



WHO Europe & EC Joint Project Health System Actions to tackle Socially Determined Health Inequalities

Expert Working Group on Social Determinants &
Health

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European Office for Investment for Health and Development



Venice Office

Work Packages (WP)11-13

- **WP 11 – best practices of Health Systems action to tackle socially determined HIs**
 - Publication & web-based resource
- **WP 12 – policy briefings**
 - Topics identified eg. poverty & health, vulnerable groups, gender equity
- **WP13 – know-how & development**
 - Senior policy-makers, training, development, building on VO, other work and WP11 & 12



Our assumptions

- Focus consistent with policy mandates
 - CSDH framework
 - Strengthened health systems
- Broad definition of HS – more than ‘health sector’ – includes intersectoral action
- Health System has a role to play
 - Directly
 - Leadership with other sectors
- A wide range of knowledge / evidence
- Context is paramount
- New, innovative and a first step in a long process



Work Package 11

- Timeframe – end November 2008
- Key steps
 - Conceptual framework for collection & assessment of case studies
 - Identification of known or existing work
 - Call for additional case studies
 - Expert advisory group
 - Peer reviewing process
 - Workshops for developing case studies with know-how exchange & value-add for countries
 - Scoping, development, piloting & finalisation of web-based resource



Key issues for conceptual framing

- Moving beyond a collection of linked case studies to drawing out lessons of most promising practice/general principles
- What is most promising or best practice?
- Case studies from
 - Range country contexts – income, EU and non-EU
 - Policy, intervention, practice – not just projects
 - Targeted, gap and gradient (Hilary Graham)
 - National & sub-national levels



Template for Country Examples

	Higher Income Stable	Middle Income Stable	Middle Income Transition	Lower Income Transition
Targeted				
Gap				
Gradient				



Assessing practice

- A continuum – from promising to better to most promising/best
 - Informative framework for countries about practice
 - Context
- Developing some principles to enable best/better practice in different contexts
- Willingness to learn, improve practice & exchange know-how



Sources of country examples

- Venice Office Policy Learning Case Studies
- Poverty & Health Case Studies
- WHO Collaborating Centres



For consultation

- **Conceptual framework**
 - With countries
 - Existing collaborating partners
- **Country participation**
 - Incentives for participation
 - Call for interest & identification of examples



Domains within Framework

- Overall description of example
 - targeted, gap or gradient
 - expected impact(s) & outcomes
 - targets, monitoring or evaluation process
- Background - rationale/incentive, consultation, theory & or evidence base
- Context - country & policy
- Health System - definition, context & organization)
- Funding & Resources – new, sustainable, within country, donor based etc
- Capacity – existing, new, training etc



Web-based Resource

- Review of similar resources
- End users – policy-makers, those wanting to access information quickly, researchers
- Ability to update
- Level of interaction



Next Steps: Dec 07 - Feb 08

- Consultation
 - Conceptual Framework
 - Country involvement & how
- Commissioning / agreement about examples
- Development of templates
- Scoping of manuscript
- Scoping of web-based resource
- Review of number & diversity of examples



Work Package 12: scope of briefs

- **What is the policy issue?**
- **How** do we know about the issue?
- **What has contributed to this issue** in European countries?
- **Why** is this issue **significant** to countries in Europe?
- **What** are the **possible options** for tackling this issue?



Work Package 12: topics

Health System action

1. in addressing poverty & health inequalities
2. to reduce socially determined health inequalities within economic & social development policies

Health System stewardship role

3. in social & community inclusion policies
4. in reducing gender-linked inequalities

Health System role in reducing

5. ethnicity-linked inequalities
6. socially determined health inequalities in priority public health conditions



Work Package 13: Training & Know-How Exchange

- Develop & test materials to support know-how for addressing socially determined health inequalities across government
- Linkage to & building on
 - other work packages eg. best practices
 - existing WHO Europe work with Member States
 - findings & work of global CSDH
 - related EU projects on health inequalities



Timeframe for work packages

- Work Package 11
 - May 2007 – November 2008
- Work Package 12
 - May 2009 – April 2010
- Work Package 13
 - November 2008 – April 2010





Thank you & Contact us

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