

Roadmap to Professionalizing the Public Health Workforce in the European Region

Public health is the science and art of promoting and protecting health and well-being, preventing ill health and prolonging life through the organized efforts of society.

The public health challenges facing the WHO European Region require professionals who are not only equipped with public health training and knowledge but also mandated and supported to tackle these issues with interdisciplinary knowledge and skills, political savvy and leadership capabilities.



PROFESSIONALIZATION

Public health drawing on experts from a range of professions is what makes public health unique. The public health workforce professionalization process can help reform policy, legislation and the organizations that are needed to assure Region-wide improvements in public health and professional recognition.

KEY DECISION-MAKERS

Policy-makers and other leading actors in public health, governments, ministries, national, regional and local health authorities, directors of public health institutes, public health associations and other relevant organizations and agencies, and public health professionals.

ABOUT THE ROADMAP

This Roadmap has been developed to guide countries in accelerating the process of professionalization, through a series of pragmatic and actionable recommendations. It puts forward several possible levers that can be engaged with by the range of stakeholders who have important roles and insights into improving public health.

Four considerations affecting the professionalization of public health workforce are incorporated into the Roadmap:

- Leadership
- Country context
- Stakeholder involvement
- Intersectorality of public health

