



Consortium for the
prevention of obesity
through effective nutrition
and physical activity actions

Newsletter



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European Commission
Coordination Action

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From the Scientific Coordinator

Welcome to this fifth issue of the EURO-PREVOB Newsletter!

I hope that you all had a nice, relaxing summer.

This fall will be particularly busy for many of us with the ongoing pilot work in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, France, Latvia, and Turkey.

The five EURO-PREVOB local coordinators met on 1–2 September in Ljubljana to discuss the implementation of the pilot test of the EURO-PREVOB tool in the five countries.

The results of this meeting and general progress on EURO-PREVOB will be reported back at the 4th Scientific Committee & 2nd Advisory Board meetings in Sarajevo on 23-24 October 2008.

Looking forward to seeing you in Sarajevo in October!

Joceline Pomerleau



13 partners from 10 countries

Project coordination: London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Project partners: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Italy, Latvia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom

Duration: 04/2007–03/2010

UPDATE ON PROGRESS

Update on WP5 (led by Dr Aileen Robertson, SUHRS University College) ***Development and coordination of the sub-regional analyses***

The common methodology to be used for all pilots (WP5) was briefly presented at the 3rd Scientific Committee meeting in Jurmala, Latvia, in April 2008. It was decided that WP leaders for all workpackages related to pilot testing should meet in early September to discuss the practicalities and logistics of piloting the policy analysis tool.

Manuals on the methods and approaches to be used during the policy analysis tool pilot (in terms of pilot organisation, data collection, data analysis and process evaluation) were finalised before the meeting of pilot work leaders, which took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 1-2 September (see details below). Many thanks to all who have contributed much time and effort to the preparation and review of the documents. These now include:

- * Manual on the development and coordination of pilot work
- * Field manual
- * Fieldwork manual
- * Process evaluation manual
- * Policy analysis tool

All files are available on the intranet.



Update on WP6 and WP8-11

Pilot test and working groups (led by Dr Aida Filipovic-Hadziomeragic, Institute of Public Health, Bosnia & Herzegovina; Dr Zuzana Brazdova, Masaryk University, Czech Republic; Dr Nicole Darmon, INSERM, France; Dr Iveta Pudule, Public Health Agency, Latvia; Dr Glden Pekcan, Hacettepe University, Turkey)

The aim of WP6 and WP8-11 is to pilot the policy analysis tool developed within WP4 in five European countries, and to organise meetings to discuss the relevance and applicability of the tool within sub-regions. As mentioned above, a meeting was organised in Ljubljana on 1-2 September to discuss the implementation of pilot testing as well as process evaluation. The meeting was generously hosted by the Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia (IVZ RS). We are extremely grateful to the IVZ RS, and in particular to Dr Mojca Gabrijelcic, Nina Scagnetti and their colleagues for providing great working conditions, organising a wonderful walk through Ljubljana and hosting a fantastic dinner!

The meeting convened representatives from: SUHRS (responsible for the coordination of the pilots); the five EURO-PREVOB pilot testing countries (IPH-FBIH, MU, INSERM, PHA, HUBDB); LSHTM (coordinator's office); and IVZ RS. Dr Charlie Foster, a physical activity and public health expert from Oxford University, also joined the discussions and provided advice on the physical activity and built environment sections of the policy analysis tool.

During the meeting, the participants discussed the pilot test of both the policy checklist and community questionnaire; the EURO-PREVOB fieldwork manuals (including process evaluation); the sub-regional working group meetings; budget allocation, work plan, timetable and coordination of the pilots. The very productive discussions that took place will facilitate the work of EURO-PREVOB partners in organising the pilot test and related meetings during Year 2 of the project. The outputs of the Ljubljana meeting and preliminary results of the pilots will be presented at the 4th Scientific Committee and 2nd Advisory Board meetings in Sarajevo on 23-24 October 2008.

Meeting of the pilot work leaders, Institute of Public Health, Ljubljana



MEETING PREPARATIONS: We are in the process of preparing the programme and background documentation for the Sarajevo meeting. An information circular and preliminary programme were sent out in September, and the background documents will follow approximately 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

INFORMATION ABOUT SARAJEVO: Those able to stay the weekend to enjoy the city of Sarajevo or its surroundings can find some useful information on the following websites:

- <http://www.sarajevo.ba/en/>
- <http://www.bhtourism.ba/eng/>

EVENTS AND PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

***FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES ***

Below are some meetings and conferences of interest that will take place in the next few months:

National Obesity Forum Conference, 6–7 Oct 2008 "Obesity: the scourge of Modern Civilisation!"
www.nationalobesityforum.org.uk

7th International Conference on Urban Health: Knowledge Integration: Successful Interventions in Urban Health, 29–31 October 2008, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
<http://www.icuh2008.com/>

Closing the Gap in a Generation: Health Equity through Action on the Social Determinants of Health, 6–7 Nov 2008, London, UK
If you have any questions regarding the conference, please email: csdh@rslive.co.uk

International Conference on Childhood Obesity, 13–16 Nov 2008, Hong Kong
www.cuhk.edu.hk

Public Health Nutrition – Challenges for the 21st Century, 25 Nov 2008, London, UK
www.cwt.org.uk/events

Healthy Ageing: The Role of Nutrition and Lifestyle, 13 Jan 2009, London, UK
www.nutrition.org.uk/ageing

12th World Congress on Public Health: Making a Difference in Global Public Health: Education, Research and Practice, 27 Apr–1 May 2009, Istanbul, Turkey
www.worldpublichealth2009.org

RELEVANT NEWS, SCIENTIFIC REPORTS AND PAPERS OF INTEREST

HOPE brings you 'Obesity in the news', free details of the latest news and publications related to obesity.
http://www.hopeproject.eu/index.php?page=news&news_id=50. If you have any news you would like to add or share, please contact HOPEnet@iaso.org

REPORTS

Healthy Eating, Active Living: An action plan to improve diet, increase physical activity and tackle obesity (The Scottish Government 23/06/2008)

To download this report, visit:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/06/20155902/0>

Inequalities in Young People's Health (WHO 17/06/2008). For the report visit:
http://www.euro.who.int/InformationSources/Publications/Catalogue/20080616_1

Evidence and Healthy Public Policy: Insights from Health and Political Sciences. Available online at:
http://www.cprn.org/documents/50036_EN.pdf



Food Insecurity

Price of healthier school meals too high for many families (*The Times* 07/07/2008)

For the full article, visit:

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/health/child_health/article4281939.ece

EU launches school fruit campaign (*BBC News* 08/07/2008)

For the full article, visit:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/7496173.stm>

For details on the proposal:

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/markets/fruityeg/sfs/index_en.htm

Restrictions of marketing to children

Which? raps advertisers for using digital media to dodge junk food ad ban (*Guardian* 16/07/2008)

For the full article, visit:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2008/jul/16/advertising.marketingandpr>

Raisins, honey and Marmite banned from children's television adverts (*Daily Telegraph* 07/07/2008)

For the full article, visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/5uq2t6>

Physical activity environment

US: Going green, on two wheels (*Guardian* 03/07/2008)

For the full article, visit:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/jul/03/transport.fitness>

Maas J *et al.* Physical activity as a possible mechanism behind the relationship between green space and health: A multilevel analysis. *BMC Public Health* 2008,

8: 206doi: 10.1186/1471-2458-8-206

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/8/206>

Deaths threaten free Paris bike scheme (*Daily Telegraph* 25/06/2008)

For the full article, visit:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/france/2188558/Deaths-threaten-free-Paris-bike-scheme.html>

Cycle your way to a healthy heart (*Daily Mail* 21/06/2008)

For the full article, visit:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-1028312/Join-Chain-Gang--cycle-way-healthy-heart.html?ITO=1490>

Schools

Feinstein L, Sabates R, Sorhaindo A *et al.* Dietary patterns related to attainment in school: the importance of early eating patterns. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* 2008; 62: 734–739

Children's Play Update is a monthly newsletter for the play sector with a round-up of news, policy, information and events related to children's play. It is produced by the Children's Play Information Service (CPIS), in coordination with Play England. The latest issue is available from:

http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_827j_v_17691024844947r27b_20071011233b

Maternal and young child services

Pregnancy pounds may affect kids' weight (Reuters UK 24/06/2008)

For the full article:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUKCOL45207620080624?rpc=401&>

Payments to tackle child poverty (*Guardian* 23/06/2008)

For the full article:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2008/jun/23/children.economy>

Related article: Out of work parents to be offered cash incentive (*Independent* 23/06/2008), available from:

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/out-of-work-parents-to-be-offered-cash-incentive-852331.html>

Risk of disease starts in the womb (Medical Research Council 04/07/2008)

For the full article, visit:

<http://www.mrc.ac.uk/NewsViewsAndEvents>

Community

Serving up obesity? Supermarket ready meals double in size in a decade (*Daily Mail* 20/06/2008)

For the full article, visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/5z87u8>



EURO-PREVOB CONTACTS

For additional information please visit the EURO-PREVOB website at www.europrevob.eu or email your questions, comments or suggestions directly to us (europrevob@lshtm.ac.uk).

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Name: Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM)

Country: France

Website: www.inserm.fr

Name: Hacettepe University Department of Nutrition and Dietetics (HUBDB)

Country: Turkey

Website: www.hacettepe.edu.tr

Name: South East Public Health Observatory (SEPHO)

Country: United Kingdom

Website: www.sepho.org.uk

Name: Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca per gli Alimenti e la Nutrizione (INRAN)

Country: Italy

Website: www.inran.it

Name: Public Health Agency (PHA)

Country: Latvia

Website: www.sva.lv

Name: Masaryk University (MU)

Country: Czech Republic

Website: www.muni.cz

Name: Institute of Public Health of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (IPH-FBiH)

Country: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Website: www.zzjzfbih.ba

Name: Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia (IVZ RS)

Country: Slovenia

Website: www.ivz.si

Name: Geneva Infant Feeding Association (GIFA)

Country: Switzerland

Website: www.gifa.org

Name: University College London (UCL)

Country: United Kingdom

Website: www.ucl.ac.uk

