



Community Action Programme Public Health for

Work Programme 2007

**National Information Day
Ministry of Health
Republic of Bulgaria**

Sofia, 28 March 2007



Public Health Programme (2003-2008)

Objectives

- To improve information and knowledge for the development of public Health
- To enhance the capability of responding rapidly and in a coordinated fashion to health threats
- To promote health and prevent disease through addressing health determinants across all policies and activities



Annual work plan 2007

- Last year of the current programme
- Coverage of areas not (sufficiently) dealt with previously
- In line with EU strategies, Communications and Recommendations already published



Strand 1: Health Information



Priorities Health Information

- Indicators and continuing work on data collection
- Mechanisms for reporting and analysis on health issues
- Information exchange and response to non-communicable disease threats
- e-Health
- Environment and health
- Supporting the exchange of information and experience on best practices
- Health impact and health technology assessment



Develop, coordinate and operate the health information and knowledge system

- Develop indicators and collection of data

- Socio-economic determinants of health, health inequalities, gender and health, and health of specific population groups
- Prevention and health promotion policies in Member States (MS) and for EU policy and legislation with a health impact
- Promotion of the European Community Health Indicators (ECHI) and reporting, the Healthy Life Years Indicator, especially for EU12

- Work on data collection

- Pilots of Health Examination Surveys (HES)
- Implementation of the Injury Data Base (IDB)
- Automatic coding for causes of death statistics
- Data collection on cross-border care



Develop mechanisms for reporting and analysis of health issues

- Provide evidence and analysis of impact of Community policies on health
 - health and economic growth and sustainable development
- Reporting on specific population groups, particularly on women and children's health
- Links between environmental stressors and health outcomes, including EMF
- Analysis of causes of death statistics



Information exchange and response to non-communicable disease threats

- Disease specific projects

- Building the knowledge base on non-communicable disease threats (occurrence, treatments, risk factors, risk reduction strategies, costs of illness and social support)

- Rare diseases

- Strategies and mechanisms for exchange of information between all stakeholders (patients, healthcare professionals, national bodies,...)
- Support for European networks of centres of reference (guidelines for best practice on treatment, sharing knowledge)



E-Health

- Improve links between national and regional websites and non-governmental organizations with the EU health portal
- Improve access to medical and health information on the web, including quality checks
- Improve health information flows within and among health institutions,
 - improve patient safety and public health reporting (Electronic Health Records – EHR)
- Studies on the uptake of e-health solutions by the general public, patients and / or health professionals
- Legal, medical and ethical issues of confidentiality posed by e-Health



Health and the environment

- Development of a health information system
linkage of data, pilot studies for joint surveillance of environment and health variables; local environment
- Reporting on urban planning guidelines relevant for health, health prevention and promotion
- Provide further studies on EMF



Supporting the exchange of information and experience on best practices

- Promoting patient safety through cooperation between stakeholders
- Coordination of related training and information
- Studies on patient safety interventions and the impacts (economic) of “unsafe” services
- Networking of national public health advisory bodies
- Supporting initiative and partnership to assess and improve health literacy



Health impact and health technology assessment

- Tools to monitor effectiveness of health policies and their impact on the economy
- Networking to raise the strategic investment by structural funds
- Support for health technology assessment



Strand 2: Health Threats



Capacity to tackle health threats



- Non-communicable disease threats: chemical and environmental issues requiring rapid intervention
- Development of an early warning system on chemical agents, and traceability on cross-border transportation of dangerous substances
- Communicable disease management aspects of migrant health and cross-border issues (screening and contact tracing)
- Logistical priorities and non medical intervention during emergency situations
 - procurement, stocking, distribution of medicine
 - measures to increase the social distance, entry and exit screening, disinfection measures, etc.



Generic preparedness and response

- Health sector preparedness for crisis situations and inter-sectoral collaboration to ensure a coherent crisis response
- Link different health institutions to prepare for mass gathering and develop the capacity to mitigate the impact of mass emergencies
 - hospitals and crisis centres at national/regional level
 - casualties and migration waves/ floods, vulnerable groups, displaced persons and refugees
- Support business continuity during emergency situations (providing services of public health utility during events of major impact)
- Use existing or new tools and instruments, including legal ones, to support the traceability of international passengers and contact tracing



Generic preparedness and response (cont)

- Capacity building for joint law enforcement and health authority operations
- Capacity building and implementation needed to comply with the International Health Regulations
- Use of innovative information technology tools for health threat analysis
 - Geographical information systems (GIS), spatial-temporal analysis, novel early warning and forecasting schemes, automated analysis and exchange of diagnostic data)
- Transportation issues (exercise for mailing samples) and application of new diagnostics (ring tests on new/emerging pathogens)



Health security & communicable diseases control

- Preparedness (pre-event vaccinations and stockpiling), control / elimination of communicable diseases and patient safety
- Support inter-disciplinary communication (general practitioners, pharmacists, veterinarians, and non-medical disciplines)
- Control and prevention programmes for childhood infectious diseases
- Controlling adverse effects (vaccines, chemicals, antiviral, medicines and medical devices), together with European Medicines Agency (EMA)



Health security & communicable diseases control

- Improve patient safety and quality of care
 - Management and control of healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial resistance
 - Other exposures related to hospital or health care environment (chemical exposure, drugs, disinfectant, indoor air quality)
- Exchange of best practices in the field of patient safety
 - Develop mechanisms and tools to improve information for patients, citizens and health professionals on patient safety
 - Develop a better understanding of patient safety interventions and the economic implications of unsafe services and medical errors



Safety of Blood, Tissues & cells, organs

- Develop tools providing practical guidance on risk assessment and validation methodology in procurement, processing, storage and distribution of substances of human origin
- Risk assessment of the different types of procedures with the aim of elaborating guidelines, per type of process and substance
- Promote voluntary unpaid donations of substances of human origin (practices of compensation of donors at hospitals or procurement organisations)



Strand 3: Health Determinants



Cross-cutting points and general principles

- Link actions to policy priorities:
 - thematic strategies and policies on health determinants, with a specific focus on health inequalities and wider socio-economic determinants
- Address children and young people and health related life skills across health determinants
- Good practice, cross-cutting and integrative approaches, promote, network and stimulate country efforts



Addictive Substances

Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs



Tobacco

- Tobacco cessation strategies – young people and working populations
- Passive smoking : evaluation of MS measures
- Implement FCTC requirements on tobacco control

Alcohol

- Surveys on drinking patterns and consumption
- Best practice in workplaces
- Economic impact of alcohol policies
- Best practice in community mobilisation and intervention and in advertising, self regulation and monitoring

Drugs

- Prevention programmes (gender, workplace settings)
- Harm reduction in vulnerable groups-prevent infectious diseases
- Best practice in access to services
- Training of professionals



Lifestyles and sexual health



Nutrition and physical activity

- Good practice in education on nutrition and physical activity (schools)
- Multi-stakeholder initiatives on healthy life style (children)
- Effective interventions to change behaviour (food choice & physical activity)
- Evaluation of measures, evidence on marketing to children
- Healthy environments: good practice architecture & urban development

Sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS

- Men having sex with men
- Awareness raising on HIV/AIDS and sexual health
- Good practice on counselling and testing
- Harm reduction

Mental health

- Good practice on leadership and combating stigma/discrimination
- Mental health promotion at workplace
- Mapping evidence for cost-effectiveness of interventions



Wider determinants of health



Social determinants

- Good practice on awareness raising (network, platforms comprehensive multi-stakeholder mechanisms)
- Good practice on tackling issues of access to health care and differences in the outcomes of health care by social groups
- Innovation approaches to migrant health issues
- Good practice in workplace health promotion (older employees, on prolonging working careers) in cooperation with health and safety at work policy

Environmental determinants (**Indoor air quality**)

- Radon exposure prevention and remedial measures
- Improving ventilation (schools)
- Use and maintenance of combustion appliances
- Dampness and moisture control measures



Disease prevention & capacity building

Disease prevention

- Guidelines/recommendations for relevant diseases (cancer, diabetes, respiratory diseases)
- Injuries : high risk sports, young employees, child safety, information exchanges

Capacity building

- **Training:** courses and curricula; professionals in mental health
- **Capacity development:** Short term support to develop networks, in particular in HIV/AIDS