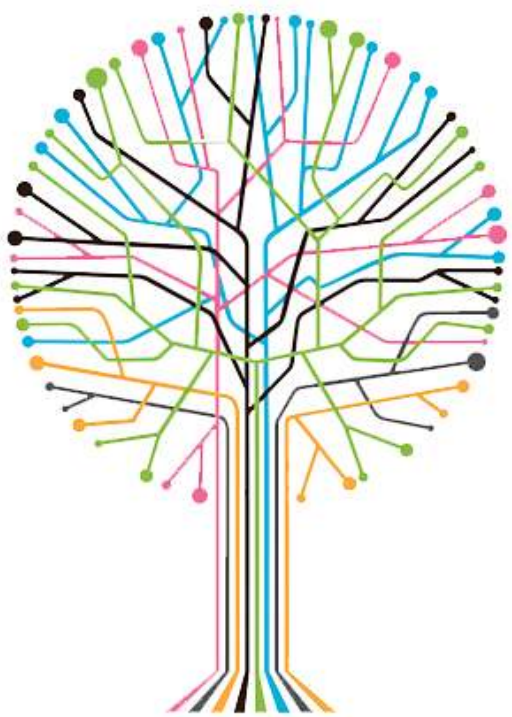
The Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative

GESI



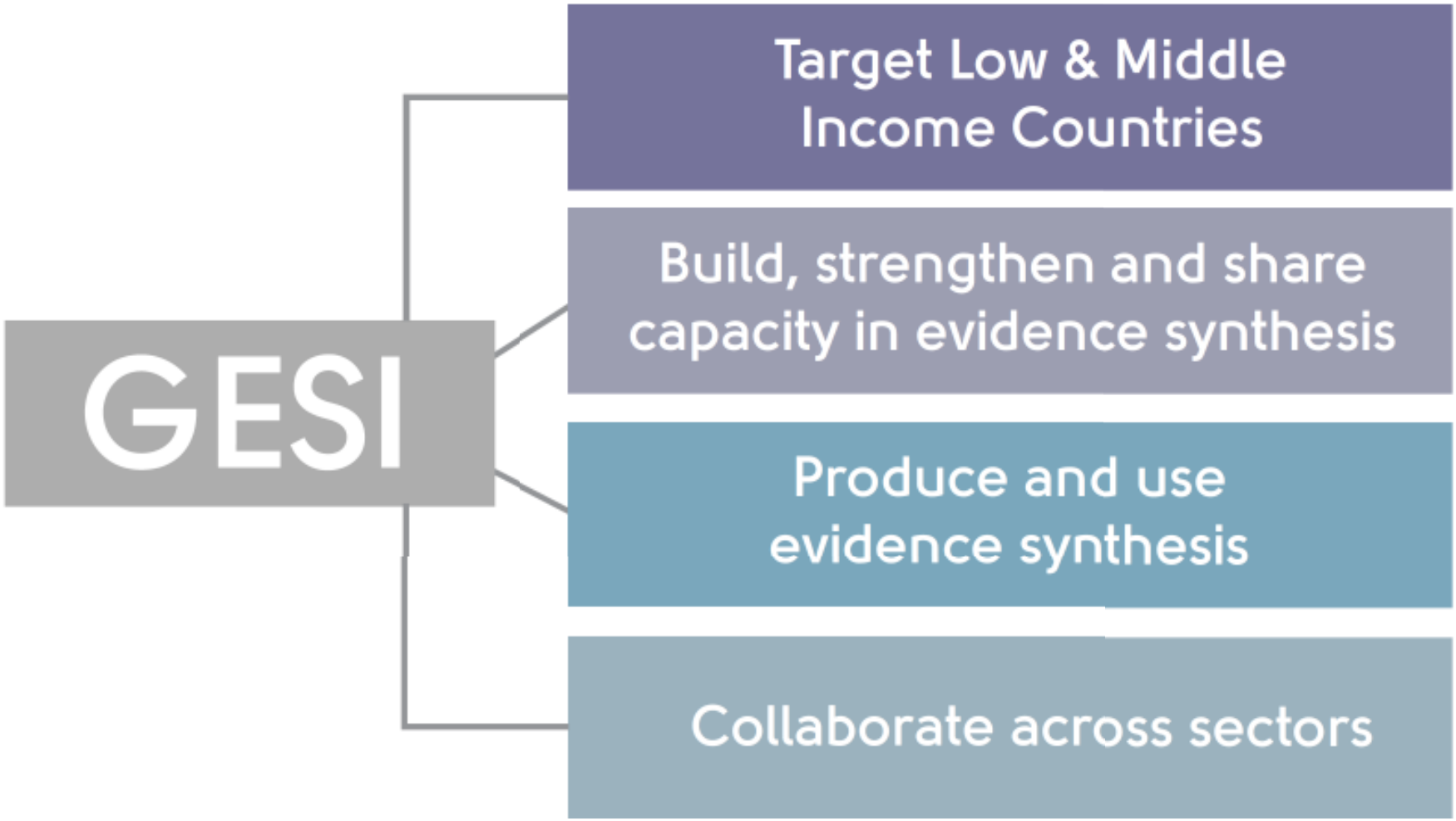
Tamara Lotfi,

Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI) Secretariat Coordinator

Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine

Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Faculty of Health Sciences

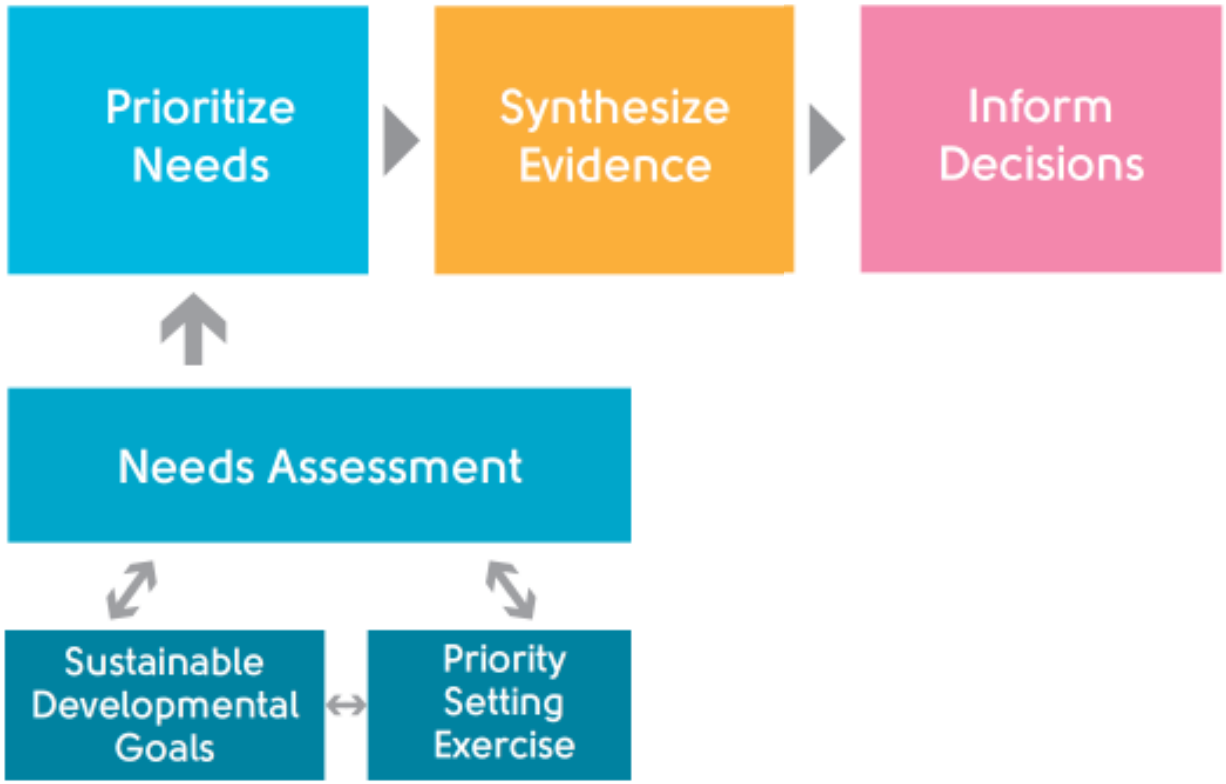
American University of Beirut


GESI
Target Low & Middle Income Countries
Build, strengthen and share capacity in evidence synthesis
Produce and use evidence synthesis
Collaborate across sectors

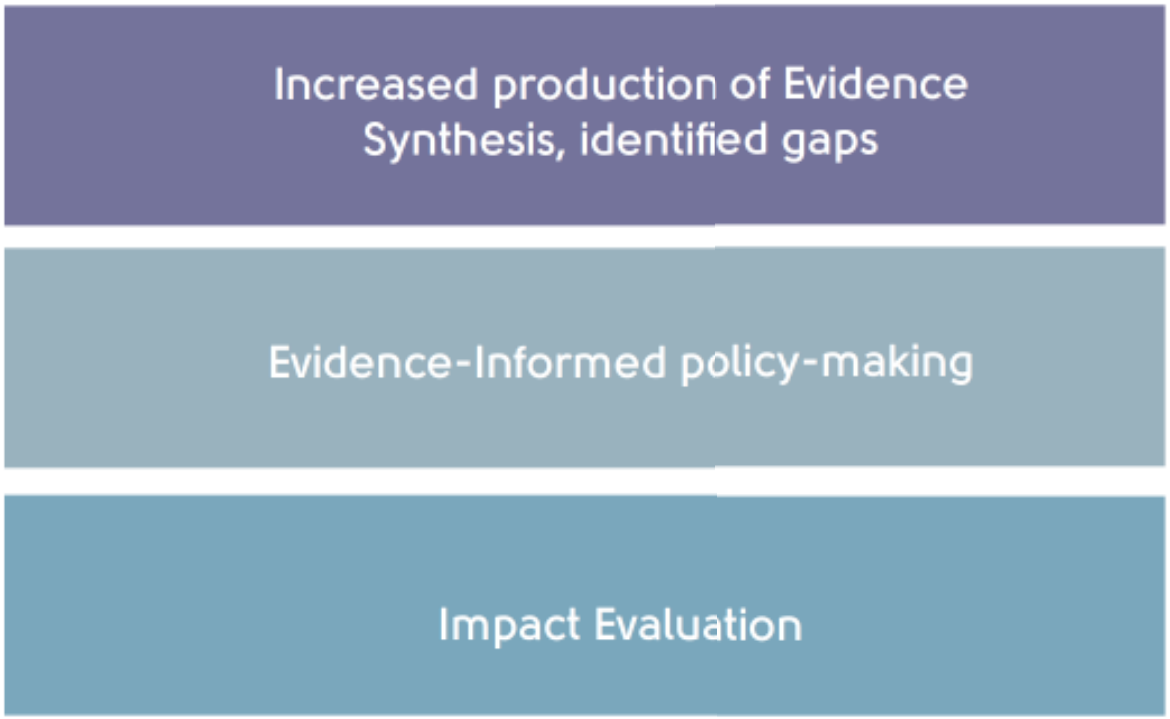
History of The Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative

- 2010 mid year Cochrane Workshop in Split, Croatia: how to increase global reach?
- Montreal: Health Systems Global, 2010
- Beijing: Health Systems Global, Workshop, 2012
- Cape Town: Cape Town Health Systems, 2014

GESI Framework



The GESI framework is a multidiscplinary approach that will build capacity in Low-and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) to create opporutinities for:



The Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative

Governance Group

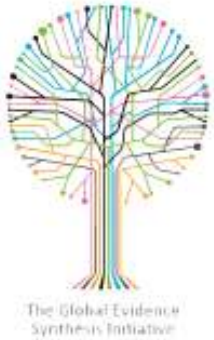
--

Financial contribution of at least £15,000 per year for three years, or in-kind contributions

Voting for decisions

Chair: Simon Lewin, Deptuy Chair: Peter Tugwell

Governance
Group


The Global Evidence
Synthesis Initiative

Cochrane

Campbell
Collaboration

Alliance
for Health Policy
and Systems Research

AIR®
American Institutes for Research®

3ie
International
Initiative for
Impact Evaluation

Collaboration for
Environmental
Evidence

ePPI
CENTRE

THE JOANNA BRIGGS INSTITUTE

Secretariat

1866 AUB American University of Beirut الجامعة الأميركية في بيروت

Hosted by the Centre for Systematic Reviews on Health Policy & Systems Research (SPARK)

Oversees all GESI projects

Runs the capacity sharing & strengthening activities

In charge of the GESI Network

Advisory & Support Group

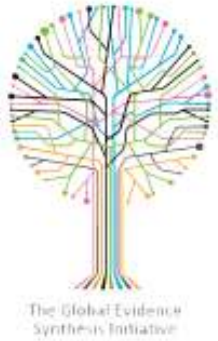
Financial, in-kind, advice, support or assistance

Open to any entity

Almatas, Centre for Evidence-based Health Care - Stellenbosch University, Cochrane (Groups), Evidence Aid, Evidence-Based Health Programme at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, EvipNet, George Institute, Journal of Family Medicine & Primary Care, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Peking University School of Public Health, South African Cochrane Centre, South African Medical Research Council, Swiss TPH, and University of Johannesburg

Network

37 centres
24 countries



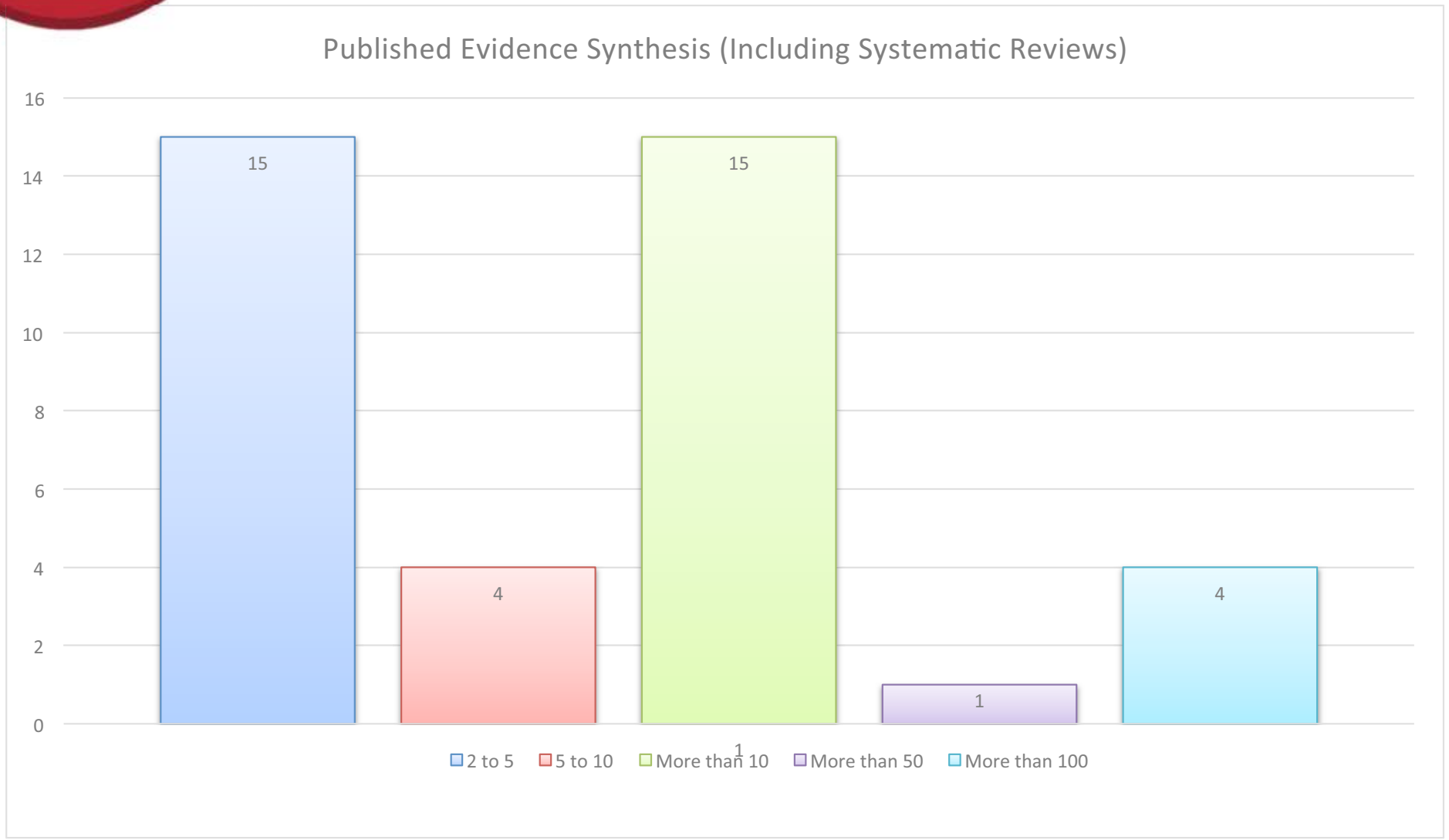
Argentina
Bangladesh (2)
Brazil
Cameroon (2)
China
Columbia (3)
Egypt
Ethiopia
Ghana (2)
India (3)
Iran
Jamaica
Kenya
Lebanon
Malaysia (2)
Mexico
Nigeria (2)
Rwanda
South Africa (6)
Tanzania
Uganda (2)
Zimbabwe

http://www.gesiinitiative.com/gesi-network/details/GESI-Network-members

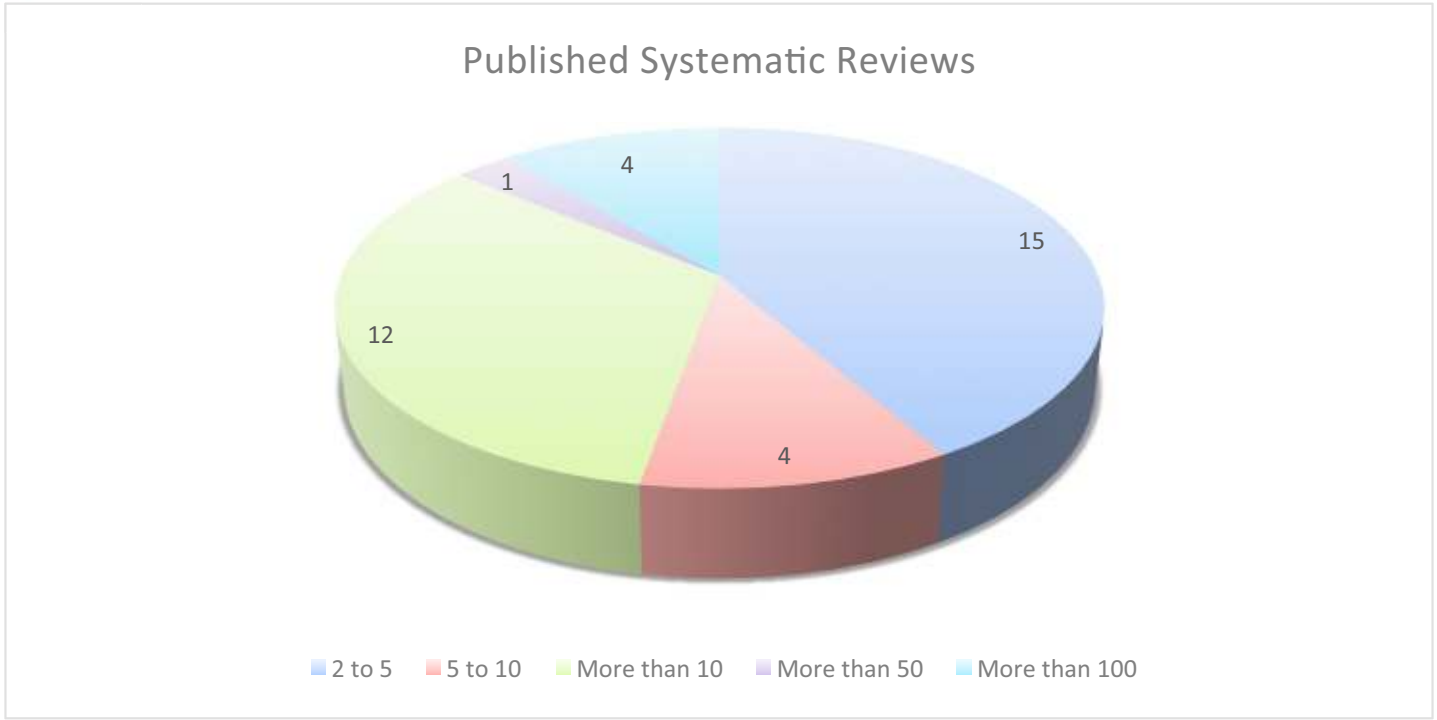
Network

The Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative

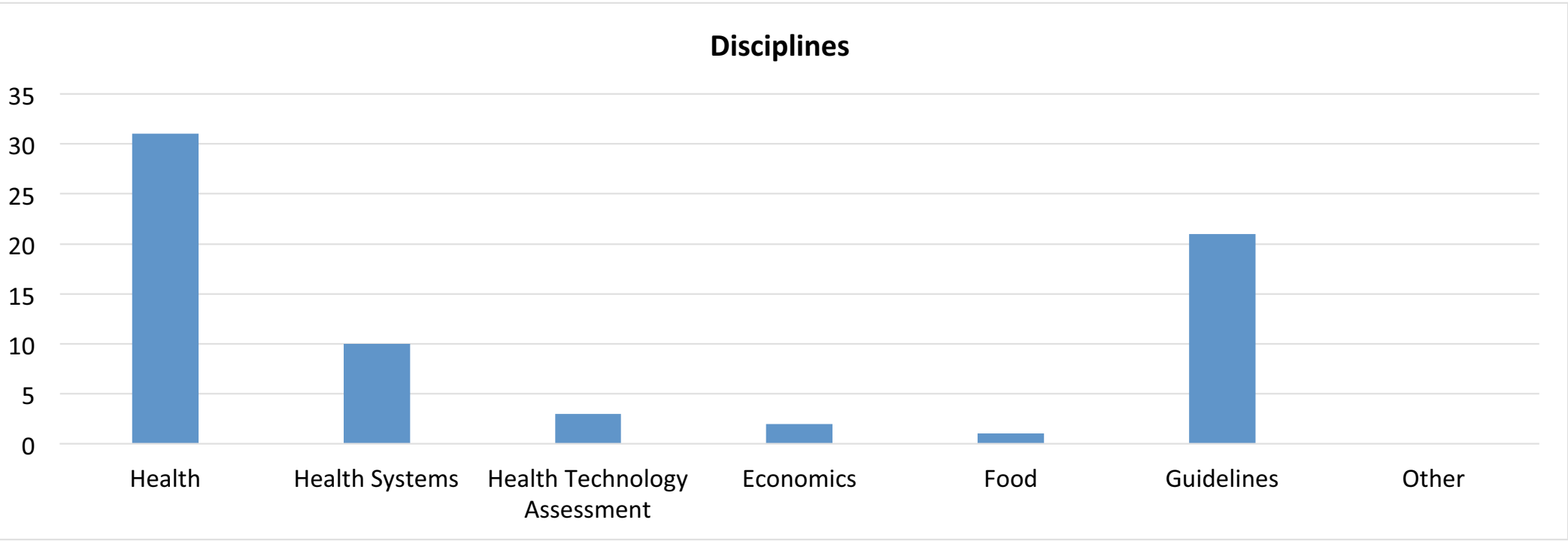
Network


Published Evidence Synthesis (Including Systematic Reviews)
16
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
15
4
15
1
4
2 to 5
5 to 10
More than 10
More than 50
More than 100

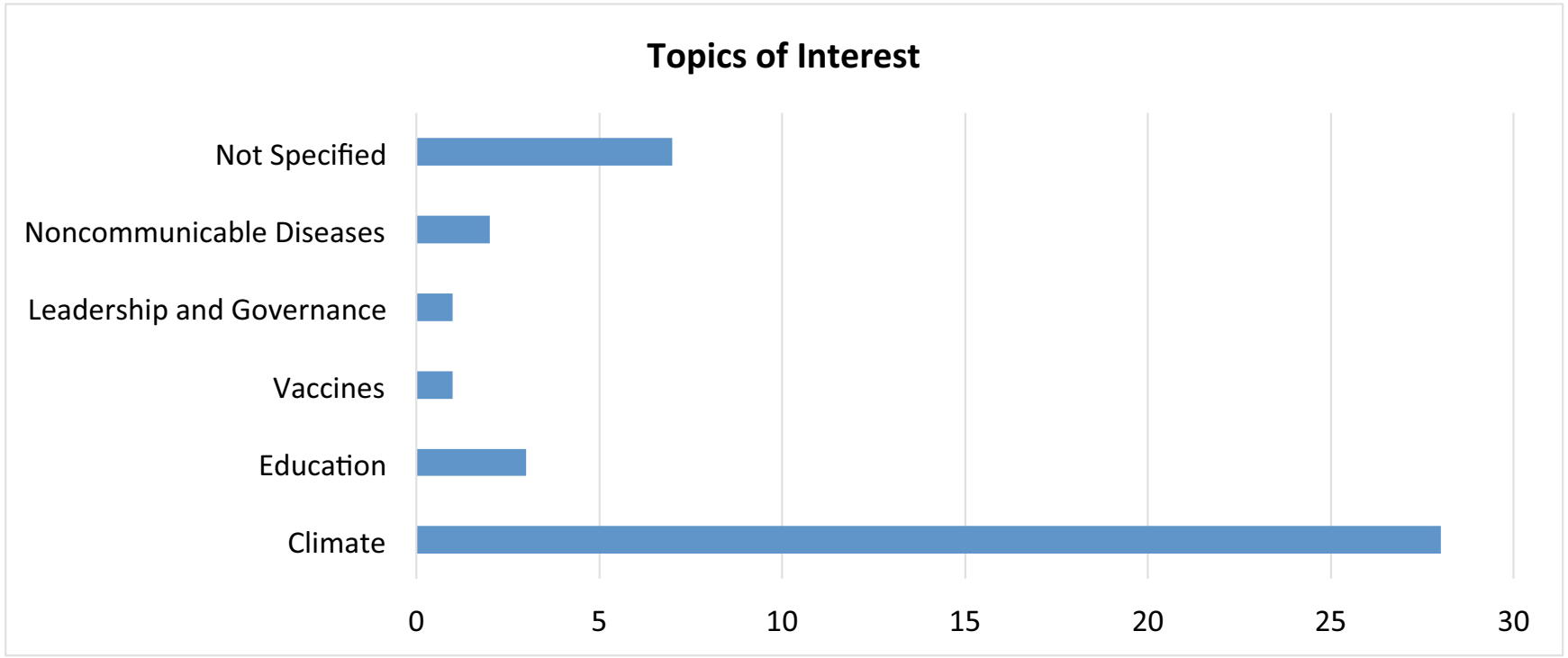
Network


Published Systematic Reviews
4
1
15
12
4
2 to 5
5 to 10
More than 10
More than 50
More than 100

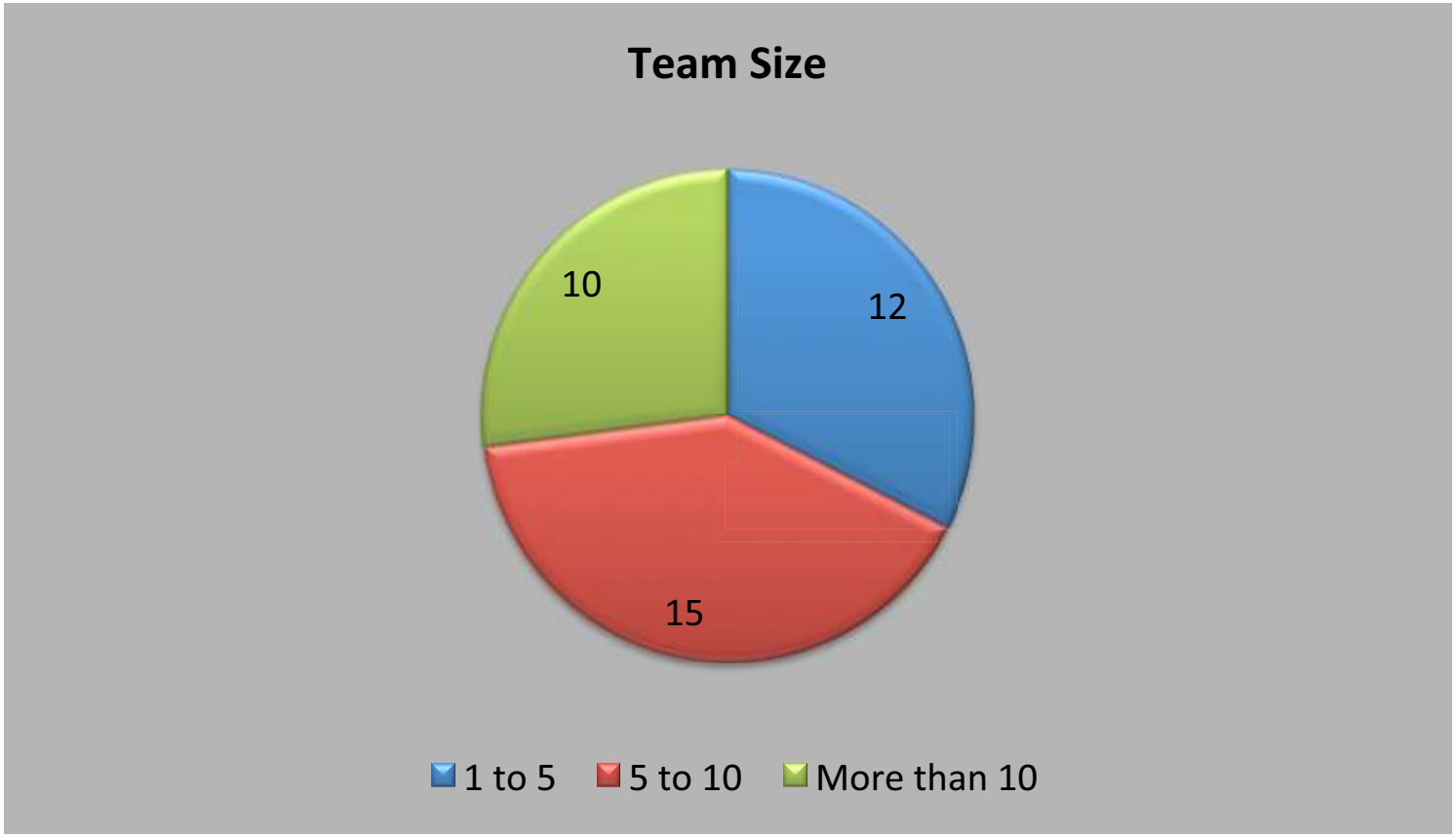
Network


Disciplines
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
Health
Health Systems
Health Technology Assessment
Economics
Food
Guidelines
Other

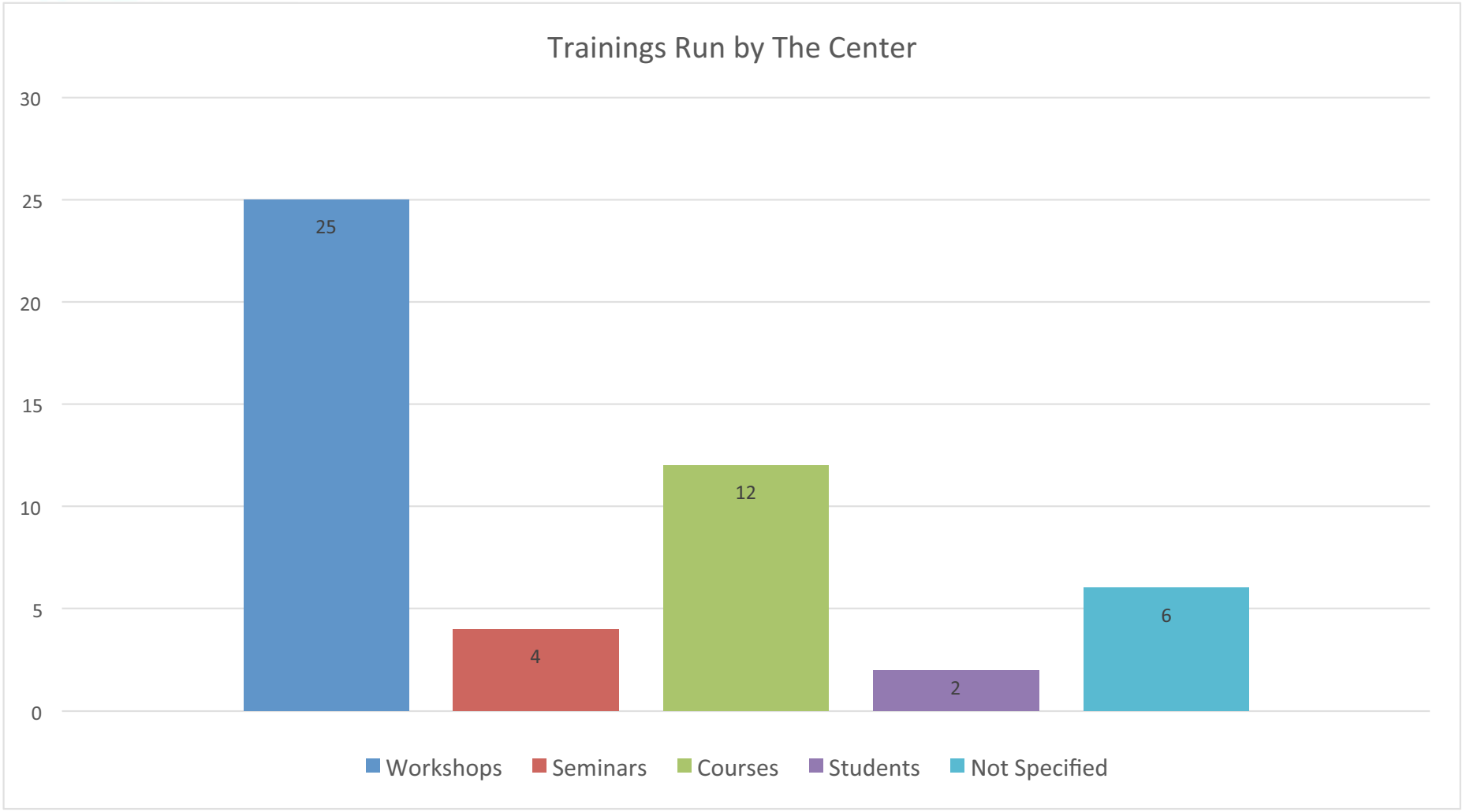
Network


Topics of Interest
Not Specified
Noncommunicable Diseases
Leadership and Governance
Vaccines
Education
Climate
0
5
10
15
20
25
30

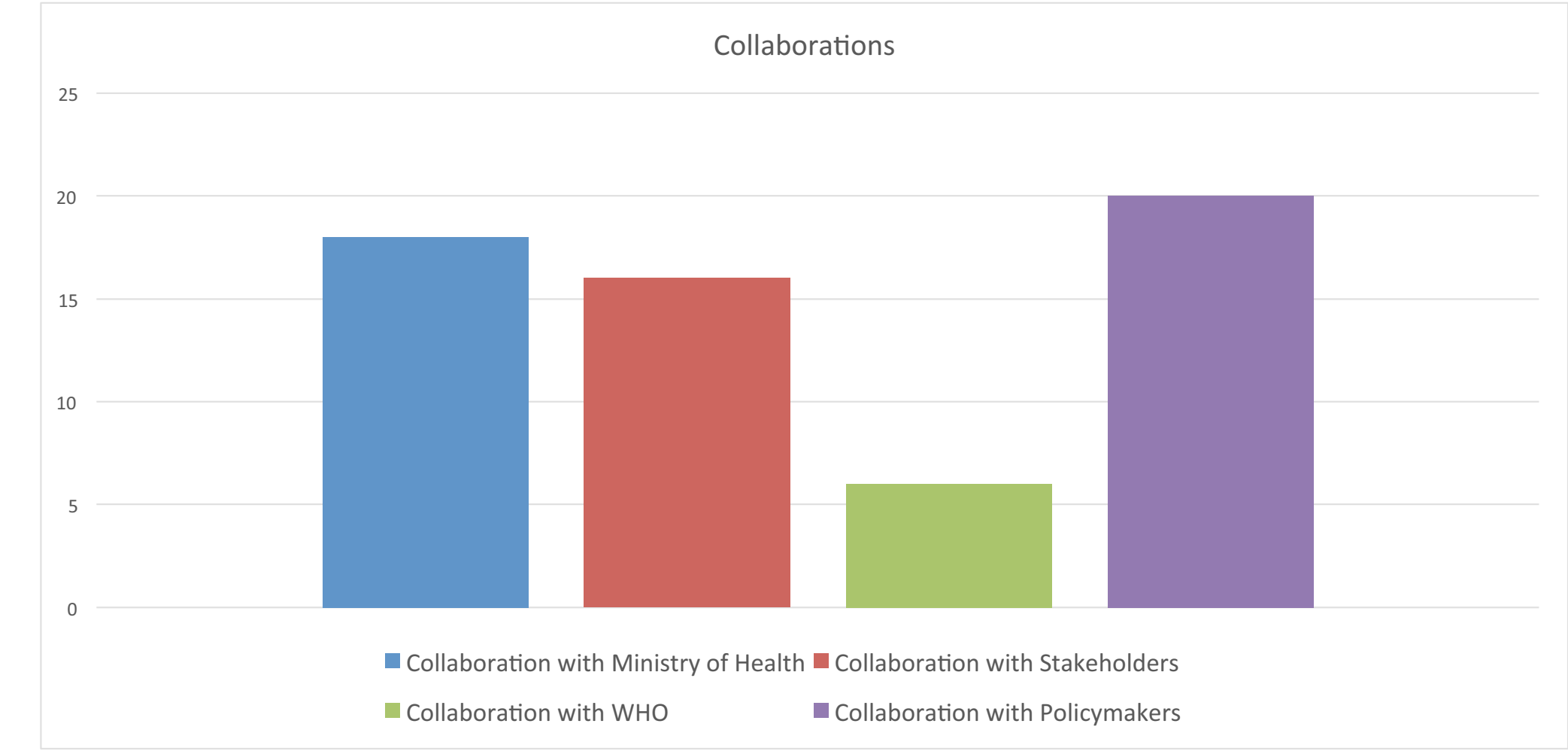
Network



Network


Trainings Run by The Center
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
25
4
12
2
6
Workshops
Seminars
Courses
Students
Not Specified

Network


Collaborations
25
20
15
10
5
0
Collaboration with Ministry of Health
Collaboration with Stakeholders
Collaboration with WHO
Collaboration with Policymakers

THE GLOBAL EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS INITIATVE

ACHEIVEMENTS OF 2017

GESI NETWORK

37 Research Centers joined GESI Network

24 Low Middle Income Countries represented by the centers

CAPACITY BUILDING

2 Webinar Series:

- GESI-Cochrane Learning Live
- GESI Webinar

3 Workshops on various evidence synthesis topics

80 Is the average number of participants per webinar

3 Representations at international conferences

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Assessment of capacity building needs in:

- Conducting SRs
- Knowledge Translation
- Setting priorities

33 interviews conducted with GESI Network members

Capacity Building activities

- Webinar series:
  - GESI-Cochrane Learning Live series: focuses on types of evidence synthesis;
  - GESI series: focuses on GESI Network members' experience, opens forum for discussion
- Workshops at International Conferences
  - Global Evidence Summit 2017 (GES2017)
- Meetings at International Conferences
  - GES 2017, Cochrane Colloquium 2016, Health Systems Global 2016, What Works Summit 2016

GESI-COCHRANE LEARNING LIVE WEBINAR SERIES

+9611350000 ext.4684 info@gesiinitiative.com

GESI

The Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative

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YouTube GB

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Uploads PLAY ALL

GESI Webinar: Healthcare Information For All (HIFA)

23 views • 1 month ago

GESI webinar SPARK prioritisation tool

12 views • 2 months ago

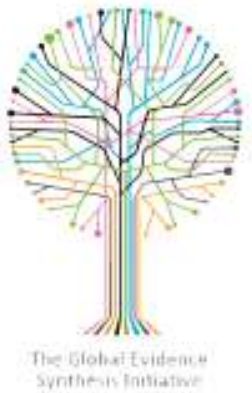
The Use of Evidence synthesis in the

9 views • 4 months ago

Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI) Introductory

76 views • 6 months ago

Moving Forward



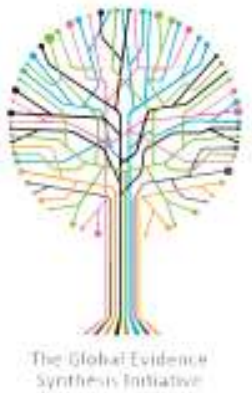
- **Fundraising**
  - Funding centres to produce cross disciplinary SRs
  - Funding training of centres to respond to capacity strengthening needs
  - Funding to build training material for cross-sectoral evidence synthesis production
  - Funding for Knowledge Translation trainings
  - Other: infrastructure, tools & softwares, bursaries to attend international conferences

Models for partnership

Within the GESI Network

1. Acknowledgement of the existing centres;
2. Platform to showcase experience and ongoing projects;
3. Platform to exchange opportunities: funding, projects, mentorship;
4. Support using available resources:
    1. using the GESI webinar series as an opportunity for members to disseminate their work
    2. GESI social media (live-stream) to increase access

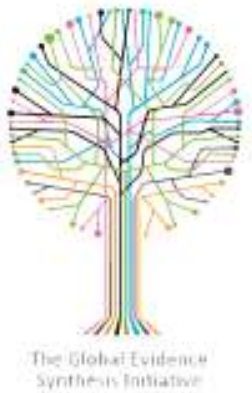
Models for partnership



With other Networks

1. Identifying existing Networks;
2. Collaborating to achieve common goals;
3. Reaching out for and disseminating opportunities;
4. Learning from each other.

Expectations from funders



- Support the use of produced evidence in informing decision-making: fund trainings of policy-makers & stakeholders

GESI Network : Needs assessment (Preliminary findings)

Context
Current successes and challenges
Perceived needs
Specific needs in which GESI could contribute

"To set priorities at the national, regional and rural level"

Specific needs in which GESI could contribute

"Perhaps if we can get more opportunities like where to apply for grants for us to improve what we are doing or calls that we can engage in then it would be more wonderful for us"...

Specific needs in which GESI could contribute

"In terms of disseminating finding relevant to the policy makers in a very powerful manner, since policy makers are often resistant to some of those findings" ...

"We can learn from other centers, and other contexts. And we can share resources and expertise"...

Moving forward

Funding: schemes, grants, review commission

GESI is seeking funds for its GESI Network members based on their needs to strengthen their capacity, and to commission Systematic Reviews and Knowledge Translation projects that align with the SDGs.