Interactive workshop: Building an information system at the service of decision makers, researchers, stakeholders and Quebecers

WORKSHOP REPORT

Benoît Lamarche PhD, FAHA Catherine Laramée RD, MSc Annie Lapointe RD, PhD A publication of the Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity Research Network (CMDO)

Department of Medicine - Endocrinology Service Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Sherbrooke University 3001, 12th Avenue North Sherbrooke, QC J1H 5N4 www.rrcmdo.ca

Report submitted by

Benoît Lamarche, PhD, FAHA, Institute of Nutrition and Functional Foods (INAF), Scientific Director-NutriNet-Santé-Québec, Nutrition Chair holder, Laval University

Catherine Laramée, RD, M. Sc., Research Professional, INAF

Annie Lapointe, RD, PhD, Research Professional, INAF

This interactive workshop was made possible thanks to the contributions from the CMDO and the INAF.





© CMDO 2017

Table of contents

SUMMARY	3
PROGRAM	4
OPENING LECTURES	6
ACTIVITY 1- RESEARCH ISSUES AND PRIORITY ACTIONS	7
Objective	7
METHOD	7
RESULTS	8
DISCUSSION	9
CONCLUSION	11
ACTIVITY 2- SAMPLING TYPE	12
Objective	12
METHOD	12
RESULTS	
DISCUSSION	
CONCLUSION	15
ACTIVITY 3- ISSUES RELATED TO GOVERNANCE	16
Objective	16
METHOD	
RESULTS	
CONCLUSION	
ACTIVITY 4- FINDING A NAME FOR NUTRINET-SANTÉ-QUÉBEC?	
Objective	
METHODS	
RESULTS	
CONCLUSION	20
ACTIVITY 5- FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	21
Objective	21
METHODS	21
DISCUSSION	
CONCLUSION	21
NEXT STEPS	22
OVERALL CONCLUSION	22
APPENDIX 1	23
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	
APPENDIX 2	24
EXAMPLE OF A POSTER ON RESEARCH AND MEASUREMENT ISSUES	24
APPENDIX 3	25
EXAMPLE OF AN ORGANIZATIONAL CHART	25

Summary

On September 28 and 29, 2017, the interactive workshop "Building an information system for decision makers, researchers, stakeholders and Quebecers" was held at *Le Bonne Entente* hotel in Quebec City. A total of 36 researchers and government partners (please see Appendix 1) came together to lay the groundwork for a major societal project, NutriNet-Santé-Québec.

This project, which is unparalleled in Canada, aims to document Quebecers' lifestyle habits through the Internet, particularly in the context of the implementation of the government's preventive health policy (PGPS). Ultimately, NutriNet-Santé-Québec will not only provide a detailed portrait of the lifestyle habits of adult Quebecers (nutrition, physical activity and others) but will also measure the impacts of actions taken by the PGPS over time.

Dr. Benoît Lamarche, Scientific Director of NutriNet-Santé-Québec, and his team spearheaded the workshop. The program began with a presentation by the scientific architect of the NutriNet-Santé project in France, Professor Serge Hercberg. Ms. Martine Pageau, Director of Healthy Lifestyle Promotion Service, and Julie Simard, Director of Public Health Planning and Development Service at the *Ministry of Health and Social Services (MSSS)*, presented their vision of the opportunities offered by a project such as NutriNet-Santé-Québec from a public health perspective.

Subsequently, participants were asked to reflect and provide perspective on the four main themes addressed: 1- unavoidable research issues to address in a project such as NutriNet-Santé-Québec, 2- type of sampling to consider, 3- governance-related issues and considerations and 4- funding opportunities.

First, the research issues that emerged as essential elements to consider in this project are the quality of food supply and diet, physical activity, socio-demographic and health data, lifestyle habits and data on the physical and social environment. Second, there was a consensus that a fully probabilistic sample is unrealistic. It was suggested to consider aiming for a small probabilistic sample, which could be used to calibrate population-based analyses using data from the non-probabilistic sample. Third, several stakeholders were identified for the governance structure of the project. There was consensus regarding the importance to consider at least a Steering committee, a Scientific committee, an Executive committee and an International advisory committee. Further work is required to identify the members of each committee. Fourth, participants submitted funding ideas that were not initially considered.

Program

Thursday 28 September 2017 Opening lectures from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Dinner cocktail from 7:00 p.m.

Vigneault Room

- 4:30 p.m. André Carpentier, Director of the CMDO Research Network, Research center of CHUS, Sherbrooke University
 - **❖** Welcome remarks
- 4:35 p.m. Benoît Lamarche, Ph.D, INAF, Scientific director, NutriNet-Santé-Québec, Laval University
 - Presentation of the workshop's objectives
- 4:45 p.m. Serge Hercberg, MD, Ph.D, Principal investigator, NutriNet, University of Paris 13
 - NutriNet: a cohort serving public health research, expertise, surveillance and evaluation
- 5:35 p.m. Martine Pageau, Healthy Lifestyle Promotion Directorate, MSSS and Julie Simard, Public Health Planning and Development Directorate, MSSS
 - ❖ *Public health prevention policy : potential issues, implementation and collaborations*
- 6:25 p.m. Exchanges and discussions

Vigneault Room

7:00 p.m. Dinner cocktail

Interactive workshop 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Vigneault Room

8:30 a.m. Philippe De Wals, M.D., Ph.D and Benoît Lamarche, Ph.D, Laval University

❖ Background, context and objective of NutriNet-Santé-Québec

9:30 a.m. Activity 1

❖ Collaborative work to identify research issues and priority actions

10:00 a.m. Coffee break

10:15 a.m. Activity 1 – Next

11:15 a.m. Activity 2

❖ *Group activity to determine the type of sampling to consider*

Vigneault Room

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Vigneault Room

1:15 p.m. Activity 3

• Collaborative work to reflect on the governance of the project and its stakeholders

2:15 p.m. Activity 4

* Finding a name for NutriNet-Santé Québec

3:00 p.m. Coffee break

3:15 p.m. Activity 5

Plenary discussion on funding opportunities

4:00 p.m. Benoît Lamarche

❖ Next steps and conclusions

4:15 p.m. André Carpentier

& Closing remarks

4:30 p.m. End of day

Opening lectures

The opening lectures were designed to provide participants with perspectives on the importance and value of the NutriNet project in France and how such a project may help addresses public health in Quebec.

To begin, Dr. Hercberg presented the objectives and methodology of the NutriNet-Santé project, a cohort study launched in France in 2009 to monitor the evolution of nutrition and health in a large population over a 10-year period. He also shared his experiences on challenges related to recruitment of vulnerable populations and retention of subjects. Finally, he outlined the project's perspectives and implications for public health.

Then, Ms. Pageau and Ms. Simard presented the key public health issues that guide the National Public Health Program and the Public Health Prevention Policy (PGPS) and their implementation. They gave a brief presentation on the PGPS and its main components, as well as the resulting interdepartmental action plan. Orientations and measures of the PGPS aimed at improving the lifestyle of Quebecers were explored. Finally, they provided perspective on how NutriNet-Santé-Québec may complement public health actions, particularly in terms of tracking healthy lifestyle habits over time, and formulated number considerations for the future of the project:

- To track and monitor the impact of PGPS measures related to healthy lifestyle habits
- To expand knowledge on lifestyle habits and the design of supportive environments in communities
- To expand knowledge regarding social inequities in health

In closing, Dr. Philippe de Wals explained the context in which the idea of a project similar to NutriNet-Santé was born. Dr. Benoît Lamarche went on to present the landscape that make this project unavoidable at this point in time, while identifying potential objectives to pursue. He also discussed opportunities for collaboration and next steps.

Please note that all of these presentations are available in audio format on the CMDO website.

Activity 1- Research Issues and Priority Actions

Objective

The objective of this first activity was to determine the variables that should be measured in NutriNet-Santé-Québec, to be consistent with public health issues identified by the *MSSS* in the area of lifestyle.

Method

- 1. Participants first individually noted all variables that they felt were important to consider in NutriNet-Santé Québec.
- 2. In groups, participants classified their variables by research themes.
- 3. Considering that the project resources will be limited and that not all of these research themes can be studied, the groups had to identify the themes that they felt were unavoidable (3 stars), important (2 stars) and less important (1 star) (please see Table 1 and Appendix 2).
- 4. A group discussion led to a certain consensus on the key variables to be measured in NutriNet-Santé Québec.

Results

Table 1: Identified research issues and their priority level

6	V ₁	4	з	2	1	GR.
 Lifestyle habits (tobacco, alcohol, drugs, sleep, meal times, physical activity) Socio-demographic characteristics Health profile (anthropometric data, allergies, mental and sexual health) Frivironmental data 	 Dietary intake and food environment (access and quality) Physical activity Individual characteristics (age, gender, socio-demographic, culinary knowledge and skills, taste, food expenditure, risk factors, tobacco, alcohol, sleep, stress) Social norms and living environments 	Overall food quality (food intake, meal context, food and weight concern, context linked to food supply)	 Dietary intake and eating behavior Physical activity Context and environment of the meals Social determinants 	 Dietary intake Physical activity Socio-demographic characteristics Biological characteristics (body mass index, lipids, blood pressure, comorbidities) Environmental context (geographical coordinates of workplace, residence, etc.) 	 Dietary intake and perception about nutrition Physical activity Socio-economic characteristics (family income, education, immigrant status, health literacy) Matching indicators (social insurance number, health insurance number, postal code) 	Unavoidable research themes ★★★
• Biological data (sub-sampled) - DNA (mail-in kit)		 Socio-demographic profile Health Profile Physical activity 	 Knowledge, perceptions, attitudes towards food Socio-cultural environment Built environment 	 Perceptions, values, attitudes, knowledge, preferences 	• Health Indicator • Mental Health	Important research themes ★★
• Pictures of the meals • Taste	 Taste Culinary knowledge and skills Risk factors Food expenditure Tobacco, alcohol, sleep, stress 		• Tobacco, alcohol, drugs • Food supply strategies		 Tobacco, alcohol, drugs Social capital Sustainable development 	Less important research themes

Discussion

Each bullet represents a participant's comment.

Data Crossover

- It will be essential to seek the permission of participants to link information collected from other databases and to index existing external data for cross-referencing. It will also be necessary to ensure that there is the technological capacity to cross-reference these data.
- In France, it is impossible to ask questions about ethnicity and the social insurance number.

Mental Health

- It will be important to measure psychological distress and mental health indicators. There is not a lot of data on this right now, but they are major determinants of many health problems.
- In fact, there are data on psychological distress in Quebec in the *Population Health Survey*, but the data have not been analyzed or published.
- In the NutriNet-Santé in France, psychological distress and mental health indicators were not initially measured, but were later added to the monthly questionnaires. It is one of the advantages of E-epidemiology, that it is easy to modify and/or add questionnaires and retrieve missing information along the project.

Religious Practices

• Q: Should data on religious practices be collected as this may influence diet?

A: Cultural community membership and immigrant status may be relevant to know.

These data are collected in national census.

Inclusion of Children

• Q: What would be the additional difficulty of including children in this type of study? Would it be possible to question adults about the family unit (number of children, age, etc.)?

A: In France, it is difficult to include children because it requires the consent of both parents. On the other hand, the structure of the household was measured in NutriNet-Santé-France as well as various family practices (*e.g.*, breastfeeding). Parents also answered questions about children's eating habits.

Food Sources

- The *Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Quebec (MAPAQ)* has interest for issues related to the economic aspect of food: food sources, food certification, local purchasing, consumer confidence in Quebec products, etc.
- For example, it could be considered to crosscheck NutriNet-Santé-Québec data with food sales data, or to do as in France and ask consumers about their perceptions of local foods. To that regard, questionnaires to measure this dimension are available at INAF.

Measurement Frequency

- The frequency of measurement of the unavoidable variables will have to be determined according to the study primary objectives. Frequency of measurement may also vary over time depending on the policies put in place, for example.
- Some data are inexpensive to measure on the web, but fatigue associated with filling out many questionnaires for participants should not be underestimated.

Global health

- Consideration should be given to whether global health indicators such as the ecological footprint of food, water use, waste, etc. should be considered (please see Rockefeller Commission Results on this subject in The Lancet: http://www.thelancet.com/commissions/planetary-health).
- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has developed several indicators that could be integrated into NutriNet-Santé-Québec to measure food systems and their effects on food security, climate change and nutrition in a comprehensive manner (please see http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/post-2015/FAO_TI_TI_14themes_EN.pdf). The food choices of consumers and the choices of processors and producers have tangible effects on sustainable development. A comprehensive approach such as the one put forward in the PGPS is needed.
- NutriNet-Santé-France includes questionnaires on sustainability, carbon footprint, organic food, etc.

Inclusion of indigenous peoples

- The inclusion of indigenous peoples must be considered, although this represents a major challenge in adapting the questionnaires.
- It is more productive to include these populations in the upstream discussions and to use a participatory approach.

Social networks/social norms

• Q: Was recruitment in the NutriNet-Santé-France study done via social networks and if so, were the links between participants retained to infer information on social norms?

A: In the NutriNet-Santé-France study, there is indeed a sponsorship system. Participants can send a message to their entourage to recruit them. As the data are anonymized, it is not possible to make links between the participants. However, participants complete questionnaires on the use of social networks and social practices.

Conclusion

First, several common research issues have emerged, which should be considered from the outset in the project. These include the quality of food and food supply and diet, physical activity, socio-demographic and health data, lifestyle habits and data on the physical and social environment. Researchers and stakeholders with expertise in these research themes will be contacted at the appropriate time to find out the best measurement tools.

Second, several groups also emphasized the importance of measuring the individual's perceptions, attitudes, beliefs and knowledge of various topics. In addition, during the discussion, a few other research issues emerged, including global health. To include or exclude these measures, it will be necessary to consider the resources required (*e.g.*, time and financial resources available to develop the questionnaires) as well as the workload that this requires from participants. The question of the frequency of measurements will also have to be considered, taking into account the primary objectives of the project.

Third, it will be necessary to ensure that participants are given permission to cross-reference their information with other databases and collect the necessary matching indicators. The assistance of partners such as *National Institute of Excellence in Health and Social Services (INESSS)* and *National Institute of Public Health (INSPQ)* will be essential to access and interpret existing databases.

Activity 2- Sampling type

Objective

The objective of the second activity was to address sampling type and related issues and challenges in NutriNet-Santé-Québec.

Method

- 1. Using an online voting system, participants answered the following question, prior to any discussion on the topic: do you think it is <u>necessary</u> to use a probabilistic approach for recruitment in NutriNet-Santé-Québec?
- 2. Participants were then asked to answer 4 questions (Table 2) that were thought out to stimulate discussion and reflection (please see discussion).
- 3. Finally, after discussing the pros and cons of both types of sampling, participants again answered the question, "Do you think it is <u>necessary</u> to use a probabilistic approach?".

Results

Table 2: Results of the online survey on sampling types

	Yes	No
In your opinion, is it <u>necessary</u> to use a probabilistic approach for recruitment in this project?	63.0 %	37.0%
approach for recruitment in this project.	Probabilistic	Non-probabilistic
Which approach best meets the criterion of representativeness of vulnerable populations?	43.3%	56.7%
Which approach is the least expensive?	26.7%	73.3%
What is the most advantageous approach if you think of recruitment time?	32.0%	68.0%
What method allows to get the highest retention rate of participants for prospective follow-up?	8.0%	92.0%
	Yes	No
In your opinion, is it <u>necessary</u> to use a probabilistic approach for recruitment in this project?	36.7%	63.3%

Discussion

Each bullet represents a participant's comment.

Representativeness of Vulnerable Populations

- Even in probabilistic samples, the participation of vulnerable populations is proportionately lower. Oversampling for populations known to have a lower rate of participation may be considered to achieve a sample that bests represents all Quebec adults.
- We need to define what a vulnerable population is. Should homeless people be included? One in eight Quebecers is illiterate. How can they be reached? Rather than moving towards probabilistic sampling, vulnerable populations should be defined and retrieved.
- In surveys conducted in Montreal, probabilistic sampling allows vulnerable populations (e.g., immigrants and low-income people) to be reached. This stratification is possible with a solid sampling frame. For example, the *Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec* (RAMQ) database covers approximately 96-97% of the Quebec population. There would be an advantage to using the probabilistic approach, but it depends on the accessibility of the database.
- Obtaining a probabilistic sample with a very low response rate is the same as obtaining a non-probabilistic sample.
- In France, in the CONSTANCE study, random sampling was carried out using the health insurance database, which covers the entire French population, but the response rates obtained were only about 10-12%.

Recruitment Costs

- Access to the *RAMQ* database is not easy and expensive, making probability sampling methods more expensive.
- Even for a non-probabilistic sample of good quality, promotion is key. Television visibility is expensive and must be maintained over time to reach all populations. So the effort required is considerable. A more detailed comparison of promotion costs versus access costs to the *RAMQ* database should be explored.
- The NutriNet-Santé-France study uses a non-probabilistic sample. However, no paid television advertising was done. Instead, the study's researchers were interviewed in popular television programs and the media reported on the project.

Recruitment Time

- The *RAMQ* database contains postal addresses and telephone numbers, but no e-mail addresses, which will increase recruitment time if a probabilistic approach is used.
- The recruitment time will depend on the main objective of the project, which will determine the number of subjects to be recruited. If the objective is to make a portrait of the population, it requires fewer subjects than if the objective is to make comparisons by region, age or ethnicity, for example. It will therefore be necessary to question the units of interest analysis in the end.

Retention Rate of Participants for Prospective Follow-up

- It is possible to achieve an excellent retention rate with the probabilistic approach if the necessary resources (monetary) for the follow-up of participants are invested.
- We will have to ask ourselves what is most important. Is it to have the largest number of participants or the largest amount of data per participant?

Other Comments

- A non-probabilistic sample may become probabilistic and vice versa depending on the number of participants.
- It is difficult to be representative even with large numbers of participants, because volunteering is affected by several biases. We always have to ask ourselves who did not participate.
- The probability sampling approach is coming to an end. In all areas, it is difficult to do it properly and achieve an acceptable participation rate. The best approach would be to use a hybrid approach with a small probabilistic sample, where many resources would be used to obtain a high recruitment rate, and which would be used to interpret/weight the responses of the largest non-probabilistic sample. The NutriNet-Santé-Québec project represents an opportunity to develop a methodology to "validate" the non-probabilistic approach (please see the methodologies developed by the Scandinavians).
- It is now common to use probabilistic survey data with a 10% response rate because methods for weighting and adjusting for nonresponse bias have been developed. It may be time to change the paradigm and develop new ways of doing things.
- The question will be how often to administer the questionnaires to observe changes effectively while minimizing participant burden.
- In the NutriNet-Santé-France study, there is one questionnaire per month, and a maximum of 20 minutes is necessary to complete the questionnaire. The majority of participants found this acceptable. Depending on the questionnaire themes, completion rates vary.

Conclusion

There was consensus that a small probabilistic sample should be considered, to complement the non-probabilistic sample, which will achieve much greater numbers with less effort. The key will be to properly characterize the sample obtained and to know the limits of the method used. The next step is to consider the best recruitment strategies to be used to overcome the challenges envisioned in terms of the representativeness of vulnerable populations, recruitment time and cost, and retention of subjects.

Activity 3- Issues related to governance

Objective

The main objective of this third activity was to discuss governance and stakeholders to be included in the organizational structure of NutriNet-Santé-Québec.

The secondary objectives were to assign stakeholders to different committees and define their roles and functions. Finally, the exercise also aimed to provide a preliminary scheme of the organizational structure of NutriNet-Santé Québec (organizational chart).

Method

- 1. In groups, participants were first asked to identify the stakeholders to be included in the organizational structure of NutriNet-Santé-Québec.
- 2. Some consensus was reached through a group discussion (Table 3).
- 3. The groups were then asked to bring together the stakeholders identified by consensus into committees and define their mandate (Table 4). Five committees were proposed from the outset (Steering, Executive, Advisory, Scientific and Assembly of researchers). Groups discussed around those particular committees, but were also allowed to add new ones.
- 4. Finally, groups were asked to position their various committees to form an organizational chart (please see Appendix 3 as an example).

Results

Table 3: Stakeholders to be included in the project's governance structure

Yes	Maybe	No
• Citizens	 Private industry 	• RAMQ
 Researchers: Transdisciplinary committee with a chief scientist Public Institutes: INESSS, INSPQ, Quebec Institute of Statistics (ISQ) Regional Public Health Branch (DRSP) Municipal actors Grant Agencies/Foundation/Funds PGPS Ministries Centers/groups/research networks Ethics/law International representation (e.g., Serge Hercberg for NUTRINET) Professional orders (nutritionists, doctors, nurses, architects, urban planners) Media Federal jurisdictions: Statistics Canada, Health Canada 	 Community associations/community associative circles/non-profit organization University training managers 	Kriwity
 Quebec Public Health Agency (ASPQ) 		

Organization charts

- In all groups, the Steering committee was positioned at the top of the organization chart and was supported by the Advisory committee (possibly international), the Scientific committee and the Executive committee.
- Two out of six groups did not consider it essential to include the researchers' assembly in the organizational structure.
- Five groups proposed a Users' committee.
- Four groups proposed an Ethics' committee. The two groups that did not include an Ethics committee in their structure positioned such stakeholders in the Steering committee.
- Three groups proposed a Permanence structure/project team structure.
- One group proposed a Communications committee.
- One group added a Funding/development committee and a Knowledge transfer committee.
- Instead of creating a Users' committee, the different teams preferred to include citizens in the various committees listed above.

Table 4: The committees, their mandate and their composition

Committees (number of teams	Mandate	Composition (Number of teams proposing the actor)
proposing the committee) Steering (6/6)	Oversees the project, is responsible for making decisions on strategic directions and is accountable.	 Stakeholders related to PGPS (6/6) Scientific Director (4/6) Citizen (4/6) Funders (3/6) Public Institutes (3/6) Ethicists (2/6)
Executive (6/6)	Ensures the implementation and sustainability of the project, executes the decisions of the Steering committee, leads the project team, informs the Steering committee of the project's progress.	• A subset of the Steering committee (the number of actors in this committee must remain limited) (6/6)
Scientific (6/6)	Defines the research programming and makes recommendations on scientific and methodological aspects of the project.	 Researchers (6/6) Public Institutes (4/6) Citizen (2/6) Stakeholders related to PGPS (1/6) Federal authorities (1/6)
Advisor (6/6)	Advises the Steering Committee on scientific and ethical issues and project implementation, provides ad hoc advice on various subjects.	 International representation (6/6) Citizen (2/6) ASPQ (1/6) Federal authorities (1/6) Stakeholders related to PGPS (1/6) Industry, municipal actors, community associations, professional orders (1/6)
Users (5/6)	Formulates needs and ensures knowledge transfer	 Industry, municipal actors, community associations, professional orders (5/5) DRSP (2/5) Citizen (2/5) Scientific journalists (1/5)
Assembly of researchers (4/6)	Supplies the Scientific Committee	 Research centers/groups/networks (3/4) Researchers (2/4) Funding agencies (1/4)
Ethics (4/6)	Checks ethical and legal aspects	• Ethicists (4/4) • Citizen (2/4)
Project team (3/6)	Achieves established objectives	

Conclusion

First, this activity identified several stakeholders to integrate into the Governance structure of the project. Although all of these actors are relevant, choices will have to be made in order to limit the size and complexity of the organizational structure.

Secondly, there was a strong degree of similarity in the organizational charts proposed by the various groups, i.e. it is essential to include a Steering committee, which will be supported by a Scientific committee, an Executive committee and an International Advisory committee. The following committees should also be considered: a Researchers' committee, an Ethics committee, a User committee and a Project team.

Thirdly, there was convergence in terms of the mandates assigned to the various committees. The composition of the committees is not uniform from one team to another, but trends can be identified.

Activity 4- Finding a name for NutriNet-Santé-Québec?

Objective

The objective of this fourth activity was to reflect on the name of the project.

Methods

- 1. Participants had about 15 minutes to brainstorm within small groups.
- 2. Each group then submitted their best project names (two) to the organizers.
- 3. Participants individually voted on the best name among the four choices retained by the organizers.

Results

- NutriNet Québec 46.7%
- NOUS Québec Notre Observatoire Unique en Santé 36.7 %
- Héritage Santé Québec 6.7%
- PRESTINET 10%

Conclusion

The two names that obtained the largest number of votes were NutriNet-Québec and NOUS Québec (Notre Obsevatoire Unique en Santé – Joignez-vous à NOUS!). No final decision was made on the name of the project. Experts in communications may be approached to help identify the best name (and hence branding).

Activity 5- Funding Opportunities

Objective

The objective of this fifth and final activity was to discuss funding opportunities.

Methods

This activity was undertaken as a plenary session during which participants submitted ideas and comments.

Discussion

Funding Opportunities

- Ministries (MSSS, MESS, etc.)
- Networks (*CMDO*, *FRSQ*, etc.)
- Research funds (FRQ-S and other funds FRQ, IRSC, etc.)
- Municipal Affairs
- Political Solicitation (Council of Ministers, Prime Minister)
- Crowdfunding
 - o In the NutriNet-Santé-France project, « nutrinautes » via an association pay a small annual fee (http://nutrinautes-asso.fr/)
- Grants for
 - Research infrastructures
 - o Patient reporting outcome
 - o Patient-Oriented Research
 - Database operation

Consideration

It is essential to estimate the budget required to start the platform and the minimum and maximum operational fund.

There is the possibility of going in phases like NutriNet-Santé-France.

Conclusion

Participants submitted funding ideas that were not initially considered. These will be explored in the coming months.

Next Steps

- The NutriNet-Santé Québec project was submitted to the *MSSS* for funding. The response is expected in November. CMDO has also expressed its interest, as an organization, in participating in the success of the project.
- An organizational chart will be developed shortly based on the proposals collected.
- A rapid review of the literature on best practices for reaching vulnerable populations through prospective web-based surveys will be conducted.
- The protocol for a pilot project will be initiated. This will include a timeline with the unavoidable research variables to be measured as identified during the workshop.

Overall Conclusion

The interactive workshop "Building an information system at the service of decision makers, researchers, stakeholders and the Québec population" was considered a great success. Indeed, during the workshop, the enthusiasm of the participants was palpable. In addition, the positive feedback received through the post-workshop survey also reflects participants' satisfaction with the workshop and their interest in the project.

Finally, the workshop helped achieve the organizers' objectives, namely, to identify the main research objectives and related measurements, to determine the most appropriate and feasible type of sampling, to consider how the project may be best governed and discuss funding opportunities.

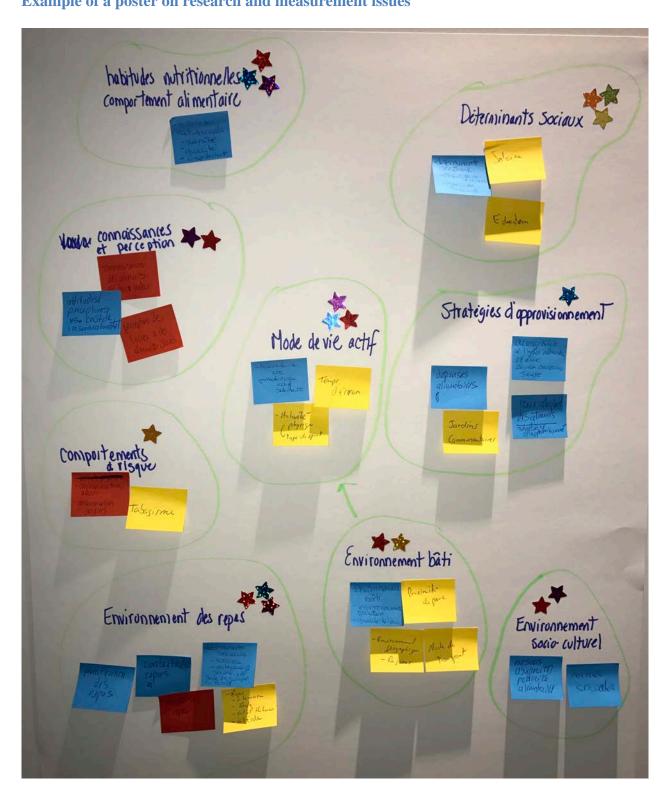
Appendix 1

List of participants

Participants	Affiliation
Alexandre Lebel	Université Laval
André Carpentier	Université de Sherbrooke/CRCHUS
Ariane Bélanger-Gravel	Université Laval
Bernard Candas	INESSS
Céline Plante	INSPQ
Chantal Blouin	INSPQ
Danielle Brûlé	Santé Canada
Denis Roy	INESSS
Diane Brisson	Ecogène 21
Gregory Moullec	HSCM, Université de Montréal
Isabelle Agier	ASPC
Janusz Kaczorowski	Université de Montréal/CRCHUM
Jason Deguire	Statistique Canada
Jean-Pierre Després	Université Laval/CRIUCPQ
Josée Morisset	INSPQ
Julie Robitaille	INAF
Julie Soucy	MSSS
Laurélie Trudel	INAF
Lise Gauvin	Université de Montréal/CRCHUM
Louis-Robert Frigault	Direction régionale de santé publique de Montréal
Luc Ricard	AsQ
Lucien Junior Bergeron	CMDO
Lynn Hammell	MAPAQ
Magali Girard	CRCHUM
Marie-Claude Paquet	INSPQ
Marie-Claude Viger	MAPAQ
Marie-Claude Vohl	INAF
Marie-Eve Labonté	INAF
Martine Pageau	MSSS
Philippe De Wals	Université Laval
Serge Hercberg	Université Paris 13
Simone Lemieux	INAF
Steve Arsenault	AsQ
Tracie Barnett	CR Ste-Justine/INRS
Véronique Provencher	INAF
Yann Le Bodo	Université Laval/PEPO

Appendix 2

Example of a poster on research and measurement issues



Appendix 3

Example of an organizational chart

