



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

Newsletter



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From the Scientific Coordinator

These past few months have been extremely busy and productive for the entire EURO-PREVOB team, as we all worked very hard to finalise the process of piloting the Policy Analysis Tool and report upon the key findings and important lessons. I would thus like to thank and congratulate everyone, but particularly the pilot work leaders and their teams for their impressive achievements.

The second Plenary Meeting, which took place in Istanbul on 18–19 May, was a fantastic opportunity to discuss with invited experts the results of the five pilot tests and their implications for the work of EURO-PREVOB. Further details of the meeting are provided below.

We are currently finalising the reports summarising pilot work results and have started the last phase of the project. This period will focus on the development of guidelines and recommendations for obesity prevention, and on the preparation of a tool for the assessment of the economic impact of policy option. The third and last Plenary Meeting will take place in Rome in November 2009.

Wishing you all a good summer!

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 (*Development and coordination of the sub-regional analyses – led by SUHRS*): Deliverable D5 was submitted to the European Commission in March 2009. It consists of a report describing the common methodology used for the pilot testing of the EURO-PREVOB Policy Analysis Tool, accompanied with the manuals developed to guide fieldwork, process evaluation and data analysis.

Update on WP6 & WP8–11 (*Sub-regional piloting of the policy analysis tool – led by MU,*

PHA, HUBDB, IPH, and INSERM): The pilot testing of the Policy Analysis Tool was finalised in all five countries by April 2009, and results were presented at the 2nd EURO-PREVOB Plenary Meeting (see details below). The partners are currently finalising the preparation of the planned deliverables.

Update on WP12 (*Comparative analysis from regional consultations – led by SUHRS*): Following the 2nd Plenary Meeting in Istanbul (see below) at which the results of the pilots



were presented, the comparative analysis of findings (deliverable D12) is being prepared.

Update on WP13 (*Adaptation of European policy recommendations on nutrition and physical activity to take into account socio-economic inequalities*): WP13 is the last workpackage of scientific activities in EURO-PREVOB.

It will use the outcomes of the previous phases of the project, including those from the pilot work and from the 2nd Plenary Meeting, to formulate (1) guidelines and recommendations

based on the five regional case analyses and literature reviews (WP3) conducted in the project, and (2) monitoring and evaluation tool, including a methodology to assess the economic impact of policy options that are aiming to prevent obesity.

As part of WP13, the 3rd and final EURO-PREVOB Plenary Meeting will be held on 19–20 November 2009 in Rome. It will gather partners, researchers, policy-makers and stakeholders to discuss the policy recommendations and the instruments developed within WP13.

2ND PLENARY AND 5TH SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS, ISTANBUL, 18–19 MAY 2009

On 18-19 May 2009, the 2nd Plenary and 5th Scientific Committee Meetings of the project were held in Istanbul, Turkey. The Plenary Meeting gathered the EURO-PREVOB partners and 20 invited experts and stakeholders to discuss the results of the pilot testing of the EURO-PREVOB Policy Analysis Tool conducted in Bosnia & Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, France, Latvia and Turkey.

The presentations were followed by an afternoon of working groups to review the pilot results, identify the priorities for taking forward the Policy Analysis Tool, and discuss its usefulness and applicability in different contexts, based on the process evaluation results.

The Scientific Committee Meeting took place on the following day, and offered an opportunity to address pending and current administrative issues and to consolidate the previous day's discussions on the scientific work of EURO-PREVOB. In addition, the meeting provided an opportunity to get into the specifics of the work ahead of us, namely the finalisation of WP12 and WP13 over the next months. Finally it was confirmed that next and last EURO-PREVOB meeting will be hosted by INRAN in Rome in November 2009. Further details of the meeting will be provided in the next newsletters.

Sincere thanks are extended to Professor Gulden Pekcan (Hacettepe University) for hosting the meeting and organising a fantastic evening on the Bosphorus!



2nd Plenary Meeting of the EURO-PREVOB project, Istanbul



Busy working group session during the Plenary Meeting



Project partners, Nicole Darmon, Lida Lhotska, Lorenza Mistura and Paola D'Acapito enjoying the view on the Bosphorus!

EVENTS AND PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

*****RELEVANT NEWS, SCIENTIFIC REPORTS AND PAPERS OF INTEREST*****

Chaloupka FJ, Powell LM. Price, availability, and youth obesity: evidence from Bridging the Gap. *Prev Chronic Dis.* 2009 Jul;6(3):A92

Eek JF, Ostergren PO. Factors associated with BMI change over five years in a Swedish adult population. Results from the Scania Public Health Cohort Study. *Scand J Public Health.* 2009 Apr 16.

Kong AS, et al. Implementation of a walking school bus: lessons learned. *J Sch Health.* 2009 Jul;79(7):319-25; quiz 333-4.

Kwate NO, et al. Inequality in obesigenic environments: fast food density in New York

City. *Health Place.* 2009 Mar;15(1):364-73. Epub 2008 Jul 16.

Mayer K. Childhood obesity prevention: focusing on the community food environment. *Fam Community Health.* 2009 Jul-Sep;32(3):257-70.

Visit the **HOPE website** to get free 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

*****FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES 2009*****

Please find below a few meetings and conferences of interest that will take place this year:

Joint British-Irish 21st annual conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE), on 'Environment, Food and Global Health' www.isee2009.ie/conferenceprog/sciprog/	25–29 Aug 2009, Dublin, Ireland
19th Annual Meeting of the European Childhood Obesity Group (ECOG) www.ecog-obesity.eu/dublin2009/	17–19 Sept 2009, Dublin, Ireland
European Health Forum Gastein 2009 http://www.ehfg.org/368.html	30 Sept–3 Oct 2009, Gastein, Austria
19th International Congress of Nutrition www.icn2009.com/	4–9 Oct 2009 Bangkok, Thailand

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32° Simposio Internacional de Ciencias do Esporte (Agita Mundo Network) www.simposiocelafiscs.org.br/	15–17 Oct 2009 Sao Paulo, Brazil
Annual Meeting of HEPA Europe www.saluter.it/wcm/hepa2009/	11–12 Nov 2009 Bologna, Italy
Second joint European Conference on Public Health (EUPHA / ASPHER) www.eupha.org/site/upcoming_conference.php	26–28 Nov 2009 Lodz, Poland

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

As of April 2009, Ms Caroline Bollars has joined the WHO/EURO team as technical officer nutrition policy. She will be involved in WP13.

DISSEMINATION AT CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

High level group meeting on nutrition and physical activity, Brussels, Belgium, April 2009:

Oral presentation by Joceline Pomerleau: *"The EURO-PREVOB project"*

12th World Congress on Public Health: Making a Difference in Global Public Health: Education, Research and Practice, Istanbul, Turkey, April-May 2009:

A poster was presented by Gülden Pekcan: *"The EURO-PREVOB policy analysis tool for obesity prevention: pilot testing in Turkey"*.

17th European Congress on Obesity, Amsterdam, Netherlands, May 2009:

A poster was presented by Joceline Pomerleau and Cécile Knai: *"Development of instruments to assess the obesogenicity of urban environments in Europe"*

ADELFF (Association Des Epidémiologistes de Langue Française), Toulouse, France, May 2009:

An oral presentation was delivered by Hind Gaigi: *"Expérimentation d'un nouvel outil pour estimer l'obésogénéité des environnements urbains dans différents contextes socio-économiques en Europe : résultats à Marseille"* and a poster was presented by Frédéric Séchaud et Nicole Darmon: *"Expérimentation d'un nouvel outil permettant de mesurer la diffusion des politiques de prévention de l'obésité dans les politiques sectorielles en Europe: résultats en France"*.

Forthcoming:

American Academy of Health meeting, Chicago, 28–30 June 2009:

A poster will be presented by Cécile Knai *"Development of internationally compatible instruments to assess the obesogenicity of urban environments"*. (This trip is funded by the European Commission's DG-Research.) Martin McKee will be chairing a session on cross-European research projects.

19th International Congress of Nutrition, Bangkok, 4–9 October 2009:

Nicole Darmon will present *"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 *"Pilot testing of a new tool to survey obesity prevention policies and to assess the obesogenicity within different socioeconomic contexts: results in France"*.

Second joint European Conference on Public Health (EUPHA/ASPHER), Lodz, Poland, 26–28 November 2009:

An oral presentation will be delivered by Cécile Knai: *"The applicability of a new internationally compatible instrument to assess environmental indicators relevant to obesity in Europe"*.



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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