

WHO Collaborating Centre Annual Report

Name of the University, Hospital, Research Institute, Academy or Ministry

UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Name of the Division, Department, Unit, Section or Area

National Research Center in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NAFKAM)

Reference Number

NOR-20

City

Tromsø

Title

WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine

Report Year

11 February 2024 - 11 February 2025

Agreement Period

11 February 2024 - 10 February 2028

1. Annual report on the agreed workplan

Activity ID: A-24025

Activity Title: At WHO's request, collect and collate data to inform mapping on the use of traditional medicine among Indigenous Peoples (i.e., national minorities) in the Nordic countries.

Description: As per WHO's request, the institution will collect and collate information for WHO's consideration on mapping the use of traditional medicine among Indigenous Peoples (i.e., national minorities) in select Nordic countries as identified by WHO. Data will be collected through qualitative research literature review and by gathering expertise and experiences from relevant stakeholders as identified by WHO. The institution will analyse and summarize the data.

Status: Ongoing

Activity report: At planning stage.

Activity ID: A-24026

Activity Title: On WHO's request, provide technical input that may inform WHO's work towards expanding medication safety and quality of care in TCI.

Description: The Institution will provide technical inputs to WHO, as and when requested by WHO, that may inform its work in the process of preparing any relevant publication or technical product on safety of TCI modalities and quality of care package in TCI.

Status: Ongoing

Activity report: WHO global traditional medicine strategy (2025–2034)

Upon request by WHO, NAFKAM reviewed the draft strategy on several occasions and repeatedly provided input.

April 2024: public consultation on draft strategy, review by NAFKAM (Miek Jong and Barbara Wider), request from WHO.

June/July 2024: EURO regional consultation, review and online meeting, request from WHO.

September 2024: global Member States consultation, review of draft strategy, request from WHO to Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services.

Activity ID: A-24027

Activity Title: At WHO's request, provide technical support to WHO that may inform its work on evaluating the impact of WHO TCI benchmarks in acupuncture.

Description: Under WHO's guidance, the institution will collaborate with other WHOCCs of the TCI network to develop a protocol for surveying end users' perspectives of WHO training and practice benchmarks in TCI, and pilot it for the benchmarks

in acupuncture (WHO benchmarks for the practice of acupuncture and WHO benchmarks for the training of acupuncture, 2021). The institution will collate the information gathered from the pilot study, analyse it and present to WHO with technical inputs which may be used by WHO to inform WHO's work on evaluating the impact of WHO benchmarks.

Status: Ongoing

Activity report: In collaboration with WHOCCs Royal London Hospital of Integrative Medicine and Korea Institute of Oriental Medicine, NAFKAM had developed a proposal to assess practitioners' perceptions of WHO benchmarks on the training and practice of acupuncture.

NAFKAM resubmitted the proposal to WHO on 24th April 2024 and asked WHO for an online meeting to provide guidance in compliance with the Terms of Reference: "WHO will identify the type of inputs required as well as provide criteria for data collection and analysis as well as providing guidance to the Institution at all stages of this activity and reviewing and validating the information collated and technical inputs and ensure their alignment with WHO's norms, rules, policies, and standards." NAFKAM has not yet received a response from WHO but is awaiting guidance from WHO before proceeding with this activity.

2. Annual report on other activities requested

Should WHO have requested activities in addition to the agreed workplan, please describe related actions taken by your institution [maximum 200 words]. Please do not include in this report any activity done by your institution that was not requested by and agreed with WHO.

Other Activity Report

Regular briefings for WHO collaborating centres

26 February 2024: Moving from a health workforce crisis to health workforce success

20 June 2024: Preparedness 2.0: insights and opportunities for WHO CCs

16 October 2024: One Health: From Approach to Action.

18 December 2024: 2nd European Programme of Work brainstorming

5 February 2025: Health Innovation

Second European Programme of Work (EPW2) 2026–2030

NAFKAM attended the online hearings for the development of the EPW2.

22 January 2025: Noncommunicable diseases and mental health

30 January 2025: Ageing is living – lifetime of health and wellbeing

3. Resources

Indicate staff time spent on the implementation of activities agreed with WHO (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above). Do not include any data related to other activities done by your institution without the agreement of WHO. Please indicate staff time using the number of "full-day equivalents" – a day of work comprising 8 hours (e.g. 4 hours work per day for 7 days should be recorded as 3.5 full-day equivalents).

Number of staff involved (either partially or fully)

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
4	2	0

Number of full-day equivalents, total for all staff involved

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
25	10	0

Implementation of the agreed workplan activities (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above) normally require resources beyond staff-time, such as the use of laboratory facilities, purchasing of materials, travel, etc. Please estimate the costs of these other resources as a percentage of the total costs incurred (e.g. if you incurred costs of USD 100 and the value of your staff time was USD 50 which makes the total of USD 150, please report 33.3% and 66.7%).

Percentage of costs associated with staff time	Percentage of costs associated with other resources	Total
95.00	5.00	100.00

4. Networking

Describe any interactions or collaboration with other WHO Collaborating Centres in the context of the implementation of the agreed activities. If you are part of a network of WHO Collaborating Centres, please also mention the name of the network and describe your involvement in that network [maximum 200 words].

See Activity 3.