Progress Report on Health and Environment Projects

Co-sponsored by EC DG Sanco

World Health Organization

Bonn Office

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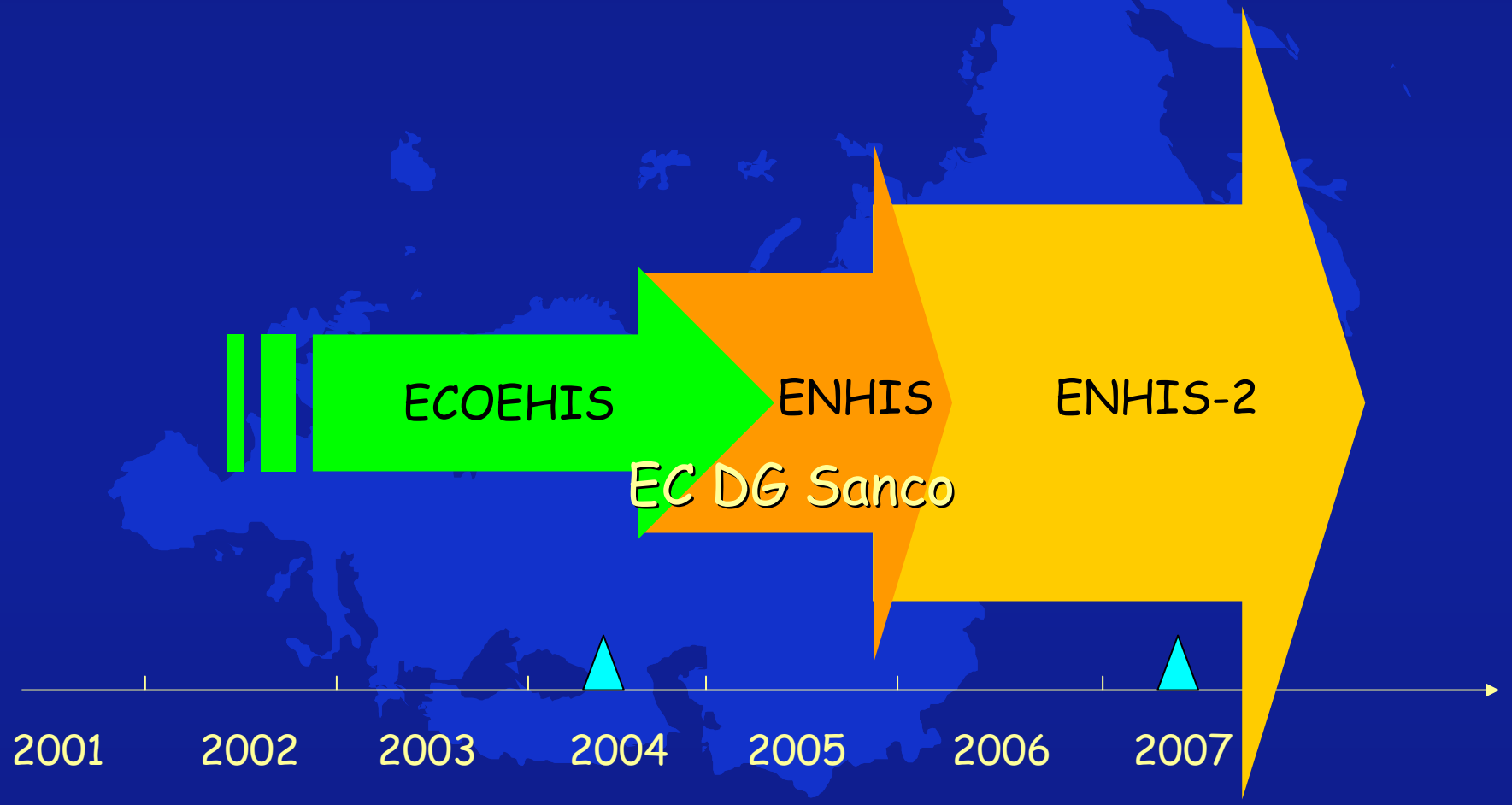
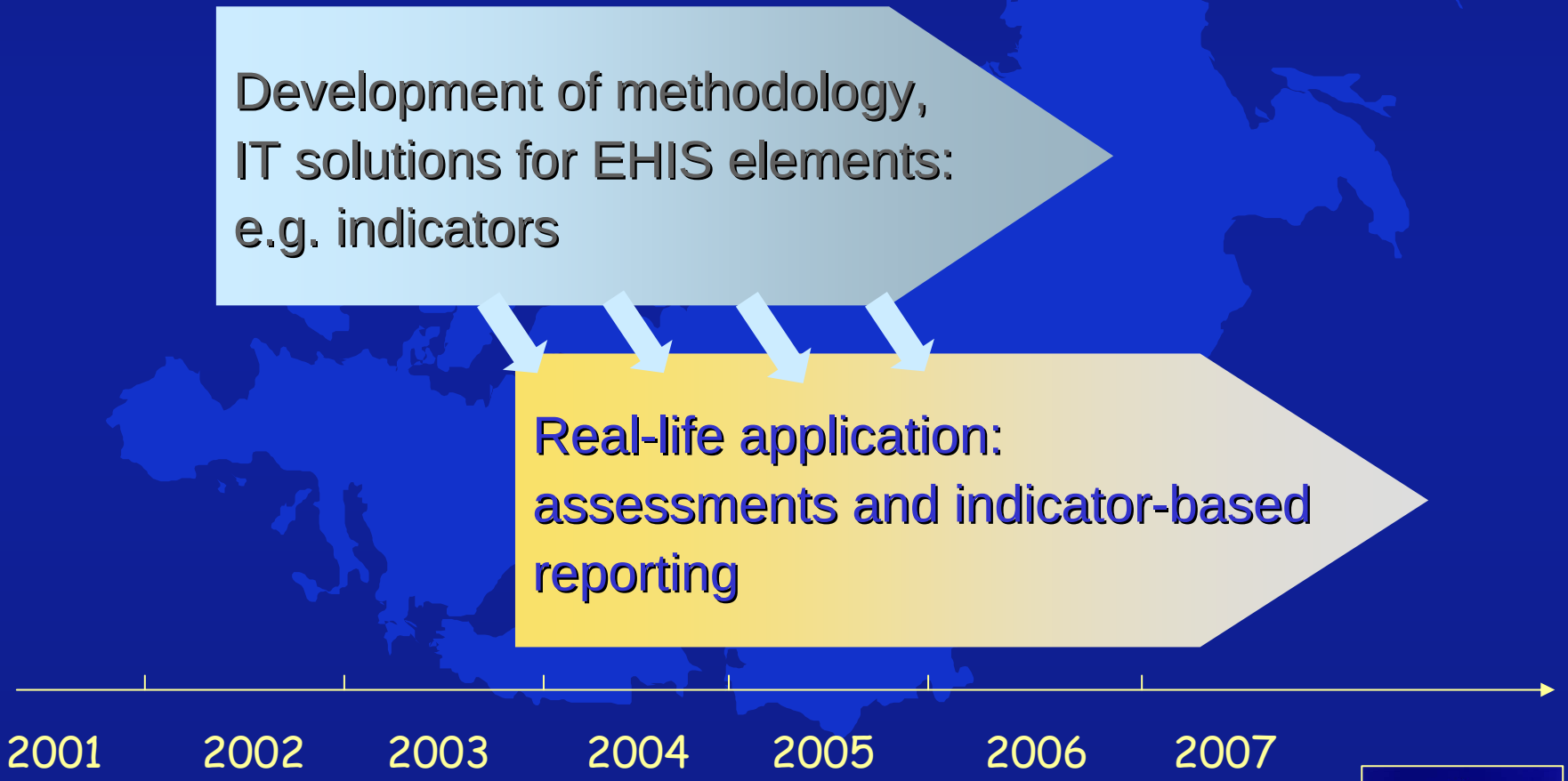
WHO European Centre for Environment and Health

Health and environment projects coordinated by WHO 2002-7



Working Process

Implementation and development in parallel: building on the work done while expanding to new developments



Development of EH Indicators for EU Countries (ECOEHIS)

(SPC 2002300 EC DG Sanco)

- Period: Oct 2002 –Sept 2004
- Partners: 12 EU MS
- Proposed EH indicator methodology

17 EHI ready for implementation

☺ 2 of them in ECHI short list

Policy/ regulatory context

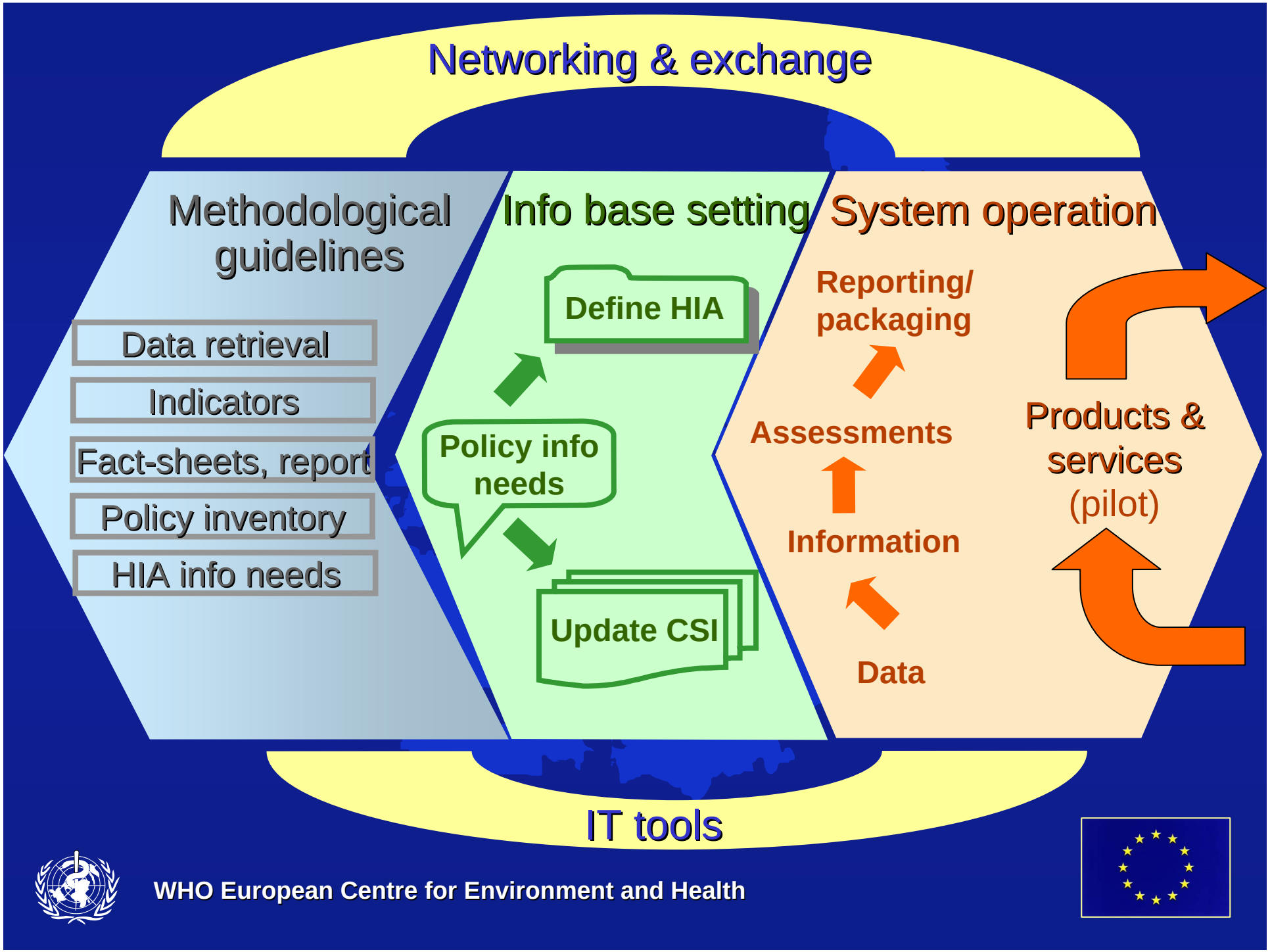
Reporting obligations

WatSan_S2	Drinking water compliance - microbiological parameters	DPSEEA
Definition of indicator	The indicator **refers to regulated public water supplies** Proportion of drinking water samples with *E coli* or faecal streptococci exceeding the guideline value of 0/100 ml of water over a given time period	
Underlying definitions and concepts	**Number of drinking water samples exceeding the limit value** (0/100ml) for the parameters *E coli* **or faecal streptococci** **Total number of samples** analysed for microbiological parameters specified above by an official monitoring agency or water undertaker over a given time period (one year) for a specified spatial monitoring unit such as a water supply zone, a water undertaker's area, a sub-national region or a country.	
Specification of data needed	Total number of samples for microbiological parameters taken from a specified areal unit over the previous year (T) Number of samples with presence of *E coli* or faecal streptococci (P)	
Data sources, availability and quality	Accurate information on the number of drinking water samples taken from a specified areal unit of the supply chain and the results should be available from the regulatory agency or from the water undertaker and should be reliable given the above mentioned assumptions	
Computation	The 'percentage compliance' indicator can be computed as: ((T-P) / T) * 100	
Scale of application	Supply zone to national, at broader scales some problems with data comparability may occur	
Interpretation	It is a measure of the state of drinking water microbiological safety in regulated public, piped supplies. The use of regulated data should ensure, as far as possible, data quality and comparability.	
DPSEEA links	State: *Drinking compliance - microbiological parameters; Drinking water compliance - chemical parameters* Effect: *Outbreaks of water-borne diseases; Diarrhoeal disease in children and adults caused by sporadic cases;* Action: *Water safety plans to ensure source and supply integrity (WHO, 2002) together with effective monitoring of raw and potable water quality.*	
Related web sites	Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/consleg/pub/1998/L_330/L_33019981205en00320054.pdf Current revision of the WHO Guidelines for drinking water quality: http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwq/guidelines2/en/ Rolling revision of the WHO Guidelines for drinking water quality: http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwq/guidelines3/en/ Water safety plans: http://www.who.int/docstore/water_sanitation_health/HDWQ/Updating/draftguidel/2003/gchap4.pdf The UNECE/WHO Protocol on Water and Health: http://www.euro.who.int/eprise/MainSubs/20050919_1	
Policy/ regulatory context	The quality of drinking water is regulated by the Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption. The EC has not ratified the joint WHO and UN ECE Protocol on Water and Health.	
Reporting obligations	**Practical compliance:** Each Member State shall publish a report every three years on the quality of water intended for human consumption with the objective of informing consumers. Compliance database is being created with DG Environment. The first report shall cover the years 2002, 2003 and 2004. Each report must include all individual supplies of water exceeding 1,000 m³ a day as an average or serving more than 5,000 persons and shall cover three calendar years and be published within one calendar year of the end of the reporting period.	

Implementing Environment and Health Information System in Europe (ENHIS)

(SPC 2003112 EC DG Sanco)

- Period of implementation: 1 Nov 2004 – 30 Oct 2005
- WHO/ECEH and 12 partner institutions from: Austria, Czech Rep, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain (ASPB, ISCIII), UK (+EC JRC)
- Work Packages:
  1. Info needs of policies
  2. Update core set of indicators (focus: CHILDREN)
  3. Info retrieval and collection
  4. **Networking**
  5. Health Impact Assessment
  6. Analysis and reporting


Networking & exchange
Methodological guidelines
Data retrieval
Indicators
Fact-sheets, report
Policy inventory
HIA info needs
Info base setting
Define HIA
Policy info needs
Update CSI
System operation
Reporting/ packaging
Assessments
Information
Data
Products & services (pilot)
IT tools
WHO European Centre for Environment and Health

ENHIS outputs (2005)

Data Warehouse (modules)

- Retrieval from international publicly available databases (EEA, Eurostat, …)
- Time & country coverage: 1999-2004 (last 5 yrs); ENHIS partners

EH Indicators (>10 core for ca. 10 countries)

- Indicator calculation (country x year) & presentation
- Interactive Web access (pilot WWW, info tree)

ENHIS outputs (cont'd):

'Added' EH information: analyses & assessments

- Across countries and time trends, position vs. 'reference'
- Integrate information on upstream determinants (e.g. air pollutant emissions)
- HIA of outdoor air pollution in general population & children and an assessment for drinking water

ENHIS outputs (cont'd):

Contextual information => fact-sheets

Evidence

Environmental health context

Environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) is a complex indoor air pollutant composed of over 4000 gaseous and particulate chemicals and has a major impact on public health. Exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke occurs in the indoor environment in homes, workplaces, public places and vehicles. WHO's *Air quality guidelines for Europe* (6) concludes that exposure to ETS is haz-

WHO Thematic networks

Policy

Policy context

Policies to restrict smoking in the public indoor environment and prohibit tobacco advertisement are implemented in Member States within national tobacco control action plans, public health programmes and national environment and health action plans (NEHAPs) (4).

Regulatory approaches towards ETS policies in specific public indoor envi-

Policy inventory

ENHIS outputs (cont'd):

- ✓ Methodological guidelines for indicators generation and preparation of reports in the MS
- ✓ Methodology for NEW indicators to monitor CEHAPE

Final meeting (Bilthoven, Netherlands, 29-30 Sept 2005):

To review the project products: health impact assessments; fact-sheets; approach to policy analysis; methodological guidelines for system operation, and the examples of reporting indicators and information diffusion.

Challenges, some lessons

Automatic access to data variables (vs. indicators) is necessary; establishment of mechanisms for it.

Networking/maintaining links and building capacities in the MS is very important and needs dedicated resources.

Development of IT solutions - 'real-life' applications needs a better exchange among the projects/ activities to benefit from the created tools.

Better interaction with the NCA (feedback, adjustments) => possible task of the H-E Working Party.

Establishment of Environment and Health Information System supporting policy-making (ENHIS-2)

- Co-sponsored by EC DG Sanco
- Period of implementation: 1 Nov 2005 – 30 Oct 2007
- WHO/ECEH and 22 partner institutions from 18 MS (+EC JRC)

Outputs (2007)

- Core EHI updated with children's EH indicators; country coverage expanded.

ENHIS-2 outputs (*cont'd*)

- Building the EH information technical infrastructure:
  - * fully-fledged data retrieval;
  - * meta-data base and data quality control;
  - * incorporating the HFA DPS;
  - * analysis and reporting;
  - * dissemination - 'portal' prototype.

- => 'seamless' system interlinking indicators, fact-sheets, underpinning analyses & data, and WWW publishing.

ENHIS-2 outputs (*cont'd*)

- Health impact assessment of indoor air pollution & noise; expanding outdoor air pollution and drinking water assessments to all participating countries

- Inventory of EH policies created => review of policy information needs

Thank you

http://www.euro.who.int/EHindicators

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Environment and Health Information Systems