

# Update from WHO Regional Office for Europe

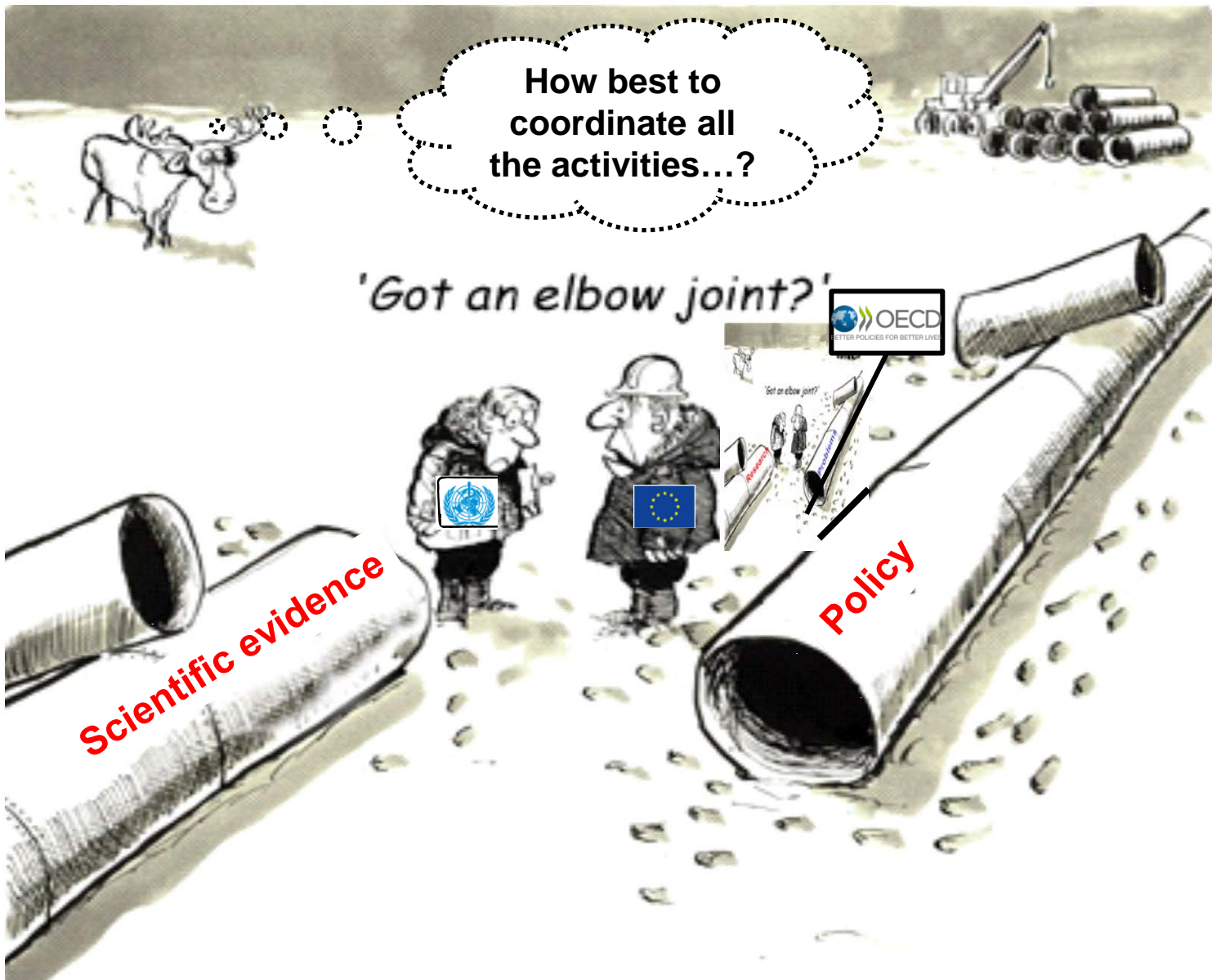
**EGHI Meeting 20.-21.5.2014**

**Dr Ivo Rakovac on behalf of Dr Claudia Stein**

**Division of Information, Evidence, Research and Innovation**

**World Health Organization**

Regional Office for Europe



# Single integrated Health Information System for Europe (53 Member States)

- Roadmap with European Commission agreed in 2010 (Moscow Declaration)

## European Commission and WHO Regional Office for Europe: *A shared vision for joint action*

*This Joint Declaration of the European Commission and the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe was developed jointly by the WHO/Europe Secretariat and the European Commission. Both organizations consulted internally, according to their individual procedures and requirements, and these consultations were concluded with a political agreement – the Joint Declaration, that outlines the framework for the future cooperation between the two partnering organizations with a view to more efficient and effective collaboration in the area of public health. The Declaration was launched at a ceremony at the sixtieth session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, Moscow, the Russian Federation, on 13 September 2010, by*

## Modernizing and integrating the public health information system

Information and evidence for health policy- and decision-making in Europe is vital. Intercountry comparisons add a unique dimension to a country's own efforts and have proven to be very effective in pinpointing areas for public health action, at both European and country levels. This requires joint work to provide a common basis of information and evidence to ensure both the efficiency of our work and also its effectiveness.



&



World Health  
Organization  
Europe

Users of health information expect answers to questions about health at European level to be consistent, regardless of the source. Different answers to the same question undermine the credibility of both the Commission and the WHO. Working in partnership on the common collection and provision of information also reduces the burden on countries and makes best use of limited resources. We will therefore strengthen our cooperation in order to work towards a single integrated information system for health in Europe. This can build on existing cooperation, including expanding the use of shared data collection, collaborative analysis of health issues and generation and dissemination of knowledge in support of health policy.

# Agreed roadmap for Health Information System for Europe

## Most steps completed

- ✓ Conduct mapping exercises for existing health information systems & databases in the agencies;
- ✓ Conduct reviews of the quality and architecture of information systems → criteria;
- ✓ Conduct landscaping of current and potential partners and stakeholders and engage them → in progress;
- ✓ Define common needs and constraints;
- Discuss a concrete way forward based on the above steps and devise an action plan.
  - Meeting of DG Sanco and WHO Europe in June 2014;
  - Definition of the goal we are aiming for;
  - Sketch out practical possibilities for platforms.

# European Health 2020 policy



Regional Committee for Europe  
62nd session

EUR/RC62/R4

Malta, 10–13 September 2012

12 September 2012  
122074  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

## Resolution

Health 2020 – The European policy framework for health and well-being

“Adopts....together with a **set of regional goals** as set out in that document and the **appropriate indicators for the European Region.**”





**World Health  
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR  
**Europe**

**Regional Committee for Europe**

Sixty-third session

Çeşme Izmir, Turkey, 16–19 September 2013

EUR/RC63/R3

17 September 2013

132198

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

## Resolution

### Indicators for Health 2020 targets

20 core and 17 additional  
indicators approved

Two further indicators on 'objective  
well-being' proposed (social  
support & housing) for  
Regional Committee (Sept 2014)

**APPROVED**

# New WHO/EURO and RIVM, Netherlands initiative on health information

## RIVM and WHO/Europe to collaborate on health information provision

07-11-2012



Andre van der Zande, Director-General of RIVM, and Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe, signed a letter of intent on 30 October 2012, stating their commitment to work together on health information by setting up a new initiative under the Dutch partnership agreement. Photo: WHO/Oluf Christoffersen

- Two agencies signed letter of intent to collaborate more closely on health information;
- Includes joint work on health indicators, **EURO health info web-portal** and **health info networks**;
- Initiating further work on **health indicators**;
- **Health information strategies at national level**;
- **Capacity building: 'Autumn school' on health information and evidence into policy**;



# Autumn school of health information and evidence for policy making

## Translating evidence into effective public health policy

Copenhagen and Izmir, 7 October 2013

WHO/Europe is taking steps to improve Member States' ability to use health information to create an evidence base for crucial public health

**Opened by Minister of Health, Turkey and WHO Regional Director - attended by 21 Member States (8 EU)**

Turkey, Dr Mehmet Müezzinoğlu, officially opened the Autumn School.



Yanki Travel

**Combining health info with evidence into policy modules**

**Next school October 2014 in Poland**

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# Health information strategies in Europe

## Formal working group :

- **17** (9 EU) Member States represented – all parts of the region;
- Chaired by **Netherlands** and **Russia**;
- **European Commission** and **OECD** invited observers;

Development of **tool & guidance** to develop national health information strategies  
 → **finalize in June 2014**

Going to **Regional Committee**  
**Sept 2014** Technical Briefing

*Entrées*

- Vision statement
- Mission statement
- Target audience
- Introduction (background)

*Premiers plats (légumes)*

- Objectives, strategic goals and outputs
- Expected outcomes

*Seconds plats (viande, poisson)*

- Required elements for implementation
- Partnerships & collaborations
- Monitoring & Evaluation

*Desserts*

- Potential milestones & implementation plan
- Conclusions
- Definitions & references

# Supporting evidence – in preparation

## Evidence-informed policy-making

[News](#)  
[Events](#)  
[About us](#)

**Output:**  
**Evidence summary of definitions and best practices**

## Health Evidence Network (HEN)

Recognizing that public health, health care and health systems need high quality and reliable health information for decision-making, WHO/Euro provides evidence in multiple formats to help decision-makers.

### Sources of evidence database

Quantity of information and evidence available from various sources, HEN provides access to a comprehensive evidence database.

### Products and summaries

HEN produces a range of products and summaries:

- evidence summaries
- joint policy briefs
- Polices, which are developed by the Health Evidence Network and
- HEN summaries of reports, including synopses of the main findings and policy options.

**Key elements of and principles for successful integration of national health information systems**  
(funding: DG Sanco)

**Literature review & questionnaires/ interviews with key stakeholders at country level**

[Activities](#)

[Evidence-informed Policy Network \(EIPNet\)](#)

[Research policy](#)

[Contact us](#)

policy-makers' questions;  
Observatory on Health Systems and  
ins for tackling key health system issues;

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Andre van der Zant, Director-General of RIVM, and Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe, signed a letter of intent on 30 October 2012, stating their commitment to work together on health information by setting up a new initiative under the Memorandum of Understanding agreement. Photo: WHO/Oluf Christoffersen

**Portal launch during  
Regional Committee  
September 2014**

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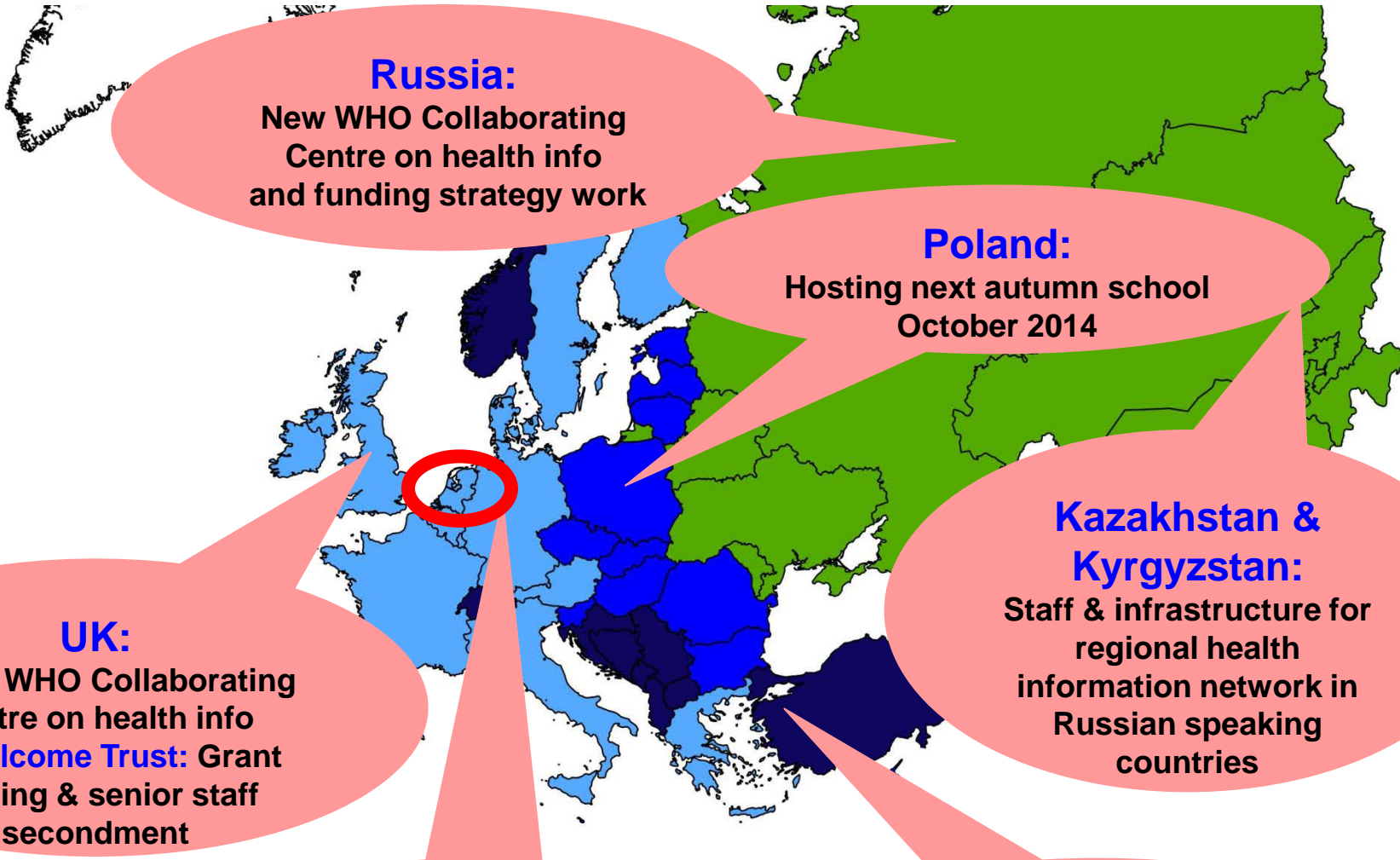


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**7 other Member States & one Foundation have become contributors**

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# WHO/EURO and RIVM, Netherlands initiative on health information



**Russia:**  
New WHO Collaborating Centre on health info and funding strategy work

**Poland:**  
Hosting next autumn school October 2014

**Kazakhstan & Kyrgyzstan:**  
Staff & infrastructure for regional health information network in Russian speaking countries

**UK:**  
1. New WHO Collaborating Centre on health info  
2. **Wellcome Trust:** Grant funding & senior staff secondment

**Germany:**  
Junior Professional Officer (50%)

**Turkey:**  
Hosted first autumn school Oct 2013

# Next steps for health info initiative

- Initiative could serve as major vehicle towards an *integrated health information system for Europe* → support from all parts of European region and operative now;
- Expand partners network from current 9 (5 in EU) to more; other Member States currently considering their partnership;
- Need to re-think the name of the initiative to give all partners recognition;
- Currently finalizing business plan & defining type of collaborative framework that gives all partners equal rights and standing;
- Ensure good integration of other EURO activities (e.g. HEN) into initiative.

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# Collaboration of WHO/EURO and Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation, USA

- To collaborate on burden of disease assessments in European Region;
- To improve coherence of quantitative messages;
- To facilitate national burden of disease studies, including training;



**Country interest increasing:  
10 countries completed,  
conducting or planning NBD  
studies**

**(5 EU, 5 non-EU)**

**WHO country profiles  
Highlights on Health  
revitalized & to include  
burden information**



After a decade of dramatic growth in spending on global health, economic problems and political turmoil are causing some of the world's biggest funders – including the United States government and United Nations agencies – to put the brakes on development assistance for health. Now more than ever, we need objective evidence to show policymakers what works and what does not work to improve people's lives.

The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) was created at the University of Washington to fill that information gap. We do this by focusing on three critical questions: What are the world's major health problems? How well is society addressing these problems? How do we best dedicate resources to maximize health improvement?

We answer those questions by measuring population health status and disease burden, identifying the factors that determine health outcomes, and rigorously evaluating health policies and interventions.

# Database updates

- [European Health for All and Mortality indicator database](#)
  - Updated 4/2014
  - Causes of death data from Turkey added
- [European detailed mortality database \(DMDB\)](#)
  - Updated 5/2014
  - 9/2013: Added PYLL and flexible MTL-1 groupings, improved export
- [European hospital morbidity database](#)
  - Updated 11/2013
  - Flexible ISHMT groups added, improved export
  - Significant revision of historical data due to inclusion of hospital discharge data in the joint data collection

# Database updates (II)

- [European database on human and technical resources for health](#)
  - New database introduced in autumn 2013
  - Disseminates data from the joint Eurostat / OECD / WHO Europe data collection on non monetary health care resources
  - Based on Data Presentation System (DPS), offline and online version available
- New version of offline [DPS](#) in development

