

**ENSP FRAMEWORK PROJECT 2000/2001
GRANT AGREEMENT N° S12 316638
(2001 CVG2 –001)
15/9/2000 – 15/9/2001**

***Operation of the European Network for Smoking Prevention
(ENSP)***

FINAL REPORT

14 December 2001

1. Technical Report

Executive Summary

The operation of the European Network for Smoking Prevention was started on time and has followed the general work plan outlined in the grant agreement. Network membership was increased from 342 to 352 registered member organisations. Two ENSP General Assemblies-network meetings had taken place in Paris and Sigtuna (Sweden), Board meetings were organised as scheduled and the network manager attended five major international policy conferences. Only 4 visits were made to national coalitions, however closer links were established with disease related organisations in order to motivate their national counterparts to participate in the national networking effort of the coalitions against tobacco.

Information exchange

The ENSP website was updated regularly with a full revision being planned in 2002. The ENSP electronic list server increased its participation from 369 in Sept 2000 to 469 in September 2001. One information bulletin only was published of the four publications planned. More time and effort had been put instead into the development of the electronic exchange of information. An ENSP activity report 2000/2001 was published and sent out to the members of the European Parliament and other policy makers..

Policy development

ENSP had actively participated in European policy building by co-ordinating activities and developing common strategies in support for EU legislation. The EU directive on the regulation of tobacco products was strongly supported. This was done through several co-ordinated letter writing campaigns and concentrated advocacy activity to European policy makers from national coalitions and specialised networks. These activities were instrumental in the adoption of the directive proposal by the Health Council and European Parliament in May 2001.

The annulment of the EU advertising directive was felt as a great blow to public health in Europe. A European strategy group composed of health network representatives, of which ENSP is a member, prepared an “ alternative “advertising directive proposal. The document was motivated by great concern over the possibility of a weak alternative directive proposal by the European Commission. This proposal for a comprehensive directive proposal was endorsed by ENSP member organisations and European health networks and transmitted to the European Commission and EU policy makers.

ENSP followed closely the development of the new public health programme that was foreseen initially for 2001 – 2006. An ENSP position paper was submitted requesting an increased budget, more involvement of the NGO community in the implementation of the new program and more emphasis on “Health Determinants” the third objective of the future program. ENSP has been invited to be a member of the European Health Policy Forum.

ENSP closely collaborated during this period with WHO Regional office for Europe, promoted understanding of and generated support for the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and participated in the WHO public hearing in October 2000 as well as an observer in the FCTC negotiations in May 2001.

Co-ordination of ENSP Framework project

The final report for the ENSP framework project 1999/2000 was submitted in time including the financial and technical report of all subproject partners.

Administration and co-ordination of the 2000/2001 project was extremely difficult as the grant agreement with the Commission was signed only in May 2001. ENSP had to constantly explain and motivate project partners to adhere to the project and not lose faith in the Europe against Cancer Programme. Much time and effort was invested in the organisation and planning of an additional ENSP project “the European status report and European conference on smoke free workplaces”. The project was successfully finalised . A separate final report has been submitted for this project.

The framework project building procedure for the 2001 ENSP grant application had been initiated generating 24 project proposals. A project building workshop had been organised in July 2001 to co-ordinate similar project themes into single grant applications. ON October 30, 2001 a framework grant application was successfully finalised with 12 subprojects for a total amount of 4,352 million Euro requesting an EU grant of 2,998 million Euro.

An independent evaluation study of the ENSP operation was conducted by the Flemish Institute for Health Promotion Belgium (VIG). The Evaluation study of ENSP has shown that its capacity to operate as a network of partners engaged in a collaborative effort is comparable to that of other international networks. Both from the questionnaire and from the in-depth interviews it appears that ENSP is mostly perceived as a very useful network . Useful guidance has been developed in the recommendations which will be taken up in the next ENSP action plan.

Based on the experience of this project 2000/2001, ENSP has earmarked following issues as priority matters in its future action plan:

- Increase of information capacity
- Involvement of health professionals organisations
- Smoke free workplaces
- Collaboration with accession countries
- Influencing the international agenda
- Changing the EU Treaty
- Making Health a new value

TECHNICAL REPORT

Introduction :

The European Network for Smoking Prevention was created in 1997 as an international non profit association under Belgium law (aisbl). Its mission is to develop a strategy for co-ordinated action among organisations active in tobacco control in Europe. The aim is to create greater coherence among smoking prevention activities and to promote comprehensive tobacco control policies at both national and European level. In June 2001 the network counted 352 member organisations in the European Region. The majority of organisations is established in the European Union, EFTA countries and EU accession states.

The ENSP framework project 2000 consists of the operation of the European Network for Smoking Prevention and 8 sub-projects conducted under the “Annual Work Program 2000” , Third action plan to combat cancer (1996-2000) Decision N° 646/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 March 1996.

The European Network for Smoking Prevention (ENSP) is the project leader and overall co-ordinator.

Due to the late signature of the grant agreement with the Commission (May 2001), most projects could not fulfil the planned programme. This poses a particular problem for government agencies who are linked to very strict budgetary rules.

The activities carried out under the grant agreement started on September 15, 2000. The 8 sub projects are carried out between 15 September 2000 and 15 September 2001. In order to allow for the final technical and financial report to be drawn up, the ENSP core activity was foreseen for an additional 3 months until 15 December 2001. An addendum was introduced to the present contract to shorten that period, as a follow-up contract has been granted for the ENSP core activity for 2001/2002.

Individual technical reports are attached per project in annex :

1. European status report and European conference on smoking in the workplace
2. Pharmacists against tobacco
3. International Network of Women against Tobacco (INWAT) - Europe
4. European Network of “Quitlines”
5. Globalink- Telecommunications for European smoking prevention
6. European Network of Hospitals against tobacco
7. Smoking, women and low income
8. Development of Tobacco Control Training Programs for European Dentists

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

ENSP is registered as an international non profit association under Belgian law – registration Nr. 16377/97. At the end of this final report, the executive Board of ENSP is composed of five members. According to the rules laid down in the ENSP statutes, Dr. G. Boëthius and Ms Marie Paule Prost have been co-opted to the Board following resignation of Prof. Gilles Brücker (France) and Patti White (UK) for professional reasons. A regular election to the Board will take place in November 2001.

- President :

NETHERLANDS

Mrs Trudy Prins, STIVORO (Dutch Foundation on Smoking and Health)

PB 84370, NL - 2508 AJ Den Haag

NI – The Netherlands

- Vice-President :

SPAIN

Dr Joan-Ramon Villalbi, Institut Municipal de Salut Pública (IMSP)

Plaça Lesseps, 1 -E - 08023 Barcelona

E-Spain

- Treasurer :

IRELAND

Dr Fenton Howell , ASH Ireland

1, Victoria Terrace - Laytown Country Meath

IRL - Ireland

- Member

SWEDEN

Dr Göran Boëthius , Swedish Doctors against Tobacco

c/o Yrkesföreningar Mot Tobak

Box 298 , S - 101 25 Stockholm

S-Sweden

- Member

LUXEMBOURG

Mme Marie-Paule Prost - Fondation Luxembourgeoise contre le Cancer

209, route d'Arlon - L - 1150 Luxembourg

Lx-Luxembourg

In 2001, ENSP had 352 member organisations (342 organisations in 2000) operating in the framework of national coalitions against tobacco or specialised European networks.

A mailing list of 1020 addresses (884 in the previous year) is included in the exchange of information and experience. An ENSP Internet site <http://www.ensp> is updated regularly on latest information available. Since March 2000, an electronic conference site is operated to improve exchange of information and experience on European level.

Following work plan was determined in the grant agreement :

I. Management and co-ordination of the network activities:

1. Operation of a permanent secretariat in Brussels
2. Co-ordination of national coalitions and specialised networks (including visits to national coalitions and networks)
3. Support EU legislation in tobacco control
4. Development of co-ordinated strategies in tobacco control on priority issues
5. Organisation of 5 Board meetings
6. Organisation of 2 ENSP General Assemblies in Autumn 2000 and Spring 2001. The ENSP general assembly of Spring 2001 will be a collaborative event between ENSP and ENYPAT .
7. Conducting an independent evaluation of the activities of the network
8. Exchange of information and experience including EU accession countries
9. Publication of 4 network newsletters and an Annual Report
10. Management and update of an ENSP Internet site and ENSP conference site
11. Attendance at 5 conferences and/or fairs

II. Interaction between non governmental and intergovernmental organisations

12. Represent the view of tobacco control organisations in conferences and meetings
13. Participate in the WHO European partnership project
14. Participate in the WHO committee for a Tobacco Free Europe
15. Support the WHO Framework convention on tobacco control

III. Co-ordination and management of large scale European projects

16. Management of ENSP framework project 1999 CAN 36912 (including site visits to project partners, intermediate and final reports)
17. Management of the ENSP framework project 2000 CAN 149, including site visits to project partners, intermediate and final reports of following sub-projects:
 - European conference and European status report on smoking in the workplace
 - Development of tobacco control training programs for European dentists based on analyses of their tobacco control attitudes and practices
 - European network of Quit lines
 - Smoking, women and low income
 - Globalink: telecommunications for European smoking prevention
 - International network of women against tobacco (Europe)
 - Pharmacists against smoking
 - Réseau européen hôpital sans tabac
18. Development of an ENSP framework project application 2001. A project building workshop will be organised for potential partners in Spring 2001.

- *The EU Directive on the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco products – Adoption of Directive proposal by European Parliament and Council.*

During the directive's period of discussion ENSP members participated in several meetings and workshops organised by health-related networks. The aim of these meetings was the development of a common position to be taken by NGOs concerned with the directive. The ENSP information service provided details on the directive proposal in order to increase understanding and support amongst NGOs in Europe. This resulted in several co-ordinated letter writing campaigns and concentrated advocacy activity to European policy makers from national coalitions and specialised networks. These activities were instrumental in the adoption of the directive proposal by the Health Council and European Parliament in May 2001.

- *EU Advertising Directive – New proposal development following directive's annulment.*

Following the annulment of the directive by the European Court of Justice, ENSP together with the European Respiratory Society and European Heart Network, commissioned a study to explore the possibility of using Art 153 (consumer protection) of the Amsterdam Treaty as an alternative legal base for a new advertising directive proposal. The study conducted by Prof. T. Bourgoignies of the Consumer Policy Centre, confirmed the possibility of this hypothesis and was communicated to the Commission services in charge of redrafting a new advertising directive proposal.

A European strategy group composed of health network representatives, of which ENSP is a member, prepared an alternative advertising directive proposal in April 2001 under the guidance of Ash (London). The document was motivated by great concern over the possibility of a weak alternative directive proposal by the European Commission. This proposal for a comprehensive directive proposal was endorsed by ENSP member organisations and European health networks and transmitted to the European Commission and EU policy makers.

- *The EU Public Health Programme (2001-2006) – Integration of adequate provision for tobacco control.*

The proposal for a new Public Health Programme (2001-2006) was made public by the European Commission in May 2000.

The ENSP network agreed that their members must campaign intensively to ensure that

- The current public health programmes were extended for another 2 years (until end of 2002) to guarantee continuity of action until the adoption of the new programme
- Tobacco and smoking issues are clearly seen both as part of the responsibility and as a priority of the new public health framework.
- Funding made available for the new programme is increased.
- NGO networks are closer associated with the EU decision-making process relating to the new programme.

In collaboration with European health networks, ENSP proposed specific amendments to the future programme of community action in the field of public health. Several subsequent

amendments proposed by the members of the European Parliament reflected the concerns expressed by the networks and have been taken into account in the amended proposal of the European Commission.

- *European Health Forum*

ENSP submitted a position paper on the planned European Health Forum following a call for opinion by the Director of Public Health. On invitation of the European Commission, ENSP attended an informal meeting prior to the creation of the European Policy Forum on July 12, 2001 in Luxembourg.

Development of co-ordinated strategies in tobacco control on priority issues

- *European conference and status report on smoking in the Workplace*

In October 1998 the ENSP General Assembly elected smoke free workplaces as one of their priorities. There are 151 million working citizens in the EU, making up 40.3% of the total EU population. A study undertaken by Philip Morris (1992) concluded that if smoking was banned in all workplaces, average consumption would decline by over 10% and quitting rates would increase by 74%.

Funding to organise a European conference and produce a status report on the current situation in Europe was granted by the European Commission in 2000/2001. ENSP is the project leader, with the German Cancer Society responsible for the conference organisation and the Dutch Centre for Workplace Health Promotion (GBW) responsible for the co-ordination of the European status report.

European conference

The conference was organised over two days in May 2001 in Berlin, Germany. The conference attracted an international audience, including participants from the US, Japan and many accession countries. ENSP offered bursaries to three participants from Turkey, Slovenia and Bulgaria. In total, more than 200 delegates from 26 countries attended. The conference achieved constructive dialogue but also triggered heated debate. However, a common conference declaration was still achieved by the delegates, which reflected the discussions and workshop conclusions. A significant result of the conference was the decision of the Trade Union Congress (UK) to develop a European Network of Trade Union officials responsible for health and safety of workers exposed to environmental tobacco smoke.

European status report

The European status report is a multinational collaborative effort. The aim is to create a baseline document that will give a clear picture of smoking prevention at the workplace in Europe, and support policy development in this area. The report informs on health risks from active and passive smoking; legislation and legal practice on smoking at the workplace and in public places in Europe; smoking prevention policies in European countries and companies; and costs/benefits of workplace smoking policies.

The report has been published in English and will be available end of December 2001 on the ENSP web site (www.ensp.org) in English, German, French, Italian and Spanish..

A separate final report has been submitted for this project.

5. Organisation of 5 Board meetings

- *ENSP Board meeting - September 19, 2000 Brussels (Belgium)*

Juan Villalbi and Patti White could not attend the meeting

A debriefing discussion concerning the Lisbon general assembly took place and the state of advance of the logistics for the Paris conference was presented by Prof. Brücker. The accounts and the new budget for 2000/2001 were presented for approval. The situation of the

Tobacco Fund was presented and discussed. A resolution to the organising committee of the 12th World Conference on Tobacco or Health was presented to the Board members signed by the authors in their personal capacity. The Board members endorsed this statement and decided to pass it officially to Liisa Elovainio, president of the conference.

- *ENSP Board discussion - January 19, 2001 Conference call*

Gilles Brücker could not attend the conference call

This conference call was organised as a matter of urgency, as the contract signature for the 2000/2001 project grant was again delayed by the European Commission. It was decided to ask for a meeting with Commissioner Byrne as an ultimate solution if the situation would deteriorate. The Board agreed to launch a call for proposals for 2002, even if the extension of the EAC programme did not give sufficient insurance as to whether or not there would be another call for proposals.

- *ENSP Board meeting - February 2, 2001 Den Haag (The Netherlands)*

All members of the Board were present at the meeting

At the request of the new chairman of ENSP, the meeting was scheduled in Den Haag as it coincided with a steering group meeting for the smoke free workplace project. In this way, travel costs could be reduced to a minimum for both projects.

The secretary general reported on the daily management of the central office in Brussels and latest policy development on EU level was discussed. A follow-up discussion on the Paris General Assembly took place. However, the essential agenda point of this Board meeting was to prepare the next General Assembly in Sigtuna Sweden at the occasion of the Swedish Presidency. A lengthy discussion took place to clarify the role of ENSP in policy support and consensus building among member organisations.

- *ENSP Board meeting - MARCH 30, 2001 SIGTUNA (SWEDEN)*

Gilles Brücker could not attend the meeting. He resigned from the Board and so did Patti White. It was decided to propose G. Boëthius and M.P. Prost for co-option to the general assembly. The agenda points of the General Assembly were discussed and final arrangements taken as to the logistics of the meeting.

- *ENSP Board meeting June 20, 2001 Barcelona (Spain)*

The Board was informed that the Smoke free workplace conference had been taken place successfully attracting more than 200 participants from 26 countries. Dissemination of results were agreed. SF also informed that finally the contract with the Commission had been signed in May 2001 for a project starting on September 12, 2000. Various policy issues were discussed such as the Framework Convention negotiations, the future public health programme, the joint strategy meeting to be organised by UICC/ECL in October 2001 in Brussels and the FWP 2000/2001 interim report. A first brainstorming session took place concerning the organisation of the next ENSP general assembly in Helsinki on November 16/17 2001.

5. Organising 2 General Assemblies – ENSP network meetings

The network delegates and observers come together biannually at the ENSP network conferences. These conferences focus on key topics relating to tobacco control issues in Europe. European and international specialists are invited, forming a panel of experts able to speak with proficiency on the chosen topics. The objective of these Network Conferences is information exchange and the consolidation of knowledge, with the ultimate aim of building consensus. This is quite a challenge when considering the different cultural, political and legislative backgrounds of the countries involved. Conferences result in common declarations on topics of particular concern. By developing consensus amongst European representatives the network creates a powerful and united force that shapes tobacco control policy.

- *Paris – November 24/26, 2001 (ANNEX 1 - conference report)*

60 delegates from 20 countries attended this joint strategy meeting that was opened by Mrs Marie Thérèse Hermange, Member of the European Parliament and deputy mayor of Paris. Several experts with an international reputation spoke about a variety of policy issues. Mr Jules Maaten, (Member of the European Parliament) shared his knowledge of the EU Tobacco regulation directive. A member of the French negotiation team reported on the EU position of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, and Mrs Heidi Rathjen, Co-ordinator of the Quebec Coalition against Tobacco, presented her experience on coalition building in Canada. During interactive workshop sessions, delegates developed common strategies on four vital European policy issues:

- The EU tobacco regulation directive
- The EU advertising directive
- The European Public Health Programme
- The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Discussions culminated in a conference declaration, expressing deep concern at the annulment by the European Court of Justice of the EU directive banning advertising and sponsorship of tobacco products. European non governmental organisations urged the European Commission, Council of Ministers and members of the European Parliament to work towards a strong new directive proposal, banning all forms of advertising, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products. The declaration also calls for an EU Treaty revision allowing harmonisation of legislation on public health grounds.

- *Sigtuna – March 30/31 2001 (ANNEX 2 - conference report)*

The conference held during the Swedish Presidency, was made up of 57 delegates from 20 European countries. The focus of the conference was on research funding relating to tobacco control. Good practice was presented, with contributions from WHO on their global tobacco surveillance scheme. Dr Dileep Bal made a dynamic presentation of the California tobacco control experience, where a comprehensive tobacco control program voted in 1989 achieved a long term reduction in cigarette consumption of 10-13%. Identification of new funding opportunities for European tobacco research projects were discussed with the European Commission's Directorate General Research. In addition, European project leaders presented the main research results from the ENSP project grant application 1999/2000.

The negotiating position adopted by the European Union and its Member States on the Framework Convention for Tobacco Control was a major item for discussion. Delegates were

dismayed at the weak approach of the European Union, which had reduced its negotiation position to the “*acquis communautaire*”. The Sigtuna declaration called upon the European Union to show international political leadership and support a comprehensive framework convention which addresses all issues best regulated at an international level.



Call for European political leadership Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Conference declaration

The General Assembly of the European Network for Smoking Prevention, with participation of 57 delegates from 20 European countries urges the governments of the European Union to show political leadership in Europe by taking a strong position in the negotiations for the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

The delegates call upon the European Member States to support a comprehensive framework convention including measures that can only be addressed at an international level. It is therefore necessary to take an EU position which goes beyond the “acquis communautaire”. European public health organisations urge all governments to adopt the following measures :

Two protocols on advertising and smuggling should be negotiated simultaneously with the FCTC:

1. Since 10 EU countries have, or soon will have, comprehensive bans on tobacco advertising, European governments should support a ban on all forms of tobacco advertising and promotion, including brand stretching and all forms of electronic communication – such as the internet - without distinguishing advertising reportedly directed at adults and young people.
2. Since nine EU countries have launched a legal action on smuggling against three major international tobacco companies and because widespread tobacco smuggling can thoroughly undermine national tobacco control activities, all governments should endorse strong measures to combat tobacco smuggling including clear and effective judicial, legal and liability measures; this should include measures in the Convention on pack markings to indicate the origin and final destination of tobacco goods.

In the interest of public health, the FCTC provisions must take precedence over trade agreements. Moreover, the Convention must not undermine existing tobacco control initiatives or regulations in any signatory state, nor prevent, preempt or discourage any party from taking stronger action than required by the FCTC. In order to make a strong and binding treaty, a series of specific commitments should feature within the convention; these include particularly

- a ban on all forms of tobacco advertising and promotion, including brand stretching and all forms of electronic communication – such as the internet - without distinguishing advertising reportedly directed at adults and young people;
- strong measures to combat tobacco smuggling including clear and effective judicial, legal and liability measures; this should include measures in the Convention on pack markings to indicate the origin and final destination of tobacco goods;
- Prominent health warnings covering at least 50% of the pack in the main language of the country where the goods are to be sold;
- A ban on all internet and mail order sales of tobacco products;
- A ban on tax free sales of tobacco products;
- An end to subsidies to tobacco growers with a special fund to help farmers make the transition to other activities.

The European non governmental organisations call upon the EU Presidency to set up a transparent and permanent structure to inform NGOs on EU positions during and at the FCTC negotiations.

7. Conducting an independent evaluation of the activities of the network - (Evaluation report –(ANNEX 3)

- *Background*

This evaluation study is commissioned by the Executive Board of the European Network for Smoking Prevention (ENSP) to the Flemish Institute of Public Health, Brussels (VIG). The purpose of the study is to assess the extent to which the network meets its objectives within the framework of the Europe Against Cancer Program of the European Commission (EC): to distribute information, to enhance collaboration, to promote and facilitate activities and to stimulate joint projects of national coalitions and organisations working in the area of tobacco control in the EC member countries, and to support the establishment of alliances in Central and Eastern Europe. The study covers the period of ENSP's third contract with the EC (October 1998 – September 2001) and will build on a similar evaluation round performed by the Health Education Authority (HEA) in 1998, covering the period between May 1997 and September 1998.

- *Aims and objectives of the study*

The *aim* of the present study is to assess the extent to which the ENSP has met its formal objectives during the designated period (October 1998 – September 2001), and has addressed the recommendations made on the basis of the 1998 evaluation (McNeill, 1998¹). In addition, the study will consider the internal strengths and weaknesses of the network (including its capacity to operate as a network and its visibility to members and other stakeholders), as well as external factors which facilitate or impede the network's performance (including structural barriers).

The specific *objectives* of the study are:

- (1) To assess the degree to which the ENSP works towards meeting its formal objectives.
- (2) To assess the degree to which the recommendations for the network and for the national coalition representatives specified in the 1998 evaluation report have been integrated in the activities and positioning of the network.
- (3) To assess the capacity of ENSP as a network of partners engaged in a collaborative effort.
- (4) To assess the visibility and perceived utility of the ENSP network by its target groups (members and European policy makers).
- (5) To identify external structural barriers which impact on the performance of ENSP.

- *Target groups*

The primary target group for this evaluation study are the members of the General Assembly of ENSP. The GA consists of delegates of national coalitions against smoking from each of the 15 EU member states + Norway, Iceland Switzerland and Czech Republic (n = 36), representatives of European tobacco control networks (n = 11), and observers from intergovernmental organisations (n = 3).

¹ McNeill, A. (1998). Building a tobacco control network. An evaluation of the European Network for Smoking Prevention. London: Health Education Authority.

Other stakeholders for whom the results of the study will be of interest include:

- associated members of ENSP, i.e. representatives of contact organisations working in tobacco control on a national or European level in the European Region.
- co-ordinators of the 17 ENSP framework sub-projects 1999-2001.
- European-level policy makers in the area of public health (MEP's and EU High-level Cancer Experts Committee and representatives of WHO European Region).

- *Method*

For the evaluation study the following method will be applied:

- (1) To assess the degree to which ENSP works towards meeting its formal objectives (objective 1), a *questionnaire survey* will be held among the members of the General Assembly of ENSP. To enable comparison with the 1998 data, the same questionnaire will be used as applied in the McNeill evaluation study.
- (2) To assess the degree to which ENSP has addressed the recommendations specified in the 1998 evaluation report (objective 2), a number of specific questions will be added to the McNeil questionnaire for completion by the members of the General Assembly.
- (3) To assess the capacity of ENSP as a network of partners engaged in a collaborative effort (objective 3), the members of the General Assembly will be asked to complete a version of the *Questionnaire for Organisational Partnership* (CACSH, 2000)². This 68-item questionnaire assesses partnership synergy, defined as “the extent to which a partnership combines the perspectives, resources, and skills of its partners to accomplish objectives that individual partners are unable to bring about alone”, as well as its main determinants (quality of leadership, administration/management, governance, adequacy of resources, problems with partnership involvement, and problems related to the community), using respondents’ scores on factor-analytically derived scales the psychometric qualities of which have been clearly demonstrated.
- (4) To assess the visibility and perceived utility of the ENSP network among its target groups (objective 4), a short e-mail questionnaire (10 items) will be sent out to the ENSP e-mail list server and to the co-ordinators of the 17 ENSP framework sub-projects. The information will be supplemented by qualitative data deriving from an interview with an MEP who is familiar with the public health sector and a representative of the WHO European region office in Copenhagen.
- (5) To identify external structural possibilities and barriers which impact on the performance of ENSP (objective 5), a document analysis will be performed on ENSP annual reports. This information will be supplemented by interviews with the president and secretary general of ENSP.

² Lasker, R.D., Weiss, E.S., & Miller, R. (2000). Promoting collaborations that improve health. New York: Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health , Division of Public Health, New York Academy of Medicine.

These two questionnaires were distributed among the members of the General Assembly, yielding response rates of 52% and 48%, respectively. A reduced version of the McNeill evaluation questionnaire was sent to the associated members and the co-ordinators of the ENSP framework subprojects, yielding a response rates of 29,3% and 50%, respectively. In addition, semi-structured Interviews were held with a representative of the WHO European region office, with a member of the General Assembly who could not complete the questionnaires, and with the president and the secretary general of ENSP.

- *Timing of the evaluation study*
 - 1-15 June 2001:
 - adaptation of the survey questionnaire for the GA and drafting of the e-mail questionnaire for direct members and project co-ordinators
 - collection of addresses (in collaboration with secretary general)
 - 15-30 June 2001:
 - dissemination of the survey questionnaire and the *Questionnaire for Organisational Partnership* to the members of the GA, and dissemination of the short e-mail questionnaire to direct members and project co-ordinators.
 - 1- 31 July 2001:
 - analysis of questionnaire data
 - document analysis
 - interviews with president, secretary general and MEP
 - 1-15 August 2001:
 - analysis of interview data
 - interpretation of questionnaire data
 - 16 August-15 September 2001:
 - writing up the evaluation report

Results

With regard to the *realisation of the objectives* of ENSP, the results of this evaluation study indicate that progress has been made towards *establishing and consolidating national coalitions* for smoking prevention in the Member States. The number of members representing a national coalition has slightly increased during the past four years, indicating that the strength of the national alliances is growing. Being a member of ENSP also seems to have improved the work of inter-governmental organisations in tobacco control.

Progress has also been made since the previous evaluation with regard to the *facilitation of the operation of national alliances*, in that most of the principles that have been specifically formulated to reach this objective have been at least partially implemented. However, two principles have only partially been achieved, i.e., the representation of all actors working in the field of tobacco control on national level, and the respect for the specificity and individual

identity of each of its members. These principles need to be given more attention in the future.

Being a member of ENSP facilitated *working for other European anti-smoking networks*. However, the majority of respondents still feel a need to develop general principles for European anti-smoking networks.

With regard to the *collaboration within ENSP* and the role of the network in *distributing information*, the study reveals that the meetings of the General Assembly are considered an efficient way to exchange information and share experiences. A majority of respondents is satisfied with the frequency of two meetings per year. For most respondents, the access to relevant information has increased since they became a member of ENSP. A number of members would nevertheless welcome more information. It is suggested that an information officer be appointed who can collect, analyse and distribute relevant information. The Circular Letters distributed by ENSP are considered a good way to provide information to the members, but members should be encouraged to pass these letters on to other members of their coalition or network to obtain a wider circulation and dissemination of information.

The European framework project appears to be an effective way to *develop and manage projects* with an European added value. However, it is important for ENSP to create more transparency regarding the procedure for bidding for funding from the EU and for the evaluation of the project proposals.

Finally, almost all respondents are satisfied with the *ENSP staff*. The staff members are regarded as highly competent persons who are very efficient and accessible and available when people need them.

For most respondents, their *expectations* about the ENSP network had at least partially been achieved. Apparently, the expectations that were mostly fulfilled refer to issues that can be reached in a relatively short period of time, like the exchange of experience and know-how. More long-term outcomes, such as the increase of political strength to mobilise national actors, other organisations and public authorities, could only partially be achieved according to most respondents.

In terms of the *priorities* for the network, facilitating the creation and operation of national alliances for smoking prevention in each Member State of the European Union and the collection and distribution of information between the institutions of the European Union, the Member States and the Members of the Network, remain the highest priority.

With regard to the degree to which the *recommendation of the McNeill study* have been addressed, three of the recommendations have largely been achieved: to give more priority to the use of electronic networking; to monitor the resources necessary to manage the Framework project and to ensure it does not jeopardise other priorities; and to position the Framework project firmly within newly developing structures within the EC. With regard to the other recommendations, however, less progress has been made. Specifically, two recommendations deserve more attention. Firstly, the information obtained from the Commission and from Member States should be analysed more precisely; and secondly, national coalitions or their development in Central and Eastern European countries need to be given more attention and encouragement. In order to create a pan-European network, special attention must be given to this part of Europe in the future.

As regards the *network capacities of ENSP*, the findings indicate that the capacities of ENSP to operate as a network of partners engaged in a collaborative effort is comparable to that of other networks. The majority of the respondents recognise the benefits of participation in the network and do not highlight the drawbacks. They are also reasonably satisfied about the leadership of ENSP, about its non-financial resources and about the manner in which internal and community-related challenges are countered. On the negative side, a lower level of partnership efficiency is noticed, which means that the network compared to other partnerships makes less good use of the partners' in-kind resources and time. For the future development of ENSP, more attention thus needs to be given to enhancing the efficient use of these resources by recruiting, retaining and motivating partners. In addition, greater priority should be given to increasing the efficiency of the administration and management of the network. Finally, it was found that the financial resources are not considered as sufficient.

With regard to the *visibility and perceived utility of the ENSP network*, the study indicates that ENSP is mostly perceived as a very useful network, yet that further progress can be made to enhance its visibility. The network is well-known within the field of tobacco control, but outside this circle the visibility of ENSP is very limited. In this regard, the ENSP website needs a revision to increase its capacity as a powerful medium, and further emphasis should be given to disseminate the Circular Letter as an effective communication tool. A significant improvement of the communication between the different national coalitions and networks was achieved through the introduction of Globalink, which links intergovernmental, national and non-governmental organisations as well as individuals via a secured information system.

Finally, a word of caution is due with regard to the *methodological limitations* of this evaluation study. Since the evaluation is only based on a retrospective survey among people involved in the network using a self-report questionnaires, the findings are inevitably subjective. Moreover, the response rates for this study were rather low, and no control could be carried out with regard to the representatives of the sample surveyed. The findings from this study and the recommendations made on the basis of these findings must therefore be considered with caution.

8. Exchange of information and experience including EU accession countries

Electronic networking, information through web site updates, information bulletins, visits, network conferences are used to exchange information and experience. These means are described separately in the items concerned. We would like to highlight in this paragraph the importance of the conference « Youth and Smoking in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe » organised by the Hungarian Government and WHO European Region in Budapest on 16-18 November 2000.

This conference drew together about 100 representatives from Ministries of health, education and finance from 19 countries of Central and Eastern Europe. ENSP presented the work of the network and policy development in the European Union. ENSP also chaired a workshop on policy development. The interaction created during the conference was instrumental in collecting e-mail addresses to be added to the electronic information exchange which will help accession countries to integrate in ENSP project development.

Following the evaluation study which recommended closer co-operation with organisations in accession countries, ENSP plans to hold a satellite meeting 12th World conference Tobacco or Health in Helsinki in August 2003. Potential participants are NGO's active in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey.

The objective is to promote the work of non governmental organisations active in tobacco control in EU accession countries with a view to integrate into the ENSP networking effort.

Methodology:

- Invite non governmental organisations that have the potential to create a national coalition in each of the 13 accession countries
- Give an overview of the European Union Institutions and present results of tobacco control activities in Europe
- Identify common strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to the development of a comprehensive tobacco control policy in accession countries
- Discuss the implementation of EU legislation in accession countries
- Agree on tobacco control issues on which transnational collaboration can be initiated to participate in large scale European projects
- Lay the basis for an "Accession country" sub network of NGO's

Expected results :

Foster collaboration and create links between EU and accession country NGO's

Promote understanding for EU tobacco control policy issues .

Create understanding of tobacco control situation in accession countries

Adopt a common resolution on future of tobacco control in the European Region

9. Publication of 4 network newsletters and an Annual Report

- *Information bulletin : ENSP INFO NR. 5 - Funding opportunities available from the European Commission in 2001 (ANNEX 4)*

Only one information bulletin was published in May 2001 and sent to the ENSP mailing list (about 1000 addresses) in hard copy, to the electronic list server in electronic format, to Globalink as well as published on the ENSP web site. The title of the ENSP INFO NR 5 was “Project grants for tobacco control – Funding opportunities available from the European Commission in 2001. The objective of the bulletin was to promote participation of all organisations active in tobacco control in the grant application to the extension of the Europe against Cancer programme.

Following the evolution of electronic communication, ENSP has given preference to this means of communication (cf : e-mail list server) which is fast, timely and cost effective. It has been noted in the past, that information bulletins are often outdated when they reach the target group, as information moves fast and writing, printing and distribution through ordinary mail takes several weeks. In the future, ENSP Information bulletins will therefore propose more of general background information to facilitate day to day information on tobacco control politics.

- *Activity report 2000/2001 (ANNEX 5)*

A detailed activity report 2000/2001 was published in English and printed in 1000 copies. Copies were sent out to the Members of the European Parliament to promote tobacco control as an important issue on the political agenda.

10. Management and update of an ENSP web site and ENSP conference site

- *ENSP website*

The ENSP website was remodelled and updated during 2001. 1999/2000 Research results , 2000/2001 projects and the 2002 call for grant applications were published. EU legislative texts were updated and contact lists of MEP's and the European Union's Health Council compiled. More than a hundred hyperlinks were created with organisations world wide. The development will continue with the aim to turn our web site into a dynamic source of valuable information on the European tobacco control effort.

- *ENSP conference site - electronic list server*

An ENSP electronic conference site was set up as of January 2000 in collaboration with Globalink – (<http://join.globalink.org>) to gather support and distribute information on the FCTC and related tobacco control issues. Since the beginning, the site has been growing steadily both in participants and reputation. Feedback from participants has been very positive. They find the information sent of great interest and value to tobacco control in Europe. Several participants from Central and Eastern Europe have expressed how valuable it is for them to be kept up to date with what is happening in the rest of Europe. Many have commented that it is 'just the right amount of information' without overwhelming them. As one participant wrote:

"...the e-mails you have been sending in recent weeks have been really excellent and a credit to ENSP - always very clear, accurate and at the right time. I have really felt that ENSP has played a much more central role since you have been doing this."

There is a self-imposed policy of never sending out more than five messages per week, but the average is actually around two messages per week. This provides participants with the most pertinent information without being overloaded.

Every step is being taken to increase conference site/ mailing list membership to 1000 participant NGOs and widen the consultation to European public health networks. At the beginning of the present project period (September 2000) there were 369 network participants.

With the current updates to the ENSP database, a significant increase to the mailing list is foreseen as more members have email addresses now. There is a constant search for more Central and Eastern European participants but email addresses are difficult to obtain and are not always reliable.

Between September 1, 2000 and September 1, 2001 the electronic conference site has grown considerably increasing the participation from NGO's within the countries in the European Region. The most spectacular growth has occurred on international level where the interest in European tobacco control activities has risen from 19 participants in 9 countries to 74 participants in 22 countries.

<u>Region</u>	<u>September 2000</u>	<u>September 2001</u>
Western Europe	299 participants from 19 countries	332 participants from 19 countries
C&Eastern Europe	51 participants from 18 countries	63 participants from 18 countries
Other	19 participants from 9 countries	74 participants from 22 countries

11. Attendance at 5 conferences and/or fairs

Following conferences were attended during the period covered by this report. ENSP has made contributions on the work of the network and on issues related to EU tobacco control policy development in each of them.

October 25/26/27 , 2000	Barcelona (E)	WHO Tobacco Dependence Treatment
May 18/19, 2001	Luxembourg	ERS seminar – Tobacco Regulation in the European Community
June 18/19 , 2001	Brussels(B)	EPHA seminar on public health
June 24-26,2001	Brighton (UK)	World Cancer Congress
July 15-20, 2001	Paris (F)	World Conference on Health Promotion and Health Education

Part II. Interaction between non governmental and intergovernmental organisations

12. Represent the view of tobacco control organisations in conferences and meetings

ENSP has participated actively in international conferences to promote tobacco control in the general public health field:

- January 24, 2001 Brussels(Belgium) ENHPA seminar “Smoking and young people”
The project ‘Control of Adolescent Smoking’ (CAS), co-ordinated by the University of Edinburgh in partnership with seven academic institutes, has studied and compared national tobacco policies in eight European countries & regions, primarily in respect to the way these policies affect smoking policies and smoking restrictions in schools. This project had been funded by DG Research. ENSP was invited to present the policy situation in Europe. Interesting contacts were made with DG Research in view of further project funding.

- May 2, 2001 Geneva(Switzerland) Meeting steering group 12th WCTOH
ENSP is a member of the international steering group of the next world conference “Tobacco or Health” which will take place in Helsinki in August 2003. This meeting was the first international brainstorming session organised at the occasion of the Framework convention negotiations.

- June 24-26, 2001 Brighton (UK) World Cancer Congress – 3rd global conference for cancer organisations

S. Fleitmann presented a paper in the session: Tobacco control – practice and policy. Her presentation was: “building policy for smoke free workplaces in Europe: Uniting business, workers and government in a common interest for policy change.

- July 15-20, 2001 Paris XVI World Conference on Health Promotion and Health Education

S. Fleitmann chaired a session, organised and was the main speaker in a workshop on “How advocacy has brought about change in EU legislation” and presented a paper “Building policy for smoke free workplaces in Europe”.

- *Network partnerships*

ENSP works in close partnership with a number of European and international networks which have a strong link with smoking prevention, such as the International Union against Cancer/Association of European Cancer Leagues, the European Heart Network, the European Respiratory Society, the European Union of Non-Smokers and the international Framework Convention Alliance.

During 2000/2001 ENSP specifically extended its collaboration to the wider field of health networks such as,

- The European Network for Workplace Health Promotion (ENWHP) The ENWHP is developing strategies and policies which aim to improve the health of people at work. The network is closely related to the Ministries of Labour in EU member states, accession countries and Canada. Reaching the working world through ENWHP has proved to be an excellent means to promote smoking prevention in the workplace setting .

- The International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) The IUHPE is an independent, global network of health professionals who advocate actions that promote health. For too long tobacco control has been confined to a small circle of experts. It needs to expand to embrace a larger circle of health professionals if we want it to evolve into a genuine global health movement.

13. Participate in the WHO European partnership project

- *Collaboration with the World Health Organisation*

ENSP has been working with WHO in a number of areas, including participating in meetings; contributing to WHO conferences; transmitting information on WHO projects to network members; and assisting in the co-ordination between WHO and EU projects in order to create synergy and avoid overlap.

ENSP was invited to join the WHO European Partnership Project on Tobacco Dependence. In this role ENSP is able to assist in co-ordinating between the WHO project and the EU funded programmes in order to avoid project overlap and promote economy of scale. In addition the relationship between ENSP and the European Partnership Project is one of mutual support, with specific collaboration in the area of smoking prevention at the workplace. The WHO Partnership Project has become a partner in ENSP's European conference and status report on smoke free workplaces. In return ENSP is providing support and avoiding project overlap with the WHO funded "Policy audit to promote organisational response to workplace tobacco control". This policy audit is currently conducted with selected companies in Germany, UK, France and Poland.

Meeting attended : May 21, 2001 in Copenhagen.

14. Participate in the WHO Committee for a Tobacco Free Europe

ENSP was also invited to join the Committee for a Tobacco Free Europe (CTE) which was created in 1999 and set up to run for an initial 3 year period. The aim of the CTE is to give tobacco control a high profile in Europe with an emphasis on the promotion of the Framework Convention for Tobacco Control. The Committee has an advisory function and is made up of representatives of the European tobacco control movement, the European Commission and the World Bank. By way of our electronic information service, we have contributed to rise awareness among non governmental organisations in the European Region and trigger action on national and international level.

Following meetings of the project group were attended :

September 25, 2000	Copenhagen
December 11, 2000	Rome
April 3, 2001-09-10	Copenhagen

15. Support the WHO Framework convention on tobacco control

As part of its overall mission, ENSP supports the framework convention process by generating support from non-governmental organisations in Europe. The aim is to counter the lobbying activities of the tobacco industry and to persuade as many European governments as possible to sign a strong framework convention.

This will be done through collection and dissemination of pertinent and timely information through an electronic network in order to trigger culture specific advocacy activities from NGOs. Support strategies will be developed in co-ordination with WHO, the international Framework Convention Alliance (promoting similar activities among NGOs in the other WHO regions) and members of ENSP (now 352 organisations in Europe).

In October 2000 WHO organised a public hearing on the Framework Convention. ENSP produced its own submission to the hearing and was instrumental in promoting submissions from 36 organisations and networks from 17 European region countries. During the negotiations the European Union and its member states adopted a disappointingly weak position. ENSP member organisations expressed their concern in a common resolution for a strong Framework Convention.

ENSP participated in the second round of negotiations in Geneva end of April 2001 as a representative of the International Union of Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) and collaborated actively in the networking effort of the international coalition of non governmental organisations: Framework Convention Alliance.

Meetings were attended as follows:

October 12/13, 2000	Geneva	WHO Public Hearing
November 13, 2000	Luxembourg	EU Debriefing FCTC
INB1		
April 29-3May ,2001	Geneva	FCTC Negotiation (INB2)
June 11, 2001	Luxembourg	EU Debriefing FCTC INB2

III. Co-ordination and management of large scale European projects

16. Management of ENSP framework project 1999 CAN 36912

Having started in September 1999, the project CAN 36912 terminated in autumn 2000. The 1999 framework grant application was made up of 6 projects, drawing together 40 organisations from 14 countries for a total budget of 1,95 million Euro. The final report was successfully introduced within the require time span.

Results and policy recommendations emanating from the seven projects were presented to members of the European Parliament and press in November 2000. The press conference was hosted by Professor Trakatellis, Greek member of the European Parliament and rapporteur of the EU public health programme (2001-2006) The results were also published on the ENSP website.

17. Management of the ENSP framework project 2000 CAN 149, including site visits to project partners, intermediate and final reports of following sub-projects

In 2000 the project building procedure resulted in the management and co-ordination of 9 projects involving 97 organisations from 15 EU member states plus Norway, Iceland and Romania. The 12 months project, which had a budget of 2,8 million Euro, started in September 2000:

- European conference and European status report on smoking in the workplace
- Development of tobacco control training programs for European dentists based on analyses of their tobacco control attitudes and practices
- European network of Quit lines
- Smoking, women and low income
- Globalink: telecommunications for European smoking prevention
- International network of women against tobacco (Europe)

Due to the late signature of the contract agreement with the Commission, it was again extremely difficult to fulfil the contractual obligations. As a matter of fact, the contract was only signed in May, 8 months after the official start of the project. Many organisations took the risk to start the projects, many meetings that had been scheduled had to be cancelled and re-organised several month late. The co-ordination task with the European Commission services was incredibly demanding, both from an administrative and from a human point of view.

**ENSP Framework project 2000 (20000/CAN/149)
9 projects, 17 countries, 90 organisations
Preparation milestones
Activity period : 15 September 2000 – 15 September 2001**

Between 01/09 and 25/09	F. Grogna and V. Hilbert finalise every file.
28 September 2000	F. Grogna brings the last original documents to V. Hilbert in Luxembourg. V. Hilbert shows that the files are ready and confirms her intention to send them on the very day to the budgetary cell for check. S. Fleitmann (ENSP) and F. Grogna meet M. Lebacq and P. Van Buitenen for clarifications on working out the grant budgets and financial reports.
29 September 2000	V. Hilbert leaves the EC. The dossier is followed by E. Ambroisien.
08 November 2000	ENSP are informed that the network file will not be checked before 10 days.
20 November 2000	ENSP receive some minor remarks about the ENSP Core Grant budget, and are informed that the other partners' budgets have not been checked yet. ENSP are also informed of the 03 December as the deadline for the EC to commit the budgets.
30 November 2000	The dossier is transferred from E. Ambroisien to A. Goedert.
03 December 2000	Deadline for the EC to commit the budgets.
04 December 2000	EC request complementary documents and information.
05 December 2000	ENSP send complementary documents and info requested by EC (<u>NOTE</u> : all information already provided in July and September !).
14 February 2001	EC decides to postpone until 31/03/2001 the commitment of ENSP/ENYPAT contract (the credits of the year 2000 budget concerning the Cancer programme not being sufficient).
20 February 2001	EC informs ENSP of the 14/02 EC decision. The following (optimistic...) schedule is foreseen : when the necessary credits are made available by the EC accountant to DG SANCO, SANCO will be able to commit the ENSP funding request ; when this one is validated by the EC financial control department, the contract (2 originals) will be sent to ENSP for signature ; then, after signature by the EC Director General, the first payment can be made by the EC. This <u>may</u> take less than 1 month (!).
06 March 2001	The EC have decided that the contract can be signed only by the ENSP under condition that new attestation forms (affidavits) are previously signed by the project partners and transmitted to the EC. The new form is communicated to ENSP.
09 March 2001	ENSP fill in the attestations according to each project data and send them to each partner for signature.
22 March 2001	ENSP send to EC the 9 attestations signed by the project partners (legal representatives).
26 March 2001	EC enter the ENSP funding request into their internal computer system.
28 March 2001	The EC financial control ask to see the file.
04 April 2001	The file is sent to Brussels.
06 April 2001	The file is validated and sent back to Luxembourg.

09 April 2001	The file arrives in Luxembourg. The EC financial control ask to see the supporting documents.
18 April 2001	The EC financial control give their approval.
19 April 2001	The contract (SI2.316638 (2001CVG2-001) is sent to ENSP for signature. ENSP send it back to Luxembourg on 24/04/01.
03 May 2001	The EC Luxembourg receive the signed original (delay due to Belgian post office strikes) and immediately send it to EC Brussels.
04 May 2001	Receipt in Brussels.
10 May 2001	Signature by Mr Coleman.
29 May 2001	First payment received by ENSP.

Following visits were made in support of the framework project management :

September 28, 2000	Luxembourg	Co-ordinating meeting	Financial control
November 16/17, 2000	Barcelona	Administrative support to FW project (FG)	
September 11, 2001	Luxembourg	Meeting with M. Rajala, new head of Unit G2	

18. Development of an ENSP framework project application 2001.

Due to the delay in the adoption of the next EU public health programme (2001/2006) , the Europe Against Cancer Programme was been extended for another two years. The European Commission has issued a call for funding applications with a deadline of October 30, 2001.

In April 2001, ENSP addressed a call for project ideas to the European tobacco control community by way of the ENSP information bulletin Nr 5 . The call for proposals was also made through the ENSP list server and via Globalink to the international tobacco control community. 24 project proposals were received, based on previously defined priority areas:

- Health professionals
- Building and consolidating networks
- Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS)
- Legislation.

3 Evaluation teams were set up from tobacco control experts within the ENSP general assembly based on gender, geographic distribution and field of expertise. The established evaluation procedure consisted of : assessment with common score sheets, then conference call among evaluators to determine consensus on the overall score for each project proposal per evaluation category. An evaluation report was issued and sent for information to the project proposers. (ANNEX 6)

(Insérer list of projects received HP/ETS/LEG/BCN)

- **Project Building Workshop**

On July 9, 2001 a project building workshop was organised in Brussels. 20 participants were invited to the meeting .The participants were chosen based on the recommendations in the evaluation reports and on their capacity to act as facilitators. The aim of the workshop was to explain the administrative procedure which needs to be followed for EU grant applications, its pitfalls, obligations and opportunities and to merge similar proposals into single grant applications. 5 workshop themes were proposed :

- Health professionals
- Accession countries
- Evaluation
- Workplaces
- Data Collection

Agreement on successful mergers was reached for 4 projects. Participants from accession countries were proposed to define a common project. They preferred to integrate as a partner into projects led by experienced project leaders. All project leaders accepted to facilitate their participation.

Based on the evaluation and the workshop discussions 14 themes were earmarked to being built into large scale multinational European projects. Due to co-ordination difficulties and merger of several projects, only 11 projects and the ENSP core grant were successfully developed by October 30th and proposed for funding to the Europe against Cancer programme.

(Insert list of finalised projects introduced for funding)

18. Conclusion

Despite the late signature of the grant agreement with the European Commission, ENSP has successfully fulfilled its contractual obligations with the exception of the publication of only 1 information bulletin instead of 4 bulletins and less visits to national coalitions than projected.

The working relation with the Commission services was excellent in solving administrative problems on all levels. Collateral collaboration has also been established with other units in the Public Health Directorate. Meetings were attended with the Health Promotion Unit G3 in view of integrating NGO networks working on health issues on European level in the future Health Promotion program.

A great step forward was the collaboration with the European Network for Workplace Health Promotion which opened new perspectives on bringing tobacco control into the workplace. Through collaboration with this Network of government agencies, we have the opportunity to associate representatives of Ministries of Social Affairs and Ministries of Labour in the development of smoke free workplaces .

The Evaluation study of ENSP has shown that its capacity to operate as a network of partners engaged in a collaborative effort is comparable to that of other international networks. Both from the questionnaire and from the in-depth interviews it appears that ENSP is mostly perceived as a very useful network . Useful guidance has been developed in the recommendations which will be taken up in the next ENSP action plan.

Encouraged by the strong stand WHO has taken on tobacco, non governmental organisations have strengthened their networks, intensified collaboration and increased pressure on the tobacco industry during the past year . While the annulment of the EU Advertising directive in October 2000 was felt as a great blow to public health in Europe, the adoption of the EU tobacco regulation directive in May 2001 has given new inspiration to the tobacco control community.

ENSP perceives both the positive and negatives events of the past year as fuelling its motivation and determination to move ahead in achieving its objectives in support of the European tobacco control effort.

20. Looking to the Future

The need to control the spreading tobacco epidemic was formally recognised by the 191 members of the World Health Assembly in 1999, when they gave the World Health Organisation the mission to initiate the first international treaty on health. Increased communication.

- *Increase of information capacity*

In a fast moving 'globalised' world, precise, pertinent and up to date information is a powerful agent of change. ENSP intends to enlarge its staff capacity in order to improve analysis, compilation and dissemination of the constant flow of valuable information on tobacco and health topics. There is an urgent need to convert this often bulky information into concise news flashes which can be transmitted via the ENSP list server and website.

- *Involvement of health professional organisations*

While the role of Health Professionals in smoking cessation is important and undisputed, it is essential that health professionals organisations also join into the fight for a comprehensive tobacco control policy on national and European level. We will improve dialogue with health professional organisations in general and those specialised in prevention of allergies, asthma, chronic obstructive disease and cardiovascular disease in particular in order to foster their participation in European smoking prevention activities. Their expertise will greatly enhance the European tobacco control potential.

- *Smoke free workplaces*

The ENSP workplace project 2000 has shown the great potential for creating change in active and passive smoking in this particular setting. Collaboration will be strengthened and new alliances will be sought with social partners and occupational health and safety institutions in order to facilitate an EU wide policy change .

- *Collaboration with accession countries*

Interaction with organisations in EU accession countries is still extremely difficult. Administrative and financial obstacles hinder exchange of information and prevent collaboration in network projects. ENSP wishes to devote more time and energy into creating opportunities for organisations from accession countries to integrate in the EU networking effort.

- *Influencing the international agenda*

The next world conference “Tobacco or Health” will take place in Helsinki (Finland) in August 2003. As a member of the international steering committee, ENSP will promote the European dimension within the conference. It intends to involve the European Region in a reflection on strategy relating to the future of tobacco control.

- *Changing the EU Treaty*

The long term goal of ENSP is to collaborate with other European Health Networks in order to create the political momentum for a change in the EU Treaty . The European Union must have the right to legislate on public health grounds. The current challenges faced by any legislation attempting to achieve a high level of public health protection, demonstrate the need for such a change. In an increasingly global market place preventive measures relating to health have to be taken at a European level in order to be effective.

- *Making health a new value*

What stands against us? A globalisation of economy excluding health considerations, a politically and economically powerful industry, government decisions dominated by economic considerations and last but not least: lack of involvement of health NGO's in the democratic decision making procedure on national and European level. How will we succeed in our endeavour to make health a new value? Through increased multidisciplinary networking and by joining forces on national, European and International level.

Sibylle Fleitmann -Secretary General - ENSP
12 December 2001

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