

# HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES – A KEY APPROACH IN PROGRESSING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS GLOBALLY, REGIONALLY AND NATIONALLY

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HEALTH (PHE)

## 10 Years of commitment to implementing Health in All Policies in South Australia

The Government of South Australia, with co-sponsorship from the World Health Organization (WHO), is delighted to host a conference marking their ten year commitment to implementing Health in All Policies (HiAP) in South Australia. The conference, titled [Health in All Policies: Progressing the Sustainable Development Goals](#), will also celebrate the significant progress in implementing HiAP approaches in different regions and countries.

This interactive conference builds on the outcomes of the [9th Global Conference on Health Promotion](#) held in Shanghai in November 2016 by exploring the role of Health in All Policies in advancing the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#). It will provide an opportunity to share experiences in implementing HiAP and to discuss what governance mechanisms best support intersectoral work for health and wellbeing. It also seeks to deliberate on the role of the health sector in governance processes for HiAP. The conference will be held from 30-31 March 2017 in Adelaide, South Australia.

Prior to the conference, a two-day Health in All Policies Masterclass will be held with focus on building capacity for HiAP approaches. Scenarios and case studies from a range of sectors will be used to explore the approach in-depth. Participants will build on their existing knowledge and skills, reflecting on their practice in this area and developing plans for further action.

## Health in All Policies workshop in Namibia: towards an implementation strategy

The Namibian government in partnership with WHO, hosted an Intersectoral Stakeholder Workshop (Action across sectors and developing an implementation strategy for Health in All Policies) in Windhoek, Namibia, from 22-24 February 2017. The aim of the workshop was to expand an initial HiAP scoping exercise begun in September 2016, and to gather information for the development of a draft HiAP Implementation Strategy. The Namibian work on HiAP is making use of information on the burden of disease in Namibia, available evidence related to health inequities, and information on intersectoral mechanisms and priorities from the workshop and from interviews with key stakeholders. Thus far, Namibian representatives from over 13 policy sectors across government and from local universities have been engaged in the discussion on the formulation of the strategy. The core team supporting the Implementation Strategy development is being constituted with representatives from the Ministry of Health, the National Planning Commission, the Office of the Prime Minister, the University of Namibia, University of Pretoria, and WHO.

The Namibian government aims to finalize its HiAP Implementation Strategy over the next 3 months, tabling it in Cabinet. A case study of the Namibian work-in-progress will be presented at the Adelaide conference on [Health in All Policies: Progressing the Sustainable Development Goals](#).



## “Health-in-All-Policies”: An approach to achieve Sustainable Development Goals in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) and the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) recently collaborated on a workshop on “Health in All Policies: An approach to achieve Sustainable Development Goals in the Eastern Mediterranean Region”. The output of the workshop was the identification of entry points and the development of preliminary plans for taking forward a HiAP approach within countries and institutions in the region in order to support the advancement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The workshop introduced the key concepts and regional and global frameworks, commitments and applications related to Health in All Policies (HiAP). The overarching objective was to explore how the HiAP approach can contribute to the achievement of Universal Health Coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals in countries in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region.

Examples and lessons learned from country efforts to advance the HiAP agenda at national level were presented and discussed, including the development of a national HiAP Roadmap in Sudan, intersectoral action by the National Council for Motherhood and Childhood and by Parliamentarians in Egypt as well as examples of intersectoral efforts to improve nutrition at regional level. There was also a focus on the challenges and opportunities for advancing and operationalizing intersectoral commitments, generally and specifically within the Eastern Mediterranean regional context. Specific components of a HiAP approach were introduced and explored – through presentations, panels and working group activities – including the policy making process, the role of different key actors, the institutional mechanisms and conditions that are required to support intersectoral work and the importance of integrating inequalities into the monitoring and evaluation framework.

Approximately 50 participants attended the workshop, including AGYA participants from Germany, Egypt, Iraq, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE); representatives from governmental, academic and other institutions in countries from the region, including Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia and UAE; and representatives from the World Health Organization and League of Arab States, among others. The workshop took place on 26-28 February 2017 and was held at the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean in Cairo, Egypt.



## The Strategic Evaluation of Capacity Building for Health in All Policies in the Region of the Americas

In September 2014, the Region of the Americas became the first region in the world to adopt a Plan of Action on Health in All Policies. Drafted by PAHO/AMRO with significant input from Member States and regional and global experts, the Plan of Action explicitly set out HiAP as an innovative approach for the Region to improve human development and put health at the crux of policymaking. The plan defines concrete steps to implement HiAP in the Americas, including a key recommendation to emphasize capacity building at the national, regional and local levels.

To advance capacity building, four workshops were organized across the Region of the Americas during the last two years, in Suriname, Mexico, Brazil and Chile. These workshops were led by a core group of trainers from the Global and Regional Trainers and Experts network for Health in All Policies Trainings ([hiaptraining.org](http://hiaptraining.org)).

To reflect on progress in HiAP capacity building on a Regional level, PAHO recently convened a Strategic Evaluation Meeting, which aimed:

- To review progress made under the Regional Plan of Action for Health in All Policies over the last two years;
- To evaluate the strengths and challenges of each regional training, with a focus on taking forward lessons learned;
- To identify next steps for capacity building for Health in All Policies for the Region of the Americas.

The meeting concluded that HiAP offers the best whole-of government policymaking framework adapted to achieve the SDGs. Health is present in all of the SDGs. As governance and global development become increasingly complex, HiAP is uniquely positioned to provide governments and public health professionals with a road map to meet the needs of a healthy yet sustainable future. The Strategic Evaluation was held from 8-9 February 2017 in Washington D.C, United States.