

ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

University of Maastricht, Department of International Health, The Netherlands (Lead) (Action learning workshop series & Capacity building support)

Health ClusterNET, UK (Project management, Dissemination & Evaluation)

Erasmus MC, Department of Public Health, The Netherlands (Translational evidence & policy)

Medical University of Lodz, Poland (Pilot actions)

Centre for Health and Development Murska Sobota, Slovenia (Pilot actions)

EU10 COLLABORATING REGIONS

Pomurje, Slovenia (AP)
Lodzkie, Poland (AP)
Vysočina, Czech Republic
Northern Great Plain, Hungary
Trenčín, Slovakia
Klaipėda, Lithuania
Stara Zagora, Bulgaria
Covasna, Romania
Latvia
Estonia

ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

National decision makers from each EU10 countries and other relevant international organisations joined the Project Advisory Board to inform & assess project implementation & outputs



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the Health Programme
of the European Union

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT

Duration: July 2012 – June 2015

Funding: From the European Union, in the framework of the Health Programme

Budget: EU contribution: 1 145 040 EUR

PROJECT CONTACTS

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HEALTH EQUITY 2020
Reducing health
inequalities -
preparation for regional
action plans and
structural funds projects

REDUCING HEALTH INEQUALITIES: PREPARATION FOR REGIONAL ACTION PLANS AND STRUCTURAL FUNDS PROJECTS

HEALTH EQUITY

Equity is about fairness and justice. Promoting equity is essential if human and social development is to be combined with economically productive societies.

Health inequity results from unequal economic, social and environmental conditions. Such differences are inherently unfair, unjust and avoidable. Therefore reducing health disparities are essential, and the upward trends for such differences call for further innovative, collaborative actions at all levels.

TACKLING INEQUALITIES

In order to address human rights and the economic consequences of health inequities current strategies need to be strengthened and combined with new strategies, directly tackling social determinants of health. The potential for national and regional policies to help improve the population's health need to be maximised.

Regional policies are of particular importance since problems should be tackled locally, where they arise.

CORE PROJECT ACTIVITIES: Building – Testing – Sharing

Translational evidence & policy

- Review existing knowledge & learning for toolkit development
- Define content by case-by-case needs assessment, selecting effective actions, analysis of impact of actions on population health & economic performance, & inventory of best practices
- Test and evaluate toolkit with the participating EU10 regions



Action learning programme for regional stakeholders

- Four workshops - taking regions from their starting points through translation of evidence & experience into action (needs assessment, entry points, economic evidence, action planning)
- Realisation of virtual action learning sets as follow-ups to each workshop theme
- Review of action learning process with participants

Capacity building programme for EU10 regions

- CB audit & re-audit in participating regions
- Development of a policy matrix - create expert network
- CB activities (regional online sessions, auto-action learning - mentoring using the expert network)

TAKING ACTIONS

Successful actions can only be achieved within the framework of effective policy & planning, and through operative alliances at different administrative levels, supported by evidence and innovations.

Factors influencing the health situation systematically have to be identified and also how local, regional, national or European decisions can influence these factors.

THE HEALTHEQUITY-2020 PROJECT

The general objective of the project is to assist Member States/regions to develop evidence-based action plans on reducing health inequalities, which also informs the use of Structural Funds (SF) in the next programming period.

By targeting policy-makers and practitioners who make and shape policies and implement actions, the project seeks to both (i) explore potential action areas & (ii) make the case (including economic evidence) for investments to reduce inequalities through regional actions within & beyond the health sector.



METHODS & MEANS

The project benefits from and builds on existing knowledge & lessons from EUREGIO III and a portfolio of other relevant second health programme projects to inform entry points to actions.

It uses different methods and means to achieve its objectives: developing a toolkit and a portfolio of policy actions sensitive to differing needs supplemented by a practical knowledge database with good practice case examples and organising an action learning workshop series & developing follow-up action learning sets to increase knowledge & capacity of local stakeholders using social innovation.

Intensive, targeted dissemination activities & an accessible and interactive website and online database as a resource will help uptake of project result by EU regions.

OUTCOMES

HE2020 is informing local actions on access to health care, health-related behaviour, and living & working conditions. It also informs planning & actions by SF beneficiaries that address relevant ex ante conditionalities for Cohesion Policy 2014-2020.

Participating regions will validate project outputs & products and prepare region-specific action plans that are evidence based, integrated with regional development plans & financially sustainable.

The project uses social innovation to provide guidance for planning & implementing actions where evidence is limited and help cascade learning into other regions to inform preparation for the next SF cycle.

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