

## DISEMINATING BEST PRACTICES IN IFC THROUGH HORIZONTAL COOPERATION

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The purpose of the Latin American and Caribbean Network to Strengthen Health Information Systems (RELACSIS) is to develop a mechanism to coordinate regional efforts and promote horizontal cooperation aimed at contributing to the ongoing improvement of HIS in countries included in the Network.

### Background

Officially launched in Lima, Peru in April 2010. RELACSIS implemented two BWP: 2011-12 and 2012-2013. Supporting by PAHO, USAID, CIDA-Canada, MEASURE-Evaluation International, ECLAC, CC-IFC and NRCs and promoting horizontal cooperation between countries of the Americas. The overall objective is to contribute to HIS strengthening, dissemination, and use of information by focused on: proposing standards to generate higher-quality, more reliable, and more timely information; developing and sharing practices, lessons learned, and knowledge; promoting the dissemination and use of generated information and knowledge; promoting monitoring and evaluation of the performance of national HIS; strengthening human and financial resources and developing

### 2011-2012 RELACSIS WP

Three main activities were implemented:

1. Mexico City, May 23-26, 2011. A meeting of the WHO International Collaborating Centers (Brazil, Venezuela, México) for the International Family of Classifications (IFC) and National Centers (Argentina and Cuba). The **AMRO Regional Network for the Collaborating Centers for the IFC** was launched to fortify the joint collaboration among the Centers and the PAHO/WHO, to define a Regional Plan for training people on the use of the WHO related health classifications.

2. Ecuador, June-July 2011. A **Sub-regional Training of trainers course in IFC**. Focusing on ICD-10 and will include the launch of a national center of reference. 25 participants from Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and Paraguay. **Courses for ICD-10** 200 coders were implemented in Bolivia and Ecuador.

3. April to July 2012. Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala. **ICD-10 training courses** for 120 coders led by two CEMECE instructors. ICD-10 training courses for coders led by two CEMECE instructors.

### 2012-14 RELACSIS WP

Three practices are disseminating and implementing:

1. Strengthening of coding with **ICD-10 virtual courses**. Mexico and Argentina follow a road map for the designing, testing, implementation and M&E of the virtual course offered by tutors to Ecuador, Paraguay, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic and Uruguay. The 1<sup>st</sup> course trained 94 coders from 15 countries. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> course, tutors from countries trained in the 1<sup>st</sup> course are training 300 hundred participants from local level.



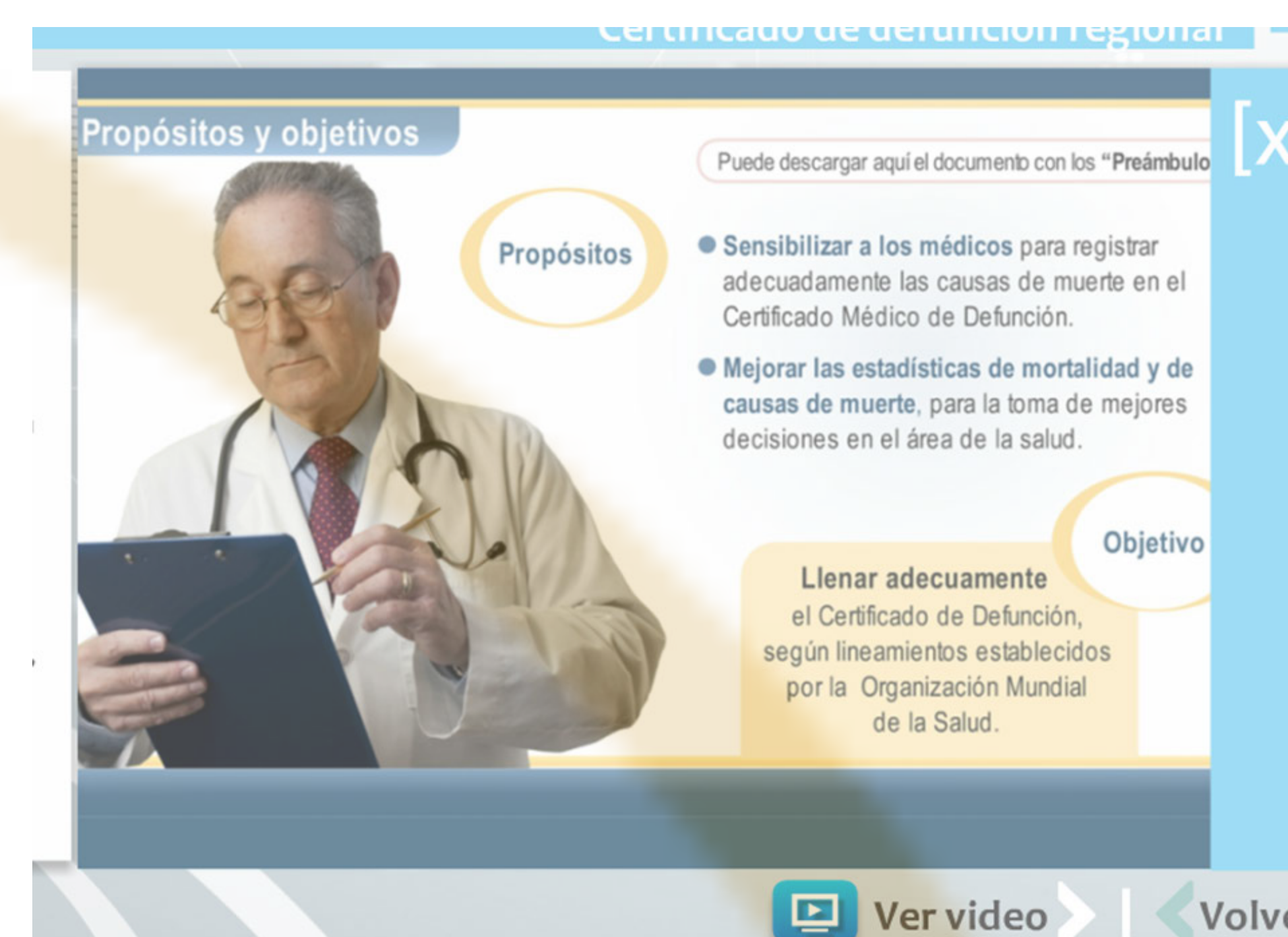
Based Document included in the on line course in ICD-10. RELACSIS WP

2. Implementation of an **electronic system to codify mortality**. Mexico defined a road map for disseminating, testing and implementing the MMDS software to Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Paraguay, Ecuador, Guatemala, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Panama and Peru.

A WG with countries of the region and Spain will develop and pilot the IRIS Spanish version. ECLAC and the WB are participating as important stakeholders.

3. **Online course for awareness of medical doctors in the adequate registration of the causes of death**. Uruguay, Argentina and Mexico are designing an e-learning course to Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Paraguay, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, Peru and Venezuela.

A succeed pilot were developed with 150 medical doctors and the course is now available for all countries through the virtual campus of PAHO.



3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the AMRO regional network of WHO Collaborating Centers and National Centers of Reference for mortality and morbidity for the IFC was held in México, 2014 to define a work plan and outline the different responsibilities. The Center of Barcelona was incorporated to the network that became the Iberoamerican Network for the WHO-IFC.

A **Forum on Electronic Health Record (EHR)** thorough the RELACSIS portal discuss the conflict in the uses of the IFC in the EHR in the region.



### Further information

**Website.** [www.relacsis.org](http://www.relacsis.org)  
Implement virtual forums to disseminate practices and discuss on methods, procedures, techniques, etc., to produce information of a higher quality, more reliable, and timely.

