Programmes and actions of the WHO Regional Office for Europe for public health

Zsuzsanna Jakab
WHO Regional Director for Europe

Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union
Meeting of chief medical, dental and nursing officers
6 October 2014, Rome, Italy
Building on the 2010 vision

Life expectancy increased by five years but inequities persist

Highest rate in WHO European Region
Regional average
Lowest rate in Region

Source: European Health for All database (HFA-DB). Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2014.
Facing the future

Health higher on the political agenda

Croatia: World Health Day
Responding to the challenges: renewed policy environment
WHO working with Member States for Health 2020

**July 2014:** small countries’ meeting in San Marino for Health 2020 implementation

**May 2014:** Health 2020 implementation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

**December 2013:** meeting on Health 2020 implementation in Turkey
Public health at the heart of Health 2020 implementation
Investing in public health interventions

- Clear policy frameworks and supporting strategies
- Strong public health infrastructure
- Cohesion in health sector, and better coordination across sectors
Health 2020: counting on strong leadership

**Montenegro:** Zsuzsanna Jakab with Milo Đukanović, Prime Minister of Montenegro

**San Marino:** Zsuzsanna Jakab with the Captains Regent of San Marino

**Kyrgyzstan:** Health 2020 launch with the Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan and ministers
Better health for Europe: more equitable and sustainable
Priority areas for action
Investing in health through a life-course approach and empowering people
Child and adolescent health

Estimates of under-5 mortality for the Caucasus and central Asia

49 per 1000 live births (2005)
36 per 1000 live births (2012)
Action plan on child maltreatment

Report estimates that in the Region

- 18 million children have been sexually abused
- 44 million have been physically abused
- 55 million have been mentally abused
Transforming maternal health

Trends in maternal mortality ratio
(estimates per 100 000 live births)

WHO European Region
Tackling the Region’s major health challenges: noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)
Decreasing premature mortality from NCDs

Declining premature mortality from circulatory diseases, 2000–2011

- **European Region**
- **Eur-A**: 27 countries with very low child and adult mortality
- **Eur-B**: 17 countries with low child and adult mortality
- **Eur-C**: 9 countries with low child but high adult mortality
Investing in health promotion and disease prevention

Investment brings returns in the short and medium terms

Turkey: health promotion event in Ankara with Dr Mehmet Müezzinoglu, Minister of Health
Management of NCDs
Addressing risk factors
Food and Nutrition Action Plan: follow-up to Vienna Declaration

**Austria:** Federal Minister for Health of Austria and Zsuzsanna Jakab after signing the Vienna Declaration on Nutrition and Noncommunicable Diseases in the Context of Health 2020
Reducing tobacco use as a regional priority

28% of all adults in the Region smoke

- 50% have ratified the WHO FCTC
- 25% raised tobacco taxes
- 9% introduced laws on smoke-free public places
- 7% offer cessation programmes
- 3% ban advertising, promotion and sponsorship
- 2% require pictorial warning labels on packaging

WHO Director-General Margaret Chan presents awards to Viktor Orbán, Prime Minister of Hungary, and Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow, President of Turkmenistan
Reducing tobacco use – legal instruments

Hungary: opening of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) in Budapest
Reducing tobacco use with the end game in mind

Republic of Moldova: first smoke-free zones established for children’s playgrounds, 1 June 2014 in Chisinau, with Deputy Speaker of the Parliament, deputy minister and WHO staff.

Albania: activities related to an anti-tobacco campaign

Turkmenistan: Ministerial Conference on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases in the Context of Health 2020, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan
Tackling the Region’s major health challenges: communicable diseases
Combating tuberculosis (TB)

Increasing treatment-enrolment rate
63% in 2012
96% in 2013
Eliminating TB in our lifetime

Denmark: high-level meeting commemorating World TB Day 2014, at which WHO urged Member States to boost efforts to eliminate TB by 2050
More people receiving HIV/AIDS treatment

People diagnosed with HIV and receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) in Europe, 2009–2013

World Health Organization
Regional Office for Europe
We have not yet managed to curb the epidemic!

Key populations at higher risk

- People who inject drugs and their sexual partners
- Men who have sex with men
- Transgender people
- Sex workers
- Prisoners
- Migrants
Scale up evidence-based interventions

- Deliver high-quality, integrated services
- Use treatment as a strategic means, and for prevention
- Implement evidence-based policies

**Russian Federation**: Igor Ivanovich Shuvalov, First Deputy Prime Minister, Russian Federation; Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); and Zsuzsanna Jakab addressing journalists at HIV conference in Moscow
Antimicrobial resistance (AMR): global health threat

**Belarus:** staff of WHO, the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) and the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), Netherlands discuss laboratory procedures with hospital laboratory staff as part of a country assessment on AMR.
European Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Network (EARS-Net)

CAESAR (Central Asian and Eastern European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance) network

Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe
European Vaccine Action Plan – now is the time to act

Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary of Denmark, Patron of the WHO Regional Office for Europe
Commitment to eliminating measles and rubella

Measles in 1993: 341,982 cases

- 2011: 35,088 cases
- 2012: 27,132 cases
- 2013: 31,685 cases

Rubella in 2000: 621,039 cases

- 2011: 9,464 cases
- 2012: 29,601 cases
- 2013: 39,367 cases
Last push for global poliomyelitis eradication
Malaria elimination: within reach

Source: WHO centralized information system for infectious diseases (CISID). Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2014.
Strengthening emergency preparedness, surveillance and response
Public health emergencies of international concern

- International spread of wild poliovirus
- Ebola outbreak in West Africa
Responding to humanitarian and natural crises

Humanitarian crisis in Ukraine
Strengthening people-centred health systems and public health capacity
The Tallinn Charter five years on

_Estonia:_ meeting on health systems for health and wealth in the context of Health 2020, October 2013
Coordinated, integrated health-service delivery towards people-centred care

Denmark: memorandum of understanding between WHO and the European Forum of National Nursing and Midwifery Associations (EFNNMA), signed by Zsuzsanna Jakab and Valentina Sarkisova, Chairperson of the EFNNMA Steering Committee, in February 2014
Universal health coverage: key strategic focus

Republic of Moldova: National Health Forum, “Towards universal health coverage through joint efforts of the government and society”

Tajikistan: flagship course on strengthening health systems
Flagship courses on health financing

Spain

Hungary

Estonia

Photo: © Semmelweis University, Hungary
Health care reforms: changing for the better

Cyprus

Malta

Greece
Environment and health process: “Health 2020 in action”
Environment and health a global challenge

United Nations General Assembly
Better health for Europe: equitable and sustainable

- Improve healthy life expectancy, extending the period of life lived in good health
- Strive for equity in health
- Link health more closely to sustainable development
Thank you!