National clearing houses:** points of access to local studies and policy-relevant documents about the health system (as a complement to sources of 'global' evidence, such as Health Systems Evidence).

At the regional and global level, EVIPNet develops and fosters capacity-strengthening strategies to enable policy-makers, researchers and civil society representatives to make better use of evidence at the local and global level.

SINCE WHEN DOES EVIPNet EXIST?

EVIPNet started in 2005 as a response to a resolution approved by the World Health Assembly, which is the decision-making body of the World Health Organization.

WHAT ARE EVIPNet's VALUES?

- **Equity:** EVIPNet believes in strengthening pro-poor, pro-equity health systems able to offer accessible, high-quality services to all, and has a focus on low- and middle-income countries
- **Social participation:** EVIPNet promotes local ownership of decision-making processes informed by high quality evidence
- **Trust:** EVIPNet promotes sustainable partnerships based on trust, commitment, and open access to information
- **Empowerment:** EVIPNet respects and fosters the sovereignty, priorities and needs of individuals, institutions, national governments and regions, empowering its members to work together to develop their full potential in pursuit of evidence-informed policy-making
- **Mutual respect:** EVIPNet promotes a culture of reciprocity in which members' contributions, insights, motivations and concerns are recognized and respected.

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WHY SHOULD I JOIN EVIPNet?

EVIPNet creates an impact where it is adopted. One illustrative example is found in Piripiri, Brazil, where the number of stillbirths and deaths in the first week of life declined rapidly once the municipality adopted one of the evidence-informed policy options presented by EVIPNet Brazil¹. By joining EVIPNet and improving health policy-making, you will contribute to building a stronger health system in your country and achieving better health outcomes for its population.

EVIPNet is a supportive network that prepares teams to work within the time constraints faced by policy-makers and deal with institutional barriers, interest group pressures, values and other factors that affect policy-making. By joining EVIPNet, your team will be equipped with the tools and methodology needed to effectively promote evidence-informed policy.

EVIPNet also supports capacity building activities, and provides team members with the opportunity to share experiences and learn from other experts involved in evidence-informed policy making, thus fostering their professional development in this field. By joining EVIPNet, you will be empowered to confidently bring evidence to the policy front line.

If you're still not convinced of the benefits that EVIPNet will bring to you, your team, institution and health system, please visit our website [add hyperlink] and read EVIPNet's Success Stories [add hyperlink].

Evidence > Policy > Impact



¹ Chapman E. Report: evaluation of the Evidence-informed Policy Network (EVIPNet) Americas. Washington, DC: Pan American Health Organization; 2013.