

Annual Report 2015-16 from the European Public Health Reference Framework (EPHRF) Council and the Health 2020 EPHO 7 Working Group Collaboration

The EPHRF Council had its 3rd meeting on 14th October 2015, during the European Public Health Conference in Milan. The Committee discussed:

- The development of:
 - The lists of competences and the tables of competences by EPHOs, as well as
 - The development of the IT born tool based on the lists and tables;

Council members had commented on the lists and tables and wanted a few more months to study the voluminous material circulated by the chair. The new deadline for comments and suggestions would then be 15th January, 2016.

- ASPHER's Strategic Plan 2016-2020, especially shaping a public health profession;
- The collaboration with WHO in the EPHO 7 Working Group and the coordination with WHO Europe's invitation to form two collaborating centres - one at the University of Belgrade, Serbia, on the development of the public health workforce, and one at Aarhus University, on the development of public health workforce standards;
- Plans concerning shaping a public health professional.

Lists of competences for EPHOs:

- Development of lists of competences and tables of competences by EPHOs lists and tables have been developed with an introduction, in total three volumes, by Anders Foldspang and accepted by the EPHRF Council as well as ASPHER's EB: *'From Potential to Action. Public Health Core Competences for Essential Public Health Operations. A Manual'*. – The introductory volume is printed and delivered to the participants of the Deans' & Directors' Retreat, Athens, May 2016. All three volumes are placed on ASPHER's homepage at <http://aspher.org/repository,12,0,0.html> . The three volumes are meant for widespread professional discussion until October 2016, where after an adjusted edition will be presented at the European Public Health Conference in Vienna, November, 2016, together with:
- The IT tool for planning, with the competences-EPHO tables installed.

Other activities:

- Finalizing and reporting from the Four Country Study:
 - The project report has been sent to EU.
 - Round table on 14th October 2015 at the European Public Health Conference in Milan, entitled *'Public Health Workforce Development in Europe – a 4-Country Debate'* with participants Jacqueline Müller-Nordhorn, John Ashton, Henrique Barros, Laurent Chambaud, Mirosław Wycoski, Vesna Bjegovic-Mikanovic, Fred Paccaud, Robert Otok and Anders Foldspang.
 - At present, a manuscript by Robert Otok and Anders Foldspang is under review at the International Journal of Public Health, concerning profiles of competences and EPHO skills in member schools of public health in France, UK, Portugal and Poland.

Next EPHRF Council meeting:

- Planned to be in Vienna at the European Public Health Conference November 2016.

The WHO-ASPHER EPHO 7 Working Group on public health workforce development:

- Meeting on 8th July 2015 of the Extended Advisory Group, discussing the mid-term evaluation in 2016 of the Health 2020 Policy. Professor David Hunter, Durham University, UK, will produce a report.
- Consultation on 8th-9th July 2015 at WHO Office for Europe, Copenhagen, on the EPHO 7 Working Group, with the participation of WHO Europe Staff members, among others, Hans Kluge, Elke Jakubowski, Martin v. Kraus, Anna Cichowska; central ASPHER participants Vesna Bjegoic-Mikanovic, Ulrich Laaser and Anders Foldspang. A working report was developed before the consultation.
- EPHO 7 Working Group meeting on 16th October, 2015, during the European Public Health Conference in Milan, with the main discussion points:
 - Briefing and discussion on the consultation on Public Health workforce on 7th July 2015, and:
 - Round table on terms of references of the working group and roadmap 2015–16.
- As announced at ASPHER's Deans' & Directors' Retreat 2015 in Jerusalem, WHO Europe has invited Vesna Bjegoic-Mikanovic and Anders Foldspang to apply for two collaborating centres - one at the University of Belgrade, Serbia, on the development of the public health workforce, and one at Aarhus University, Denmark, on the development of public health workforce standards. Both applicants have delivered materials; the applications are by now brought to an intermediate standstill because of change in WHO department lead.

Collaboration with the UK Faculty of Public Health related to workforce development:

- '*Special Interest Group (SIG) Europe*' workshop on 24th June 2015 at the Annual Conference of the UK Faculty of Public Health in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, entitled '*Shaping the European Public Health profession*', with the participation of Christopher Birt and Anders Foldspang (co-chairs of the SIG group).
- Preparation of the SIG Europe plenary discussion on 15th June 2016, about public health aspects of the UK-EU relationship, at FPH's Annual Conference in Brighton, a week before the referendum. SIG Europe organisers, Chris Birt and Anders Foldspang.

Anders Foldspang
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Co-Chair, SIG Europe, FPH
