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The Rome Office of the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health (1991-2011): 20 years of experience

Report to the Regional Committee

The First European Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Frankfurt, 1989) asked for the establishment of a WHO European Centre for Environment and Health (ECEH) as a means to strengthen support to European Member States in this important area of public health. The Centre was set up in 1991 to provide technical support, evidence and capacities to address persisting and emerging challenges in environment and health with support from Italy and The Netherlands.

The Rome Office (formerly Rome Division) of the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health was opened on October 15, 1991 and has operated for twenty years, with the generous support of the Italian Government and of many other international and national partners and donors . It has worked as an integral part of the WHO Regional Office for Europe and, together with the technical units in Copenhagen, Bilthoven, Bonn and Nancy offices, has addressed the broad range of issues related to the environment and health agenda.

In its twenty years of activity, and in line with its mandate, the Rome Office has carried out pioneering work in emerging areas of concern, such as climate change, children's health and the environment, waste and health and health impact assessment. It has led the development and implementation of the first legally binding treaty on water and health and spearheaded the "health in all policies" approach working across different sectors, such as transport, agriculture, energy and health,. The Rome Office has been one of the motor of the European Environment and Health Process and has actively worked at the preparation, organization and follow up of the WHO European Ministerial Conferences on Environment and Health held along the last twenty years.

Owing to a change in the Italian Government's priorities and the consequent ceasing of its support for the Rome Office, the Regional Office began the process of closing it in 2011 and started negotiations with the German Government to consolidate European work on environment and health in the Bonn Office, while maintaining a strong policy and managerial basis at the Regional Office, in line with the recommendations of the GDO review group. The consolidation process is expected to be complete by January 2012.

The WHO Regional Office and the Rome Office gratefully acknowledge the support extended to them by the Italian Government and all the partners and donors who worked with the WHO staff in Rome over two decades to foster the agenda on environment and health in Europe.

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1. Introduction – the European Centre for Environment and Health

- 1. This paper reports to the Regional Committee on the work accomplished by the Rome Office in its two decades of existence as an integral part of the European Centre for Environment and Health (ECEH) of the WHO Regional Office for Europe.
- 2. The European Centre for Environment and Health (ECEH) was established by European Ministers of Health and Environment on the occasion of the First Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, held in Frankfurt in 1989, which adopted the European Charter on Environment and Health. In the Charter, the WHO Regional Office for Europe was invited "in collaboration with the governments of the European countries, [to] examine the desirability and feasibility of establishing a European Centre for the Environment and Health or other suitable institutional arrangements, with a view to strengthening collaboration on the health aspects of environmental protection with special emphasis on information systems, mechanisms for exchanging experience and coordinated studies."
- 3. The ECEH operations started in 1991 and were coordinated by the Head Office of the WHO EURO. The technical work was run by operational units Located both in Copenhagen and in the newly established offices in Rome Italy) and Bilthoven (The Netehrlands). These latter units were hosted and supported by the Governments of Italy (in Rome), and by that of the Netherlands (in Bilthoven). In 1994 the government of France together with French local authorities supported and funded the establishment of a project office in Nancy focussing on the urban environment. In 1999, funding of the Nancy Project Office was stopped and part of the activities were moved to the Rome Office. In 2001, the agreement with the Netherlands supporting the Bilthoven office was not renewed and the operations of this office were moved to Bonn, where the Government of Germany offered to provide support and hospitality to this latter team of ECEH.
- 4. Activities of the ECEH are presently implemented by the Rome and Bonn Offices. In addition, since 2001 the Rome Office supervises the activities of a Project Office in Athens (established in 1982), which is responsible for the WHO contribution to the implementation of the UNEP Marine pollution assessment and control component (MED-POL) of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) to the Barcelona Convention.

2. Overall scope of work of the Rome Office

- 10. Over the last two decades the work of the Rome office of the WHO ECEH has concentrated on the following technical areas: children's health and environment, food safety, global change sustainable development and health, health-enhancing physical activity, health impact assessment, transport and health, violence and injury prevention, drinking-water quality and sanitation, recreational water quality, and safe use of waste water. This technical work has been supported by a broad set of activities in the area of communication and advocacy for environment and health.
- 9. Within this remit the Rome Office has collected and evaluated scientific evidence, provided policy advice, supported capacity building, and carried out technical assistance to Member States through the development of methods and tools for environmental health risks assessment and management. It has also actively participated in international networks and collaborative efforts on environment and health with a steering and advisory role.

- 11. In addition, the Rome Office has actively engaged in providing support to some multilateral environmental agreements and processes to which WHO/Europe is partner, bringing the health perspective into these agreements, and working jointly with other UN agencies as follows:
 - Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (1999), jointly with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE);
 - Transport, Health and Environment Pan European Programme (THE PEP), with the UNECE;
 - Protocol on Strategic Impact Assessment (SEA) to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary context, with the UNECE;
 - Marine pollution assessment and control component (MED-POL) of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) to the 1982 Barcelona Convention, with UNEP;
 - The Nairobi Work Programme of the UN Framework Convention of Climate change and the UN Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change in collaboration with WHO Headquarters
- 7. In line with the ECEH's mandate, and focusing on their respective areas of technical competence, the Rome and Bonn Offices of the ECEH pursues the following goals:
 - a. assessing the impacts of environmental risk factors on human health;
 - b. identifying effective strategies to manage and reduce these risks;
 - c. supporting Member States in increasing their capacities for developing and implementing effective evidence-based policies and strategies in response to environment and health challenges;
 - d. advocating for and fostering partnerships with leading scientific institutions, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and other stakeholders to advance the development of knowledge on the links between environment and health and on evidence-based policy options.

3. Main results and achievements of the Rome Office

33. In agreement with its mandate, the main achievements and results of the work of the different technical programmes active in the Rome Office can be summarized as follows1:

Children's health and the environment

34. The Rome Office has initiated activities in this area following the Denver Declaration of the G7 which underlined the importance to prevent the effects on children's health of the growing environmental degradation. This topic was brought to the attention of the Ministers in the 1999 London Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health. Over the following years, a comprehensive assessment of the extent and nature of the effects of the environment on children's health in the European Region was carried out, providing the scientific evidence which underpinned the development and the adoption of the Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe

¹ For reasons of brevity, this report highlights only the main achievements per area of work. A list of publications by the Rome Office is available in Annex 1

(CEHAPE) at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 2004. Following the Budapest Declaration (2004), the Rome Office has assisted countries in gathering and sharing the evidence base of actions and interventions to protect health from environmental exposures as well as in developing, implementing and evaluating national Children's environment and health action plans (CEHAP). In addition, training and capacity building activities have been carried out to help countries and health professionals to identifyand address the impacts of environment on children's health. Two main recent achievements include:

- The organization of the 2009 WHO/HBSC (Health Behaviour of School-aged Children) Forum (Siena, October 2009), and the publication in 2010 of a report highlighting the case studies presented at the Forum and summarizing the published evidence and discussions on socioenvironmentally determined health inequities among children and adolescents
- The publication in 2009 of a collection of case studies documenting countries' experiences in implementing measures to address environmental health risks in children;

Climate, sustainable development and green health services

- 35. The Rome Office has started addressing this area in the late 1990s following the first reports published in the scientific literature on the health impacts of the expected climate change on health. The London Ministerial Declaration took note of this development and asked WHO to address more systematically the matter. This was the first recognition at the Ministerial level in Europe of the importance of climate change on health. Over the following years the Rome Office has played an important role in the Region through a number of activities aiming at:
 - assessing the specific health impacts in Europe of climate change and other global changes. This has included coordination of international research projects;
 - identifying policy options to help prevent, prepare for and respond to the health effects of climate change. This has involved building capacity in Member States, contributing to the development of national health adaptation strategies, as well as national and regional response mechanisms for extreme weather events, in particular heat-waves, floods, fires and droughts. For example the major heat-wave of 2003, has resulted in a consolidated European response, through the development of an international collaborative project coordinated by the Rome Office in cooperation with the European Commission;
 - providing tools and methods to assess the benefits for health and society of policies to reduce green house gas emissions, build greener and sustainable health services as well as testing the effectiveness of adaptation policy options.

More recently the Rome Office has been coordinating major projects in collaboration with other WHO EURO units including a seven country pilot initiative on protecting health from climate change in Southeast Europe, the Russian Federation and Central Asia, funded by the German Ministry for Environment, and an EU funded initiative on Climate change, environment and health information systems, identifying policy options for EU Member States. Extensive partnership has been developed with relevant international agencies and institutions such as WMO, UNEP, UNDP, the European Commission, European Union agencies (ECDC, EEA and JRC) and numerous academic, public health and environmental institutions in many European countries and North America. The three most recent achievements include:

• The coordination of the Health chapter of the 4th Assessment Report of the Nobel Piece Price winning, Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change as well as contribution to the summary for policy making and technical summaries between 2003 and 2007;

- The coordination of the World Health Day 2008 in the European Regional Office, with the publication of the booklet "Protecting health in Europe from climate change", which was "Highly commended" in the 2009 BMA Medical Book Competition, public health category;
- The coordination of the work of a Task Force on Climate Change, which developed the European Framework for Action on Protecting health in an environment challenged by climate change, which was welcomed by the Parma Conference.

Environment and heath risk assessment and management

- This area evolved from an initial programme on environmental epidemiology running in the first years of existence of the Center to the current unit to reflect the evolving needs of Member States with respect to risk assessment and management. Most recently, emphasis has been put on health impact assessment (HIA) through providing tools and advice, developing methodology, and carrying out assessments and reviews. The programme also aims to increase awareness of health issues within other sectors by contributing evidence on health benefits and risks. One of the main initial achievements of the Center and of this particular programme, was the preparation of the report "Concern for Europe's Tomorrow", published in 1995: this was a comprehensive and at that time "unique" survey of environmental health ever carried out in Europe, assembling for the first time, information from nearly 50 Member States. One year later, in 1996, WHO EURO published a book titled "Environmental Epidemiology: exposure and disease", which, through the contribution of leading scientists in environmental health allowed for the identifying priorities for research in selected areas of environmental epidemiology. The Rome Office was also involved in the investigation of the effects of the Chernobyl accident in the populations leaving in the three affected countries (Belarus, Ukraine and the Russian Federation). This work carried out in collaboration with local and international scientists, led to the detection of the first signals of the epidemics of thyroid cancer in children affected by the exposure to radioactive iodine released after the explosion of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. The first ever published data on this epidemic were published in the journal Nature by a team of local scientists with the coordination and support of the Rome Office, radiation unit. These findings were then further investigated both by WHO and other groups and resulted in a new and better understanding of the health effects of nuclear accidents including in *Nature*. Rome Office also supported important environment and health studies in the host country, raising the understanding and the political profile of environment and health in the national political agenda. This activity has includeds the development of the first national assessment on environment and health (Ambiente e salute in Italia); the quantification of the health effects of air pollution in the largest Italian cities as well as the assessment of the effects of long term exposures to waste in the area of In addition, the Rome Office has dealt with more general methodological questions and concerns, such as the provision of policy advice under scientific uncertainty. For example, the role and the relevance of the precautionary principle and other precautionary approaches in protecting human health has been addressed by a number of workshops and publication and brought to the attention of policy makers in Ministerial Conferences. Key partners in this area include the UNECE (on the Strategic Environmental Assessment Protocol), the European Commission and its the Joint Research Centre, and a large number of scientific and public health institutions around Europe. Two main recent achievements include:
 - The organization of an international consultation on waste management and its potential health effects, and the coordination of a major study assessing the effects of long term exposures of population groups to illegally disposed waste;
 - The coordination of a major health risk assessment exercise in the resident population in the Sicily region residing in areas classified as at high environmental risks due to petrochemical industry operations with views of supporting the development of rehabilitation plans.

Food Safety

38. In this area, the Rome Office has established key partnerships with a number of partners both based in Rome and elsewhere in Italy and abroad such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the WHO/FAO Food Standards programme - *Codex Alimentarius*, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). The programme has aimed at actively supporting countries, in particular SEE and NIS, in building capacity to develop appropriate food safety systems, including surveillance and monitoring, in accordance with the WHO European Action Plan for Food and Nutrition Policy 2007–2012 and the WHO global strategy for food safety. The food safety programme has also supported countries with technical advice as needed in case of food-borne outbreaks and food safety emergencies, including the *E. coli* O104:H4 outbreak in Germany and France in May/June 2011. The programme has worked in close cooperation with the Food safety department in WHO HQ, providing support on normative and capacity building work and recently has received a grant from the Department of International Cooperation at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in support of food safety activities in Albania.

Three main recent achievements include:

- the organization of an international workshop on the impact of Climate change on food safety, water safety and food security, jointly organized with EFSA, FAO and the Italian Ministry of Health on the occasion of World Food Day 2008;
- the organization of two side events on food safety at the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Parma, 10-12 March 2010), one of them jointly with EFSA;
- the organization of an event in Rome on the occasion of World Health Day 2011, dedicated to the theme of antibiotic resistance, with the launch of a new WHO/Europe publication on *Tackling antibiotic resistance in a food safety perspective in Europe*.

Transport and health

- 39. This programme has developed a very positive collaboration with the transport sector, thus translating in practice the need to incorporate "health" in other sectors policies In this particular area the Rome Office has supported countries in defining and managing mobility policies that benefit health through the use of methods and tools allowing for the integration of health concerns in the assessment of transport policies. In collaboration with the staff of the programme, both ministries of health and the environment and local authorities have tested and adopted tools for the quantification of the economic benefits of the reduction of the health effects due to transport for example through the promotion of cycling and walking. These activities have been carried out within the framework of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP), which the WHO Rome Office together with the UNECE has promoted to faciliatet interaction and joint policies among these three different sectors.. The Rome Office has also supported and coordinated the European Network on Health-Enhancing Physical Activity (HEPA Europe), a collaborative project that works for better health through physical activity among all people in the WHO European Region. Key partners in this area include the UNECE, the European Commission, members of HEPA Europe and numerous academic and public health, environment and transport institutions from different European countries. Three main recent achievements include:
 - The organization of the Third High Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health, hosted by the Netherlands in 2009, with the adoption of the Amsterdam Declaration;
 - The publication of a "Methodological guidance on the economic appraisal of health effects related to walking and cycling", which has been adopted by the Department of Transport of England, the Austrian Ministry of Environment, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agencies and is presently under consideration by the US Centres for Disease Control and

- Prevention as a tool to include the benefits to health from cycling in the appraisal of investments into infrastructures and transport interventions;
- In 2011, the successful launch of the HEAT Health Economic Assessment Tool, a user-friendly web-based tool to conduct economic assessments of the health benefits of walking or cycling by estimating the value of reduced mortality that results from specified amounts of walking or cycling.

Violence and Injury Prevention

- Following a Regional Committee Resolution (RC55/R9 on Prevention of injuries and violence 40. in the European Region) adopted in 2005. this programme has been re-established in the WHO European Region and run by staff based at the Rome Office. Violence and injuries are the leading cause of death in the Region for people aged 5-44 years in Europe. The programme has provided information on the burden of injuries and violence; promoted evidence of what works for prevention; built capacity to strengthen prevention; shared knowledge about effective prevention strategies; and supported and empoweried the network of Focal Persons for Violence and Injury Prevention, which covers 50 Member States. The Rome Office has produced a large number of European reports on this subject to highlight the burden, risk factors, programmes and policy actions needed. The programme has supported directly 19 countries, where biennial collaborative agreements are held and a dozen other countries, who receive support to strengthen their capacity for the development and implementation of evidence-based policies. The Rome Office supported the World Health Day 2004 on road safety and the First UN Road Safety Week on youth and road safety in 2007. Further the Rome Office has also supported a global project on Road Safety, which involves ten countries worldwide, in Turkey and the Russian Federation, and is leading the conduction of a European country surveys in 53 countries in preparation of the 'Second Global Status Report on Road Safety', due to be published in 2012. Key partners include the European Commission, EuroSafe, the Bloomberg Philanthropies, numerous academic and public health institutions from different European countries and the WHO Collaborating Centres for Violence and Injury Prevention. Three main recent achievements include:
 - The launch of the "European status report on road safety" at the First Global Ministerial Conference held in Moscow in November 2009. The report provides the first thorough analysis of road safety in 49 out of 53 countries in the European Region, accounting for 99% of the Region's population, complementing the "Global Status Report on Road Safety".
 - The launch of the "European report on preventing violence and knife crime among young people" at the Tenth World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (London, September 2010).
 - The launch of the "European report on preventing elder maltreatment" at the Third European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (Budapest, June 2011).

Water and sanitation

41. In this area, the Rome Office has helped Member States to combat ill health from water-related diseases by: supporting the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health; building capacity at the regional, sub-regional and country levels; collaborating in developing, revising and updating WHO manuals and guidelines, including the WHO Guidelines on drinking water and those for safe recreational water. The Rome Office has contributed to the collection of evidence on access to water and sanitation under the Joint WHO/UNICEF monitoring programme, thereby assisting Member States in measuring progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal related to water. In its country work, it emphasizes the development of water safety plans, and the improved access to water in rural areas through small scale water supply systems. Since 2011 the Rome Office implements the Global Analysis and Assessment of Water Supply and Sanitation (GLAAS) in the

European Region, and supports the implementation of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme aimed at assessing access to water supply and sanitation by income groups. The latter feeds directly into the work on equitable access aimed at removing economic barriers to the basic human right to access to water and sanitation.

- 42. The Rome Office also supervises the activities of a project office working on the health component of the Marine pollution assessment and control component (MED-POL) of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) to the Barcelona Convention. Key partnerships in this area include the UNECE (for the joint secretariat of the Water Protocol), UNEP (for the MED-POL programme) and the WHO Collaborating Centres with a mandate in water and health. Two main recent achievements include:
 - The continued and increasing success of the Protocol on Water and Health which has now been ratified by 24 countries (covering 516 million people, or 60 % of the European region population) and the provision of secretarial support to the three subsidiary bodies, the provision of leadership to the Task Force on Water-related Disease Surveillance and the Task Force on Water Supply, Drainage and Sanitation under Extreme Weather Events, and the management of independent work streams particularly on small scale water supply. WHO also contributed substantially to the work of the Task Force on Indicators and Reporting, leading to a systematic review of the current status of water supply, sanitation and health in twenty countries of the European region based on nationally submitted data.
 - The assessment of the sanitation status of all the coastal Mediterranean cities and the state of microbiological pollution in the Mediterranean sea carried out within the framework of the collaboration with the Barcelona Convention. In addition, a considerable (38) number of training courses on wastewater treatment, safe water reuse and quality of recreational waters were carried out in the last decade, of which 10 during the last biennium.

Communication and advocacy for environment and health

36. In the early 2000s the Rome Office identified the need for a systematic and more professional relationship with the media and the public at large in order to facilitate the efforts of MSs to address relevant and emerging environment and health concerns and provide evidence based information to the citizens. A Communication and Advocacy unit was established to address all relevant aspects of communication and advocacy, using different channels such as media (e.g. press conferences, press releases, fact sheets), web (permanent and time-limited sites), and audiovisual materials as appropriate. The communication team has supported the work of the technical units of the whole environment and health team in their different locations. It was particularly involved in the development and implementation of tailor-made communication strategies to support specific initiatives (e.g. Ministerial Conferences on Environment and Health, launches of publications, corporate and other events, such as World Health Days), as well as the provision of services in case of emergencies (e.g. the *E. coli* O104:H4 outbreak in Germany and France in May/June 2011, the Icelandic Vulcan ashes in April 2010; the waste crisis in Naples in 2008, the avian influenza outbreak in Turkey in 2006). Two main recent achievements include:

- The coordination of all communication and media-related aspects of the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, including the production of the report "The Journey to Parma: a tale of 20 years of environment and health action in Europe";
- The development of the World Health Youth (WHY) Communication Network on Environment and Health, an initiative that involving at young journalists from over 30

countries, combining capacity building for young talented professionals with increasing the visibility of the WHO's work in environment and health, including in SEE and NIS countries.

The Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Parma, 10-12 March 2010)

43. A collective major achievement of all staff of the Rome Office, together with that of the Bonn office and Copenhagen, has been the preparation and organization of the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, held in Parma on 10-12 March 2010. In addition to contributing to the preparation of the policy and technical background documentation of the Conference, in line with its areas of expertise, the Rome Office has been the key interface between the WHO and the host country and the Parma municipality, in all organizational and logistical and communication aspects related to this major event. The Conference was attended by nearly 900 participants from 52 countries and, in addition to the official programme, featured 90 side events, including symposia, poster sessions, exhibition stands, and standing coffees and nine press briefings. The organizational effort mobilized the entire office over an extended period of time and required a major investment into negotiating, organizing and interacting with counterparts who were new to the organization of a major international political event under a challenging logistical setting.

Support to environment and health emergencies

44. The Rome Office, in collaboration with the Bonn and Copenhagen Office, Country Offices of affected countries and within the framework of International Health Regulations has provided support to respond to environmental and health crisis in the European Region, addressing both public health and communication aspects. Examples of major environmental crises supported by the Rome Office include the severe heat-wave and wildfires in the Russian Federation (July and August 2010), the Iceland Vulcano eruption and its health effects in 2010, a chemical accident in Hungary (October 2010), flooding in the Balkans (December 2010), environment and health issues related to the influx of thousands of people from North Africa to the Italian Island of Lampedusa.(Feb-April 2011), the E. coli O104:H4 outbreak in Germany and France (May/June 2011) and an outbreak of gastro-intestinal disorders in a Bulgarian holiday camp affecting 300 children (July 2011). In addition, the Communication and advocacy for environment and health team supports emergency response at corporate level, and has been actively engaged in supporting communication efforts on the occasion of the Polio outbreak in Tajikistan in Spring 2010, and the avian influenza outbreak in Turkey in 2006 for example.

4. Fostering innovation

7.1 Technical innovation

- 45. The work of the Rome Office has been historically characterized by a strong sense of innovation and strategic foresight. A few illustrative examples over the life-span of the Office are provided here below:
 - the climate change and health agenda was brought into the Rome Office work and the Regional Office starting in 1997, at the time of the preparation of the Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 1999, when the topic was still quite peripheral to the international political discourse, and altogether absent from public health. Since then,

activities have developed in a direction of providing new tools that have enabled Member States to be better prepared to address the effects of climate change on health, such as the European-wide alert system for extreme weather events, and the related guidance to increase preparedness;

- the Protocol on Water and Health, adopted at the Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 1999, has been the very first legally binding instrument entered by the WHO in the area of water and health, and has been recognized by the WHA 64.24 as "an instrument of reference in safe water management and the protection of human health". The Protocol is an example of an innovative legal instrument that is being used to support addressing country priorities in relation to water and sanitation. Since then, it has been ratified by 24 countries, with two more providing leadership and support, and currently benefits 60% of the European population. It has delivered groundbreaking work in target setting, indicators and reporting in areas that exceed the *acquis communautaire*, spearheaded to development of guidance for small scale water supply and sanitation systems, and led the way in the development of guidance materials for water supply and sanitation in extreme weather. Furthermore, experts from the subsidiary bodies of the Protocol have on several occasions acted as resource persons for work in-country.
- the Barcelona Convention collaborates with WHO since 1982 for the all issues impacting human health related to water supply, sanitation, recreational waters, and tourism establishment management in the Mediterranean area. It is the first collaboration between international organizations that is still ongoing based on the successful performance of the activities designed to assist all the 22 Mediterranean countries, which provide their financial support to the programme.
- the Transport, Health and Environment Pan European Programme (THE PEP) is an example of "health in all policies in practice", as it is a non-legally binding platform that brings on equal footing ministries of health, transport and environment, and has developed tools and provided a hub for the exchange of knowledge and building of capacities in addressing the effects of transport on health;
- the Rome Office was behind the publication in 2004 of the first regional estimate of the burden of disease in children in relation to the environment, and this evidence formed the scientific background to launch the CEHAPE at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 2004;
- the tools developed to quantify the economic value of the health effect of promoting more cycling and walking have been taken up in the daily practice of Ministries of Transport and environment in several European countries (UK, Austria, Sweden, several cities) and is presently being considered for adoption by the United States Centres for Disease Control;
- through an EC-funded project, the Rome Office is producing WHO's first health assessment
 of nanoparticles, a cutting-edge emerging issue for public health, which in the years to come
 will become of growing importance as applications of nanotechnologies will spread, with
 massive increase of potential exposures and concerns over their possible effects, posing
 important questions related to the governance of environment and health risks, and the
 application of methods to support policy making under conditions of high uncertainty;
- the Rome Office produced the first report estimating the health effects to particulate matters in the 13 largest Italian cities;
- the Rome Office spearheaded the development of several innovative tools to address the health effects of extreme weather events. These include: (1) an early warning system for extreme weather events, which provides on-line forecasts of heat-waves to 32 European countries. This system was developed by the German Weather Service within framework of a project (EuroHEAT) coordinated by the Rome Office and co-funded by the EU (2) Heat-health action plans are being developed in 18 European countries and are under development in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia and the Republic of Moldova.

- Many countries, e.g. Poland and the Russian Federation have translated the information sheets of the WHO guidance document for the development of heat-health action plans.
- since 2004, the Rome Office has worked to clarify the links between energy and health, taking into consideration energy security concerns, as well as the challenges posed by nuclear energy
- the Rome Office developed a very innovative way to combine in highly cost-effective manner capacity building and increased media coverage and dissemination of the WHO work, with the development of the World Health Youth (WHY) Communication Network on Environment and Health;
- the Rome Office has brought prominently in the European public health agenda the prevention of violence and injuries which represent the third leading cause of death in the Region, as a major preventable health issue;
- the Rome office has promoted the equity agenda in the area of injuries and violence where inequalities have been highlighted as have the safety needs of susceptible groups such as protecting vulnerable road users, preventing violence in young people and preventing maltreatment in older people.
- the Rome (and Bonn) Office promoted the inclusion of health inequalities in the mainstream environmental health agenda, notably by making it a key theme of the Parma Conference the issue, of very high policy relevance and profile, had previously been absent from the environmental domain, and will now form part of the mainstream agenda in follow-up to the commitments taken in Parma.
- the Rome Office spearheaded the importance of addressing antimicrobial resistance in a holistic approach, including in the critically important field of use of antimicrobials in veterinary and food production applications, by publishing on the occasion of World Food Day 2011, dedicated to the theme of antibiotic resistance, a new WHO/Europe publication on *Tackling antibiotic resistance in a food safety perspective in Europe*, which is supporting actions to contain antibiotic resistance at national levels.

7.2 Making a difference in Member States

- 46. The Rome Office work in countries and with countries has resulted in a number of tangible outputs that have helped reshaping, reforming and developing national policies for environment and health as well as for violence and injury prevention. It has also resulted in the successful mobilization of important amounts of funds and resources in the order of several million USD over the past biennium that are supporting activities in several country offices, notably providing the financial means to hire international and local staff working in countries to implement relevant technical programmes.
- 47. In addition to strengthening capacities (e.g. through training courses involving national counterparts, national experts, train-the-trainer initiatives and provision of curricula and other training material) and promoting the exchange of knowledge and information at the international level, as well as the engagement of member states representatives in international processes (e.g. the European Environment and Health Process), a number of specific achievements in countries can be summarised as follows:
 - In 2010 30 countries reported having developed national children's environment and health action plans, and 12 reported that their preparation is under development in order to fulfil the obligations taken at the Budapest Conference in 2004;
 - Twenty-four countries ratified the Protocol on Water and Health and bilateral projects have been developed involving Ukraine, Moldova, Israel, Norway and Switzerland. More are under discussion involving Tajikistan, Georgia, Montenegro and Kyrgyzstan through a Project

Facilitation Mechanism coordinated by the WHO. The Protocol has also led to the creation of a dedicated Water Fund within the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

- A survey conducted as part of an EC co-funded project reported that 75 % of respondents from 47 participating countries reported that the RC55/R9 resolution had catalyzed change in the areas of violence and injury prevention policy and programming in their country. In addition, as result of the Rome Office work, national plans for injury and violence prevention have been adopted by the governments of Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovak Republic, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Kyrgyzstan.
- The United Kingdom Department of transport, the Austrian Ministry of Environment, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, numerous municipalities across Europe have introduced the tool developed by the Rome office to quantify the health effects of cycling promotion as part of their working tools for the appraisal of investments into transport infrastructure and interventions;
- Countries are using the WHO European Action Plan on Food and Nutrition Policies as a basis for developing national policies and strategies in the area of food safety and nutrition. For example, the Government in Montenegro in 2010 adopted the Montenegrin Action Plan on Food safety and Nutrition.
- Eight countries (Estonia, Latvia, Israel, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia) have been using methods and tools provided through training workshops and capacity building exercises on the use of health impact assessment (HIA) as a tool to implement the health in all policies (HiAP) agenda over the last 6 years in. Ten European Member States and across the Mediterranean Region have made use of the tools provided through capacity development workshops on health effects of climate change;
- Fourteen countries have been assisted in applying methods for assessing the health effects of climate change and developing their national climate change health impact assessments;
- In seven Eastern European countries national or subnational health adaptation strategies to climate change are under development
- Innovative way of linking the safe hospital initiative with a sustainable and energy efficient way is under piloting in Kyrgyzstan and The former Republic of Macedonia;

7.3 Making a difference in the Host Country

- 48. The long-term presence of the Office in Italy and its close collaboration with many Italian Institutions contributed to make the impacts of environmental risk factors on health more visible in the political agenda at the National and sub-national level. In greater detail,:
- The reputation of the Rome Office as a respected, authoritative, evidence-driven and independent organization has facilitated the "convening power" of the Office, resulting in the possibility of bringing together and coordinating different Italian institutions and players, thereby enabling the conduction and the dissemination of major national studies, such as the estimation of the health effects from particulate matter in the 13 largest Italian cities, and the publication of the first Italian assessment report on "Environment and Health in Italy";
- The participation of the Rome Office in a number of partnerships and international projects has facilitated the involvement, networking opportunities and establishment of collaborations between Italian institutions and the International scientific community; it has also facilitated the mobilization and involvement of leading International experts in projects and activities of Italian National interest, thereby contributing to internationalize some aspects of the Italian scientific work;

- Through the work of the Rome Office, and events organized in Italy, the host country has many opportunities of receiving high international visibility for its national and sub-national initiatives. A very recent example of this was the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, when the work of the Italian government at national sub-national level was highlighted in the exhibition space as well as through interventions by Italian experts in numerous side events, and media and communication activities such as the opening and closing press conferences of the Conference.
- Through the technical products, such as studies, publications and reports, and capacity building activities developed by the Rome Office, Italy has access to high quality international support for national policy making and for supporting national capacity building. This is highlighted by the translation into Italian and the dissemination of numerous products of the Rome Office.
- In Italy, the Rome Office has coordinated the first national assessment on environment and health effects on the population, and the first estimate of the effects of air pollution in the 13 largest cities, as well as the first health impact of climate change assessment; it has led and supported national investigations on highly contaminated areas; it has provided assistance in the understanding of the health effects from long-term exposure to illegally damped waste in the Campania Region; it has assisted the Emilia Romagna Region in assessing and managing the health effects of incinerators and the Sicilian Region in assessing multiple exposures of population in areas highly polluted by petro-chemical activities, supporting the development of regional rehabilitation plans;
- The functioning of the Rome Office, the presence of international staff and the organization of events in the Rome Office and in other Italian locations (for example in 2010 only WHO events were organized in Milan, Bologna, Siena, Parma and Sicily), attracting several hundreds of participants per year, contributes to the national economic output, for an amount conservatively estimated in the order of ca 3.9 million EUR (5.3 million USD) during 2009 and early 2010,

5. The European Environment and Health process

6. The ECEH has supported over the year the European Environment and Health Process (EEHP). The EEHP promotes the collaboration and coordination among the ministries of health and environment of the WHO European Region, as well as relevant inter-governmental and nongovernmental organizations to advance the policy agenda in environment and health and facilitate action at the country and local levels. This process is technically supported by the WHO ECEH as needed. The WHO ECEH has also been providing throughout the years the secretariat function for the European Environment and Health Committee from 1994 to 2010 and more recently for the European Environment and Health Ministerial Board. These are bodies whose members are elected by the countries of the WHO EURO Region and of the UN-ECE to lead the environment and health process, monitor the achievements, identify emerging issues and organize the Ministerial Conference any 5 years. The WHO ECEH has been providing also the technical inputs to these Committees as requested.

The Rome Office has been involved in supporting the preparations, development of technical documents and policy outcomes of the Ministerial Conferences on Environment and Health, held in Helsinki (1994), London (1999), and Budapest (2004) and Parma (2010). Moreover the office has been involved in the preparation, conduct and follow up of important international events within the overall process such as the Intergovernmental mid-term review in Vienna in June 2007 and the First High Level preparatory meeting in Milan in March 2008 contributing to the drafting of relevant background documents and to the organization of the event in collaboration with the Host country.

6. Institutional framework, budget and sources of funds for the Rome Office

- 5. Since its establishment in 1991, and consistently with the Frankfurt Charter and the broader WHO agenda, the role of the ECEH has been shaped by a number of policy documents which have specified the remit of the mandate of the Center on environment and health as well as extended it to other relevant public health areas:
 - the outcomes of the series of Ministerial Conferences held in Helsinki, FIN (1994), London, UNK (1999), Budapest, HUN (2004) and Parma, ITA (2010), in particular the Ministerial Declarations that were adopted by each of these Conferences;
 - the Regional Committee Resolutions, which endorsed the outcomes of the Ministerial Conferences, notably EUR/RC49/R4 on Third Ministerial Conference on environment and health, EUR/RC52/R6 on the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, EUR/RC54/R3 on Environment and Health; and EUR/RC60/R7 on The future of the European environment and health process;
 - other relevant Regional Committee Resolutions, notably EUR/RC51/R7 on Health and Sustainable Development World Summit on Sustainable Development and EUR/RC55/R9 on Prevention of Injuries in the European Region; the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the Charter on Transport, Environment and Health, adopted by the London Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 1999; the 2002 Pan European Programme on Transport, Environment and Health (THE PEP); the Children's health and Environment Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE), adopted by the Budapest Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 2004
- 13. Throughout its 20 years of existence, the Rome Office has demonstrated a very good capacity to attract resources in support of its inter-country and country activities. For instance, in the biennium 2008-2009 resources mobilized by the Rome Office through different funding sources amounted to a total of 16,315,000 USD. In this biennium the expected core contribution of the Italian government under the Rome Office agreement corresponded therefore to only 27 % of the total budget. The fundraising and resource mobilization activities have been carried out under the supervision of and in close coordination with the Regional Office in Copenhagen. In several cases, various programmes of ECEH (both Bonn and Rome) or other parts of the environment and health team have collaborated in jointly mobilizing resources and jointly implementing projects (notably in relation to projects cofunded by the European Commission.)
- 14. The Rome Office is drawing from a broad range of partnerships to mobilize its resources: These include governments and public agencies, UN agencies such as UNEP, the European Commission, Charities and Foundations the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and many others...
- 15. The long-term core support provided by the Italian Government through the Rome Office Agreement since the establishment of the Rome Office in 1991 (which in the period 1991-2006 amounted to a total of approximately 19.5 million USD, plus the provision of office premises until June 1997) has been instrumental in enabling the Office to conduct its activities, in line with its mandate, and to mobilize more partners and resources towards the achievement of its objectives over its twenty years of operations.
- 16. In addition, several Member States have supported specific aspects of the work of the Rome Office, including Austria (Transport and Health), Canada (climate change and health), France

(Transport and health and equitable access to water) Germany (climate change and health, injury prevention, small scale water supplies), Italy (surveillance of water-related diseases, contingency planning, and climate change adaptation, waste and health), Norway (violence prevention and drinking-water supply and sanitation), the Netherlands (injury prevention, physical activity promotion, transport and health), the United Kingdom (violence prevention, climate change and physical activity through cycling and walking), Unites States of America (climate change and health, children's health and environment and transport and health), Spain (children's health and the environment), Switzerland (transport and health).

- 17. The Athens Project Office is entirely supported by the Mediterranean Trust Fund through UNEP, following agreement on the implementation of the Mediterranean Action Plan under the Barcelona Convention as adopted by the Contracting Parties.
- 18. Among important partnerships for the work of the Rome Office are several Directorates General of the European Commission, including the Directorates General for Health, Safety and Consumers Protection, Environment, Research and some European Environment Agencies such as the European Environment Agency.
- 19. At the national level the Rome Office has also developed significant collaborations with the Italian Regional authorities, in particular those of Tuscany, Emilia Romagna and Sicily. Other Italian public entities that over the time of functioning of the Rome office have contributed to its resources include the Italian Department of Civil Protection, the Italian National Institute of Health, the Italian Agency for Environment Protection, the Italian local health agencies, the Italian Ministry of Environment, and the Italian Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that is presently supporting a project on food safety in Albania. Altogether, these collaborations resulted in a mobilization of ca. 4.6 million USD.
- 20. Other important contributions to the implementation of the activities developed by the Rome Office come from in-kind contributions of donors and member states, notably through the provision of support from national focal points, hospitality for international meetings, workshops and events.

5. Relationships between the Rome Office and its partners

4.1 Relationships with the Host Country

- 21. The Rome Office has had a positive and constructive relation with the host country, particularly through the Department of International Affairs of the Ministry of Health and the Directorate General for sustainable development, climate and energy of the Italian Ministry of Environment. Consultations and communication have taken place in countless areas, of which the following are some examples:
 - Information and engagement in international activities and initiatives organized by the Rome Office and taking place in Italy, as appropriate. For example, the Rome Office organized a series of public health seminars and press conferences on key environment and health issues, which were attended by representatives of the Italian Government, and national institutions, such as those on areas at high environmental risk and urban air pollution (January 2002); on smoke and health (February 2002); on World Health Days 2002 and 2003, on air pollution in the 13 largest Italian cities (June 2006), UN report on violence against children (October 2006), waste and health (April 2007) and the effects of climate change and extreme

weather events in Italy (June 2007). In more recent years, the Italian Ministry of Health was the co-host of an international joint WHO/FAO/EFSA workshop on the impacts on food and water safety and food security from climate change, on the occasion of World Food Day in October 2008; it launched jointly with the Rome Office the European Report on Child Injury prevention (December 2008), and hosted a number of international consultations (e.g. on the preparation of the World Report on Disability in June 2008, and of the Violence Prevention Alliance, in June 2010. On the occasion of the World Health Day in 2011 a booklet on "Tackling antibiotic resistance in a food safety perspective in Europe" was published and lauched at an event in Rome opened by the Italian Ministry of Health.

- Support to technical matters of relevance to countries in the Region in cooperation with Italian institutions. Examples include the collaboration with Italian authorities on the prevention of industrial accidents in the aftermath of the Baia Mare chemical spill in 2000, in particular the development of a Rapid Environmental Health Risk Assessment (REHRA) methodology and testing in the lower Danube countries; the assessment of the health effects of climate change in the Mediterranean and Mediterranean cities; the expertise in the prevention of heat/fire prevention in the Russian Federation and the support to food safety aspects in Albania.
- Support to technical environment and health issues of relevance in Italy: these activities were carried out in particular with the Ministry of Health Department of Prevention, the Italian Department of Civil Protection and Regional Agencies with whom the Rome Office has been interacting on a number of technical issues of relevance to the country. The most important examples include the production of the first assessment of the environment and health situation in Italy, published in 1997; the development of the assessment of the health effects of air pollution in the 8 and 13 largest Italian cities (published in 2002 and 2006, respectively); the investigation of the health effects of exposures to toxic waste, including in the proximity of illegal dumping sites in the region of Naples. This work resulted in the publication of a preliminary report in 2005 and a final one in April 2007 and in an international workshop on waste management in October 2007. In addition, on the occasion of the waste crisis in Naples in early 2008, WHO was asked to be part of the emergency response team, and provided scientific knowledge and communication expertise. The Rome Office has also collaborated with Italian Institutions in the development of joint pilot projects. Examples include the development of a pilot assessment of the impacts of two-stroke motorbikes on health in large Italian Cities, published in 2004, the set up of alert systems for heat waves, as part of the EURO-HEAT project coordinated by WHO; the development of the health impact assessment of climate change and extreme weather events in Italy, published in 2007; and the heat health action plan published in 2007. More recently, the Rome Office provided support on the environment and health aspects of a crisis in the Sicilian island of Lampedusa, which in spring 2011 was affected by the arrival of a high number of immigrants and refugees from North Africa. Other examples of on-going collaborations with Italian Institutions include the participation of WHO upon invitation by the Ministry of Health to relevant national working groups, e.g. the one developing the Italian environment and health policy, the exchange of information and coordination on the occasion of requests from the Italian Parliament in relation to environmental risks for health in some specific areas; the provision of assistance to food safety emergencies in collaboration with the Alert and Response Operations in the Copenhagen office.
- the Director General for sustainable development, climate and energy served as co-chair of the European Environment and Health Committee for different mandates, the last until 2010, and supported the preparations of the Budapest and Parma Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 2004 and 2010 respectively. Collaboration with the Ministry of Environment has also taken place in the context of the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health.

23. The Rome Office has established and maintained a number of technical collaborations with other Italian Institutions, such as the National Institute of Health, local and regional health and environment agencies, the National Research Council, the national Agency for Environmental Protection whose experts are involved in several programmes and activities of the Office, as needed to support technical implementation.

4.2 Relationships with WHO Country Offices

- 24. The Rome Office, in line with the priorities and activities negotiated by WHO Europe with Ministries of Health through the Biennial Collaborating Agreement (BCAs) mechanism, has seen a very important increase over the past two biennia in its involvement in country work and funding of country activities. The main focus of the activities, tailored to best fit the country priorities, is on supporting capacity building, surveillance, situation analysis and support to the revision or development of national policies and plans in the technical areas addressed by the programmes active in the Rome Office.
- 25. The Rome Office operates through and in close cooperation with the Heads of Country Offices, in countries where these exist. Areas presently addressed through country-based activities include:
 - *Children's environment and health*: Albania, Poland, Montenegro, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
 - *Climate change*: Albania, Croatia, Cyprus, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Russian Federation, Serbia, Tajikistan, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uzbekistan
 - *Environmental Health Risk Assessment and Management*: Belarus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovak Republic, Tajikistan,
 - *Food safety*: Albania, Croatia, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan. In addition, training activities for multiple countries are carried out in the Russian Federation and Poland through the Global Food Safety Network (GSN) training courses, and in Poland through the Codex Coordinating Committee for Europe.
 - Transport and health: Georgia, Malta, Moldova, Ukraine
 - *Violence and Injury Prevention*: Albania, Belarus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Russian Federation, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
 - Water and sanitation: Albania, Montenegro, Georgia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey; In addition to activities under the BCA umbrella, the Rome (including Athens) office also works with WHO country offices in countries that are Party to the multilateral environmental agreements served by the Rome office. For the Protocol on Water and Health, these include the WHO country offices in Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Slovakia and Ukraine. For the Barcelona Convention, they include all WHO Country Offices in the northern and eastern Mediterranean.

4.3 Relationships with WHO Collaborating Centres and international agencies

26. The Rome Office has very active collaborations with WHO Collaborating Centres in the areas of its technical competence. These include five main groups of collaborating centres:

- WHO Collaborating Centres on Water Safety: the Rome Office designates and manages the following Collaborating Centres: Robens Institute, University of Surrey, United Kingdom, the WHO Collaborating Centre on Health Promoting Water Management and Risk Communication, Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms Universität, Bonn, Germany and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on Drinkingwater Hygiene, Federal Environment Agency, Berlin, Germany. In addition, the Rome Office works closely with collaborating centres designated in common agreement by WHO Headquarters, but situated in the European region: WHO Collaborating Centre for Drinkingwater Safety, London, United Kingdom; WHO Collaborating Centre for Health and Environment in Sustainable Development, Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; WHO Collaborating Centre for Water and Healt, DHI Water and Environment and Health, Horsholm, Denmark; National Sanitation Foundation, Brussels, Belgium. Increased collaboration has developed between the network of the collaborating centres mandated in water and health, and the networks of collaborating centres in food safety and in occupational health, respectively.
- WHO Collaborating Centres on Violence and Injury Prevention, particularly those established at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, at the Liverpool John's Moore University in the UK, the Consumer Safety Institute in the Netherlands, the Karolinska Institute (Sweden), and the newly established Centre at the Navarra University in Spain. These Collaborating Centres are close partners in capacity building activities, technical support to countries, preparation of major reports and policy briefings;
- WHO Collaborating Centres on child and adolescents health, including those in Italy at the Burlo Garofolo Institute in Trieste (whose former Director to lay down the foundation of the ECEH work in children's health and environment), and the former WHO Collaborating Centre at the Meyer Hospital in Florence (in collaboration with whom the 2009 HBSC Forum was organized in Siena), and in the United Kingdom University of Edinburgh, and NHS Scotland, working on the Health Behaviour in School Children Survey (HBSC);
- WHO Collaborating Centres on climate change and health, include the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and the European Centre for Emergency Medicine in San Marino. The LSHTM, in particular, has been co-publishing around 25 peer reviewed articles some of which in high ranking journals;
- WHO Collaborating Centres on Food safety, including the former FAO/WHO Collaborating Centre on Veterinary Public Health, ISS, Rome, Italy; the WHO Collaborating Centre for Food Contamination Monitoring and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance in Foodborne Pathogens, both at the Danish Food Institute, Danish Technical University; the WHO Collaborating Centre for Risk Assessment of Pathogens in Food and Water, RIVM, The Netherlands; the FAO/WHO Collaborating Centre on Food Hygiene and Zoonoses, BfR, Berlin, Germany (the latter not active since 2005).
- 27. The Rome Office has also a number of strong technical collaborations with several EU Agencies, including the European Environment Agency (EEA), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the Joint Research Centre (JRC), UN Organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United States Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (USCDC).

6. ORGANIZATION AND STAFF OF THE ROME CENTRE

- 28. The organizational structures of the Regional Office have changed several times in the last two decades. After being a part of the Environment and Health Department from 1991 to 2000, of the Division on Technical Support from 2001 to 2006 and of the Special Programme on Environment and Health, since February 2008 the Rome (and Bonn) Office became a part of the Non- Communicable Diseases and Environment Unit of the Division of Health Programmes. From 1 July 2010, together with the Bonn Office, it is part of the Division of Communicable Diseases, Health Security and Environment, where it reports to the Coordinator, Environment and Health.
- 29. According to the organigram of 1 July 2010, the Rome Office is organized in six technical areas of work, addressing Water and Sanitation, Food Safety, Environmental Health Risk Assessment and Management, Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Green Health Services, Transport and Health, and Violence and Injury Prevention. In addition, administrative, Information Technology and Communication (ITC) and general service function are attached to the office of the Head of Office. The Rome Office also houses three communication and advocacy staff, who provide services across the whole Environment and Health area of work, thereby covering also the Bonn and Copenhagen Offices.
- 31. Historically, the Rome Office has greatly benefited from a highly skilled international pool of professionals. Starting from an initial core of five staff members in 1991, in 2011, it consisted of 30 staff members duty-stationed in Rome and of 2 staff members duty stationed in the Athens Project Office 32. The present 32 staff of the Rome/Athens office belong to the following ten nationalities: Belarus, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Greece, Mongolia, Norway, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Switzerland. Past staff included also nationals from Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Finland, India, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Paraguay, Spain, Uzbekistan.

Annex 1

WHO/Europe environment and health library

Key documents and publications 1990-2011 produced by the Rome Office

This list presents a comprehensive collection of selected technical, policy, legal, press and advocacy documents produced by the Rome Office since its establishment in 1989 by the First Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in Frankfurt.

Main publications resulting from collaboration with WHO headquarters – both as contributions to global publications and as translation into official languages for the European Region (mostly Russian) – and from other partnership activities are also included.

The compilation includes currently relevant documents as well as important ones which might be no longer scientifically up-to-date, but still document the work carried out by the Rome office across the 20 years of the European process on environment and health.

Websites and online databases are also part of the products.

List of topics

- Climate change
- Food safety
- Risk assessment and management, Health impact assessment
- Prevention of violence and injuries
- Radiations
- Transport and health (including Health-enhancing physical activity)
- Water and sanitation
- Waste
- Cross-cutting issues

List of documents per topic area and category

Climate change http://www.euro.who.int/climatechange

Technical documents

Title	Year
European scope	
1. Public health responses to heat-waves: information package	2011
2. Vegetation fires: A public health advisor.	2010
3. Protecting health in an environment challenged by climate change: European Regional Framework for Action (E F G R)	2010
4. Climate change and health in Europe: opportunities for action in partnership (Policy briefing) (E F G R)	2010
5. Climate change and health: Country profiles(Croatia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Sweden)	2010
6. The health impacts of climate change in Malta.	2010
7. Improving public health responses to extreme weather/heat-waves - Summary for policy-makers	2009
8. Improving public health responses to extreme weather/heat-waves – Technical summary	2009
9. European Impact of Climate Change. Joint EEA/WHO/JRC publication	2008
10. Protecting health in Europe from climate change2	2008
11. Heat-health action plans (E R)	2008
12. Environment and health risks from climate change and variability in Italy	2007
13. Lyme borreliosis in Europe: influences of climate and climate change, epidemiology, ecology and adaptation measures ³	2006
14. Climate Change and Adaptation Strategies for Human Health.	2005
15. Health and climate change: the now and how. A policy action guide.	2005
16. Climate variability and visceral leishmaniasis in Europe. WHO, Geneva	2004
17. Extreme weather events and public health responses	2005
18. Heat-waves: risks and responses	2004
19. Phenology and human health: allergic disorders. Report of a WHO meeting in Rome, Italy, 16-17 January 2003.	2003
20. Human health and the environment: chapter 13. In: United Nations. Environmental performance reviews: Uzbekistan, New York and Geneva, CR.	2001
21. Human health and the environment: chapter 13. In: United Nations. Environmental performance reviews: Ukraine, New York and Geneva, CR.	2001
22. Floods and public health consequences, prevention and control measures. In: Sustainable flood prevention: proceedings of a UN/ECE Seminar, (2000), 5p. WW 108.	2000
23. Climate change and stratospheric ozone depletion – early effects on our health in Europe	2000
Global scope	
24. Heat health Warning systems. WMO/WHO publication	2011
25. Human health. In: Climate change 2007: impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the	2007

 2 Highly commended in the 2009 BMA Medical Book Competition, public health category 3 Commended in the 2007 BMA Medical Book Competition, public health category

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Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2007. 42 pages ⁴	
26. Technical Summary. Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Cambridge University Press,	2007
27. Methods for assessing human health vulnerability and public health adaptation to climate change. (E R)	2003
28. Climate change and human health - risks and responses	2003
29. Chapter 9: national assessments of health impacts of climate change: a review.	
30. Climate change and human health: impact and adaptation	2000
31. Sun, heat and cold. In: Guidelines for safe recreational waters. WHO/EOS/98.14.	1998
Translation of global documents in Regional languages	
32. Climate change and human health - risks and responses, summary (Russian)	2003

Peer reviewed articles

Title	Year
33. Climate change and infectious diseases in Europe. LancetInfectDis 9(6):365 -75	2009
34. Prognostic factors in heat-wave related deaths – a meta-analysis. Arch Intern Med, Vol., 167, published online on August 13, 2007	2007
35. La canicule : reste-t-elle une menacepour la santé publique ? (Heat-waves: still a threat to public health? Bulletin épidémiologique hebdomadaire, No 22-23, pp 201 – 204	
36. Prevention and management of health hazards related to heatwaves. International Journal of Circumpolar Health, 68, 1, pp 8 – 22	2009
37. Protecting health from climate change: next steps in the WHO European Region European Journal of Public Health, Vol. 18, No. 4: 433	2008
38. The role of gender in the impact evaluation of heat waves on mortality in European cities. Epidemiology, 18 (5):S125-S125.	2006
39. Impact of high temperatures on mortality - Is there an added heat wave effect? Epidemiology, 17 (6):632-638.	2007
40. An approach for assessing human health vulnerability and public health interventions to adapt to climate change. Environ Health Perspect, 114 (12):1930-1934.	2006
41. Implications of global climate change for housing, human settlements and public health. Rev Environ Health, 22 (4):295-302.	2007
42. The human health consequences of flooding in Europe and the implications for public health: a review of the evidence. Applied Environmental Science and Public Health, 1 (1)	2005
43. Climate variability and campylobacter infection: an international study. Int J Biometeorol, 49 (4):207-214.	2004
44. Public health responses to extreme weather events. European Journal of Public health, 2004	2004
45. The effect of temperature on food poisoning: a time-series analysis of salmonellosis in ten European countries. Epidemiol Infect, 132 (3):443-453.	2004
46. Heatwave of August 2003 in Europe: provisional estimates of the impact on mortality. Eurosurveillance Weekly, 8 (11)	2003
47. Climate change and human health in Europe. BMJ, 318(7199):1682-1685.	1999
48. Health and climate change: a call for action. BMJ, 331 (7528):1283-1284.	2005
49. Assessment and prevention of acute health effects of weather conditions in Europe, the PHEWE project: background, objectives, design. Environ Health, 6 12.	2005

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⁴ Part of Nobel Piece Price Publication of the 4th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change

Title	Year
50. The health impacts of desertification and drought. Down to Earth. No. 14 - December 2000.	2000
51. Early health effects of climate change in Europe. European Bulletin on Environment and Health, 1998, 5(3), p. 5-6.	1998

Press and advocacy materials

Title	Year
52. European governments adopt comprehensive plan to reduce environmental risks to health by 2020 (PR 12 March 2010)	2010
53. Protecting health from climate change – leaflets for seven-country project	2009
54. Poster World Health Day 2008	2008
55. The solid facts on climate change and health (Fact sheet, 12 March 2010)	2010
56. World Food Day event to discuss health implications of climate change (PR 14 October 2008)	2008
57. Protecting health from climate change (PR 4 April 2008)	2008
58. Taking action to protect health in Europe from climate change (Fact sheet, 4 April 2008)	2008
59. Natural disasters and emergencies on the increase. Threats and challenges to health security in the WHO European Region (FS 2 April 2007)	2007
60. Climate change affects health now. WHO Regional Office for Europe calls on the health sector for immediate action (PR 5 December 2005)	2005
61. Impact of climate change on health: how to address new threats now (FS 5 December 2005)	2005
62. Kyoto Protocol: major step towards preventing deaths from environmental hazards (PR 15 February 2005)	2005
63. Health effects of extreme weather events: WHO's early findings to be presented at the World Climate Change Conference (PR 29 September 2003)	2003
64. Extreme weather events: health effects and public health measures (FS 29 September 2003)	2003
65. Flooding: Health effects and preventive measures (FS 13 September 2002)	2002
66. Combating climate change has immediate health benefits (Press release 22 November 2000)	2000
67. More deaths from floods and heat waves? Climate change and human health (Press release June 2000)	2000

Food safety http://www.euro.who.int/foodsafety

Title	Year
European scope	
68. A public health review of the enterohaemorrhagic Escherichia coli outbreak in Germany	2011
69. Tackling antimicrobial resistance in a food safety perspective in Europe	2011
70. Second Food and Nutrition Action Plan 2007-2012	2007
71. Food and health in Europe : a new basis for action	2004
72. Food and health in Europe : a new basis for action - summary	2004
Translation of global documents in Regional languages (RUSSIAN)	

73. Codex guidelines for the establishment of a regulatory programme for control of veterinary drug residues in foods	
74. Recommended international code of practice for control of the use of veterinary drugs	
75. Glossary of terms and definitions (residues of veterinary drugs in foods)	
76. Codex standard for follow-up formula	
77. Recommended international code of hygienic practice for foods for infants and children	
78. Codex standard for infant formula	
79. Food control laboratory management: recommendations	
80. Codex sampling plans for prepackaged foods	

Press and advocacy materials

Title	Year
81. Outbreaks of E. coli O104:H4 infection: 29 updates (from 31-05-11 to 07-07-11)	2011
82. Questions and answers (Q and A) on the outbreaks in Germany and France	2011
83. Outbreaks of E. coli O104:H4 infection: WHO/Europe gives public health advice	2011
84. Frequently asked questions on the EHEC infection outbreak in Germany (Background, Response, Epidemiology, Information for the public)	2011
85. Food safety remains a constant challenge, says WHO (PR 11 June 2011)	2011
86. Germany investigates outbreak of haemolytic uraemic syndrome (PR 27 May 2011)	2011
87. Complacency kills. Antibiotic resistance still on the rise in Europe (PR 7 April 2011)	2011
88. World Food Day event to discuss health implications of climate change (PR 14 October 2008)	2008
89. Taking action to protect health in Europe from climate change (FS 4 April 2008)	2008
90. The Second WHO European Action Plan for Food and Nutrition Policy 2007-2012 in brief (leaflet) (E, R)	2007
91. Reducing the burden of foodborne disease - How the WHO food safety programme for the European Region supports its Member States (leaflet)	2007
92. Second WHO European action plan for food and nutrition policy: tackling noncommunicable and acute diseases (FS 17 September 2007)	2007
93. Several foodborne diseases are increasing in Europe - WHO's "five keys to safer food" (PR 16 December 2003)	2003
94. Better health through safe food and good nutrition: WHO Regional Committee for Europe adopts a historic action plan (Press release September 2000)	2000
95. Food safety and nutrition, poliomyelitis eradication and better service to countries on the menu of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, 11–14 September 2000 (Press release 8 September 2000)	2000

Peer reviewed articles

Title	
96. Food-borne diseases – the challenges of 20 years ago still persist while new ones continue to emerge.Newell, D.G., M. Koopmans, L. Verhoef, E. Duizer, A. Aidara-Kane, H. Sprong, M. Opsteegh, M. Langelaar, J. Threfall, F. Scheutz, J. van der Giessen, H. Kruse . 2010. Int J Food Microbiol, 139, S3-S15.	2010

Risk assessment and management, Health impact assessment http://www.euro.who.int/healthimpact

Technical documents

Title	Year
European scope	
97. Health and Strategic Environmental Assessment	2010
98. Health Effects and Risks of Transport Systems: the HEARTS project	2006
99. Health impact of PM10 and ozone in 13 Italian cities	2006
100. The precautionary principle: protecting public health, the environment and the future of our children.	2004
101. Assessing the health impact and social costs of mopeds: feasibility study in Rome	2004
102. Health impact assessment of air pollution in the eight major Italian cities	2002
103. Disease mapping and risk assessment for public health decision-making	1999

Peer reviewed articles

Title	
104. SENTIERI Project. Mortality study of residents in Italian polluted sites: evaluation of the epidemiological evidence. Epidemiol Prev. 2010 Sep-Dec;34(5-6 Suppl 3):1-2.	2011
105. Inequalities, inequities, environmental justice in waste management and health. Eur J Public Health, 20 (1):21-26	2010
106. On the way to Parma: understanding and addressing the influence that social inequities have on environmental health. Eur J Public Health, 20 (1):12-13	2010
107. Geographical epidemiological descriptive study on the national priority site for remediation "Laguna di Grado e Marano". Epidemiol Prev, 33 (1-2):27-36	2009
108. Health impact of ozone in 13 Italian cities. Epidemiol Prev, 31 (6):323-332.	2007
109. The precautionary principle: in action for public health. Occup Environ Med, 64 (9):569-570	2007
110. La valutazione di impatto sanitario e' uno strumento democratico e complesso al servizio della sanita' pubblica. Ma funziona? Epidemiologia e Prevenzione, 30 (1):5 - 7	2006
111. Environment and health: perspectives from the intersectoral experience in Europe. In: Stahl T et al., eds. Health in all policies: prospects and potentials. Helsinki: Ministry of Social Affairs and Health; p. 129-144	2006
112. Cancer Incidence and Mortality in the Industrial City of Sumgayit, Azerbaijan International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health Vol 12/No 3, - pp. 234-241	2006
113. Capacity Building for Epidemiologic Research: A Case Study in the Newly Independent State of Azerbaijan Annals of Epidemiology Volume 15, Issue 3, Pages 228-231	2005
114. Industrial activities in sites at high environmental risk and their impact on the health of the population. Int J Occup Environ Health, 11 (1):88-95	2005
115. Health impact assessment of air pollution: providing further evidence for public health action. European Respiratory Journal, 40 86s-91s	2003
116. Ambiente e stato di salute nella popolazione delle aree ad alto rischio di crisi ambientale in Italia (in Italian). Epidemiologia e Prevenzione, 26(6 Suppl) suppl 1-53	2002
117. Cancer incidence and mortality in the industrial city of Sumgayit, Azerbaijan: A descriptive approach. NM, and Bryant H. Epidemiology Vol 13 N.4 S165	2002
118. Health Impact Assessment as part of Strategic Environmental Assessment: moving the European policy framework towards a greater integration of health consideration in the development of policies, plans and programs - Epidemiology Vol 13 N. 4 S130	2002
119. Declining trends of male proportion at birth in Europe. Arch Environ Health, 56	2001

(4):358-364	
120. Cancer morbidity and mortality in the industrial city of Sumgait, Azerbaijan: ecologic and analytic approaches - Epidemiology, 4 S69	2001
121. Policy dimension of Integrated Assessment - Puzzle-solving for policy – A provisional handbook for Integrated Assessment. van Asselt M.B.A., Rotmans J., Greeuw S.C.H. editors, ICIS	2001
122. Plan of action for an integrated assessment in the Greater Manchester area - Puzzle-solving for policy – A provisional handbook for Integrated Assessment. van Asselt M.B.A., Rotmans J., Greeuw S.C.H. editors ICIS	2001

Prevention of violence and injuries (http://www.euro.who.int/violenceinjury)

Title	Year
European scope	
123. Methodological approaches to cost-effectiveness and cost-utility analysis for injury prevention	2011
124. European report on preventing elder maltreatment	2011
125. European report on preventing violence and knife crime among young people	2010
126. Preventing injuries in Europe: from international collaboration to local implementation (E, R)	2010
127. Preventing injuries in Europe: from international collaboration to local implementation – executive summary (E, R, F, G, S)	2010
128. European status report on road safety (E, R)	2009
129. Addressing the socioeconomic safety divide: a policy briefing (E, R)	2009
130. Country assessments (31 in 2008, 47 in 2009)	2008, 2009
131. Progress in preventing injuries in the WHO European Region	2008
132. European report on child injury prevention (E, R)	2008
133. Preventing child maltreatment in Europe: a public health approach - Policy briefing	2007
134. The cycles of violence: key facts	2007
135. Youth and road safety in Europe. Policy briefing (E, R)	2007
136. Breaking the cycle: public health perspectives on interpersonal violence in the Russian Federation (E+R)	2007
137. Interpersonal violence and alcohol in the Russian Federation - A policy briefing (E+R)	2006
138. Alcohol and interpersonal violence - Policy briefing	2005
139. Injuries and violence in Europe : why they matter and what can be done	2006
140. Injuries and violence in Europe : why they matter and what can be done – summary (E, R)	2006
141. National responses to preventing violence and unintentional injuries: WHO European survey	2006
142. Preventing road traffic injury: a public health perspective for Europe	2004
143. Preventing road traffic injury: a public health perspective for Europe - key messages	2004
Policy and legal documents	
144. EUR/RC55/10 Injuries in the WHO European Region: Burden, challenges and policy response	2005

Title	Year
European scope	
145. WHO Regional Committee for Europe resolution EUR/RC55/R9 on prevention of injuries in the WHO European Region	2005
Documents in partnership	
146. Apollo policy briefing 8. Using advocacy for injury prevention	2010
147. Apollo policy briefing 6. Youth violence prevention	2009
148. Apollo policy briefing 5. Alcohol and injuries	2009
149. Apollo policy briefing 4. Road traffic injuries among vulnerable road users	2008
150. Apollo policy briefing 3. Inequality in injury risks	2007
151. Apollo policy briefing 2. Developing national policy for injury prevention	2007
152. Apollo policy briefing 1. The role of public health in injury prevention	2007
Translation of global documents in Regional languages	
153. Essential Trauma Care Guidelines	2010
154. World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims	2008
155. TEACH-VIP curriculum, Russian edition	2007
156. Road traffic and injury prevention training manual	2007

Peer reviewed articles

Title	Year
157. Systematic review and quality assessment of economic evaluation studies of injury prevention. Accident Analysis and Prevention (in press)	2011
158. Mortality due to injuries by place of occurrence in the European region: analysis of data quality in the WHO mortality database. Injury Prevention. Aug;15(4):275-7	2009
159. Who owns the roads? How motorized traffic discourages walking and bicycling; Injury Prevention,(15):369-373	2009
160. Sharing comprehensive policies for injury prevention in Europe; International Journal of Injury Control and Safety Promotion (16): 65 - 71	2009
161. The evolution of unintentional injury mortality among elderly in Europe. J Ageing Health. Mar;20(2):159-82	2008
162. Developing a national policy for injury and violence prevention. International Journal of Injury Control and Safety Promotion Mar;15(1):53-5.	2008
163. Prevention and Control. In: Heggenhougen HK and Quah SR (eds) International Encyclopedia of Public Health, vol. 6, pp 508518. San Diego: Academic Press	2008
164. Preventing the leading cause of death in young people in Europe; J Epidemiol Community Health 2007;61:842-843	2007
165. Reducing inequalities from injuries in Europe; The Lancet - Vol. 368, Issue 9554, 2243-2250 (Also Published Online June 26, 2006 DOI:10.1016/S0140-6736(06) 68895-8	2006
166. Stepping up the effort to reduce violence and unintentional injuries in Europe; European Journal of Public Health Vol 16/No 3, p. 338	2006
167. President's column: How can we reduce the knowledge gap between public health research and policy/practice?; Eur J Public Health16:336-338	2006
168. Road traffic injury prevention in children and young people in the European Region; Urbanisation and Health - New challenges in health promotion and prevention- Gunnar Tellnes (Editor) Unipubpforlag, Oslo Academic Press	2005
169. Urban Settings and opportunities for healthy lifestyles - rediscovering walking and cycling and understanding their health benefits	2005

Online databases

Title	Year
170. European inventory of national policies for the prevention of violence and injuries	2007- 2010

Press and advocacy materials

Title	Year
171. As many as 10,000 older people are estimated to be physically abused in Europe each day, new WHO report says (Press release June 2011)	2011
172. Road safety saves lives and money (PR 25 May 2011)	2011
173. Forty young Europeans are murdered each day. A new WHO report shows that many of these can be prevented. (Press release September 2010)	2010
174. Online tools for injury prevention: learn how to use them (Tutorial)	2007
175. Stop violence against children – act now (poster)	2005
176. Findings of new WHO study: 70% of deaths on European roads occur in poorer countries and 40% are among pedestrians, motorcyclists and cyclists (Press release, 19 November 2009)	2009
177. Injuries affect poor children most (Press release, 10 December 2008)	2008
178. Tackling injuries, the leading killers of children (Fact sheet, 10 December 2008)	2008
179. World Bank and WHO raise the alarm on noncommunicable diseases and injuries in the Commonwealth of Independent States (PR 29 October 2007)	2007
180. First United Nations Global Road Safety Week (PR 23 April 2007)	2007
181. Matching the lowest injury mortality rate could save half a million lives per year in Europe (FS 26 June 2006)	2006
182. Policies reducing injury and increasing physical activity in children pay off in health gain (PR 15 May 2006)	2006
183. Some children have safer childhoods than others: what makes the difference? (fact sheet 15 May 2006)	2006
184. The solid facts on unintentional injuries and violence in the WHO European Region (FS 12 September 2005)	2005
185. Reducing death on the road in the Russian Federation (PR 26 April 2006)	2006
186. Preventing thousands of Russians from dying or being injured on the roads (PR 28 February 2005)	2005
187. 'Home sweet home' - a myth for many children? The UN campaign 'Stop Violence Against Children. Act Now' launched today in Europe (PR 15 March 2005)	2005
188. Thousands of avoidable deaths and injuries from road traffic crashes: new reports urge joint action (PR 6 April 2004)	2004
189. Road traffic injuries in the WHO European Region: the population groups and countries most affected (FS 6 April 2004)	2004
190. Public health and violence – European facts and trends (FS 3 October 2002)	2002

Radiations

Title	Year
European scope	
191. The Human Consequences of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident - A Strategy for Recovery - A Report Commissioned by UNDP and UNICEF with the support of	2002

UN-OCHA and WHO (UNICEF 2002)	
192. Guidelines for Iodine Prophylaxis following Nuclear Accidents - Update 1999	1999
193. Perspectives in radiation and health: reflections on the International Conference in Beer Sheva. Environ Health Perspect 105:1611-1617. doi:10.1289/ehp.97105s61611	1997
194. Manual on public health action in radiation emergencies	1995
195. Childhood thyroid cancer since the accident at Chernobyl, BMJ Vol. 310, 25 March 1995, p. 108	1995
196. Additional documentation of thyroid cancer cases (Belarus): report of a survey, International Thyroid Project. 1995;95/001; International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon (France)	1995
197. Thyroid cancer after Chernobyl, Nature, 359 (1992) 21-22	1992
198. Thyroid cancer in children in Belarus after Chernobyl, World Health Statistics Quarterly, 46 (1993) 204-8.	1993

Transport and health (including Health-enhancing physical activity)

http://www.euro.who.int/transport, http://www.euro.who.int/physicalactivity

Title	Year
European scope	
199. Health economic assessment tool (HEAT) for walking and cycling (web-based tool)	2011
200. Promoting sport and enhancing health in European Union countries: a policy content analysis to support action	2011
201. An analysis of national approaches to promoting physical activity and sports in children and adolescents	2010
202. Economic valuation of transport-related health effects	2009
203. Economic valuation of transport-related health effects – Summary (E, R)	2009
204. Methodological guidance on the economic appraisal of health effects related to walking and cycling - summary	2009
205. A healthy city is an active city: a physical activity planning guide	2008
206. Health economic assessment tool for cycling (HEAT for cycling) +user guide	2008
207. Methodological guidance on the economic appraisal of health effects related to walking and cycling (E, G)	2007- 08
208. Collaboration between the health and transport sectors in promoting physical activity	2007
209. Steps to health: a European framework to promote physical activity for health	2007
210. Promoting physical activity and active living in urban environments. The role of local governments. The solid facts	2006
211. Physical activity and health in Europe : evidence for action	2006
212. Health effects and risks of transport systems : the HEARTS project	2006
213. Transport-related health effects - with a particular focus on children	2004
214. A physically active life through everyday transport with a special focus on children and older people and examples and approaches from Europe	2002
215. Transport, environment and health	2000
Policy and legal documents	
216. Amsterdam Declaration - Making THE Link: transport choices for our health,	2009

environment and prosperity (E F G R)	
217. The Transport, Environment and Health pan-European programme (THE PEP)	2002
218. European Charter on transport, environment and health (E F G R)	1999
Documents in partnership	
219. The pan-European programme on transport, health and environment (THE PEP): assessment and progress made (E, F, R)	2008
220. Transport, health and environment: trends and developments in the UNECE- WHO European Region (1997-2007)	2008
221. Working together for sustainable and healthy transport	2008

Peer reviewed articles

Title	Year
222. "Health in All Policies" in practice: guidance and tools to quantifying the health effects of cycling and walking; Journal of Physical Activity and Health "Policy Approaches to Increasing Physical Activity", 7(Suppl 1), S120-S125	2010
223. Promotion of physical activity in the European region: Content analysis of 27 national policy documents; Journal of Physical Activity and Health, (6): 805-817	2009
224. Economic analyses of transport infrastructure and policies including health effects related to cycling and walking: a systematic review, P Transport Policy, (15):291–304	2008
225. HEPA Europe's contributions to healthy living and move for health in the European Region. Bulletin of the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE/CIEPSS), no 49, January 2007	2007
226. Evidence- based physical activity promotion - HEPA Europe, the European Network for the Promotion of Health-Enhancing Physical Activity; Journal of Public Health DOI 10.1007/s10389-006-0029-5	2006
227. Integrating Health Concerns into Transport policies: from the charter on Transport. Environment and Health to the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme – in Environmental Health Impacts of Transport and Mobility edited by P. Nicolopoulou-Stamati, L. Hens and C.V. Howard - published by Springer - ppgg 171-177	2005
228. Letter responding to the paper "The catastrophic failures of public health; The Lancet • Vol 363 pp 1552-1553	2004
229. Including health in transport policy agendas: the role of health impact assessment analyses and procedures in the European experience; Bull World Health Organ, vol.81, no.6, p.399-403. ISSN 0042-9686	2003
230. Guidelines for assessing the health impacts of transport policies through walking and cycling: a forthcoming tool to assist decision makers – Epidemiology,12, 4 S35	2001
231. Health impact assessment of transport policy – The example of 2-stroke engine motorcycles (mopeds) in Italy; Epidemiology, 12, 4 S69; Cars and lorries threaten our health - time for stronger international action?; European Bulletin on Environment and Health, 8:1, 11	2001
232. Are we getting the right figures? Methodological problems in assessing the health impacts of transport policies and their costs; Epidemiology, 11, 4 S104	2000

Online databases

T	itle	Year
233.	Inventory of European approaches to promotion of physical activity	2006-

Press and advocacy materials

Title	Year
234. Road safety saves lives and money (PR 25 May 2011)	2011
235. Networking for Physical Activity (PHAN)	2011
236. THE PEP leaflet	2008,
	rev.
	2010
237. Sustainable and healthy transport can help boost economies (Press Release 22 January 2009)	2009
238. Ten years' work towards sustainable and healthy transport in Europe: key achievements and the way forward (Fact sheet 22 January 2009)	2009
239. HEPA Europe brochure (E, G, R)	2005,
	rev.
	2007
	2009,
	2010
240. Is physical activity a reality for all? (PR 8 May 2008)	2008
241. Walk and cycle every day for a healthier and longer life (Note for the press 21 September 2007)	2007
242. Little or no physical activity at work a reality for half of Europeans (PR 9 May 2007)	2007
243. Physical activity: a basic requirement for health (PR 17 November 2006)	2006
244. Active living to counteract obesity: building supportive environments (Note for the press 15 November 2006)	2006
245. Obesity tops the public health agenda across Europe: ministers meet for the WHO European Ministerial Conference on Counteracting Obesity (PR 15 November 2006)	2006
246. European Charter adopted to reverse the obesity epidemic (PR 16 November 2006)	2006
247. Policies reducing injury and increasing physical activity in children pay off in health gain (PR 15 May 2006)	2006
248. Some children have safer childhoods than others: what makes the difference? (FS 15 May 2006)	2006
249. HEPA newsletter	2006-
250. THE PEP clearing house brochure	2006
251. HEARTS project brochure	2006
252. Healthy transport modes can reduce the burden of transport-related ill health: the WHO Regional Office for Europe supports European Mobility Week (Press Release 22 September 2003)	2003
253. 30 minutes for a healthy life span (Press release 4 April 2002)	2002
254. Joint effort for transport sustainable for health and the environment (Press release 17 July 2002)	2002

Water and sanitation

http://www.euro.who.int/watsan

Title	Year
European scope	
255. Water supply and sanitation under extreme weather events (E/R)	2011
256. Policy guidance on water-related disease surveillance (E/R)	2011
257. Technical guidance on water-related disease surveillance (E/R)	2011
258. Small scale water supply systems in the pan-European region (E/R)	2011
259. Progress and challenges on water and health: the role of the Protocol on	2010

Water and Health (Policy briefing)	2010
260. Financing options for the Protocol on Water and Health Submission to the second session of the Meeting of the Parties (Bucharest, Romania, Nov 2010)	2010
261. Water supply and sanitation and health in Tajikistan – the Protocol on Water and Health as a basis for a holistic approach. WHO Copenhagen E. Funari, O. Schmoll, P. Studer and R. Aertgeerts	2009
262. Assessment on water supply, sanitation and health in the Mediterranean Region – Regional Assessment	2009
263. "State of Play" document for the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water (Dead Sea, Jordan, 29 October 2008)	2008
264. Water and health in Europe. A joint report from WHO/Europe and the European Environment Agency	2002
265. Health risks in aquifer recharge using reclaimed water : state of the art report	2001
Policy and legal documents	
266. Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (E F G R)	1999
Global scope	
267. Guidelines for drinking-water quality, third edition, incorporating first and second addenda	
268. Guidelines for the safe use of wastewater, excreta and greywater Vol 1,2,3 and 4	
269. Water Safety Plan manual: step-by-step risk management for drinking-water suppliers	2009
270. Water, sanitation and hygiene standards for schools in low-cost settings	2009
271. Vision 2030: The resilience of water supply and sanitation in the face of climate change	2009
272. Progress on Drinking-water and Sanitation: special focus on sanitation	2008
273. UN Water Global Annual Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) - 2008 GLAAS Pilot Report	2008
274. WHO Guidelines for safe recreational water environments vol. 1 – coastal and fresh waters	2003
275. Domestic water quantity, service level and health	2003
276. Toxic cyanobacteria in water: a guide to their public health consequences, monitoring and management	1999
Documents in partnership	
277. Guidance on water and climate adaptation	2009
278. Assessment of the state of microbial pollution in the Mediterranean Sea	2008
279. Municipal wastewater treatment plants in Mediterranean coastal cities	2008
280. Municipal wastewater treatment plants in Mediterranean coastal cities (II) E+F	2008
281. Guidance on sampling and monitoring for lead in drinking water - E.J. Hoekstra, C.R. Hayes, R. Aertgeerts, A. Becker, M. Jung, A. Postawa, L. Russell, S. Witczak - EU Joint Research Centre EUR 23812 EN 2009	2008
282. WHO Technical Report: Support for the Development of a Framework for the Implementation of Water Safety Plans in the European Region	2007
283. Guidelines for the management of industrial wastewater for the Mediterranean Region E+F	2004
284. Guidelines on sewage treatment and disposals for the Mediterranean Region E+F	2004
285. Reference handbook on environmental compliance and enforcement in the Mediterranean Region E+F	2004
286. Guidelines on environmental inspection systems for the Mediterranean Region E+F	2004

287. Guidelines on management of coastal litter for the Mediterranean Region E+F	2004
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Translation of global documents in Regional languages	
288. Manual on Water Safety Plans (Russian)	2011
289. WHO Guidelines for safe recreational water environments vol. 1 – coastal and fresh waters – Summary (Russian	2003
290. Managing water in the home: accelerated health gains from improved water supply (Russian)	2002

Press and advocacy materials

Title	Year
291. Extreme weather events threaten safe drinking-water and sanitation (PR 22 March 2011)	2011
292. European countries set targets for giving everyone access to safe and affordable water and sanitation (PR 23 November 2010)	2010
293. R. Aertgeerts Water en gezondheid – Beleid in het kader van de Wereldgezondheidsorganizatie [Water and health – management options in the framework of the WHO] in F. Maes and P Willems (eds) Water – Bron van leven en conflicten [Water – Source of Life and Conflicts] Acco	2010
294. R. Aertgeerts Progress and Challenges in Water and Sanitation Desalination 251 (2010) 249-255	2010
295. R. Aertgeerts Controlling water-related disease through improved policy: Europe's chronology of success. Water21	2008
296. The ad hoc project facilitation mechanism (AHPFM) (leaflet)	2008
297. CD on the Protocol on Water and Health	2008
298. Twenty European countries meet to improve water management (PR 17 January 2007)	2007
299. H. Takasawa MDG Water supply targets and water safety plans. Nordic Conference on Water Safety Reykjavic, Iceland, June 2006	2006
300. The Protocol on Water and Health: making a difference (brochure) (E, R)	2006
301. Access to safe water and sanitation in Europe stagnating for over 15 years (Note for the press 27 November 2006)	2006
302. R. Aertgeerts Proteonomic and genomic methods in JRC IES Workshop on Genomics for Environment and Health (ISPRA, 11-12 April 2005)	2005
303. R. Aertgeerts Overview of Food Security Issues – worldwide perspectives. In K>C. Thompson and J Gray (eds) Proceedings of the Water Contamination Emergencies Conference (Manchester, United Kingdom, 12 – 15 June 2005) RSC	2005
304. Treaty to prevent water-related diseases in Europe enters into force (PR 3 August 2005)	2005
305. Access to cleaner water and better sanitation would prevent millions of cases of water-related diseases every year in European countries (PR 21 March 2005)	2005
306. Flooding: Health effects and preventive measures (FS 13 September 2002)	2002
307. WHO calls for urgent review of environment and health regulatory standards for mining precious metals in Europe (Press release 18 February 2000)	2000

Waste

 itle	Year	

European scope	
308. Population health and waste management: scientific data and policy options	2007
309. Population health and waste management: scientific data and policy options - summary (R)	2007
310. Trattamento dei rifiuti in Campania: impatto sulla salute umana. Studio di correlazione tra rischio ambientale da rifiuti, mortalità e malformazioni congenite (in Italian)	2007
311. Trattamento dei rifiuti in Campania: impatto sulla salute umana. Correlazione tra rischio ambientale da rifiuti, mortalità e malformazioni congenite. Rapporto sintetico (in Italian)	2005
Global scope	
312. Safe management of wastes from health-care activities	1999

Peer reviewed articles

Title	
313. Ecological studies of cancer incidence in an area interested by dumping waste sites in Campania (Italy). Ann Ist Super Sanita. ;47(2):181-191	2011
314. Health impact assessment of waste management facilities in three European countries. Environmental Health, Jun 2;10:53	2011
315. Cancer mortality and congenital anomalies in a region of Italy with intense environmental pressure due to waste. Occup Environ Med, 66 (11):725-732	2009
316. Cluster analysis of mortality and malformations in the Provinces of Naples and Caserta (Campania Region). Ann Ist Super Sanita, 44(1):99-111	2008
317. Italian "Triangle of death". The Lancet Oncology, 5 (12):710	2004

Cross-cutting issues

http://www.euro.who.int/ecehrome, http://www.euro.who.int/envhealth,
 http://www.euro.who.int/ehhis, http://www.euro.who.int/eehc,
http://www.euro.who.int/ehindicators, http://www.euro.who.int/childhealthenv

Title	Year
European scope	
318. Main findings and recommendations from the WHO Regional Office for Europe mission to Hungary	2010
319. Report on the WHO/HBSC Forum 2009: Socio-environmentally determined health inequities among children and adolescents	2010
320. Health and environment in Europe: progress assessment	2010
321. The Future of the European Environment and Health Process (Policy briefing) (EFGR)	2010
322. Social and gender inequalities in environment and health (Policy briefing) (EFGR)	2010
323. Specific needs of the newly independent states and the countries of south- eastern Europe (Policy briefing) (EFGR)	2010
324. The Journey to Parma: a tale of 20 years of environment and health action in Europe	2010
325. Improving children's health and the environment: examples from the WHO European Region	2009
326. Fact sheets from the European Environment and Health Information System (ENHIS) – update	2009

Environment and health performance reviews:	2008-
327. Slovakia	09
328. Estonia	
329. Poland	
330. Lithuania	
331. Malta	
332. Serbia	
333. Summary overview of the environment and health performance reviews for Estonia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Serbia and Slovakia	
334. Influencing environmental and health decision-making through economic data	2008
335. From theory to practice in environmental epidemiology: developing, conducting and disseminating health research	2008
336. Fact sheets from the European Environment and Health Information System (ENHIS)	2007
337. Children's health and the environment in Europe. A baseline assessment	2007
338. Children's health and environment : developing action plans	2005
339. Burden of disease attributable to selected environmental factors	2004
340. The precautionary principle : protecting public health	2004
341. Children's health and environment: a review of evidence	2002
342. Health in Italy in the 21st century	1999
343. Ambiente e salute in Italia (Environment and health in Italy) (in Italian)	1997
344. Environmental Epidemiology: exposure and disease	1996
345. Concern for Europe's tomorrow	1995
346. Concern for Europe's tomorrow : summary	1995
Policy and legal documents	
347. WHO Regional Committee for Europe resolution EUR/RC60/R7 on The future of the European environment and health process	2010
348. Parma Declaration (E F G R)	2010
349. The European Environment and Health Process (2010–2016): Institutional framework (E F G R)	2010
350. WHO Regional Committee for Europe resolution EUR/RC54/R3 on Environment and health (E F G R)	2004
351. Children's Environment and Health Action Plan (E F G R)	2004
352. Budapest Declaration (E F G R)	2004
353. Declaration of the Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (E F G R)	1999
354. Helsinki Declaration on Action for Environment and Health in Europe (E F G R)	1994
355. Environmental Health Action Plan for Europe (EHAPE) (E F G R)	1994
356. European Charter on Environment and Health (E F G R)	1989

Press and advocacy materials

Title	Year
357. Conclusions of the health mission in Lampedusa (PR 31 March 2011)	2011
358. Disaster preparedness mission to Lampedusa (Photostory)	2011
359. Increasing movement of displaced populations in the Mediterranean countries of the European Union: future challenges for health systems. Concluding remarks from a high-level meeting	2011
360. Safe and nutritious food is a prerequisite for health (SO9 advocacy paper)	2011
361. Healthy environment for healthy people (SO8 advocacy paper)	2011
362. The World Health Youth (WHY) Environment and Health Communication Network	2010 -11

Title	Year
Newsletter (4 issues til July 2011)	
363. WHO mission to assess the health impact of the red sludge spill in Hungary (Photostory)	2010
364. European governments adopt comprehensive plan to reduce environmental risks to health by 2020 (PR 12 March 2010)	2010
365. European countries to agree new targets to fight environmental threats to health (PR 10 March 2010)	2010
366. Twenty years of environment and health in Europe: trends and gaps (FS 10 March 2010)	2010
367. Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health – Session and conference videos	2010
368. Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health – Leaflet and poster (E, F, G, R)	2009
369. The Bridge issues with EH entries (No. 29 Autumn-Winter 2010, No. 28 Spring-Summer 2010, No. 27 Autumn-Winter 2009, No. 26 Summer 2009, No. 25 Spring 2009, No. 21 Summer 2008, No. 20 Autumn-Winter 2007, No. 18 Spring 2007)	2007- 2010
370. International public health symposium on environment and health research in Madrid, Spain, 20-22 October 2008 (Leaflet) (E, R)	2008
371. Health and Environment e-alerts	2007-
372. Health and Environment e-newsletter	2006- 2007
373. Special Programme on Health and Environment (Brochure)	
374. Addressing Health Determinants (Brochure)	
375. Virtual Library Desk (Leaflet)	
376. Planning to protect children against hazards (CEHAPE booklet) (E G R)	2006
377. Planning to protect children against hazards – poster series	2006
378. We will make a difference to our children's future – poster	2004
379. The Budapest media anthology	2004
380. Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (E F G R)	2004
381. Flyer-Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (E, R)	2004
382. Posters (2) -Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (E, R)	2004
383. Documents from 4 Ministerial Conferences on Environment and Health (1989-2004)	2004
384. The World Health Youth (WHY) Environment and Health Communication Network (leaflet)	2009
385. Media workshop on prevention of family violence	2009
386. Report of the second meeting of the World Health Youth (WHY) communication network	2009
387. Report of the first meeting of the World Health Youth (WHY) communication network	2008
388. European governments adopt comprehensive plan to reduce environmental risks to health by 2020 (Press release, 12 March 2010)	2010
389. European countries to agree new targets to fight environmental threats to health (Press release, 10 March 2010)	2010
390. Twenty years of environment and health in Europe: trends and gaps (Fact sheet, 10 March 2010)	2010
391. Science for policy, policy for science: bridging the gap (Press release, 20 October 2008)	2008
392. WHO symposium to inform the European environment and health research agenda - Europe strengthens its commitment to preserve children's futures through healthy environments (Press release, 10 March 2008)	2008
393. Review planned of European countries progress in protecting children's health from harmful environments (Note for the press 2 March 2007)	2007

Title	Year
394. Children subject to invisible threats. Governments make national plans to protect children from environmental health hazards (Note for the press, 12 December 2005)	2005
395. Are they doing what they said they would do? New web map shows how countries are reducing environmental health hazards (Note for the press, 20 October 2005)	2005
396. Young people to have a voice in plans to protect their health from environmental hazards (Note for the press, 31 January 2005)	2005
397. Children's intellectual potential at risk European ministers finalize the Budapest Conference agenda (PR 25 March 2004)	2004
398. Hazardous chemicals: main risks to children's health (FS 25 March 2004)	2004
399. Study on environmental burden of disease in children: key findings (Fact Sheet, 18 June 2004	2004
400. One in three child deaths in Europe due to environment. New WHO study details devastating effects (Press Release, 18 June 2004)	2004
401. European ministers of health and environment gather in Budapest to craft a healthier, safer and fairer future for our children (Press Release, 23 June 2004)	2004
402. Newsflash. There is no place like home, or is there? A new WHO study identifies the main environmental risks to children's health in the home (Press Release 25 June 2004)	2004
403. Children at risk! Main health effects of exposure to environmental risk factors (FS 27 November 2003)	2003
404. International experts meet for the protection of our children's future from unhealthy environments (PR 1 October 2003)	2003
405. WHO European member states discuss the future for our children (PR 23 June 2003)	2003
406. Health takes on an active role in environmental policy at the Ministerial Conference in Kiev (PR 20 May 2003)	2003
407. The future for our children: at risk from unhealthy environments (Press release 4 April 2003)	2003
408. Chemical terrorism alert system to be set up (Press release 4 June 2002)	2002
409. Contaminated environment jeopardizes our children's health (Press release 15 April 2002)	2002
410. Main risks to children from exposure to environmental hazards (FS 15 April 2002)	2002