

Participant Information Sheet

Research project title: Climate action at public health schools in the European region

You are being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide whether or not to participate, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. Thank you for reading this.

The project's purpose:

Climate change and health should be included in the public health schools' curricula to bridge the current gaps and uncertainties. By bringing skills and knowledge to the future public health workforce, the risks and impacts of climate change for the health and well-being of European citizens can be reduced.

The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) is the European organisation dedicated to strengthening the role of public health by improving education and focuses on capacity building in public health. This study will focus on ASPHER and its member schools.

The following research question will be addressed: "How can ASPHER support the goals of the European Green Deal?" Particularly, the study is two-fold:

1. To explore how ASPHER can take climate action in their institutions
2. To assess the implementation of climate education in ASPHER members

This research is being conducted as part of the master thesis of Rana Orhan, MPH MSc candidate at the University of Sheffield and Maastricht University.

Why have I been chosen?

As a representative of an ASPHER member school, you are being invited to fill in this survey.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part, please keep this information sheet. You will be asked to sign a consent form in the online survey and you can withdraw at any time without any negative consequences. You do not have to give a reason. If you wish to withdraw from the research, please contact us.

What will happen to me if I take part? What do I have to do?

You will be asked to fill in an online survey once. The survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. The survey results will be used to explore how ASPHER can take climate action in their institutions and to assess the implementation of climate education in ASPHER members.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

As no invasive procedure will take place and no personal opinions will be gathered, you can expect no harm, disadvantage or risk resulting from your participation in this study.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

Whilst there are no immediate benefits for those people participating in the project, it is hoped that this work will contribute to ASPHER's and their members' strategy, as well as to the development of climate education.

Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?

All the information that we collect about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential and will only be accessible to members of the research team. You will not be able to be identified in any reports or publications unless you have given your explicit consent for this. If you agree to us sharing the information you provide with other researchers

(e.g. by making it available in a data archive) then your personal details will not be included unless you explicitly request this.

What is the legal basis for processing my personal data?

According to data protection legislation, we are required to inform you that the legal basis we are applying in order to process your personal data is that 'processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest' (Article 6(1)(e)). Further information can be found in the Universities' Privacy Notice <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/govern/data-protection/privacy/general> and <https://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/privacy>.

What will happen to the data collected, and the results of the research project?

Due to the nature of this research it is very likely that other researchers may find the data collected to be useful in answering future research questions. We will ask for your explicit consent for your data to be shared in this way.

Who is organising and funding the research?

N/A.

Who is the Data Controller?

The University of Sheffield will act as the Data Controller for this study. This means this party is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

Who has ethically reviewed the project?

This project has been ethically approved via the University of Sheffield's Ethics Review Procedure, as administered by School of Health and Related Research (SchARR).

What if something goes wrong and I wish to complain about the research?

In case of any complaints, you are encouraged to contact Rana Orhan (lead researcher) and/or John Middleton (ASPHER). If you feel your complaint has not been handled to your satisfaction, and in case of reportable serious adverse events, please contact Katarzyna Czabanowska (Maastricht University) and Richard Cooper (University of Sheffield).

If the complaint relates to how your personal data has been handled, please contact Anne Cutler, the University of Sheffield Data Protection Officer dataprotection@sheffield.ac.uk. If you feel your complaint has not been handled to your satisfaction, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office.

Contact for further information

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Thank you for participating in the study.