

Reference	EG Chairs and ITAs 19/3/Info 1
Title	Information about the “PA Health Support” project
Submitted by	Secretariat
Summary / Note	This document provides an overview of the implemented and planned activities within the project “PA Health support.”
Requested action	For reference

Project title: *Support to cooperation and implementation of activities within the Health Priority Area of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Action Plan (PA Health Support)*

Lead partner: NDPHS Secretariat

Implementation period: 01/05/2015 – 30/06/2016

Work packages:

WP 1 – Coordination

WP 1 aims at increasing and strengthening the NDPHS Secretariat’s capacity to fulfil its role in the coordination of the Policy Area Health.

WP 2 – Promoting health on the regional cooperation agenda and increasing an impact of PA Health activities

WP 2 aims at supporting and facilitating the implementation of the EUSBSR Action Plan’s PA Health on the content level through:

1. Increasing the recognition and understanding of the EUSBSR among regional stakeholders.
2. Raising awareness of the importance of health and social well-being for other policy areas (foremost economy).



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3. Encouraging a broader and deeper involvement of stakeholders in the EUSBSR health-related activities. This also includes joint regional interventions that include stakeholders from the EU, NO and RU.
4. Strengthening the existing network of PA stakeholders for the facilitation of knowledge and best practices exchange and further developing it.
5. Facilitating and further increasing policy-to-project-to-policy efforts.
6. Supporting project development (and possibly fund-raising) efforts of stakeholders interested in developing projects for submission for funding during the current programming period.

The project aims to implement the following activities within WP 2:

WP 2.1 – Contributing to the 6th EUSBSR Annual Forum

Aim: Organization of a workshop on the topic “Innovations and cross-border infrastructures for a better health care” in cooperation with external actors.

State of affairs: Implemented during the 6th EUSBSR Annual Forum on 16 June 2015 in Jurmala, Latvia¹

Opportunities for/involvement of the NDPHS groups: The groups were invited to suggest speakers coming from their own thematic areas. PPHS EG and OSH TG supported the planning of the workshop and recommended two speakers who subsequently took part in the event. Members of these two groups as well as of NCD EG participated in the workshop.

WP 2.2 – Conference promoting policy-to-project-to-policy concept

Aim: Organization of a conference promoting the concept of a policy-to-project-to-policy cycle, aimed, *inter alia*, at raising the awareness of the regional stakeholders about the possibilities and tools to promote the results of the projects to a political level using well-established regional networks, such as the NDPHS, as a platform.

State of affairs: to be implemented in spring 2016.

Opportunities for/involvement of the NDPHS groups: The groups will be invited to participate in the event and to suggest participants from within and outside their networks.

¹ Meeting documents are available on the NDPHS homepage from: http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs.eusbsr_annual_forum_2015_workshop.



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WP 2.3 – Event promoting health on the regional cooperation agenda

Aim: Organization of an event promoting health on regional cooperation agenda. The planned activities include content planning, recruitment of speakers and participants, arranging for premises, catering and other practical matters, running and moderating the conference, as well as follow-up.

State of affairs: The side-event “Health is wealth and wealth is health” to the 24th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference (BSPC) was held on 30 August 2015 in Rostock, Germany.² The Moderator’s Conclusions as well as the study report and leaflet mentioned in WP 2.5 were disseminated during the BSPC. Conclusions from the side-event have been included in the BSPC Resolution. A press release and e-news were disseminated after the event.

Opportunities for/involvement of the NDPHS groups: The groups were invited to suggest speakers who could highlight the importance of health and social well-being for the economy and other policy areas with a focus on their area of expertise. One guest speaker took part following the recommendation from the OSH TG.

WP 2.4 – Regional interventions involving 3rd countries

Aim: Organization of two events to discuss joint regional interventions that would include stakeholders from the EU, NO and RU. The idea is to promote the involvement of stakeholders from 3rd countries in the coordination/implementation of the PA Health and the EUSBSR at large.

State of affairs: The 19th Meeting of the EG Chairs and ITAs will take place in an enlarged format on 18 September 2015.

A second, similar meeting is planned for spring 2016.

Opportunities for/involvement of the NDPHS groups: The groups have been/will be invited to actively participate in the two meetings (along with representatives from the EU, NO and RU). **Their active participation and contributions are crucial for the success of the WP 2.4.**

WP 2.5 – Study and articles on health economy

Aim: (i) Running a study on health economy (including gathering of data); (ii) preparing an article/report stressing the importance of health and social well-

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http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs.health_is_wealth_and_wealth_is_health



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being for economy and other policy areas; (iii) publishing the latter in the NDPHS Database, as well as (iv) publicizing it through various channels, such as: NDPHS e-Newsletter, and the EUSBSR website and newsletter; and (v) producing a leaflet presenting main conclusions of the study and disseminating it.

State of affairs: The study was carried out by Mr. Björn Ekman, (PhD, Lund University, Sweden) (selected by the NDPHS Secretariat after running a call for tender) and the report included in the NDPHS Database, printed out and presented to parliamentarians of the Baltic Sea Regional during the BSPC side-event (see WP 2.3). The leaflet was developed, consulted with the CSR, printed out and was/is being disseminated.

Opportunities for/involvement of the NDPHS groups: The call for tender was distributed to the groups and they were invited to distribute the information in their networks. The draft study was sent to the NDPHS groups for comments. Inputs have been received from the NCD EG, the PPHS EG and the OSH TG, and incorporated into the report by the author, when considered relevant by him.



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