

## **EUPHA Work Plan 2021: key operational objectives**

In order to continue being a leading actor in the public health arena in Europe, we will strengthen our current activities and introduce a number of new initiatives, which will be possible with the Operating Grant from the European Commission. The lay-out is still based on the 2014-2020 priorities (pending approval of the work plan 2020-2025).

### **1. Supporting our members to provide and further develop a strong national voice by:**

- Organising the 2021 European Public Health week to celebrate healthy populations and join forces in challenging times with support of a communications coordinator, mid-May;
- Publishing joint petitions and statements that are in line with EUPHA members' advocacy activities on a national level in order to further strengthen their national voices (topics will depend on emerging issues in public health);
- Developing a 'members only' section on the EUPHA website for webinars for officials from National Public Health Associations (NPHAs) to learn more about e.g. membership sustainability, other sources of income; advocacy;
- Developing a 'members only' section for the individual members of NPHAs registered in our database for webinars on specific health topics regularly organised by the EUPHA sections at no cost;
- Developing and designing a multifunctional serious game for public health professionals to build and further develop existing public health skills, based on the evaluations of the prototype, with the support of the EUPHA Working Group on Serious Gaming;
- Co-organising the V4 public health conference in Kosice, Slovakia in May (this regional public health conference will invite representatives from National Public Health Associations from four countries, i.e. Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary);
- Facilitating a twinning activity between two or more EUPHA members, i.e. National Public Health Associations, to exchange best practices on topics that members indicated being interested in, including financial stability of the association and having multiple streams of income;
- Facilitating the attendance of representatives from one national public health association to attend the annual conference of another national public health association (both EUPHA members);
- (Co-)organising skills-building sessions and a Round Table on lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, public health emergency preparedness, knowledge translation, or Our Food, Our Health, Our Earth for public health professionals and their associations, including EUPHA members, at the European Public Health (EPH) Conference held 10-13 November in Dublin, Ireland (Dublin 2021);
- Actively inviting (and financially supporting up to 20) representatives from our members from all 27 EU Member States and all other countries in the European region to our EUPHA Governing Board meeting and the full EPH Conference (one representative/country) held in November;
- Offering preferential conference fees for Dublin 2021 (e.g. 80 euro discount) for members of the National Public Health Associations from countries whose GNI per inhabitant is less than 90% of the EU-27 average (i.e. Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Croatia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia) and for EUPHA members from countries that have an important agricultural economy, including UK, Poland, Italy, France, Spain,



and Germany (based on CAP expenditure); and

- Exploring the possibility of including national columns (by our NPHAs) in the European public health news pages of the EJPH.

## **2. Being actively involved in setting the European public health agenda by:**

- Further strengthening the EUPHA Brussels office and our activities in Brussels, including an evaluation of the first period of presence in Brussels;
- Having EUPHA and our network represented in key European meetings, expert and advisory panels, including the Expert Panel on Investing in health, ECDC Advisory Board, the European Health Policy Platform, and the WHO Europe Regional Committee;
- Publishing up to five (joint) statements, press releases, fact sheets and/or short reports, including visually attractive publications (e.g. infographics) on emerging and current European public health related issues;
- Responding to public consultations that are posted by the European Commission, on matters relating to public health, based on input from EUPHA theme-specific sections and actively inviting our members to respond as well;
- Partnering up and staying informed about the European agenda by attending ENVI committee meetings at the European Parliament, participating in policy dialogues organised by the European Policy Centre, contributing to discussions at health seminars, meeting with other public health NGOs to discuss collaborations and advocacy work, for example the EUCivilsocieties4health partners meeting;
- Publishing a European public health policy newsletter, informing our NPHAs and the EUPHA theme-specific sections on news from the European institutions;
- Organising the kick-off of the European Public Health Week 2021 in Brussels (mid-May);
- Collaborating in a number of EU-funded projects, being mainly responsible for dissemination of the project's results and providing of experts on the topic to be on advisory or evaluation committees;
- Publishing an e-collection in the European Journal of Public Health related to a public health topic that is on the agenda of the Portuguese presidency of the Council of the European Union (first half 2021);
- Publishing an e-collection in the European Journal of Public Health related to a public health topic that is on the agenda of the Slovenian presidency of the Council of the European Union (second half 2021);
- Organising a seminar for policymakers in Brussels, including Members of European Parliament, partner organisations, and other interested parties, on a current public health topic (e.g. antimicrobial resistance or vaccine hesitancy) to present the evidence base at a location that will ensure attendance of policy- and decision-makers e.g. European Parliament; and
- Publishing the Dublin 2021 statement (related to EPH conference and the theme of Our Food, Our Health, Our Earth: A Sustainable Future for Humanity) and inviting all EUPHA members and partners to undersign this statement in November.

**3. Working towards global health through our work in Europe, representing the European voice at global level and supporting public health at global level by:**

- Continuing secretarial and administrative to the newly founded Global Society on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health;
- Partnering with global partners to collaborate on global public health challenges and jointly develop appropriate responses; and
- Publishing up to six track reports, including one on COVID-19, from the abstracts presented at the World Congress on Public Health, held October 2020 online, to increase visibility of the evidence presented, also beyond the conference.

**4. Building capacity and knowledge in the field of public health and health services research with the aim of supporting evidence-informed practice and policy decisions by:**

- Publishing the European Journal of Public Health (EJPH) 6 times/year in collaboration with the editorial office in Stockholm, Sweden (ongoing);
- Publishing – within the EJPH - the European public health news (includes EUPHA office column, EUPHA president column, WHO Regional Director column, EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety column and EPH Conference column), offering the possibility of national NPHA's column and EUPHA section's column;
- Transforming the European Journal of Public Health to a fully open access journal as of 1 January 2022 (preparations ongoing throughout 2021) and renegotiating the publishing contract with OUP to be signed at the latest in December 2021;
- Producing a supplement to the European Journal of Public Health on lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic, in second half of 2021, following a call for papers in the first half of 2021; and
- Evaluating the EUPHA Rapid Responses Team following the first 12 months since adoption of the Terms of References.

**5. Nurturing the expertise and knowledge in specific public health fields by establishing, supporting and facilitating theme-specific sections, meetings and publications within and beyond EUPHA and public health network by:**

- Establishing, supporting and facilitating the EUPHA theme-specific sections within and beyond the EUPHA and public health network;
- Representing EUPHA and our network in theme-specific European meetings, expert and advisory panels, including the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Stakeholder group, European Advisory Committee on Health Research (EACHR) of the WHO, Global AMR R&D Hub, DG Sante's Coalition for Vaccination, HPV Action Network and more;
- Organising a public health stakeholder list (all organisations and NGOs touching upon health) and expand the number of partners on specific topics to enlarge the impact of EUPHA's theme-specific sections;
- (Co-)organising up to three webinars or seminars linked to the themes of the European Public Health Week 2021, mid-May;
- Piloting EUPHA webinars aimed at EUPHA members and NPHAs;
- Facilitating EUPHA theme-specific sections to organise six pre-conferences that are linked to Dublin 2021; and



- Organising and facilitating 5 EUPHA sections workshops on specific health issues linked to Dublin 2021 (topics pending abstract scoring results).

**6. Preparing future generations of public health professionals for their leadership role in public health by:**

- Supporting the work of the (up to 3) EUPHANxt and further develop and implement their activities for the younger public health professionals and students;
- Offering – through EUPHANxt and through the European Solidarity Corps system – an internship programme for placement at the EUPHA office or at a EUPHA member’s institute, offering financial support for accommodation, travel and daily allowance (pending COVID-19 development);
- Collaborating with a wide array of other student-based organisations in Europe and beyond to facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building through the EUPHANxt partners;
- Having a seat for the EUPHANxt coordinator in the EUPHA Executive Council to represent the next generation network and professionals;
- Publishing EUPHANxt newsletters for the EUPHANxt subscribers with content targeted at young public health professionals;
- Offering – through EUPHANxt – the abstract mentoring for the EPH Conference for young professionals, also including first-time submitters, who are unsure about their submission and to improve their abstracts to increase the chance of getting the abstract accepted (February – March 2021);
- Continuing with the EUPHA Fellowship programme for Dublin 2021, allowing young presenters to be part of the EUPHANxt team reporting on Dublin 2021 in daily blogs/vlogs as well as preparing track reports for publication in 2022;
- EUPHANxt submitting (and pending abstract acceptance also organising) one skills building workshop for young public health professionals and students at the EPH conference in Dublin (November 2021); and
- Offering students’ discounted fee to participate in the EPH Conference (November 2021).