SESSION 1: OPENING SESSION

Moderated by Prof. Dragan Laušević, Director of Institute of Public Health of Montenegro (IJZCG)



H.E. Dr. Vojislav Šimun, Minister of Health, Montenegro

OPENING REMARKS FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH OF MONTENEGRO



Prof. Dragan Laušević, Director, Institute of Public Health (IJZCG), Montenegro

INTRODUCTORY SPEECH



Prof. Duncan Selbie, IANPHI President

INTRODUCTORY SPEECH





Dr. Trygve Ottersen, Executive Director, Norwegian Institute of Public Health (FHI), Norway, and Chair, IANPHI Europe Network,

&

Olga Gvozdetska, Acting Deputy Director, Public Health Center of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, Ukraine, and Vice-Chair, IANPHI Europe Network

IANPHI EUROPE NETWORK UPDATES



Who we are

Country	Account Name	Country	Account Name
Albania	Institute of Public Health (IPH)	Ireland	Institute of Public Health in Ireland
Armenia	National Center for Disease Control and Prevention	Israel	Israel Center for Disease Control
Armenia	National Institute of Health	Italy	Istituto Superiore di Sanitá
Austria	Austrian National Public Health Institute (GÖG)	Kazakhstan	National Center for Public Healthcare
Belgium	Sciensano	Moldova	National Agency of Public Health
Bulgaria	National Center of Public Health and Analyses (NCPHA)	Montenegro	Institute of Public Health of Montenegro (IPHMNE)
Canada	Institut national de santé publique du Quebec (INSPQ)	Netherlands	National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)
Canada	Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)	North Macedonia	Institute for Public Health of North Macedonia
Croatia	Croatian Institute of Public Health	Norway	Norwegian Institute of Public Health
Czech Republic	National Institute of Public Health (SZU)	Poland	National Institute of Public Health (NIH)
Denmark	Staten Institut for Folkesundhed (SIF)	Portugal	Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical (IHMT)
Denmark	Statens Serum Institut (SSI)	Portugal	Instituto Nacional de Saúde Dr. Ricardo Jorge (INSA)
Estonia	Health Board of Estonia	Serbia	Institute of Public Health of Serbia
Estonia	National Institute for Health Development	Slovenia	National Institute of Public Health
Finland	National Institute for Health and Welfare	Spain	Instituto de Salud Carlos III
France	Santé publique France (SpF)	Sweden	Public Health Agency of Sweden
Georgia	Georgia National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC)	Turkey	Refik Saydam National Public Health Agency
Germany	Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA)	Ukraine	Public Health Center of Ukraine (PHCU)
Germany	Robert Koch Institut	United Kingdom England	UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)
Greece	Greek National Public Health Organisation (EODY)	United Kingdom Scotland	Public Health Scotland
		United Kingdom Wales	Public Health Wales



Looking back



Progress Report for Activity Plan 2023

IANPHI Europe Network

This is the October Progress report of the Activity plan for the IANPHI Europe Network, agreed upon in April 2023.

In short, we want to succeed with the following in 2023:

- 1. Arrange one annual meeting for the European Network
- 2. Conduct 4-6 webinars on topics of particular relevance for members
- 3. Gather and share information across NPHIs that is particularly useful for members
- 4. Recruit two or more new members
- Support the Ukraine Public Health Center (UPHC) upon request and based on the comparative strengths of the NPHIs and the network
- 6. Strengthen and maintain close collaboration with key partners
- 7. Monitor emerging needs and opportunities and stay ready to respond, if and when useful



Looking ahead



ACTIVITY PLAN 2024

Forth, and final version 19 February 2024

- 1. Arrange one annual meeting for the European Network
- 2. Conduct 4-6 webinars on topics of particular relevance for Members
- 3. Gather and share information across NPHIs that is particularly useful for Members
- 4. Recruit two or more new Members
- Support the Public Health Center of Ukraine (PHCU) upon request and based on the comparative strengths of the NPHIs and the network
- 6. Strengthen and maintain close collaboration with key Partners
- 7. Monitor emerging needs and opportunities and stay ready to respond

Thematic areas: Research preparedness and response; artificial intelligence and digitalization; and scientific independence



This meeting is important to us



Enjoy the discussions

+

All ideas welcome



Dr. Andrea Ammon,
Director of the European
Centre for Disease Prevention
and Control (ECDC)

KEYNOTE ON CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES FOR NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTES IN EUROPE: Reflections from ECDC Experience and Interaction with IANPHI



Outline

- General developments
- Specific reflections
- Perspective



General developments

Political: EU scepticism, science scepticism, security

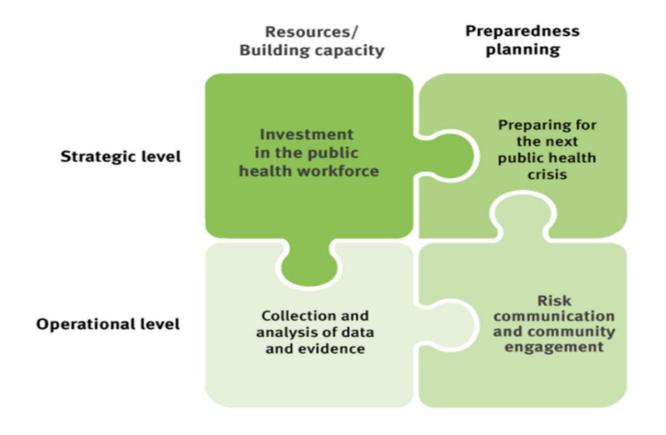
Economical: financial constraints

Societal: ageing population, migration/refugees, travel

Technological: digitalisation, WGS, social media, cybersecurity, Al



Lessons learnt from Member States AAR





Local health departments

Lesson 1:

Local health departments are stretched over a broad range of tasks and recover from a negative reputation

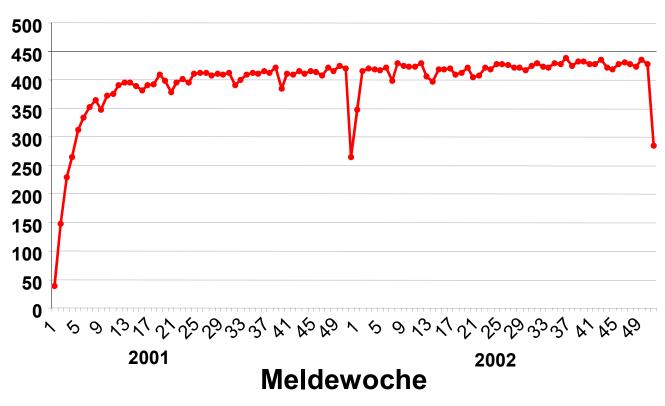


Local health departments - reflections

- Not sought after as workplace in my time at university
- Broad range of tasks: contact tracing, CD reporting, health promotion, school vaccinations, water safety, hospital inspections....
- Seen as technophobe, inspecting/policing and unscientific
- At the end of the public health "food-chain": receiving orders, implementing EU legislation
- In crises (pandemic): on fore-front, bearing the brunt of the onslaught
- Enthusiastic, well-trained colleagues
- Keen on improving population health

Reporting local health departments by reporting week, 2001

Anzahl übermittelnder Gesundheitsämter





Local health departments

Suggestion 1:

- Reviewing preparedness plans => pay attention to their role and value:
 - How to provide them surge capacity
 - Adequate information flow
 - Digitalisation
 - Upskilling



Lesson 2:

NPHI serve public health when dealing with the interface between science and policy



Suggestion 2:

- Clear legal base enshrining scientific independence
- Policy advice, not policy making
- Clearly defining red lines



Lesson 3:

NPHI serve public health when dealing with new technologies



Suggestion 3:

- First objective, then technology
- Request (and insist on) a seat at the table when digital/Al tools are discussed
 - Use of digital/Al tools (incl. ethical & privacy issues)
 - Liaise with e-health authorities
- Upskilling



Lesson 4:

NPHI need the exchange of practices, observations, tools.... at regional and global level



Suggestion 4:

- IANPHI webinars sharing experience for certain topics
- Knowledge sharing:
 - Repository
 - Virtual academy



IANPHI & ECDC

Lesson 5:

IANPHI: forum linking the NPHI, peer support

ECDC: scientific guidance, standards,

methods, capacity building



IANPHI & ECDC

Suggestion 5:

- IANPHI meetings, peer evaluations, partnerships?
- ECDC: listen better to needs, tailor support, develop understanding of national contexts
- Both institutions especially important for small countries
- WoU IANPHI ECDC?

Perspective

- Public health institutes are looking at a major transformation:
 - Areas of work (climate change, community engagement...)
 - Working methods (data collection, analysis, dissemination, communication)
 - Working tools
 - Skills and competences
 - Resources (workforce, budgets)
- Objective-driven, not technology-driven
- Join forces and learn from each other



Take home message

Change your opinions, keep to your principles; change your leaves, keep intact your roots.

Victor Hugo