Development of Environment and Health Indicators for EU countries

(Agreement SPC 2002300)

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

ECHI Meeting: Luxembourg, 19-20 February 2004
THE ENVIRONMENT

Project scope

Areas related to living and working conditions

C3. Housing Conditions
C4. Home and leisure activities: Accidents at home
C5. Transport: Road accidents
C6. External environment:
   Air pollution
   Water pollution
   Other (incl. Noise)
   Radiation

(Annex II of Decision No 1400/97/EC)
THE INDICATORS

Driving forces ➔ Pressures ➔ Environment pollution ➔ Exposure ➔ attributable causes ➔ Health outcome

Preventive Actions ➔ Remedial

WHO European Centre for Environment and Health
ECOEHIS PROJECT PROGRESS

WHO EH indicators vis-à-vis EC legislation (i)

Based on expert review of legislation & feedback from the Member States, WHO Meeting (Berlin, May 2003):

- Identified a tentative set of EH indicators, adequate for policy-oriented monitoring in EU;
ECOEHIS PROJECT PROGRESS (cont)

WHO EH indicators vis-à-vis EC legislation (ii)

- 1st Meeting of the ECOEHIS Network: mechanism for effective project implementation and its relevance for the MS

- Agreement on indicator adjustments for harmonisation with the EC legislation
ECOEHIS PROJECT PROGRESS (cont)

Adjustments in methodology of the WHO EH Indicator Set on:

- Air quality
- Water and sanitation
- Chemicals
- Radiation
ECOEHIS PROJECT PROGRESS (cont)

Developmental Work:

Housing - health indicators
Noise - health indicators
Road Traffic Accidents indicators
## OUTCOMES: A set of Environment and Health indicators

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<th>EH ISSUE</th>
<th>Driving Forces</th>
<th>Pressures</th>
<th>State</th>
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# Indicator
A set of Environment and Health indicators

Altogether 43 indicators:

‘Genuine’ indicators:
Exposure, health effects ... 23

‘Background’ indicators:
Driving forces, pressures ... 10

‘Context’ indicators:
Policies, interventions ... 10
Pilot Study and next steps

WHO Meeting (Luxembourg, 29-30 January 2004):

- Selected the set of 43 indicators
- Designed the pilot study protocol
- Agreed on criteria for indicator evaluation

Next steps:

- Pilot testing
- Consultation with the MS
- Report to EC: EH indicator set & guidelines
On the 'First Phase ECHI Core Indicators':

Which are the best candidate / choice to describe the multifaceted health-environment links?

OPTION 1: One highly aggregated indicator (& sub-)

EBoD e.g. DALYs attributable to environmental pollution

OPTION 2: Composite indicators

Housing and health: 9 indicators => 3 dimensions

(i) Indoor comfort: extremes of indoor temperature; indoor radon; dampness/mould; housing hygiene
ON THE ECHI CORE INDICATORS (cont)

(ii) Safety: housing safety and accidents; crime and fear of crime

(iii) Use/ economy: accessibility; affordability; crowding

OPTION 3: Indicators on cross-cutting issues:

Injuries/ prevention: traffic accidents; domestic accidents

Commonalities within ECHI: e.g. EUROCHIP, CHILD

Harmonisation of definitions and information/data re-use??
ON THE ECHI CORE INDICATORS (cont)

OPTION 4: Use of indicators in reporting:
   (i) Formulating list of questions
   (ii) User-windows
Thank You
Example: the drinking water compliance

**Policy/regulatory context**

**Reporting obligations**
THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

Propose and report to EC DG SANCO

Environment and Health Indicators:

1) Ready and recommended for implementation
2) Ready, but not feasible for immediate implementation
3) Desirable though requiring further developmental work
ECOEHIS: a strand of WHO/Europe collaborative process

DG SANCO Public Health Monitoring Programme

ECOEHIS
Partner countries:
- Austria
- Belgium
- Denmark
- France
- Finland
- Germany
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Spain
- Sweden

EC E & H Strategy
Budapest E & H Ministerial Conference
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