



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

Best wishes for the New Year!

After a successful last Plenary Meeting in Rome last November (see further details below), we are now gearing up towards the end of the project (March 2010).

There is still quite a lot to be done both on the scientific and administrative fronts, so I would like to thank in advance all partners for their help during the next few months.

We will be sending out the project's last newsletter in March.

Best regards,

Joceline Pomerleau



15 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 WP12 – Comparative analysis from regional consultations (led by SUHRS)

Deliverable D12 is currently being finalised. It will provide a comparative analysis of the results of the five pilot tests and outputs from the 2nd Plenary Meeting which took place in Istanbul last May.

Update on WP13 - Adaptation of European policy recommendations on nutrition and physical activity to take into account socio-economic inequalities (led by UEA)

D13.1 – document on policy recommendations - is currently in draft form and was discussed at the Plenary Meeting held in Rome in November. D13.2 will present the results of that discussion.

Update on WP14 – Project management (led by LSHTM)

D14.1 – Project documentation – will compile all important documents gathered during the project, including the Consortium Agreement; the minutes of the meetings (Scientific Committee, Advisory Board); report templates; etc. Deliverable D14.3 – the Final Report - has been drafted and will be updated by partners and LSHTM in the final months of the project.

Update on WP15 – Monitoring and quality assurance (led by LSHTM)

Deliverable D15 - the project evaluation documents – will be compiled by LSHTM. It will describe the steps taken to ensure the relevance, efficiency, policy impact and scientific quality of the project.

THE FINAL EURO-PREVOB MEETING

The final EURO-PREVOB meeting was hosted by National Research Institute on Food and Nutrition (INRAN) at the Boscolo Exedra Hotel in Rome on 19-20 November 2009. It comprised the joint 3rd Plenary Meeting, the 3rd Advisory Board meeting, and the 6th Scientific Committee Meeting. It was an opportunity for partners to meet one last time with the Advisory Board as well as with experts and stakeholders, some of them having followed the project since its inception.



Participants at the 3rd EURO-PREVOB Plenary Meeting

The meeting brought together 24 EURO-PREVOB Partners, 4 members of the Advisory board and 18 invited experts and stakeholders to discuss how the project results could provide policy recommendations. Presentations on the first morning reviewed the achievements made during the project, and outlined the work being done on WP13. Members of the advisory Board had the opportunity to provide their personal feedback on the project. This was followed by an afternoon of workshops. The first workshop concentrated on testing a new method to derive a consensual definition of an adequate obesity policy using a conjoint analysis approach. The second workshop consisted of work in small groups to identify indicators that could be used in a scorecard for obesity prevention. This scorecard would represent a performance measurement tool that could be used to compare countries on various aspects of obesity.



Working groups



Lovely dinner following the workshops

On the following day Dr Kevin McCarthy of the European Commission (the project's desk officer) outlined funding opportunities in Framework 7. Martin McKee gave the results of the conjoint analysis carried out the afternoon before and rapporteurs from each working groups presented their list of chosen indicators for the score card. The Scientific Committee Meeting took place over lunch and offered an opportunity to EURO-PREVOB partners to address pending and current administrative issues and to consolidate the Plenary Meeting discussions on the scientific work of EURO-PREVOB. In addition, the meeting reviewed the details of the work ahead, including the finalisation of WP12 and WP13 over the final months. Plans for disseminating the results of project were discussed and various partners agreed to contribute to writing different reports and papers.

We would like to sincerely thanks Professor Guiseppe Maiani, Lorenza Mistura and Marina Adrianopoli (INRAN) for hosting the meeting and organising a lovely meal and tour of Rome.

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adam Martin is now assisting Professor Marc Suhrcke at the University of East Anglia with the final drafting of WP13.

PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

Visit the **HOPE website** to get details of the obesity related news and publications. 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

A new report from EuroHealthNet highlights the link between health inequalities and the rising rates of obesity, and how existing measures to tackle the condition might be able to take this into account. The document contains over 70 project descriptions (including EURO-PREVOB) running in 20 different countries, from the international level to local community initiatives. To view the report, please click on the following link

http://www.eurohealthnet.eu/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=173&Itemid=217

DISSEMINATION AT CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

European Health Forum, Gastein, Austria, 30 September-3 October 2009: Cécile Knai (LSHTM) gave a presentation about the EURO-PREVOB project and its achievements.

EU Expert meeting, Rotterdam, Netherlands, October 2009: Cécile Knai gave a presentation about the project.

International Health Impact Assessment Conference, Rotterdam, 14-16 October 2009: Cécile Knai discussed the role of EURO-PREVOB as an example of European public health research.

19th International Congress of Nutrition, Bangkok, 4–9 October 2009: Nicole Darmon (INSERM) presented two posters: (1) *“Development of a tool to survey obesity prevention policies and to assess the obesogenicity of urban environments in different countries: The EURO-PREVOB project”* and (2) *“Pilot testing of a new tool to survey obesity prevention policies and to assess the obesogenicity within different socioeconomic contexts: results in France”*.

6th Public Health Days of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, 8-10 October 2009: Aida Filipovic Hadziomeragic (IPH-FBiH) reported on the progress made by the EURO-PREVOB project at this meeting organised by the Association of Public Health Doctors and Health Associates of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Association for the Study of Obesity/Department of Health Eric Brunner spoke on 'Socioeconomic Position' at a meeting on 'Inequalities, Ethics and Obesity' on 3 November, 2009 at the Institute of Child Health, London, UK. EURO-PREVOB was referred to several times.

Brain to Society Research Workshop on Systems Sciences and Childhood Obesity organised by the McGill World Platform for Health and Economic Convergence, in Montreal, Canada on 12-13 November. Key note speech by Harry Rutter of SEPHO, who made a point of highlighting the work of EURO PREVOB during the workshop, with a particular focus on the tools and measures of policy on the books and policy on the streets.

Second joint European Conference on Public Health (EUPHA/ASPHER), Lodz, Poland, 26–28 November 2009: An oral presentation was delivered by Cécile Knai (LSHTM): *“The applicability of a new internationally compatible instrument to assess environmental indicators relevant to obesity in Europe”*.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES 2010

Below is a list of meetings and conferences of interest that will take place in the next months:

Working conference Health Services Research in Europe	8-9 April 2010, The Hague, The Netherlands
VII International Congress on Nutrition and Dietetics Gülden Pekcan will give a presentation about the project	14-18 April 2010 Istanbul, Turkey
European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition Annual Meeting	9-12 June 2010, Istanbul, Turkey
Federation of the European Nutrition Societies: 7th Forum on European Neuroscience	3-10 July 2010, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
11th International Congress on Obesity http://www.ico2010.org/	11-16 July 2010, Stockholm, Sweden
European Health Forum	6-9 October 2010, Bad Gastein, Austria
1st International Diabetes and Obesity Forum	21-23 October 2010, Athens, Greece
European Public Health Association	10-13 November 2010, Amsterdam, Netherlands
18th European Congress on Obesity - ECO 2011	25-28 May 2011, Istanbul, Turkey
European Public Health Association	10-12 November 2011, Copenhagen, Denmark

EURO-PREVOB CONTACTS

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

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