



EURO-URHIS 2 NEWSLETTER

Who are the Project Partners?

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

Bordeaux meeting inspires more progress!

On 5th July 2010, the EURO-URHIS 2 team descended on the French city of Bordeaux to conduct the third in a series of workshops and project meetings as part of the European Commission funded EURO-URHIS 2 project. Solange Menival, a senior Council politician from Bordeaux welcomed the group to Bordeaux, which follows Liverpool and Slovenia in hosting the group of 32 partners from urban areas across the EU.

The objectives of the workshop were to begin discussions on the implementation of urban health data to inform decision making and policy, whilst also discussing progress in all parts of the project and training participants in survey conduct and data entry in light of the forthcoming Adult and Youth Surveys. The meeting was hosted by the National Federation of Regional Health Observatories in France, with the Universities of Liverpool and Manchester taking a lead on organising the programme and content.

After the final session on 8th July, Project Lead, Dr. Arpana Verma commented, *"The Bordeaux meeting and workshop has been hugely interesting and ultimately successful. As the project leader I am delighted at the progress the project and its partners are making as we enter this vital period of the project development."*

Following the collection of existing urban health data in March / April



2010 by urban area partners, the next major development in the project will be in September 2010 with the launch of the Adult and Youth Surveys in urban areas across the EU, designed to collect comparable individual level urban health data. Dr Christopher Birt from the University of Liverpool said, *"The future looks bright for the project! There is a lot of work for all partners over the coming 6 months with the Adult and Youth Surveys being sent out and then data being collected, but everyone is pulling together at the right time and we are looking forward to seeing the initial results in 2011."*



Project Objectives

- * 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

Acknowledgements

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PROGRESS FROM BORDEAUX

Work Packages pass initial Evaluation 'Health Check'

One of the main purposes of the Bordeaux meeting was to ensure that all partners were maintaining their excellent work in line with the agreement with the European Commission, which is reported via the Interim Report. The Interim Report is not only vital for the success of the project, but also to reassure the European Commission that our partners are on schedule and delivering to a high standard. Four of the EURO-URHIS 2 work package leaders presented their project work to date and received useful feedback from Work Package 3 (Evaluation). *"This was a very useful exercise for all those involved as well as a useful pre-emptive session for all of those who will have to report on progress at a later date"* commented Chris White (WP2). The news was overwhelmingly positive and will be reported soon to the European Commission.



Highlighting different approaches to informing urban health policy

With one of the main Bordeaux workshop objectives being to "demonstrate how results of the existing data collection can be used to inform policy," Chris White (WP2) kicked off the discussions with a presentation on EU policy making and legislative processes. This was designed to inform urban area partners of the wider European context in which they are operating, whilst providing some useful tips for engagement at this level. Urban area partners then took the opportunity to present their own urban policy making structures and priorities. This fascinating session highlighted the enormous difference in policy influencing efforts and policy making structures across Europe. Daniel Pope, Work Package 10 Leader commented, *"This was a really impor-*



tant part of the workshop for the project partners to experience and it just shows the variation in policy making infrastructure between urban areas in Europe. Some of the differences were startling!"

MEET THE TEAM



WP2 LEADER:
CHRIS WHITE

- Chris is the Senior EU Health Specialist in the North West Health Brussels Office
- Chris leads WP2 and also led the Dissemination work package in URHIS 1.
- For more information on any of the project partners in the URHIS 2 project please see www.urhis.eu



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URBAN HEALTH RELATED EVENTS

More Urban, More Cohesion: A Conference organised by EUROCITIES, the EU Belgian Presidency, Brussels Capital Region and the European Parliament Urban Intergroup

14 September, Brussels

The conference will demonstrate the strengths of the urban dimension and how the 'integrated approach' adopted by cities brings added value to cohesion policy. Examples of actions and projects already supported by EU structural funds will be discussed in three different sessions focusing on integrating people and place-based policies, on partnership working and on variable geography.

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

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>

9th International Conference on Urban Health

27 - 29 October, New York City

The principal theme to be addressed at the Conference will be good governance for healthy cities and how governments can develop and implement policy that improves the health of all urban residents and reduces urban inequities

<http://www.nyam.org/icuh2010/index.html>

2010 POLIS CONFERENCE - 'Innovation in transport for sustainable cities and regions'

25–26 November, Dresden

The main themes of this conference range from local to global; they are climate change and the local transport response, the impact of a (global) economic downturn on local transport services, and the vision and political ambition that is required to face these challenges and to maintain innovation.

<http://www.polis-online.org/index.php?id=487>

ORGANISATION PROFILE

EUROPEAN URBAN KNOWLEDGE NETWORK



The European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN) shares knowledge and experience on tackling urban issues.

Why is it interesting for us?

The key objective of EUKN is to enhance the exchange of knowledge and expertise on urban development throughout Europe. Some of the main themes the EUKN focuses on include:

- *Urban Environment;*
- *Transport & Infrastructure;*
- *Social Inclusion & Integration;*

EUKN 2010 Conference: Effects of demographic change on urban structures

Budapest, 13-14 September

The EUKN is organising its 3rd annual conference, which will link into a high-level conference on demographic change organised by the Hungarian Presidency of the European Council. The conference will give an overview on the different forms of demographic change

<http://www.eukn.org/>

IN THE NEWS

EU ROAD SAFETY PLAN FOR NEXT 10 YEARS

The new EU programme seeks to address the leading causes of road deaths in Europe, including speeding and drink-driving.

Education, better training and stricter enforcement of EU rules are highlighted as key actions for the plan's success. The target is to cut the annual death rate by half over the next ten years.

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road_safety/

Interacting with EU activities.....

Between 4 & 7 October 2010, the OPEN DAYS – European Week of Regions and Cities, will be held in Brussels. Registration is now open. The reform of cohesion policy post-2013 and the local dimension of the "Europe 2020 strategy" will be the main focus. In addition, the OPEN DAYS University, which brings together top-level scholars and researchers in the field of regional and urban development, will address the issue of EU cohesion policy from a more academic point of view.

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/conferences/od2010/index.cfm

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