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## NEWSLETTER Nº I – November 2021

### 1. Project Overview

It has been deemed crucial to develop healthcare management system with qualified health workers in the health administration and medical facilities in Libya. The need for a "rapid reform to increase the capability and governance of the health management system, as well as the establishment of a strong, solid and credible data-base system" has been widely recognized (2010 UNDP document). Unfortunately, the existing Libyan health system is disorganized, and unsustainable, with major staffing, drug, and supply shortages, as well as many non-operational health institutions, particularly in rural areas. These are some of the health-care system's barriers and issues, all of which have a negative impact on the population's health.

For these reasons, it was necessary to improve the professional knowledge and skills for a better health management system. SAHA project aims to contribute to a high educational degree in health management at Libyan universities which is thought to be the foundation of future health management in Libya, where continuous professional development aids in reforming and reconstructing the health system are also needed. The project reinforces the reliability of data and statistics that are essential in reconstructing the health system in Libya. In line with Libya Vision 2030, SAHA will contribute to support the Libyan Health System Strengthening Programme, where the government and international community – specifically, the EU and WHO – can have a significant impact on restructuring systems and reformulating policy before these systems and institutions become entrenched and resistant to change.

The SAHA project is a collaboration between Libyan and international partners, including:

- Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED)
- University of PAVIA – Italy
- University of Granada – Spain
- University of West Bohemia – Czech Republic
- University of Tripoli (UOT)
- Misurata University (MU)
- Sebha University (SeU)
- Sirte University (SU)
- University of Zawia (ZU)



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- Libyan International Medical University (LIMU)

The overall goal of SAHA is to help Libyan higher education institutions improve their modernisation, accessibility, in the fields of health economics and healthcare management. The following are SAHA objectives:

- 1) To enhance HEIs human resources capacities in the field of Health Economics and Healthcare Management by improving or/and upgrading quality, equity of access, planning, and delivery of training offers and upgrading the quality of existing courses and enhancing relevance for the labour market and society.
- 2) To promote a reform process in the field of the Libyan health system through a participatory approach and by involving national and international stakeholders, HEIs representatives, and public authorities.
- 3) To reinforce the reliability of data and statistics related to health management in the country by setting up health management data centers in each of the involved universities.

## 2. What's new?

- University teams from Pavia and Sirte are working on the final form of a questionnaire that is a result of the meeting that took place at the University of Tripoli.
- Misurata University began developing the six healthcare management courses that are part of the SAHA programme.
- University of Tripoli team is working on
  - Developing branding materials (brochures and flyers).
  - A workshop for stakeholders and students will be held to promote the SAHA initiative.
  - Creating a SAHA Facebook page to promote the initiative and keep the team up to date on their accomplishments.
- Sirte University plans to meet with the teams in Benghazi and Tripoli to have a better understanding of their health-care management.
- Zawia University also intends to hold workshops for faculty members to introduce the programme, its goals, and its societal worth. It will also broadcast on Zawia town's local radio station.
- No news from SeU, and LIMU yet.

## 3. What has been done?

Misurata University and its partners had just finished reporting WP1 analysis with all of its tasks and activities after multiple meetings and hard labor. All partners were recently handed the final report.



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University of Tripoli had dissemination plan approval. Their team began upgrading the SAHA website after receiving permission from the Granada coordinator at the virtual conference. Held partners meeting with the project coordinator Prof. Antonio Morone, local partners from MU, ZU, SU, and virtually with MU, SeU and other international partners on 14th July 2021.

Tripoli SAHA team had met multiple times to discuss the healthcare management Master's degree courses and came up with a draft that included all of the subjects and their credits.

A request to establish a department for the Master of Health Care Administration has been presented to the university's presidency, which is awaiting approval from the Ministry of Education.

Dissemination team from most other partners were nominated:

SU: Dr. Muammar Makhlouf

MU: Mrs Elham Alguleab

ZU: Mrs Kaothar Abuokraa

SeU: Dr Hatim Amhimmed

UOT: Dr Najwa Fituri

LIMU: Dr Salma Bukhatwa

Sirte University Contributed to the data collection for the preliminary survey of WP1 in the field of healthcare. It has the final version of the WP2 questionnaire ready for distribution to all partners.

Zawia University contributed to the data collection for the preliminary survey of WP1 in the field of healthcare. It discussed the courses of the Master of Health Care Administration.

#### **4. Meet the partners: “Partner name(s)”**

The Department of Middle Eastern Studies (DMES), University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic, is a multidisciplinary unit in which researchers focus on a variety of countries in a broader MENA region as well as the Horn of Africa. Primary countries of interest are Morocco, Iran, Iraq, Ethiopia, Qatar, as well as Libya, Egypt, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Oman. The researchers of the DMES do research in modern and contemporary history, anthropology, religious studies, as well as international relations. Languages taught at the DMES are: Arabic, Persian, Akkadian (and Turkish in the past). The DMES has a variety of international partners such as the Caddi Ayyad University of Marrakech (Morocco), University of Khartoum (Sudan), Addis Ababa University, Jimma University (Ethiopia), etc. The academic team involved in SAHA project is composed of experienced researchers in social sciences (Jan Záhorský, Daniel Křížek), as well as Arabic speakers (Ivan Ramadan and Petr Pelikán).



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University of Tripoli (UoT) is a Libyan government university. It is the first university in Libya which was established by a royal decree on December 15, 1955 under the name of “University of Libya”. It began with the Colleges of Arts and Education in Benghazi. In 1957, the Faculty of Science was established in Tripoli. Its name was changed to Al-Fateh University in 1976. The university restored to its former name in 2012. Faculties were constantly established at the University of Tripoli to reach 20 colleges.

The University of Tripoli's International Cooperation Office (ICO) promotes scientific and cultural opportunities. By exchanging information, experiences, and scientific advice with other international counterpart institutions, the ICO at the UoT establishes scientific and cultural cooperation between university and national, regional, and international higher education institutions. All members of the university community, including teachers, students, and staff, are welcome to participate in these exchange programmes. The projects that the ICO manages include PAGES, Wheel, Libya Up, EUNIT, ENROL, and SAHA.

## 5. Upcoming events/activities

- Drafting of a curriculum for the postgraduate training in Health Management.
- Accreditation procedure for the new integrated courses.
- Involving relevant stakeholders.
- Collecting inspiring practices regarding health management in crisis contexts.
- Establishing a high level multi sector committee composed by external stakeholders.
- Defining a Strategic Agenda for managing health in crisis contexts.

## \*Contact us

Project contact details to be inserted here:

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