

Strategic plan in establishing the School of Public Health in Albania SWOT analysis

Working group:
Artan Mesi, Jonida Stefa, Arjan Bregu

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Background 1

- SEE countries are facing challenges in reforming their health systems.
- Part of it is Public Health Training.
- Establishing the School of Public Health is a current challenge for the Albanian specialists of public health.

Background 2, History.

- 1973, started Hygiene and Statistics.
- '80, starts specialization in "Hygiene and Epidemiology"
- 1991, started Epidemiology, Medical Organization, Health Promotion and Health Economy as new materiae at Faculty of Medicine.
- Dec 97, opened the first year of Post graduated Specialization in PH (2 yrs)
- Sep 03, starts the first Deepen Post University Study of PH (1yr)
- May 04, is created the draft of School of PH (3 yrs).
- Key stakeholders are those who have to sign for the system of this School (3+2).
- Nov 04, opened the first Master in PH, collaboration of Faculty of Medicine at UT and Institute of PH.

Background 3

- Increased attempts of the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education,
- Increased and collaboration of PH specialists in Albania,
- Support of the relevant political factors and key stakeholders,
- Signing of the Government,
- Increased international collaboration,
 - shall enhance the chances of a rapid establishment of the School of PH in Albania

SWOT analysis

- SWOT analysis must be conducted first with respect to external environment (opportunities and threats) before proceeding to analysis of internal environment (strengths and weaknesses).

Round 1, Opportunities

A. International factors in PH Human Capacity Building in Albania are absolutely essential

- international activities in PH are done,
- international training for Albanian specialists of PH,
- European articles in PH,
- WHO Health 21,
- 3 European goals in PH (2003-2008)

B. National factors.

- Good educational system,
- Autonomy Law of Universities,
- the new reforms have opened greater possibilities

Round 1, Threats

- Political instability is primary concern.
- The sudden changes in political agendas pose a serious threat to implementation of a PH strategy causing delays in establishing of SPH.
- Lack of public support and community collaboration which is not sensible yet.
- Competing and conflicting interests of the different political groups pose an additional threat.

Round 2, Strengths

- Albanian PH Human Capacity Building is growing up.
- Faculty of Medicine at UT is very focused on PH.
- Some specialists trained in international schools.
- Post graduated students are generated .
- Our tradition in management in communicable diseases, immunization and sanitary control.
- PH infrastructure is created.
- Forum of PH is established in Albania since May 2005
- There is a core group of PH specialists who provide quality input into SPH.
- Technical literature is available.

Round 2, Weaknesses

- Lack of curricula for the system 3+2
- Lack of persistent vision and policy in PH by stakeholders.
- PH training in Albania is closely related to and dependent upon medical education. It is largely unknown in other Faculties and Universities.
- There is no tradition in PH training separated from medical education.
- The scientific materials in Albanian language are insufficient.
- Financial situation is not established yet.
- Management position tend to depend by political parties than by qualification.
- It is the corruption that worries most.

Tab.1. SWOT analysis

OPPORTUNITIES

- Int. training for Alb.spec. of PH
- European articles in PH
- WHO Health 21
- 3 European goals in PH (~ 03-~ 08)
- Good educational system
- Autonomy Law of Universities
- The new reforms have opened greater possibilities

STRENGTHS

- Faculty of Medicine at UT is very focused on PH, Post graduated studies.
- Specialists trained in int. schools.
- PH infrastructure is created.
- Forum of PH is established
- There is a core group of PH specialists who provide quality input into SPH.
- Technical literature is available.

THREATS

- Political instability.
- Changes in political agendas pose a serious threat to implem. of a PH strategy causing delays in estab. of SPH.
- Lack of public support and community collaboration.
- Competing and conflicting interests of the different political groups.

WEAKNESSES

- Lack of curricula for the system 3+2
- Lack of persistent vision and policy in PH.
- PH training in Albania is closely related to and dependent upon medical education.
- Scientific mat. in Alb.lang. are insufficient.
- Financial situation is not established yet.
- Management position tend to depend by political parties than by qualification.
- It is the corruption that worries most.

Round 3, Mapping Interactions

- WT-malignant combination, "damage control strategy", pessimistic quadrant or "surviving".
- ST-money continue to be a severe problem due to economic problems in Albania. Creative thinking can often turn threats to opportunities (mobilization strategy).
- WO- curriculopathy, medicalization of school and unknown problem by the other relevant factors.
- SO- optimistic quadrant, school of PH seems to be a reality.

SWOT analysis on that case help us to identify and clarify the different choices and strategic issues, facing school of PH.

SWOT MATRIX

INTERNAL FACTORS

LIST OF INTERNAL OPURTUNITIES

LIST OF INTERNAL WEAKNESSES

EXTERNAL FACTORS

LIST OF EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

LIST OF EXTERNAL THREATS

X

Round 4, issue classification

- Choosing a strategy is not a easy task.
- PH training must be one of the priorities for Human Resources development on a national level.
- A national consensus needs to be installed among specialists of PH, organizations, government officials and politicians.
- Establishing a network among different Faculties and Universities to make present the importance of School of PH as not only a medical problem, but as a reform issue.
- The attempts should continue.

SWOT analysis in School of PH

Thank you,

See you at the next meeting.