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EUPHA Newsletter 3 - 2011
Published: 31 March 2011
1. EUPHA – ASPHER 2011:

EUPHA and ASPHER are pleased to invite you to the 4th joint European Public Health Conference combining the 19th annual EUPHA meeting and the 33rd annual meeting of ASPHER. The conference will be organised from 10 to 12 November in Copenhagen by the Danish Society of Public Health (DSOPH). The main theme of the conference is Public Health and Welfare – Welfare Development and Public Health.

Interested in organising a pre-conference at the Copenhagen EPH conference?

There will be the possibility to organise pre-conferences in Copenhagen. If you are interested in organising a pre-conference, please note that we have adapted the organisational procedure. We will have a form for pre-conference organisers available on the EUPHA website shortly, which we would like to ask you to fill in and return by 15 April at the latest. Furthermore, you will receive information on requirements and organisational logistics. Once accepted, your pre-conference will be added to the online registration form. Please note that the organisers will consider accepting pre-conferences within the fields of research, practice, policy, training & education, pre-conferences related to the main conference topic, and pre-conferences in relation to EUPHA, ASPHER and the Danish Society of Public Health. If you have any questions, please contact Dorli Kahr-Gottlieb: dvkahr@utanet.at. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Please find regularly updated information on: www.eupha.org/site/upcoming_conference.php

2. Call for proposals, job opportunities

Head of “Health and Care” Programme, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research
(2 – 3 year contract, renewable, with career and tenure track)
Location: Vienna, Austria (www.euro.centre.org)
Closing date: Friday, 20 May 2011. Expected starting date: 1 September 2011
The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, an UN-affiliated intergovernmental organisation in Vienna, has a vacancy for the Head of its “Health and Care” programme. We are looking for an experienced researcher to work on a broad range of issues of health economics and health care policy in an international comparative perspective, including effectiveness and efficiency of health care services, cross-border health care issues in the European Union, and health care performance measurement.
Responsibilities include:
- International comparative research in efficiency and effectiveness of health and/or long-term care provision for ageing societies;
- Analysis of policy trends in health and/or long-term care in the context of wider economic and social trends and in the context of European Union policies;
- Development of internationally comparable information on long-term care systems and policy trends; including care indicator sets;
- Contribute to the development of a generic framework for patient-oriented health information systems in Europe, with a focus on chronic diseases;
- Contribute to the research on a broad range of cross-border issues of health care provision in the European Union;
- Provide scientific leadership and managerial oversight to the work of a team of researchers;
- Initiate fundraising activities and contribute to the design of research proposals;
- Management of and communication with international networks of researchers and teams of experts in countries of the UN-ECE region;
- Organise meetings and disseminate findings in publications, through presentations at international events and other channels.

Qualification and experience:
- PhD or Master’s degree in health economics, sociology, social policy or related social sciences;
- At least five to seven years of applied research in relevant fields,
- Track record of publications on health and/or long-term care policy for ageing populations, including in a cross-country perspective;
- Experience with international comparative research, such as on European Union level;
- Experience with project management and of working and negotiating with national and international administrations;
- Ability to promote team spirit and to facilitate the professional development of staff from various academic backgrounds;
- Good knowledge of national and international data sources and of the organisation of health care, social care and other social statistics;
- Proven experience to draft reports that address policy makers and stakeholders;
- Very good command of the English language. Working knowledge of other European languages would be an asset;
- Very good computer literacy and experience with organising and analysing data.

The European Centre offers inter-disciplinary co-operation, independence and autonomy at work, and flexible working hours. The European Centre is an equal opportunity employer. For further information on this vacancy, please call: Tel. + 43 1 319 45 05 90 or send e-mail to: vacancyinfo@euro.centre.org
Please send your CV and application per e-mail to: application@euro.centre.org

WHO/PLoS Collection: No Health Without Research - A Call for Papers

The World Health Report (WHR) for 2012 will be on the theme of “No Health without Research”. This flagship report from WHO will, for the first time in its history, focus on research for better health. The primary target audience of the report will be ministers of health in the WHO member states, and the goal of the report is to provide new ideas, innovative thinking, and pragmatic advice for member states on how to strengthen their own health research systems.

The report will have the three following aims:
- To show that research is important for meeting health needs and improving health outcomes;
- To encourage countries to therefore invest more resources in developing and strengthening their national health research systems;
- To argue that countries should not see research as an expense or as an afterthought, but as an investment for a better, healthier future.

The WHR 2012 aims to provide impetus for a change to the problematic state of affairs of health research. Given the stated goals of the report, of particular importance is the documentation and sharing of real experiences from the countries where the research has been done. We therefore wish to invite the submission of articles, especially from low- and middle-income countries, on topics related to the strengthening of key functions and components of national health research systems [5].

We would then aim to publish a WHO/PLoS Collection culminating in 2012 to coincide with the release of the WHR. Thus, we welcome examples of research and/or case studies in the following areas:
- Experience with setting and implementing health research priorities;
- Experience with building, strengthening, and retaining research capacity, at both the individual and institutional levels;
- National research and development initiatives and experiences to produce needed medical products, including development of national pharmaceutical production capabilities, using TRIPS (trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights) flexibilities for essential medicines, technology transfer, - Examples of appropriate use of evidence in health policy development;
- Models of how to organize research within a country, including the establishment of effective research networks and sustainable governance mechanisms;
- Standards and mechanisms to ensure the responsible conduct of research (e.g., ethics review, access to research results, codes of conduct, etc.);
- Exercises to evaluate the impact of research investments;
- Experiences with external foreign aid for research. Ideally, studies or reports should not be merely descriptions of activities but should include evaluation of the impact of initiatives after their implementation. Special consideration will also be given to systematic and well-performed multi-country comparative studies on the topics mentioned above, including systematic reviews, in selected topic areas. In addition to primary research (both quantitative and qualitative) and well-developed case studies, we also invite the submission of review and policy articles on how national health research systems contribute to the broader international research endeavor, especially in the context of the following areas:
  - Global health research governance;
  - Inequitable access to the benefits and products of research;
  - Global standards for responsible research conduct;
  - Future research trends with implications for the developing world.

All papers should be submitted to PLoS Medicine, noting that they are intended for this collection. An initial decision will be made about their potential suitability for either PLoS Medicine or another PLoS journal. The authors will be informed of this decision and papers will be peer-reviewed according to the specific journal’s policies. PLoS will retain all control over editorial decisions. Once a paper is accepted for publication in a PLoS journal it will then be forwarded to the selection panel for the collection. This panel, which will comprise PLoS and WHO staff, will decide on the articles for inclusion in the collection. Further information on this process is available at the collections page http://bit.ly/feLC85. 

Tikki Pang, Robert F. Terry, The PLoS Medicine Editors

3. Interesting news

European Parliament passes resolution on reducing health inequalities
This Resolution from the European Parliament underlines that everybody should have access to healthcare systems and affordable healthcare. The specific needs of vulnerable groups such as women, older patients, undocumented migrants, ethnic minorities, need to be taken better into account.

Guidelines for monitoring the implementation of the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel
The World Health Organization (WHO) is pleased to announce the launch of a web-based public hearing from 21 March to 17 April 2011 on the draft of Guidelines for monitoring the implementation of the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel. WHO invites you to contribute to this public hearing on the draft Guidelines and kindly requests you to disseminate this call for contributions among your relevant contacts and networks. The web-based public hearing and the draft Guidelines can be accessed at http://bit.ly/eCNlMS

The EU Clinical Trials Register (https://www.clinicaltrialsregister.eu/https://www.clinicaltrialsregister.eu/) was launched by the European Medicines Agency (EMA). The online register gives for the first time public access to information on interventional clinical trials for medicines authorised in the 27 EU Member States and Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. The database also allows the public to search for information on clinical trials authorised to be carried out outside the EU if these trials are part of a paediatric investigation plan. The press release document referring to this matter can be found in the following link: http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Press_release/2011/03/WC500104032.pdf

Online newsletter The Canadian Alliance of Community Health Centre Associations (CACHCA)
CACHA is pleased to announce a new online newsletter about innovations, activities and events focused on improving individual, family and community health in Canada. The newsletter also provides regular updates and news surrounding Community Health Centres and other community-oriented primary health care developments from around the world.
We invite you to quickly and easily subscribe to the free newsletter here: http://forms.aweber.com/form/70/209083670.htm

EPHA European Charter for Health Equity - call for signatures!
Although the EU institutions have focused their attention on health inequalities recently, it is still very much dealt with by health actors solely and concrete EU actions are yet to be defined. In a meantime, rapidly increasing economic and political pressures put even more burden on socially deprived, most vulnerable and under-served population groups - increasing the health gap. In this light, the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) launched the European Charter for Health Equity at the end of 2010 and is currently calling on wide civil society to support its goals and objectives towards reducing unacceptable - yet avoidable - inequalities in health in European societies. The Charter is a proactive action from civil society organisations to take a lead on the issue, start cooperating together to fight for more health equity, to keep the issue on the agenda and to call for more actions by all actors, including civil society organisations. Primary modifiable social determinants of health - such as environment, climate and food - all have huge potential to reduce health inequalities and benefit the whole society. EPHA asks you to:
- Sign the charter at http://my.epha.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=50 by the end of March,
- Attend our annual conference. We are planning to hand the Charter over to the European Commission on April, 14th during our Annual Conference on “Europe 2020 - Delivering a healthy and sustainable future for all”,
- Help us disseminate the information. We would be also very grateful if you could disseminate the information to your members and through your regular channels of information (newsletter, alert, website, etc). You can find more information on the Charter here: http://www.epha.org/a/4368 or contact Ms. Dorota Sienkiewicz, policy Officer for Health Inequalities and Policy Coherence at dorota@epha.org.

University of Heidelberg: Master of Science in Health Economics
The mission of the Master of Science in Health Economics (MScHE) program is to provide first-class training in the theoretical foundations and practical applications of health economic methods for decision-making and policy development in health and health care, within the context of the ethical principles of society. The foundation for specialization in health economics is provided through coursework in the core areas of health economics, specifically microeconomics, econometrics, and economic evaluation of health and health care programs. The learning outcomes for students in the MScHE program include the development of a thorough knowledge of the theory and methods used by professional health economists and active researchers in the field and their important contemporary contributions in international scholarly journals. The program is open to medical doctors and other professionals with a health-related first academic degree equivalent to 240 ECTS (usually a Bachelor’s degree after at least four years of full-time study). High motivation, self-reliance and a collaborative spirit are qualities that participants should hold and display. Prospective participants are expected to clearly describe their academic and personal goals and study and research interests in undertaking the program in a “Personal Statement” of two pages. Dr. Percivil Carrera, LLM, Program Coordinator Mannheim Institute of Public Health, Social and Preventive Medicine, Heidelberg University Ludolf-Krehl-Straße 7–11, 68167 Mannheim, Germany. website: http://www.msche-heidelberg.de/

Multidisciplinary Master of Public Health (MMPH) Local to Global Health
University of Pittsburgh – Graduate school of public health
This MMPH program is designed to provide research skills, and community and global training to help make a difference in the health of communities and the world. The educational program provides advanced public health research skills in which they can be applied “GloCally” (globally to locally). The program is designed to train Medical Students, clinicians, nurses, and Ph.D.s to develop academic research skills to maximize improvement of health in the US and world wide: http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/interior.php?pageID=203. MPH students will be trained in our MMPH program as well as being part of our World Health Organization Collaborating Centre. The program is open to clinicians, medical students, advanced degree nurses, veterinarians, pharmacists, other health related disciplines and selected Ph.D. programs. Many medical students, fellows and clinicians have been through this program and are successfully working here, in other countries, in a wide variety of academic and global/public health position.
A full time student can complete the program in 12 months. There is a rolling admission where one can apply at anytime, and start in any term. See the web page above for specifics. Aside from the core GSPH requirements, the MMPH curriculum is flexible. Students may choose courses that best fit their goals, including a Global Health Certificate program and other certificate programs without taking additional credits. http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/interior.php?pageID=82#4. Having an MPH with a certificate in Global health opens doors for those who want to improve the health of the world. Please contact Professor Ronald LaPorte rlaporte@pitt.edu if you have questions about our program or global health in general.

4. EUPHA update

We are currently working hard on updating our website www.eupha.org. One new feature is the link of our members to the European map and EUPHApedia articles. Please check out http://www.eupha.org/site/european_map.php to see the results of our work.

The webpages of our sections are also being updated. At the moment, we have updated:
- Section on migrant and ethnic minority health
- Section on social security and health
- Section on public health genomics
- Section on child and adolescent public health
- Section on chronic diseases
- Section on environment-related diseases
- Section on ethics in public health
- Section on health services research
- Section on infectious diseases control
- And
- Initiative on public health monitoring and reporting

PHIRE Update

PHIRE (Public Health Innovation and Research in Europe) is a new collaborative action between EUPHA members and Sections. The project is co-funded under the EU second Health Programme. Its general objective is to contribute to the improvement of public health knowledge and practice across the EU by assessing the impact of actions funded under the first Health Programme and structuring information on public health research.

Two work packages have started the collection of data recently. Six EUPHA Sections, working under work package 4, have selected a specific action from the first Health Programme. Members of the Sections are currently investigating the impact and implementation of the actions in each of the EU member states.

EUPHA member associations, collaborating in work package 5, are engaged in the collection of information on thematic public health research fields which are being financed through national programmes and calls. Many of the member associations have responded positively to our request for collaboration already. Others that are still hesitating, we would like to urge again to team up with EUPHA in this collaborative effort to improve the effectiveness of future European Health Programmes.

We are aiming to have an on-line database ready by mid September and to be present at the Fourth European Public Health Conference in Copenhagen (November 2011).
5. EUPHA member updates

Welcome to this section of the EUPHA newsletter, in which we summarize the activities of our members. We continue to summarize information we have received directly from our members in different languages. We hope to include more and more of our members in this new section.

Polish Association of Public Health (PAPH)
The meeting of the delegates of PAPH on 27 October 2010 elected new executive board and the chairman of the Association. The new chairman is Professor Beata Karakiewicz, MD, PhD, head of the Department of Public Health, Pomeranian Medical University, Szczecin. karabea@sci.pam.szczecin.pl
The new mailing address of the Polish Association of Public Health is:
Department of Public Health
Pomeranian Medical University
Zolnierska 48 street, 71-210 Szczecin, Poland
tel. +48 91 48-00-920; fax +48 91 48-00-923
www.pum.edu.pl

The French Society of Public Health has a new president. At the general Assembly of the SFSP on 18 March in Paris, Prof. Pierre Lombrail, was elected new president of the SFSP. He takes over from Prof. François Bourdillon, who was nominated Honorary president.

UK Society for Social Medicine: www.socsocmed.org.uk
The UK Society for Social Medicine likes to invite you to submit an abstract and/or attend their 2011 conference at Warwick from 14-16 September 2011. More information can be found at: www.ssmconference.org.uk.

V&W: Local conference: http://www.verenigingvenw.nl/
The Dutch Association V&W (public health and science) organises its ‘Café-local ’ on 12 April 2011 from 16.45- 21.00 in Berkel-Enschot. The theme is smoking cessation. More information can be found on their website.

The Slovak Association of Public Health organises its 4th international conference from 9-10 June in Kosice. The main theme is: "Strengthening Public Health Systems“.

European Society for Quality in Healthcare: www.esqh.net
ESQH arranges a regional European Conference together with International Society for Quality in Healthcare (ISQua) and the National Center for Quality Assessment in Healthcare, Poland (NCQA-CMJ), and the Polish Society for Quality Promotion in Healthcare (TPJ) from May 18-20 (Wednesday-Friday) in Krakow, Poland.
Abstracts can be submitted at krakow@esqh2011.pl until 15 April 2011

6. Upcoming courses and conferences

Going International (GI) promotes training and further education for experts and newcomers in public health and humanitarian assistance around the globe. The flagship of GI is the international course catalogue "medicine & health", a unique annual publication listing courses and congresses in the fields
of biomedicine, public health and development cooperation. For further information: http://www.going-
international.at/index.php?lang=EN Global International is an official partner of EUPHA.

Title: 1er Congrès National de la Sécurité des Systèmes d’Information de Santé
Date: 20-22 April 2011
Place: Le Mans, France
More information: www.congres-ssisante.com

Title: European Health Care Conference 2011 - "England and Germany in Europe - What Lessons Can We Learn from Each Other?"
Date: 20 May 2011
Place: Hamburg, Germany
Organiser: Scientific Institute of Techniker Krankenkasse (TK) for Benefit and Efficiency in Health Care (WINEG)
More information: www.healthcareconference.eu

Title: Infectious Disease Outbreak Investigations
Date: 26-27 May 2011
Place: Edmonton, Canada
Organiser: University of Alberta

Title: Introduction to Public Health Surveillance
Date: 30 May – 3 June 2011
Place: Edmonton, Canada
Organiser: University of Alberta

Title: Geographic Information Science in Public Health
Date: 6-7 June 2011
Place: Edmonton, Canada
Organiser: University of Alberta

Title: Data Analysis for Public Health Surveillance
Date: 13-14 June 2011
Place: Edmonton, Canada
Organiser: University of Alberta

Title: Summer Course in Epidemiology - European Educational Programme in Epidemiology - EEPE
Date: 27 June to 15 July 2011
Place: Florence, Italy
Deadline: to submit applications: May 6, 2011
More information: http://bit.ly/i0b34q

Title: Summer school: Social determinants of health
Date: 4-8 July 2011
Place: London, UK
Organiser: Department of Epidemiology at UCL
More information: www.ucl.ac.uk/healthandsociety
Title: Conference on the Rights and Needs of Older Patients
Date: 12-13 July 2011
Place: Warsaw, Poland
Organiser: European Patients’ Forum in close collaboration with the Federation of the Polish Patients under the patronage of the Polish EU Presidency

Title: 10th Nordic Public Health Conference - Health Promotion on System Level
How does the Nordic welfare model cope with today’s challenges?
Date: 24-26 August 2011
Place: Turku, Finland

Title: 5th European Congress – Community care – a blessing or a curse?
Date: 24-25 September 2011
Place: Basel, Switzerland
Organiser: EUFAMI
More information: www.eufami.eu

Title: “Cancer Prevention – Missed Opportunities or Empty Promises?”
EUFEP 2011 The European Forum for Evidence-based Health Promotion and Prevention
Date: 12 - 13 October 2011
Place: Kloster Und, 3504 Krems/Stein, Undstraße 6, AUSTRIA
Organizer: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Norbert Bachl, Prof. Dr. Gerald Gartlehner, MPH, Prim. Dr. Johannes Püspök

7. Interesting publications

The State of the World’s Children 2011
Adolescence: An Age of Opportunity

Systems thinking for health systems strengthening
Editors: Don de Savigny; Taghreed Adam
ISBN: 978 924 156389 5 World Health Organization
Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research
English: http://bit.ly/gMN2Bv

Remembering Philip Musgrove Health Affairs journal Deputy Editor
Health Affairs Journal
Website: http://bit.ly/hdryxv

Global Atlas of Trachoma
An open-access resource on the geographical distribution of trachoma
The Trachoma Atlas was created by several partners, including the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, the International Trachoma Initiative and the Carter Center, with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
Data came from ministries of health and academic research in various countries.
Website: http://bit.ly/eqaJXx
Economic Impact of Dengue Illness in the Americas
Donald S. Shepard, Laurent Coudeville, Yara A. Halasa, Betzana Zambrano, and Gustavo H. Dayan

Decentralization as a governance tool in health care
The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, March 2011, Spring 2011 Vol.13, Nr 1
Case studies on Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom highlight how decentralized arrangements
work in practice in these countries.
Full text available for download PDF [12p.] at: http://bit.ly/dRqKg

Shared innovations in measurement and evaluation
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Seattle, WA, USA
The Lancet, Volume 377, Issue 9770, Pages 969 - 970, 19 March 2011
Website: http://bit.ly/fuUlbW

Exploring which context matters in the study of health inequities and their mitigation
Nancy Edwards & Erica Di Ruggiero
Available online at: http://bit.ly/ie56zN

Developing Strategies for Improving Health Care Delivery
Guide to Concepts, Determinants, Measurement, and Intervention Design
Elizabeth H. Bradley, Sarah Pallas, Chhitj Bashyal, Leslie Curry, Peter Berman
Health, Nutrition, and Population Family (HNP) of the World Bank’s Human Development Network
Available online as PDF [100p.] at: http://bit.ly/gHlA80

The impact of health and health behaviours on educational outcomes in high-income countries: a review of the evidence
WHO Regional Office for Europe
Copenhagen, Denmark, 2011

Population Aging - Is Latin America Ready?
Daniel Cotlear, Editor
Health, Nutrition, and Population Unit in the Human Development Network of the World Bank
The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank 2011

Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication
- A Synthesis for Policy Makers
United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP 2011

Creating a global health policy worthy of the name
Development Policy Forum (DPF)

World Social Science Report 2010 - Knowledge divides
International Social Science Council (ISSC) and co-published with UNESCO 2010

The Social Determinants of Tuberculosis: From Evidence to Action
James R. Hargreaves et al.
Website: http://bit.ly/fKMTXo

Putting our own house in order: some resources for taking health system action on socially
determined health inequalities
A joint action by the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the European Commission – March 2011
Inequalities in Health System Performance - Social Determinants in Europe Tools for Assessment - Information Sharing
Website: http://bit.ly/gJJukB

Priorities for research on equity and health:
Implications for global and national priority setting and the role of WHO to take the health equity research agenda forward.
Final Report – November 2010
World Health Organization (WHO) Task Force on Research Priorities for Equity in Health
Available online PDF [43p.] at: http://bit.ly/hX0t68

Tackling Inequalities in Brazil, China, India and South Africa
The Role of Labour Market and Social Policies
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 2010

Natural Disasters: What is the Role for Social Safety Nets?
Larissa Pelham, Edward Clay, Tim Braunholz
February 2011- Discussion Paper No. 1102
Social Protection and Labor – The World Bank

Addressing Systemic Challenges to Social Inclusion in Health Care Initiatives of the Private Sector
Jason Marczak, Nina Agrawal, Gustavo Nigenda, José Arturo Ruiz, Ligia de Charry
Americas Society (AS) - March 7, 2011

Urban Physical Environments and Health Inequalities
The Canadian Population Health Initiative (CPHI), March 8, 2011

Research synthesis on cost drivers in the health sectors and proposed policy options
Ottawa, Canada - February 2011 - CHSRF series of reports Paper 1
Alexandra Constant, Stephen PetersenCharles D. Mallory, Jennifer Major
Available online at: http://bit.ly/hRlsbC

Improving Primary Health Care for All Australians
Commonwealth of Australia 2011

Towards Evidence-Driven Policy Design: Complex Adaptive Systems and Computational Modeling
Kevin C. Desouza, Daniel J. Evans, Yuan Lin,
The Innovation Journal: The Public Sector Innovation Journal, Volume 16(1), 2011, Article 7

The State of Food and Agriculture 2010-2011
Women in Agriculture -Closing the gender gap for development
Office of Knowledge Exchange, Research and Extension
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations FAO- Rome, Italy
Available online at: http://bit.ly/hX1zu

A New Vision for Health Systems in the 21st Century: Investing in People
World Bank - Human Development Network - March 7, 2011
Website: http://bit.ly/hlqe2H

Spreading the Wealth
Finance & Development, March 2011, Vol. 48, No. 1
Alicia Bárcena,
Geographical Distribution of Financial Flows to Developing Countries 2011
Disbursements, Commitments, Country Indicators
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 2011

Multilateral Aid Review Ensuring maximum value for money for UK aid through multilateral organizations
UK Department for International Development - DFID - March 2011

The mental health workforce gap in low- and middle-income countries: a needs-based approach
Tim A Bruckner et al.
Available online at: http://bit.ly/hpu6BH

Graphical Statistical Methods for the Representation of the Human Development Index and its Components
César A. Hidalgo
United Nations Development Programme

1992 – The Road to Rio +20—2012 For a development-led green economy
United Nations, 2011

Supporting the use of Cochrane Reviews in health policy and management decision-making: Health Systems Evidence
Kaelan A Moat, John N Lavis,
The Cochrane Library – February 2011

8. European Commission news

Alcohol
8th meeting of the Science Group of the European Alcohol and Health Forum, Brussels, 21 March 2011 Draft agenda

Blood, tissues and organs
Operational Manual for Competent Authorities on inspection of tissue and cell procurement and tissue establishments

2nd report on Voluntary and Unpaid Donation of Blood and Blood Components now available in 22 languages

Meeting of Competent Authorities on Tissues and Cells, 6-7 December 2010 Summary report

Dialogue and collaboration
2nd International Conference on Risk Assessment, Brussels, 26-28 January 2011 Presentations and report of the conference available

Health indicators
ECHI - list of indicators - Select an indicator to access data and metadata via the Heidi data tool
Health programme
EU Health programme: 2011 Work plan and calls for proposals published

Indicators
Data on the Healthy Life Years in the European Union updated

Mental health
Thematic Conference "Promoting Mental Health and Well-being at Workplaces", Berlin, 03-04 March 2011 Presentations available

Nanotechnology
4th annual nanotechnology Safety for Success Dialogue Workshop, 29-30 March 2011 - Weblinks added

Preparedness and response
The European Union's response to the earthquake and the nuclear plant situation in Japan Press release
Commission launches a Stakeholder consultation on health security in the European Union Deadline for submission of comments: 29 April 2011

Rare diseases
Eurobarometer "European awareness of Rare Diseases" now also available in french and german

Rare Diseases Day: Survey shows strong public support for European cooperation on rare diseases Press release

Scientific committees
Minutes of 13th Working Group on Health Effects of Artificial Light Meeting of 16 March 2011
SCHER - New opinion on Lead Standard in Drinking Water
SCHER - Minutes of the Working Group on Risk Assessment Improvements Meeting of 12 January 2011
SCHER - Minutes of 5th Working Group on Toxicity of Chemical Mixtures (TCM) Meeting of 24 January 2011
SCENIHR - Minutes of 6th Working Group on New Challenges for Risk Assessment Meeting of 23 February 2011
SCENIHR - Request for a scientific opinion on Health Effects of Artificial Light New deadline: 30 September 2011
SCENIHR - Minutes of 12th Working Group on Health Effects of Artificial Light Meeting of 25 February 2011
SCENIHR - Minutes of 11th Working Group on Health Effects of Artificial Light Meeting (teleconference) of 2 February 2011
SCENIHR - Minutes of 6th Working Group Meeting on Nanodefinitions 2 of 18-19 October 2010

9. EU Health Policy Forum – NEWS –
http://ec.europa.eu/health/interest_groups/eu_health_forum/policy_forum/index_en.htm

The aim of the Health Policy Forum is to bring together umbrella organisations representing stakeholders in the health sector to ensure that the EU’s health strategy is open, transparent and responds to the public concerns. The intention is to provide an opportunity to organise consultations, to
exchange views and experience on a wide range of topics, and to assist in implementation and follow-up of specific initiatives. In new section of our newsletter, we present you with the latest news of the EU Health policy forum. For more information, please visit the website of the Forum.

**Pharmaceuticals: the EU Register of Clinical Trials is launched Online**
The correct link to the database is: https://www.clinicaltrialsregister.eu/

**Re: Stakeholder Consultation on Health Security in the European Union**
We would like to invite you to respond to the stakeholder consultation on health security in the European Union launched by the European Commission. The aim of this consultation is to seek the views of key stakeholders on what action the European Commission should take to protect EU citizens more effectively against serious cross-border health threats arising from deliberate or accidental biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear and environmental events. In most cases, these cross-border events occur within the EU but they can also originate outside the EU and affect one or more Member States. The consultation paper and online questionnaire are available under the website http://www.ec.europa.eu/yourvoice. The consultation closes on the 29th April 2011.

Please note that the time allowed for replying to the online consultation is limited to 90 minutes. Partial responses will not be saved. If you exceed the time allowed, your reply will be lost. We therefore recommend that you first consult a PDF version on the following website of the Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO): http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness_response/consultations/preparedness_cons_02_en.htm.

The Council of the European Union invited Member States in 2010 to further improve their coordination and collaboration in facing serious cross-border health threats, including a coherent approach to preparedness and response to pandemic influenza and to other public health emergencies of international concern. This implies reinforced preparedness, ensuring coherent risk assessment and risk management as well as improving the coordination of public communication on any matter related to health-related crisis involving or likely to threaten more than one Member State.

To help ensure that such aspects are fully considered, the Commission encourages responses from all sectors concerned in the event of a serious cross-border health threat and involved in preparedness planning. Responses are also particularly welcome from national, regional and local authorities and organisations involved in preparedness and response at European and international level.

We actively encourage you to maximise the number of contributions by disseminating this questionnaire to as many stakeholders involved in the field of preparedness and response as possible. If you would like further information about the consultation please contact:
Sanco-lux-health-security-initiative@ec.europa.eu

**10. European Centre for Diseases Control**

**Epidemic Intelligence eTutorial:**
a tool to learn more about the detection and assessment of public health threats

European Center for Disease Prevention and Control ECDC promotes the implementation of Epidemic Intelligence (EI) March 2011

“……EI can be defined as the process to detect, verify, analyse, assess and investigate public health events that may represent a threat to public health. Providing early warning signals is a central objective of public health surveillance systems.

During the last meeting of the Competent Bodies for Threat Detection of the EU Member States held in Stockholm on the 17-18 February 2011, the ECDC Epidemic Intelligence group presented an open electronic tutorial on Epidemic Intelligence activities.

This tutorial aims to illustrate the various Epidemic Intelligence steps in a European context and highlights the role both of EU Member States and of the Centre in promoting health security at the EU level.

The tutorial has a broad target of potential users and should be considered as a training opportunity for national and international approaches to EI. It includes suggestions and material that can support in building up and improving capacities on EI principles and procedures in different working contexts. ….”

ECDC has launched a new spotlight dedicated to tuberculosis with a particular focus on childhood TB: ‘Tackling tuberculosis in children: towards a TB-free generation’.
You will also find a documentary (8 min) produced by Euronews and the latest ECDC publications on TB.
We hope you will find our spotlight page interesting and helpful.

Please find below our monthly update on the latest ECDC electronic publications that could be of interest to you. This month you will find:

Meeting reports
- Annual meeting of the European Legionnaires’ Disease Surveillance Network 2010
- Consultation on mosquito-borne disease transmission risk in Europe
- Expert consultation on tick-borne diseases with emphasis on Lyme borreliosis and tick-borne encephalitis

Web items
- Weekly influenza surveillance overview
- Scientific advances (selected papers on travel medicine)

**Eurosurveillance, Volume 16, Issue 9, 03 March 2011**
This week’s contents:

**RAPID COMMUNICATIONS**
Autochthonous dengue fever in Croatia, August–September 2010
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19805

Evolution of the haemagglutinin gene of the influenza A(H1N1)2009 virus isolated in Hong Kong, 2009–2011
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19807

**SURVEILLANCE AND OUTBREAK REPORTS**
Hepatitis A outbreak predominantly affecting men who have sex with men in Northern Ireland, October 2008 to July 2009
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19808

**PERSPECTIVES**
Evaluation of syndromic surveillance in the Netherlands: its added value and recommendations for implementation
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19806

**MISCELLANEOUS**
Wellcome Trust conference on applied bioinformatics and public health microbiology, 1–3 June 2011
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19809

Authors’ correction for Euro Surveill. 2010;15(31)
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19810

Full table of contents:
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/

**Eurosurveillance, Volume 16, Issue 10, 10 March 2011**
This week’s contents:

**RAPID COMMUNICATIONS**
Ongoing measles outbreak, Geneva, Switzerland, January to March 2011
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19815

Increasing West Nile virus antibody titres in central European plasma donors from 2006 to 2010
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19812

**SURVEILLANCE AND OUTBREAK REPORTS**
Prevalence of IgM and IgG antibodies to West Nile virus among blood donors in an affected area of north-eastern Italy, summer 2009
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19814

Geographical clustering of cases of infection with moxifloxacin-resistant Clostridium difficile PCR-ribotypes 012, 017 and 046 in Sweden, 2008 and 2009
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19813

**NEWS**
New calls for proposals in the field of health launched by the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19811

**Eurosurveillance, Volume 16, Issue 11, 17 March 2011**
This week’s contents:

EDITORIALS
2010-2011 influenza seasonal vaccine, preliminary mid-season effectiveness estimates: reason for concern, confounding or are we following the right track?
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19821

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS
Effectiveness of the 2010/11 seasonal trivalent influenza vaccine in Spain: preliminary results of a case–control study.
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19820
Early estimates of seasonal influenza vaccine effectiveness in Europe, 2010/11: I-MOVE, a multicentre case–control study
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19818
Emergence of four cases of KPC-2 and KPC-3-carrying Klebsiella pneumoniae introduced to Switzerland, 2009–10
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19817

SURVEILLANCE AND OUTBREAK REPORTS
Escherichia coli and Staphylococcus aureus: bad news and good news from the European Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Network (EARS-Net, formerly EARSS), 2002 to 2009
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19819

LETTERS
Letter to the editor. Group A streptococcal infections during the seasonal influenza outbreak 2010/11 in South East England
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19816

Eurosurveillance, Volume 16, Issue 12, 24 March 2011
Special Issue: World TB Day

EDITORIALS
High time to tackle childhood tuberculosis
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19827

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS
Marking 15 years of efforts towards a comprehensive European TB surveillance system: the epidemiological situation of TB in the EU/EEA in 2009
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19822

SURVEILLANCE AND OUTBREAK REPORTS
Childhood tuberculosis in the European Union/European Economic Area, 2000 to 2009
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19825

RESEARCH ARTICLES
Assessing BCG vaccination coverage and incidence of paediatric tuberculosis following two major changes in BCG vaccination policy in France
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19824
Assessing the effect of foreign travel and protection by BCG vaccination on the spread of tuberculosis in a low incidence country, United Kingdom, October 2008 to December 2009
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19826

NEWS
Launch of free online database of international TB vaccination policies: the BCG World Atlas
http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19823

11. WHO publications

Six policy issues briefings (only available online)
Result of a joint action by the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the European Commission on inequalities in health-system performance and their social determinants in Europe with the two objectives of:
- mapping health inequalities in the European Union and selected neighbouring countries
developing resources to assist policy-makers in taking action. For more information about the briefs click on the links to the electronic version.

How health systems can address inequities in priority public health conditions: the example of tuberculosis: http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-publish/abstracts/how-health-systems-can-address-inequities-in-priority-public-health-conditions-the-example-of-tuberculosis

How health systems can address health inequities linked to migration and ethnicity: http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-publish/abstracts/how-health-systems-can-address-health-inequities-linked-to-migration-and-ethnicity


How health systems can address health inequities through improved use of Structural Funds: http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-publish/abstracts/how-health-systems-can-address-health-inequities-through-improved-use-of-structural-funds


Cross-border health care in the European Union. Mapping and analysing practices and policies
Cross-border health care is a growing phenomenon in the European Union. When in need of medical treatment, patients increasingly act as informed consumers who claim the right to choose their own providers, including those beyond borders. Cross-border health care also encompasses doctors and nurses, who train and work abroad and increasingly cooperate with colleagues abroad. In some cases, health services themselves cross borders – through telemedicine – or providers collaborate with financing institutions in other countries.
This book explores these trends, looks at the legal framework and examines the legal uncertainties surrounding rights, access, reimbursement, quality and safety. The information and analysis presented mark an important step in the continuing debate on a legal framework for cross-border health care and will be of considerable use to policy-makers and those with an interest in key aspects of cross-border health care.

Ample evidence shows that young people living in poorer circumstances are more likely to be at risk of unintentional injuries and physical inactivity than those from more affluent families.
The WHO/Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) Forum 2009, the third in a series designed to promote adolescent health, was held on 19–20 October 2009 in Italy. It concentrated on action on socio-environmentally determined health inequities among children and adolescents. This publication presents the summary of outcomes of the Forum.

The impact of health and health behaviours on educational outcomes in high-income countries: a review of the evidence
Education is known to have an effect on health. But to what extent do good health and healthy behaviours contribute to educational attainment? This publication reviews current knowledge, especially in high-income countries, and finds evidence of a causal link.
It will be of interest to academics, practitioners and policy-makers in the areas of both education and child health.

Putting our own house in order: examples of health-system action on socially determined health inequalities
This publication will give policy advisers, policy entrepreneurs and those who work in health systems a better understanding of the keys to taking action on socially determined health inequalities. It illustrates the wide range of actual and potential actions that the health system can take to "put its own house in order": ensuring equity of access to health services and improving the investment in and approach to working with other sectors so that the health system is instrumental in creating the conditions for health for all groups in the population.


NEW PUBLICATIONS ISSUED BY WHO - MARCH 2011

We are pleased to provide you with the list of WHO information products recently released. Please click on Just published

You can also consult our information products catalogues in pdf format or select a subject catalogue from our e-commerce web site: WHO Catalogues

Please note that our new Spring 2011 Catalogue of WHO Information Products is now available online:

World Malaria Report 2010
The World Malaria Report 2010 summarizes information received from 106 malaria-endemic countries and other sources and updates the analyses presented in the 2009 Report.

Water Safety in Buildings
This book provides guidance for managing water supplies in buildings where people may drink water, use water for food preparation, wash, shower, swim or use water for other recreational activities or be exposed to aerosols produced by water-using devices, such as cooling towers.

Monitoring Equity in Access to AIDS Treatment Programmes
This toolkit, developed by WHO and EQUINET, provides a practical resource for programme managers, health planning departments, evaluation experts and civil society organizations working on health systems and HIV programmes.

Control of the Leishmaniases
This report makes recommendations on new therapeutic regimens for visceral and cutaneous leishmaniasis and on the use of rapid diagnostic tests.

Addressing the Harmful Use of Alcohol
This legislation guide provides advice on approaches to alcohol regulation to support development of effective legislation appropriate to each country.

The 2010 edition of the UNAIDS Report on the global AIDS epidemic includes new country by country scorecards on key issues facing the AIDS response.

South-East Asia Regional Conference on Epidemiology: The Proceedings
This important and comprehensive book contains the proceedings of the SEA Regional conference on Epidemiology, held in New Delhi, 8-10 March 2010.

As the flagship periodical of WHO, the Bulletin is a leading international voice on public health issues. This peer-reviewed monthly draws on the expertise within WHO to provide a vital resource for those interested in research, policy issues and debate on international public health, particularly the problems confronting developing countries.

The EMHJ was launched in 1995 as a peer-reviewed medical journal. Starting January 2010, the Journal has been given a new format and is now published monthly. The EMHJ serves as a forum for the dissemination of biomedical information through the publication of scientific research papers on a range of topics related to public health, with particular relevance to the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

WHO Drug Information, Vol. 24, No. 4, 2010
WHO Drug Information communicates pharmaceutical information that is either developed and issued by WHO or transmitted to WHO by research and regulatory agencies throughout the World. The journal also includes regular presentations of newly proposed and recommended International Nonproprietary Names (INN) for Pharmaceuticals Substances. This volume contains the proposed INN List no. 104.

BOOKS IN FRENCH
La Face cachée des villes
Ce rapport constitue une composante importante de la stratégie générale de l'OMS et d'ONU-Habitat visant à renforcer les interventions des acteurs de la santé au niveau local, national et mondial en vue de réduire les inégalités en santé dans un monde toujours plus urbanisé.

Conseil pour la prise en charge de la santé maternelle et néonatale
Le but principal de ce manuel est de renforcer les compétences en conseil et en communication des agents de santé sur les questions importantes entourant la grossesse, l'accouchement, le postpartum, la période postnatale et après un avortement.

Protéger la santé des enfants dans un environnement en mutation
Résumé de la Cinquième Conférence ministérielle sur l'environnement et la santé.

Rapport mondial: Rapport ONUSIDA sur l'épidémie mondiale de SIDA 2010
L'édition 2010 du Rapport de l'ONUSIDA sur l'épidémie mondiale de sida inclut de nouveaux tableaux de bord présentant les points clés de la riposte au sida pays par pays. Cet ouvrage de référence mondiale s'appuie sur les dernières données émanant de 182 pays et fournit des analyses complètes sur l'épidémie de sida et sa riposte.

BOOKS IN SPANISH
Reunión conjunta FAO/OMS de expertos acerca de la aplicación de la nanotecnología en los sectores alimentario y agropecuario
Resumen de una reunión de expertos sobre la necesidad de examinar previamente los consecuencias para la inocuidad de los alimentos de la tecnología.

12. EUPHApedia – Building knowledge and capacity together

We take the liberty of providing you with an update on our new project EUPHApedia - a search engine for all public health issues, whereby we actively invite our members to upload their experiences (practice, policy, research and training/education) in the system to be shared with all our members.

There are now 1769 documents in EUPHApedia. So far, two countries are uploading information and 8 countries have accessed the information. We hope more will follow! To upload information, please contact office@eupha.org

NEWS section:
Priorities for research on equity and health: Implications for global and national priority setting and the role of WHO to take the health equity research agenda forward
Final Report - November 2010
This document was set up by WHO's Task Force on Research Priorities for Equity in Health and aims to stimulate further discussion to advance global research on equity and health.

Creating a global health policy worthy of the name
Health and health policy have become more globalised in the last decade. Several initiatives are now focusing on the globalisation of health issues, including poverty, food shortages and climate change. This Development Policy Forum (DPF) is a partnership between the Brussels based think-tank Friends of Europe and several other national and international agencies.
World Social Science Report 2010 - Knowledge divides
This document produced by the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and co-published with UNESCO in 2010 describes the great variation in the situation of and the conditions for the social sciences - the opportunities and constraints regarding training, research and applications.

This UNICEF report focuses on adolescent health issues worldwide, including mental health, nutrition and adolescent friendly health services.

Systems thinking for health systems strengthening
This report published by the World Health Organization and Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research focuses on the interaction between research and policy. The report is available in English, Spanish and French.

Please feel free to send your feedback to: office@eupha.org