



## EURO-URHIS 2 NEWSLETTER

### MARIBOR WORKSHOP

The second Training Workshop held in Maribor, Slovenia in January proved to be a resounding success. With 30 delegates, the 4 day workshop gave all the partners attending the opportunity to review the progress since the Liverpool Workshop. This included the transition from designing the data collection tools to the data collection phase, receiving an update on the piloting of the tools and raise specific questions regarding the city-specific requirements. The workshop was led by the University of Liverpool.



Arpana Verma introduced the meeting and set the tone for the workshop. The day was spent introducing and discussing the transition from the preparation of the tools to data collection and quality control followed by discussion of the existing data tool.

Day 2 was dedicated to the Adult survey starting off with a review of the piloting by Dan Pope. The workshop then split into breakaway groups to review the revised the survey relevant to each city and provide feedback on the methodological issues and then provided feedback to the whole workshop on their findings. The day ended with group training on

the adult database for data entry. Day 3 was dedicated to the Youth survey starting with a review of the piloting by Dan Pope.

Again, the workshop split into breakaway groups to review the revised the youth survey relevant to each city and then provided feedback to the whole workshop on their findings. The day ended with group training on the adult database for data entry.

The final day was devoted to resolving any issues that came to light from the workshop, discussing ethics issues and general management issues.

The Liverpool, Manchester and Maribor teams were thanked for their hard work in organising the meeting and it was acknowledged by all the delegates that the workshop had been useful and informative and that all the delegates had the opportunity to discuss their specific requirements and left the workshop with a greater understanding of the project.

Following the meeting, the wealth of feedback generated from the workshop was reviewed in depth. The database, data collection, protocols and surveys have been revised based on the outcomes from the workshop.



Urban Area Data Collection from 30 cities in 12 European countries and Vietnam

### Objectives

#### What do we hope to achieve through EURO-URHIS 2?

- \* To collect data at urban area level
- \* To provide tools for evidence based policy
- \* To develop methods for cross-sectional and longitudinal assessment for urban population health, including all relevant determinants of health
- \* To validate these tools and methods by using existing population-based registries and databases
- \* To apply the tools in the field and ensure they are easy and intuitive to use by policy makers

#### UK

- \* University of Manchester
- \* University of Liverpool
- \* North West Regional Health Brussels Office

#### The Netherlands

- \* Municipal Health Service, Utrecht
- \* National Institute for Public Health & The Environment
- \* Municipal Health Service, Amsterdam

#### Romania

- \* The Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine & Pharmacy, Epidemiology Department

#### Norway

- \* The Norwegian Institute of Public Health

#### Lithuania

- \* Kaunas University of Medicine

#### Slovenia

- \* Regional Public Health & Health Promotion Centre

#### Germany

- \* Institute of Health and Work, North Rhine-Westphalia

#### Slovakia

- \* Slovak Public Health Association

#### Turkey

- \* Hacettepe University, Department of Public Health

#### Vietnam

- \* Pham Ngoc Thach University of Medicine

#### Latvia

- \* Centre of Health Economics of Latvia

#### Macedonia

- \* South East European University

#### France

- \* National Federation of Regional Health Observatories

#### Acknowledgements

This project was co-funded by the EU Commission.



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### WHERE AND WHAT ARE WE UP TO NOW?

Since the start of this year, a major achievement of work package 4 has been the development of the four instruments that will be used for existing data collection, the adult and youth survey and policy-makers questionnaire. Piloting for the adult and youth surveys was undertaken in November and December 2009 by the University of Liverpool team and the findings disseminated to partners at the Maribor workshop in January 2010.

Existing data collection has begun in all the EURO-URHIS 2 cities. The University of Manchester has collected all the country level data for all the existing indicators for all the 13 countries in EURO-URHIS 2.

Ethical approval has recently been secured in the UK to carry out both the adult and youth surveys and individual local ethical approval is now being

sought by city partners.

The next step in the project is that of commencement of the adult and youth surveys. In order to discuss the plans for 2010, a work package 5 meeting was organised on the 1st and 2nd



March in Cluj-Napoca, Romania at the Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy.

The first day of the two day meeting started with a review of the timetable for the collection of data and quality control. Ioan Bocsan, work package 5 leader and chair of the meeting underlined the main aspects on monitoring WP5 in the EURO-URHIS 2 project and presented a

general schema of tasks and activity timesheet for the work to be undertaken.

The surveys, which have already been drafted and agreed upon, will be translated by all the partners by the end of March and will be delivered in each urban area simultaneously to allow comparability of data between urban areas.

The data collected through the surveys will be combined with already existing data that will be collected by the partners by the end of April. This combination of routinely available data and survey data will provide a sustainable methodology for collection, analysis and implementation of urban health indicators across Europe.

Prior to the initiation of the adult and youth surveys in the participating cities a further workshop (workshop 3) is planned on 5th-8th July in Bordeaux, France.

### MEET THE TEAM



WP5 LEADER:  
**IOAN BOCSAN**

- Ioan is the Head of Epidemiology Department, Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy and Director, Professor Iuliu Moldovan Institute of Public Health, in Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- He is the National Expert for Romania at DG RT&D for Health at European Commission, Brussels.
- He was WP 10 leader in the EURO-URHIS 1 project
- For more information see [www.urhis.eu](http://www.urhis.eu)



### WP2 Update: Communication and Dissemination Plan

In order to ensure high visibility of the project and excellent communication between the partners, a Communication and Dissemination Plan is being developed by WP2—Dissemination. The Plan, led by the NW Health Brussels Office, in consultation with the University of Manchester will provide strategic guidelines for wide promotion of the project to local, national and European stakeholders through a number of dissemination tools.

As part of this work, WP2 has set up an online [Urban Health Network](#) to act as a platform for exchanging information and promoting partnership for members and other interested parties. You can become a member and contribute to this network by clicking [here](#).

Communication and dissemination are essential parts of the project and should involve **all** participating project partners. All project partners can play a role in the implementation of this strategy in order to achieve high visibility of the project. If you have any interesting ideas on how to better promote EURO-URHIS 2, get in touch with us! [health@northwesthealth.eu](mailto:health@northwesthealth.eu)

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### URBAN HEALTH RELATED EVENTS

#### The Sustainable City 2010

Sixth International Conference on Urban Regeneration and Sustainability  
14-16 April 2010, La Coruña

This Conference aims to address the many inter-related aspects of the urban environment from transport and mobility to social exclusion and crime prevention.

<http://www.wessex.ac.uk/10-conferences/the-sustainable-city-2010.html>

#### Making the Link

Matching European Opportunities to North West Health Priorities  
29 April 2010, Manchester

"Making the link" is a day long conference organized by the North West Health Brussels Office, which aims to raise awareness amongst health stakeholders on how local and regional actors can maximise European opportunities to improve health in the region.

<http://www.makingthelink.eu/>

#### 15th International Conference on Urban Planning, Regional Development and Information Society

18-20 May 2010, Vienna

Real Corp 2010, the 15th International Conference on Urban Planning, Regional Development and Information Society, will deal with the concept "Cities for Everyone, Liveable, Healthy, Prosperous Promising Vision or Unrealistic Fantasy?" thereby discussing the role of Urban Planning and Urban Technologies on the path towards improved Quality of Life, Health, Sustainability and Prosperity in our Cities.

<http://www.corp.at/>

#### Well-being in the Information Society - Navigating the Fragmented Innovation Landscape

18 - 19 August 2010, Turku (Finland)

WIS 2010 looks for innovations and new fresh ideas in the cross-section of urban living, information society and health understood in a wide sense.

[http://www.marebalticum.org/brehca/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=116&Itemid=139](http://www.marebalticum.org/brehca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=116&Itemid=139)

#### I2SARE FINAL CONFERENCE

30 September–1 October, Budapest

The Conference will present the results ISARE and I2SARE partners have worked to achieve during the past 10 years on public health indicators at the regional level. This Conference will be also an opportunity to discuss about the means to reduce health inequalities in the regions of Europe. The objectives and methodology of several European projects focusing on health inequalities or regional indicators will be presented during the meeting.

<http://www.i2sare.eu/uploadedFiles/I2SARE%20-%20ANNONCE.pdf>

### ORGANISATION PROFILE

EUROPEAN  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
ASSOCIATION



EUPHA is an international, multidisciplinary, scientific organisation, bringing together around 12'000 public health experts for professional exchange and collaboration throughout Europe.

#### Why is it interesting for us?

*Arpana Verma is the president of the EUPHA Urban Health Section. This Section unites multi-agency, multi-disciplinary experts in the field of urban health. Its general aims are in line with the EUPHA objectives focusing on urban health:*

- To promote and strengthen public health research in Europe.
- To improve communication between urban policy makers, researchers and practitioners.
- To provide a platform for the exchanges information and experience at urban level.

Every year EUPHA organizes a health related conference. In 2010 the conference will take place in **Amsterdam from 11 to 13 November**. The main theme of the conference will be **Integrated public health**.

This year the Urban Health Section of EUPHA plans to organize a number of workshops, within the Conference, on the subject of individual urban health and migration. More information about the preliminary programme of the Conference can be found here:

[http://www.eupha.org/site/upcoming\\_conference\\_pre\\_conferences.php](http://www.eupha.org/site/upcoming_conference_pre_conferences.php)

### IN THE NEWS

#### New European Urban Intergroup

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of February, the first meeting of the newly established Urban intergroup of the European parliament took place. The Urban intergroup is an informal group gathering more than 70 MEPs from different countries and different political groups and cooperating with several external partners. It is chaired by [MEP Mr. Jan Olbrycht](#), and it replaces and continues the work initiated by the [Intergroup on Urban housing](#) of the previous EP mandate (2004-2009). A dedicated website of the intergroup will be soon available.

### How could your city interact with Europe?

On 3 March 2010 the European Commission proposed **Europe 2020 – A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth**.

The European Council is now requested to endorse the strategy's overall approach and the EU headline targets and to give its final approval to the strategy. However some important issues relevant to local and regional authorities still remain open in the strategy. It is crucial that they are adequately addressed before final adoption (June European Council).

Therefore the Committee of the Regions (CoR) is launching a follow-up Consultation of European Regions and Cities - "Your voice on Europe 2020" with the deadline on 12 April 2010. You may address your opinion to the European and national leaders who will be meeting at the June European Council by following this link: <http://portal.cor.europa.eu/europe2020/news/Pages/YourVoiceonEurope2020.aspx>

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