

NGIC Meeting: Ottawa, March 8-9, 2018

Summary of Key Decisions & Next Steps

Overall Items

- Day 1 started with a discussion of International Women’s Day and moving comments from NGIC members about the importance and meaning of this day.
- Meeting goals included:
 - 1) presentation and discussion about the handbook and curriculum resources, and
 - 2) development of NGIC knowledge mobilization (KMob) plans and discussing how to get additional feedback from NGIC organizations through pilot testing with frontline providers.
- **Timeline & Next NGIC Meeting**
 - The VEGA Project has a revised timeline, with an end date of June 2019.
 - There will be one more NGIC meeting, in Ottawa, **March 28 & 29, 2019** to review instructional materials including the two games.
- **Detailed Meeting Notes**
 - Were recorded and transcribed and are available by request. This summary of key feedback has been posted to the [NGIC area](#) of the VEGA website, along with all meeting materials.

VEGA Handbook, Tools & Resources

- A large part of Day 1 was spent reviewing the draft content for the three sections of the **VEGA Practice Handbook** (child maltreatment, intimate partner violence (IPV), and children’s exposure to IPV). Detailed feedback was recorded and is being considered for incorporation, in preparation for piloting.
- The “**Why VEGA?**” **Whiteboard Video** was reviewed and feedback provided during a large group discussion. The script and animation are now being revised.
- Two videos were reviewed and well received, one focused on lived experience of family violence and the health sector response, and a second on mandatory reporting. Additional videos will be prepared focusing on topics such as trauma- and violence-informed care (TVIC).

User Engagement

- Melissa Kimber summarized her ongoing work with **medical students** regarding family violence education – a project outside of VEGA’s initial scope, but findings are complementary. We discussed whether to gather similar information from students in other professions, e.g., nursing.
- Nadine Wathen presented ideas regarding integration of lived experience, including videos, and the **evidence-based narrative, *Intimate Partner Violence: Journeys to Safety***, which was reviewed by the NGIC. The narrative draws on qualitative research with women experiencing IPV and was very well received; we discussed creating a similar narrative of children’s experiences, based on a recent VEGA qualitative meta-synthesis of this evidence.

VEGA Curriculum

- A curriculum framework was presented by Susan Jack and Harriet MacMillan including the **VEGA Competency Framework** previously reviewed by the Education Curriculum Leader Table. Also reviewed were evidence-based content (Handbook) sections, instructional methods (infographics, videos, whiteboard, games, among others) and evaluation approaches (ongoing). Feedback on the Competency Framework is being incorporated and it should be finalized shortly.

VEGA Game Scenarios

- Steve Wilcox from Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo's Games Institute gave a demonstration of the **VEGA interactive game scenario**, focusing on child maltreatment; there will be play testing in the future where learners and professionals will work with the material and provide feedback.
- A **second game on IPV** is also under development.

Platform Integration

- James Dietrich from McMaster University gave an overview of how the VEGA materials can be integrated in an online platform.
- Key considerations include:
 - 1) **capacity** to house and integrate the game scenarios and other high-demand media, and the other VEGA resources;
 - 2) **security** of the tools themselves, and user information;
 - 3) **sustainability** including content and platform updates.
- It is important to note that this was not part of the original VEGA proposal and will require new funds.

Knowledge Mobilization (KMob)

- Nadine led a KMob workshop developed with Anita Kothari that included a presentation about KMob models and development of a KMob plan.
- In small groups, NGIC members designed KMob plans and there was discussion about cross-cutting and organization-specific audiences, goals, strategies, expertise and resources.
- Some needs identified included a tailorable VEGA-specific social media strategy for organizations to take-up, and materials that NGIC members can use in presentations and related activities.

Next Steps

- A key priority is **getting feedback from non-expert frontline providers from NGIC organizations' membership, including those pre- and in-service**. Piloting of content such as the Handbook sections and related videos and other resources will be conducted online, in a user-friendly way. **We will need from NGIC members direct access to a handful of members who can provide this feedback. We will follow-up once the platform is ready in May.**
- We discussed different aspects of **VEGA's evaluation plan**, including the overall project and partnership, as well as an approach for NGIC members to evaluate the uptake and impacts of the curriculum. The Public Health Agency of Canada indicated possibly providing funding for additional projects evaluating VEGA, but this is beyond the scope of the current project. NGIC members will be provided with a logic model and we will discuss next steps for evaluation at the **March 28 & 29, 2019** NGIC meeting.
- **NGIC members were asked to evolve their KMob plans in-house**; Anita and/or Nadine will be following-up later this spring to review the draft plans and discuss how VEGA can support these activities, e.g., through co-presentations and meetings and conferences, shared social media strategies, etc. VEGA does not have additional funds to directly support members' activities, but can support in-kind contributions, and travel by VEGA Leads to member events.

Meeting documents, including detailed notes and slides, can be found in the NGIC area of the VEGA website.