

**Study Co-ordinators' Working Group Session**

# **ISSUES AND CHALLENGES**

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# Summary:

- **Introduction & Background**
- **Challenges & issues reported**
- **Other challenges faced by study co-ordinators**
- **Possible solutions & Action points**

# Background

- **H3Africa Consortium projects are diverse, some issues and challenges shared, common to all**
- **Strength in collaboration within Working group**
- **Challenges of Biomedical Research in Africa**

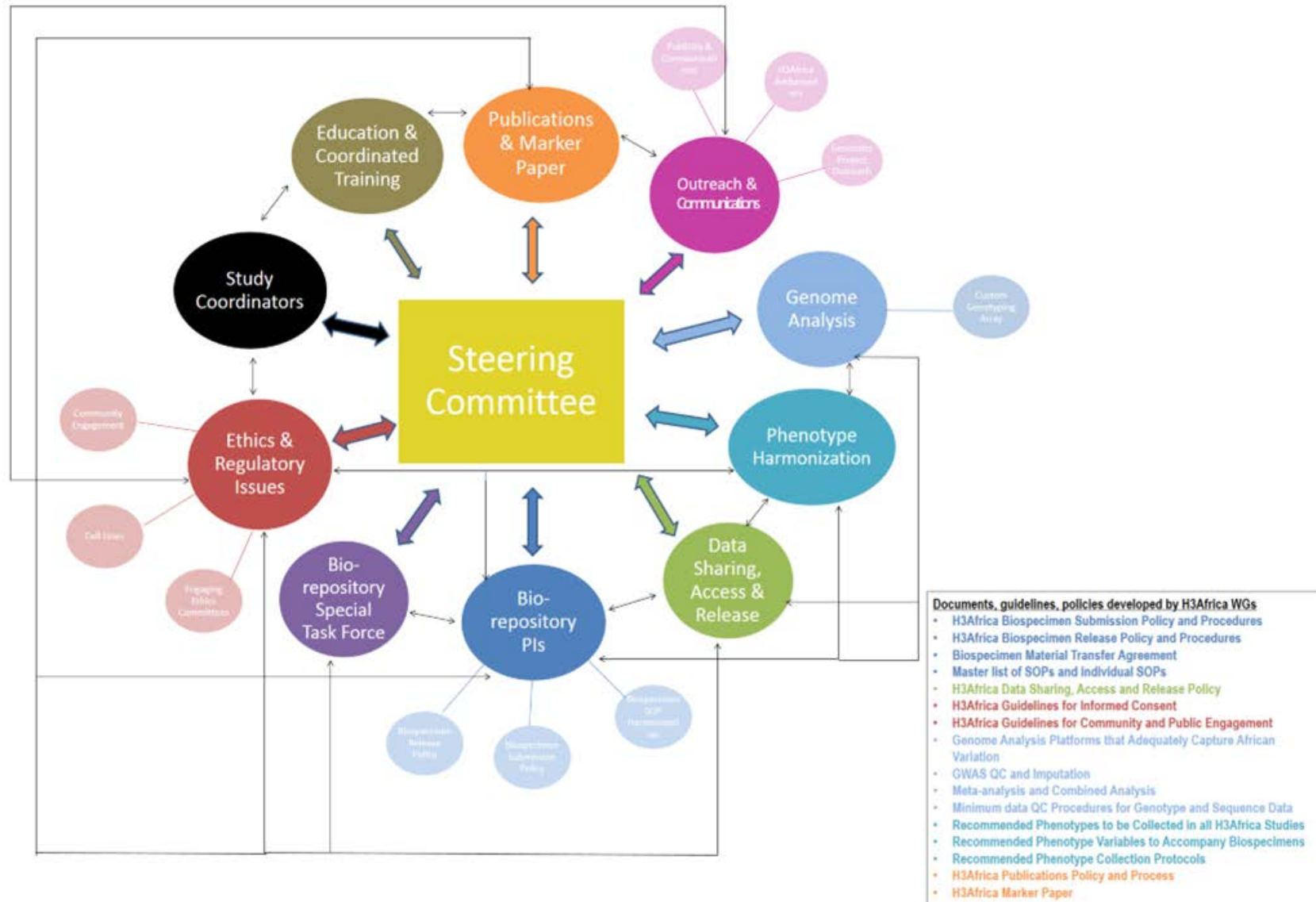


# Challenges reported:

- **Communication**

- Problems with Internet connection / telephone network,
- Community engagement
- Intra-network communications (WG scheduled calls)

## Flow of Communication



## **Challenges reported (Cont'd):**

### **Training**

- More co-ordinated training for LIMS & IT management for project staff
- Continuous skills audits
- Orientations / Induction of new staff

### **Logistical**

- Transportation from laboratory to study sites
- Delays in getting laboratory materials/reagents

# Challenges reported (Cont'd):

- **Quality Control / Monitoring**

- Poor documentation, reporting, tracking & archiving for project audit

- **Host Institutions**

- Low level of support / Commitments not met
- Bureaucracy

- **Ethical issues**

- Broad consent
- Delays in gaining approval
- Participant recruitment (how to motivate & retain study participants)

# Other issues and challenges faced by study co-ordinators

- Ebola outbreak
- Availability of PIs
- WG Scheduled calls, more participation



**SO, WHAT DO WE DO?**

Challenge or Issue	Possible solution
Communication	Investigate different service providers, high-speed internet modems to supplement internet connection. Explore new methods of community engagement from other SCs
Training	Training / skills audit, establish a training record for project staff, identify relevant people in Education & training WG
Logistical	Adequate planning
Quality Control / Monitoring	Establish appropriate Quality management systems
Host Institutions	Establish better communication with relevant stakeholders at the institution
Ethical issues	Evaluate different scenarios at various sites, explore viable & appropriate incentives that can be used in community
Ebola outbreak	
Availability of Pls	Delegation of responsibility
WG Scheduled calls, more participation	Provide alternative daytime telephone numbers

# Thanks for listening!

## Acknowledgements:

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