



*With this newsletter we would like to give you updated information about the WHO Health in Prisons Project (HIPP) and its current activities. If you want some information to be included in our next newsletter, please do not hesitate to let us know.*

### HIPP in 2008

2008 has been a very successful year for the Health in Prisons Project.

The achievements include:

- The launch of the Russian version of the WHO guide to the essentials in prison health, 26 February 2008 in Moscow, Russia.
- A Round-table on Women's health in Prison, 25-26 June 2008 in London, United Kingdom. The Round Table brought together 15 experts in the area of women's health in prison to discuss a first outline of the draft background paper for the Declaration on the topic.
- A Survey among the WHO European Member States on Women's health and health care in Prison.
- The launch of the Trencin Statement on Prisons and Mental Health, on 24 June 2008 in the Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health in London, United Kingdom.
- Country activities in Kyrgyzstan, Andorra and Croatia.
- 3 HIPP sessions during the annual conference of the American Public Health Organization (APHA) in San Diego, USA during 25-29 October 2008. HIPP joined the APHA conference with the aim to increase the sharing of knowledge and best practices on prison health with countries outside the borders of the WHO European Region.
- A conference 'Women's health in Prison' and Network Meeting during 12-15 November 2008 in Kyiv, Ukraine.
- The final report for the European Commission, mainly about the Prison Health Database (after a 3 year period of financial support).
- Participating in several international meetings and conferences on prison health related topics.

### Breaking news...

HIPP has been invited to present 2 sessions at the 12th World Congress on Public Health in Istanbul, Turkey during the end of April 2009. These sessions are part of an informal collaboration between APHA/PAHO and HIPP.

## HIPP Network Meeting and International Conference 2009

The next HIPP Network Meeting and International Conference 'Prison Health Protection' will take place during 27-31 October 2009 in Madrid, Spain.

The HIPP Network Meeting will be held on 28 October 2009 after which a 2-day International Conference will follow. Purpose of the Network Meeting is to share information and knowledge between HIPP and the Member States and among the Member States themselves. HIPP will assure enough time for interaction during the Network Meeting.

The 2-day International Conference 'Prison Health Protection', during 29-30 October 2009, will mainly focus on blood borne viruses and other communicable diseases. The conference will be organized by a number of (inter) national organizations, including (at this stage) the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (HIPP), the Collaborating Centre for Prison and Health, the Spanish Ministry of Health, the Spanish Ministry of Interior and the Sociedad española de sanidad penitenciaria, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the International Journal for Prisoner Health and the AIDS Foundation East-West. Registration for the conference will be open for public and a registration fee will be charged. The conference is primarily aimed at (prison) health professionals, professionals working within the criminal justice system, researchers and policy makers. Official languages of the conference will be English, Russian and Spanish.

On 31 October an optional prison visit to a local prison will be organized.

**All HIPP Member States and international partners are invited to contact HIPP for any ideas and wishes regarding the network meeting or the international conference.**

Also, Member States and partners are strongly advised to consider submitting an abstract for a possible presentation during the conference. Shortly, more information regarding the conference will become available and abstracts can be submitted.

Please have a regular look at the HIPP website [www.euro.who.int/prisons](http://www.euro.who.int/prisons) for the latest information regarding the events.

### HIPP country activities

During 2008-2009 the Health in Prisons Project undertakes several activities on prison health issues in specific countries. The project has so far carried out activities in Kyrgyzstan, Andorra and Croatia. In Kyrgyzstan, activities have mainly been related to the availability of drug dependency treatment and an evaluation of the prison health system. Also in Andorra, the prison health system has been evaluated. In Croatia, a WHO seminar on inter-sectoral collaboration between the public drug treatment sector and the prison health sector was organized.

The selection of countries in which to undertake activities depends on the

availability of funding sources. Requests for funding of activities by WHO have to be initiated by the countries themselves .

### HIPP website

The HIPP website [www.euro.who.int/prisons](http://www.euro.who.int/prisons) is regularly updated. Member States and international partners are always welcome to submit text to HIPP for possible inclusion in the website. For instance, a text about a country's example of best practice, a national event or a national prisoner's story. The project is also very interested in receiving any suggestions, advice and comments regarding the website.



### Conference 'Women's health in Prison' and HIPP Network Meeting 2008, 12-15 November, Kyiv Ukraine

During 12-15 November 2008, the annual HIPP Conference and Network Meeting took place in Kyiv, Ukraine. The conference on 13 November 2008 was opened by the Minister of Health of Ukraine, the Head of the State Department for Enforcement of Sentences, Ukraine and the Deputy Regional Director of WHO Regional Office for Europe. During the conference several issues on women's health and health care in prisons were presented. The draft WHO Declaration on Women's health in Prison was introduced and discussed by a panel and the participants. The conference clearly provided further evidence that there is an urgent need for change to ensure that basic human rights, basic health needs, gender equity and social justice are guaranteed to women in prison.

The Network Meeting on 14 November gave HIPP, its Member States and partners the chance to share information, present best practices and discuss future possibilities of the project.

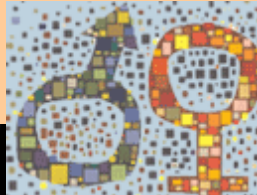


Many thanks to the State Department for Enforcement of Sentences, Ukraine for hosting the events and of course to all the co-sponsors and participants!

**Declaration 'Women's health in Prison'**

### Declaration 'Women's health in Prison'

The forthcoming WHO Kyiv Declaration on Women's health in Prisons will be a significant step towards a greater recognition and acceptance throughout Europe of the issues and essential requirements regarding women's health in prison. The draft version of the document, as discussed during the conference in Kyiv, has afterwards been adjusted conform the comments that were raised. The Declaration with its accompanying background document will soon be published in 4 languages (English, Russian, French and German) and will also be available for downloading on the HIPP website.



### Contact HIPP:

In case you have any questions or suggestions regarding this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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### Prison Health Database

The WHO Prison Health Database collects data on around 200 prison health indicators from countries in the WHO European Region. The database project was part of a 3-year contract with the European Commission (DG Sanco), which came to an end in August 2008. A final report about the 3-year period has been submitted to the European Commission in December 2008. The reports includes a chapter with inter-country data comparisons from countries within the European Union. An electronic version of the report will soon be available on the HIPP website.

### Best Practice Awards 2009

The WHO Collaborating Centre for Prison and Health organizes every second year the WHO HIPP's award scheme, established with the aim of identifying, acknowledging and disseminating best national practices concerning prison health among the HIPP Member States. Only prisons, and their partner organisations, may apply for an award. Application forms will be sent to the HIPP National Counterparts during February 2009 and need to be submitted through the National Counterpart by email as per instructions on the form.

### Steering Group meetings

The Steering Group for prison and health held a meeting in Kyiv, Ukraine, following the HIPP Network Meeting. The Conference and Network Meeting 2008 were evaluated and the way forward regarding the Kyiv Declaration 'Women's health in Prisons' was outlined. In presence of the Spanish representatives in Kyiv, the Conference and Network Meeting 2009 were discussed. First steps were outlined and first agreements were made. The next Steering Group meeting will take place during 11-12 March 2009 in the premises of WHO Europe in Copenhagen, Denmark. Main topics on the agenda will be the Strategic Plan 2009-2012 and the Conference and Network Meeting 2009. Alongside the Steering Group meeting, the organizational committee for the conference 2009 will have its first official meeting.

