



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

Newsletter



A 6th Framework Programme
European Commission
Coordination Action

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From the Scientific Coordinator

This is the final EURO-PREVOB newsletter as the project is now coming to a close.

I would like to sincerely thank the Consortium partners for their superb work and dedication during the past three years. Our fantastic teamwork was key to the success of EURO-PREVOB.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the members of the Advisory Board, Tim Lobstein, Susanne Løgstrup, Brian Martin, Francesca Racioppi and Liselotte Schäfer Elinder, whose support and guidance helped us achieve the highest standards. Last but not least, sincere thanks to the great number of experts for their invaluable contribution to the project by participating in meetings and in the development of our work.

Best wishes for all future endeavours!

Joceline Pomerleau



14 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 was submitted to the European Commission on 25th January 2010. It provides 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 - will provide recommendations for policy development and assessment relevant to obesity prevention in Europe. It is being finalised and will be submitted to the Commission shortly. D13.2 presents the results of the discussions that took place at the final EURO-PREVOB Plenary meeting in Rome in November 2009. It was submitted to the Commission on 29th March 2010.

Update on WP14 – Project management (led by LSHTM)

D14.1 – Project documentation – is being finalised. It compiles 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 – is currently being finalised by partners and LSHTM. Both deliverables will be submitted according to the planned timetable.

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

Deliverable D15 - the project evaluation documents – is being compiled by LSHTM. It describes the steps taken to ensure the relevance, efficiency, policy impact and scientific quality of the project. D15 was submitted to the Commission on 23rd March 2010.

SUMMARY OF EURO-PREVOB ACHIEVEMENTS AND DISSEMINATION PLANS

During the past three years, the EURO-PREVOB project has made several key achievements including:

- The preparation of two reviews of the literature (both are available on the project website). The **first review** summarises scientific knowledge on obesity prevalence, health and economic burden of obesity, socioeconomic inequalities in obesity in Europe and determinants of obesity and inequalities in obesity. It confirms the extent of the obesity epidemic across Europe and highlighted the inequalities in obesity and in risk factors in obesity as experienced by European populations. The **second review** discusses the existing public health policy situation with regard to nutrition and physical activity as determinants of obesity and inequalities in obesity in Europe. It provides an in-depth assessment of the range of existing policies and interventions to prevent obesity and to address its proximal and distal risk factors. Alongside the review of the literature, a **conceptual model** was also developed to guide the work of EURO-PREVOB, to provide a logical framework for assessing key policy areas to be examined in the project, and specifically to help develop the policy analysis tool described below.
- The development and pilot testing in five sub-regions of Europe of a portfolio of instruments that could help public health researchers and decision-makers throughout Europe assess the potential impacts of proposed policies on dietary intake, physical activity level and obesity using a common methodology. The **EURO-PREVOB Policy Analysis Tool** consists of a Policy Checklist to assess what is already being done to tackle obesity, especially in relation to the food and built environments, maternal/child health, and school services, and to identify gaps that can be filled, and of a Community Questionnaire to measure the extent to which the environments in which people live influences the risk of obesity, with a particular focus on how these differ among rich and poor areas. The Tool was found to be an applicable and useful tool to provide new insights into the existing policies dealing with the food and physical activity environment and a better understanding of certain aspects of the obesogenicity of the environment in different countries. The Tool will shortly be available on the project website.
- The preparation of a **final report**, based on EURO-PREVOB outputs, to inform policy development relevant to obesity in Europe. The report presents: (1) an overview of global and regional strategies relevant to obesity prevention in Europe; (2) a summary of key principles that should underpin action on obesity in Europe; and (3) guidance on the monitoring and evaluating the economic impact of obesity prevention policies.
- The contribution to networking and collaboration in scientific work and policy development in nutrition, physical activity, obesity and inequalities in obesity in the EU and the wider Europe through the cooperation with other pan-European projects and through numerous dissemination activities.

PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

Visit the **HOPE website** to get details of 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

The National Heart Forum, with the support of the UK Department of Health and the Department for Children, Schools and Families, launched a few months ago the "**Obesity Learning Centre**" (OLC) - <http://www.obesitylearningcentre-nhf.org.uk/>. The OLC provides links to resources such as news, reports, tools, e-learning, and case studies. The site is about sharing information and linking networks relevant to obesity. It is free to use, although some pages require login. It will continue to be developed over the next few months, with new features and functionalities.

The EURO-PREVOB Consortium is currently developing a **summary report** that will provide an overview of the project's achievements over the past three years. You will soon be able to download the report on the project website (www.europrevob.eu). The report is being translated into Bosnian, Czech, Danish, French, German, Italian, Latvian, Russian, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish and Turkish.

DISSEMINATION AT CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Meeting on gender in research as a mark of excellence in the domains of health, environment and energy, held at the Italian National Research Council in Rome, Italy – 5 March 2010

Marina Adrianopoli of INRAN attended this meeting which looked into the relevance and added value of gender and gender mainstreaming in the EU research policy and 7th framework programme. EURO-PREVOB was referred to in the discussion. Researchers from various research centres and institutes, universities and government attended the meeting.

World Health Day Round Table devoted to "Urbanisation and Health", Institute of Public Health of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 6 April 2010

Aida Filipovic Hadziomeragic will present results from the pilot testing of the EURO-PREVOB Policy Analysis Tool in South Eastern Europe. The meeting will gather governmental representatives (ministries of Health, Special Planning, Environment, Culture and Sport) of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and from the Canton Sarajevo, mayors of Sarajevo municipalities, and participants from the Faculty of Medicine of the City of Sarajevo and from different non-governmental organisations including UNICEF and UNDP.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

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

VII International Congress on Nutrition and Dietetics Gülden Pekcan will give a presentation about the project	14-18 April 2010 Istanbul, Turkey
The Power of Programming - International Conference on Developmental Origins of health and disease	6-8 May 2010, Munich, Germany
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
The Obesity Society's 2010 Annual Scientific Meeting (TOS)	9-13 October, San Diego, USA
1st International Diabetes and Obesity Forum	21-23 October 2010, Athens, Greece
European Public Health Association	10-13 November 2010, Amsterdam, Netherlands
2nd HEPA Europe conference held in conjunction with the 6th Movement and Health conference http://mandh2010.upol.cz/www/index.php	24-25 November 2010, Olomouc, Czech Republic
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.europrevob.eu or email your questions, comments or suggestions directly to us (europrevob@lshtm.ac.uk).

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Name: South East Public Health Observatory (SEPHO)

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

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Website: www.inran.it

Name: The Centre of Health Economics

Country: Latvia

Website: www.vec.gov.lv

Name: Masaryk University (MU)

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

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Name: Geneva Infant Feeding Association (GIFA)

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