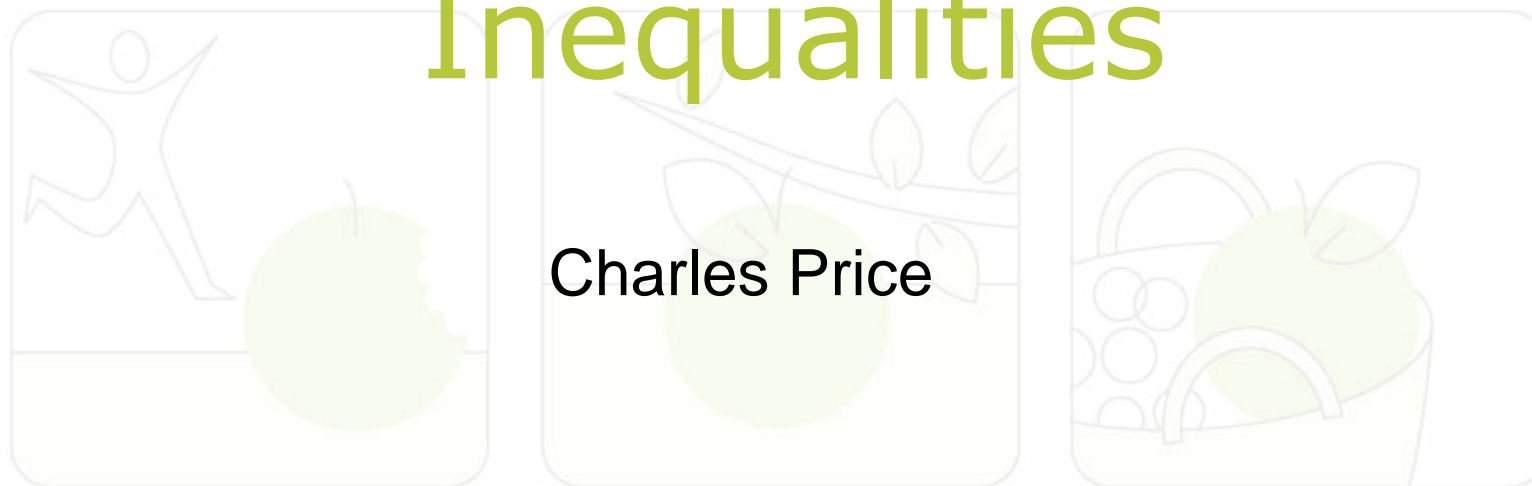


# EU Action on Health Inequalities



High Level Committee on Health:

Cardiff 14 December 2005

# Why do we need more action?

- Gaps are unacceptable and widening
- Health opportunities missed
- Economic cost
- Social solidarity

## EU action

- Lisbon process
- Public Health Programme
- Supporting Communication and Action by Member States
- EU policies



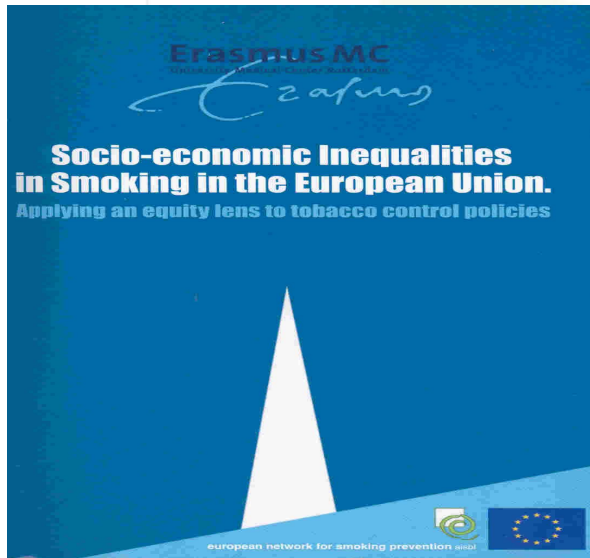
# Lisbon Process

- 
- Economic Growth
  - Social Solidarity

We cannot afford socio-economic inequalities in health if we want our prosperity to continue.

# EU Public Health Programme

- 15 projects, EUR 5,000,000 to date
- New 2007-13





# Recent projects on health inequalities

- [Closing the Health Gap: Strategies for Action to tackle health inequalities in Europe](#) – BZGA Germany
- [Reduction of health inequalities in the Roma community](#) – Fundacion Secretariado General Gitano Spain
- [EUROTHINE - Tackling Health Inequalities In Europe: an integrated approach](#) – Erasmus MC Netherlands
- [HEM - Closing the Gap - Reducing Premature Mortality. Baseline for Monitoring Health Evolution Following Enlargement](#) -COI Poland
- [EHEMU - European Health Expectancy Monitoring Unit](#) – CRLC Montpellier France



# Supporting Communication and Coordination between Member States



Portugal 2000

Belgium 2001

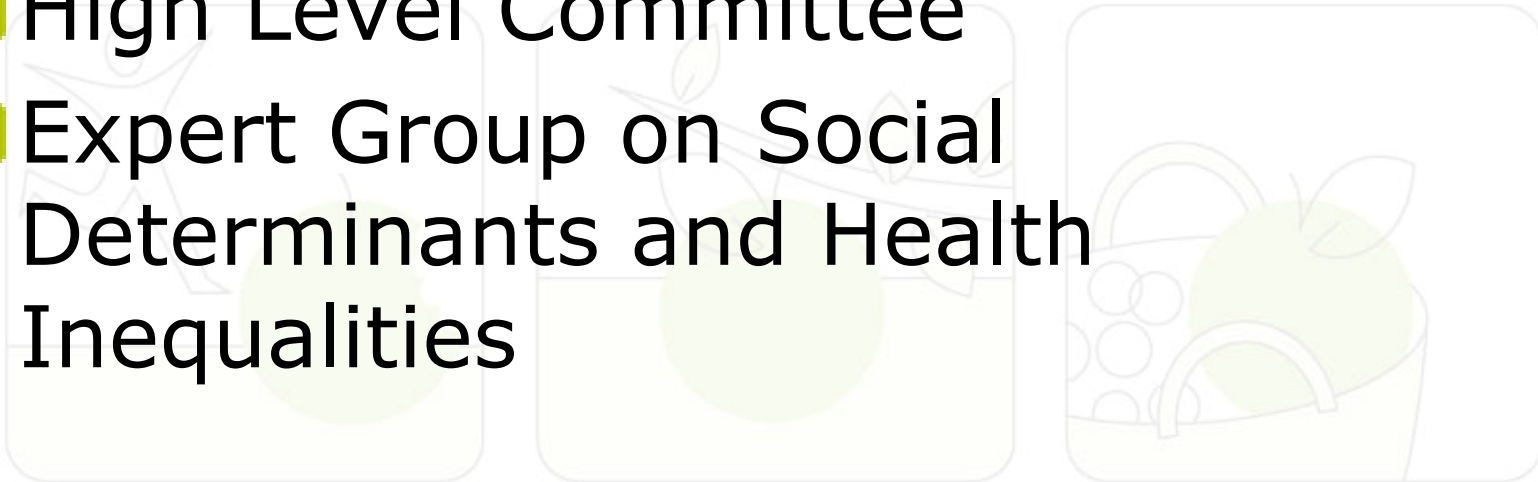
UK 2005

Austria, Finland, Germany .....



# Communication and coordination between Member States

- High Level Committee
- Expert Group on Social Determinants and Health Inequalities







## Mandate of Expert Group on Social Determinants and Health Inequalities

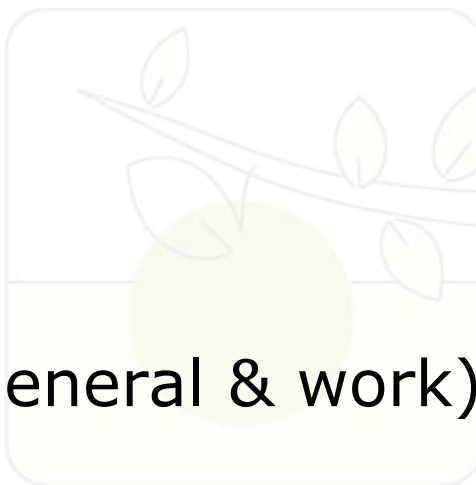
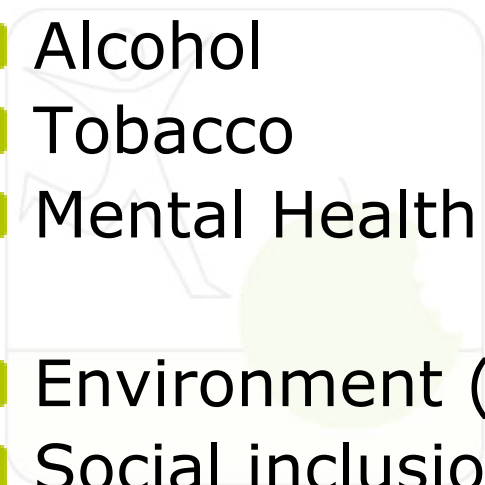
- Exchange of information and good practice
- Interface with projects
- Advice on evidence base, research and approaches to policy review
- Input into Public Health Programme

# Membership

- Member States
  - Projects and Experts nominated by Commission
  - WHO
  - Commission Services
- 

# EU Policies

- Nutrition
- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Mental Health
- Environment (general & work)
- Social inclusion
- Regional Policy
- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Research





# Summary - EU Next steps

- Health inequalities in other policies
- New Health and Consumer Protection Programme
- Austria and Finland Presidencies
- Expert Group



# Member States Actions:

- Policy priority for health inequalities
- Intersectoral approach
- Maintain and strengthen social support
- Inequalities focus on key policy areas
- Targeted action on high need groups
- Measurement
- Targets for HI reductions

## Questions for discussion: What do Member States want from.....

- Collaboration on Health Inequalities?
- The Public Health Programme?
- Other EU policies ?
- Expert Group?

**This paper was produced for a meeting organized by Health & Consumer Protection DG and represents the views of its author on the subject. These views have not been adopted or in any way approved by the Commission and should not be relied upon as a statement of the Commission's or Health & Consumer Protection DG's views. The European Commission does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this paper, nor does it accept responsibility for any use made thereof.**