The Venice Office hosts two important healthy settings networks: the Small Countries Initiative (SCI) and the Regions and subnational level and proposed strategies, policies and plans.

Agenda for Sustainable Development at subnational level and promoting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

GDPW13, the RHN and the SCI intend to become the most prominent technical networks globally for promoting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

- Facilitating, through projects and agreements aiming to translate WHO policies and strategies; such practices are available to other members of the networks and to the wider international health community (refrigeration of practices-learn from each another);

- Collaboration between countries and regions to be strengthened, not only through WHO technical assistance but also through stop-loss (co-learning medium learning from each other);

- Direct collaboration across countries and regions to be facilitated, through projects and agreements aiming to improve populations’ health; the key of stakeholders who are essential levels of change for WHO policies to be increased, at both national and subnational levels of governance within countries.

The Venice Office: as a geographically dispersed office (GDO) is an integral part of the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The GDO, along with the Venice Office – an iconic city for the history of public health – marks (gb) its mission through the following key strategies.

- Programme focus: The strategic priorities (social and economic determinants of health and health equity, investment for health and development) are aligned with the Venice Office’s core mandate to be a centre of excellence for health promotion in the 21st century, empowering people to increase control over their own health.

- Knowledge hub for innovation and capacity building: At the centre of excellence and learning organization within the mandate provided by the WHO European Region at large (networks = repository of practices and experts and WHO collaborating centres provides a platform for review and discussion, and synthesizes evidence to advance knowledge in areas identified as priorities for transformative changes related to core mandate).

- Local action and country focus: People-centred health promotion and participatory governance in health and intersectoral interventions at all levels of health-systems; policy-making and administration are addressed through multi- and intersectoral interventions at all levels of health governance; policy-making and administration are addressed through local action and country focus.

- Achievements with healthy settings platforms: During WHO’s 70th Special Programme of Work (2015-2017), the BSN and the WHO aimed to become the most prominent technical networks globally for promoting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of subnational and within the small countries. They aim to achieve this by:

- Strengthening and supporting national and subnational health governance; implementation of WHO policies and strategies to be ensured, by facilitating the uptake of best practices and tools (including in rights);

- The evidence base for the implementation of WHO policies and strategies to be strengthened, not only through WHO technical assistance but also through stop-loss (co-learning medium learning from each other);

- Collaboration between countries and regions to be strengthened, not only through WHO technical assistance but also through stop-loss (co-learning medium learning from each other);

- Direct collaboration across countries and regions to be facilitated, through projects and agreements aiming to improve populations’ health; the key of stakeholders who are essential levels of change for WHO policies to be increased, at both national and subnational levels of governance within countries.

The WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development (in a nutshell)

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The WHO Regional Office for Europe

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN), created in 1948 with the primary responsibility for international health matters and public health.

The WHO Regional Office for Europe is one of six regional offices throughout the world, each responsible for providing technical support and advice to the member countries belonging to the region, to help achieve the highest attainable standard of health.

The WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development (EOIHD) is responsible for: planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the Programme for Investment for Health and Development in the WHO European Region at large (networks = repository of practices and experts and WHO collaborating centres provides a platform for review and discussion, and synthesizes evidence to advance knowledge in areas identified as priorities for transformative changes related to core mandate).
Introduction

The WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development (WHO European Office) is a centre of excellence, representing the core of WHO's European Region (WHO Regional Office), and the Venice Office – the Regional Office for Europe.

The fundaments of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe (1957) led to its current role as a driving force in the implementation of policies and strategies, providing technical assistance for the improvement of health and well-being of populations. The WHO European Office's core task is to promote health and well-being through strengthening health sector responses and throughodal and transnational policies. A number of such policies provide grants to governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and individuals to improve health outcomes.

The Venice Office aims to generate and disseminate cutting-edge information on health and the Veneto Region – and the WHO Regional Office networks with governments, the public and private sectors, to generate and disseminate cutting-edge information on health and the Veneto Region – and the WHO Regional Office networks with governments, the public and private sectors, and individuals.

The programme of work of the Venice Office covers three areas: Health Equity; Social Determinants of Health (SDH) and health equity; and Partnerships to improve health and well-being.

 Achievements in SDH and health equity

1. Direct support to countries in implementing and scaling-up evidence-based policies for health equity. The WHO European Office (WHO European Office) provides support and guidance to countries, including the implementation of evidence-based policies for health equity.

2. Flagship Initiatives. The health equity in all policies (HEAIP) Flagship Programme is a global initiative to advance health equity through health policies and programmes. The HEAIP Flagship Programme aims to support countries in designing and implementing health equity policies and programmes that are aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

3. The Health Equity Status Report (HESR) Initiative. The HESR Initiative is a collaborative effort of WHO, the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policy, and the European Network of Health Equity Research (ENHER). The HESR Initiative produces the Health Equity Status Report (HESR), which provides a comprehensive and up-to-date overview of health equity in Europe.

4. The WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development was founded on the understanding that prevention and protection of health, promotion and treating diseases and related care and support services constitute investments rather than costs, with high social and economic value as return.

5. The WHO European Office is coordinating and supporting a WHO initiative to build capacities of the health sector to influence and partner with other sectors – putting health in all policies – to improve health and well-being. The initiative is supported by the WHO European Office and is being implemented in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

Area 1. Social determinants of health (SDH) and health equity

Where we live, work and learn shapes our health and well-being. This is particularly important in the context of the rising levels of non-communicable diseases in Europe. The social determinants of health (SDH) are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age that shape health outcomes and opportunities. These determinants include access to healthcare services, public and community health interventions, education, employment and living conditions.