Region Västra Götaland develops a new system to monitor health inequalities

Taking actions against health inequalities requires systematic monitoring of the inequalities within a certain area. The Regional Council in Region Västra Götaland (Sweden) commissioned its Public Health Committee to develop a monitoring system as part of its regional action plan against health inequalities. This development project runs during 2014.

The San Marino meeting - a big step for small countries

To help countries achieve health equity, WHO/Europe convened a kick-off meeting in July in San Marino with representatives from 8 small countries in the Region to discuss implementation of the Health 2020 vision. Small countries, with populations of less than 1 million, are equipped to adapt quickly, and to set and implement policies effectively. Choosing the right policies has a great potential to achieve social and political cohesion.

Regions for Health Network Annual Meeting

The main theme of the 21st Annual Meeting of the WHO Regions for Health Network (RHN) is whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to improve populations’ health. The 2014 Meeting will have an innovative structure using two main subevents to bring theory and practice in health policy closer together: a capacity-building event; the RHN business meeting.

Upcoming events

WHO RHN Workshop ‘Up- and downscaling of public health projects’
9 September, Eupen, Belgium
There is no doubt: identifying and disseminating examples of good practice and implementing respective projects and policies at the regional and local level are important for progress in public health. But how do we transfer public health projects successfully from one region to another, from a local project to the regional or even national level? How do we implement a national programme into a regional/local context? This workshop aims to addressing this question, enabling an immediate exchange of expertise, which will culminate in the preparation of a new WHO RHN publication for the next year.

64th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe
15–18 September 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark
Ministers and high-level representatives of the 53 Member States in the WHO European Region, and partner and civil-society organizations will take part in the session, to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark on 15–18 September 2014. Key technical health issues on this year’s agenda include: the first report on the implementation of Health 2020; the outcomes of conferences; a strategy for investing in children; an action plan on food and nutrition in the WHO European Region for 2015–2020; a regional action plan on vaccines for 2015–2020; and the WHO reform and its implications for the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

Welsh Public Health Conference 2014
6–7 October 2014, Cardiff, Wales, United Kingdom
Titled “A Prudent Approach to a Healthier, Happier, Fairer Wales”, this is the fourth annual Public Health Conference to be held in Wales. It will be organized into three main sessions covering: health protection and reducing harm; tackling health inequalities; and prudent healthcare. Abstracts are now being accepted for posters and parallel sessions on the above themes.
Governance for health equity

This report analyses why policies and interventions to address the social determinants of health and health inequities in the WHO European Region succeed or fail. It also discusses important features of governance and systems for service delivery that increase the likelihood of success in reducing inequities. The report presents a systems checklist for governing for health equity as a whole-of-government approach.