

The global and regional policy context: implications for Greece

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Greek health reforms

- May 2016: policy dialogue to launch **primary health care** reforms
 - Local health units launched (early 2017)
- March 2017: policy dialogue to launch **public health** reforms

A strong tradition of public health in Greece

- 100 years of public health in Greece
- Focus on prevention and control of communicable/infectious diseases



DEADLY
OUTBREAKS



ΕΘΝΙΚΗ
ΣΧΟΛΗ
ΔΗΜΟΣΙΑΣ
ΥΓΕΙΑΣ
ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΙΚΗ ΣΧΟΛΗ
ΑΘΗΝΩΝ 1929-1994

NATIONAL
SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC
HEALTH
ATHENS SCHOOL
OF HYGIENE 1929-1994

Today's challenges require new approaches

We must address:

- political, economic, social and cultural determinants of health;
- environmental factors; and
- behavioral risk factors (lifestyle), including tobacco and alcohol use, diet and inactivity.

The European Health Policy Framework Health 2020

Improve health for all and reduce the health divide

Health 2020

→ Health is a political choice.
→ It requires coherent government policy in which health and well-being are priorities.

...ncable
communicable
diseases

...systems,
public health
capacity and
emergency
preparedness,
surveillance and
response

Create resilient
communities and
supportive
environments

Poor health is a drain on a country's economy!

- Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are costly due to:
 - direct treatment costs; and
 - indirect costs resulting from productivity losses due to work loss.
- An estimated 7–12% of GDP is lost annually due to NCDs.

Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
SUMMIT 2015
25-27 SEPTEMBER

- The Summit outcome document was agreed by 193 Member States.
- It includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals.







The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



SDG 3: Health for all at all ages



SDG 3 includes 13 targets by thematic area:

-  health throughout the life-course;
-  communicable diseases, noncommunicable diseases and risk factors;
-  resilient environments;
-  health systems.

Health is central to development

Health and well-being are

- **outcomes,**
- **determinants** and
- **enablers** of the SDGs.



Health targets will be met only by joining policy action to action for other SDGs



The health goal will contribute to meeting other goals



Measuring progress on the health-related SDGs index (76/100)

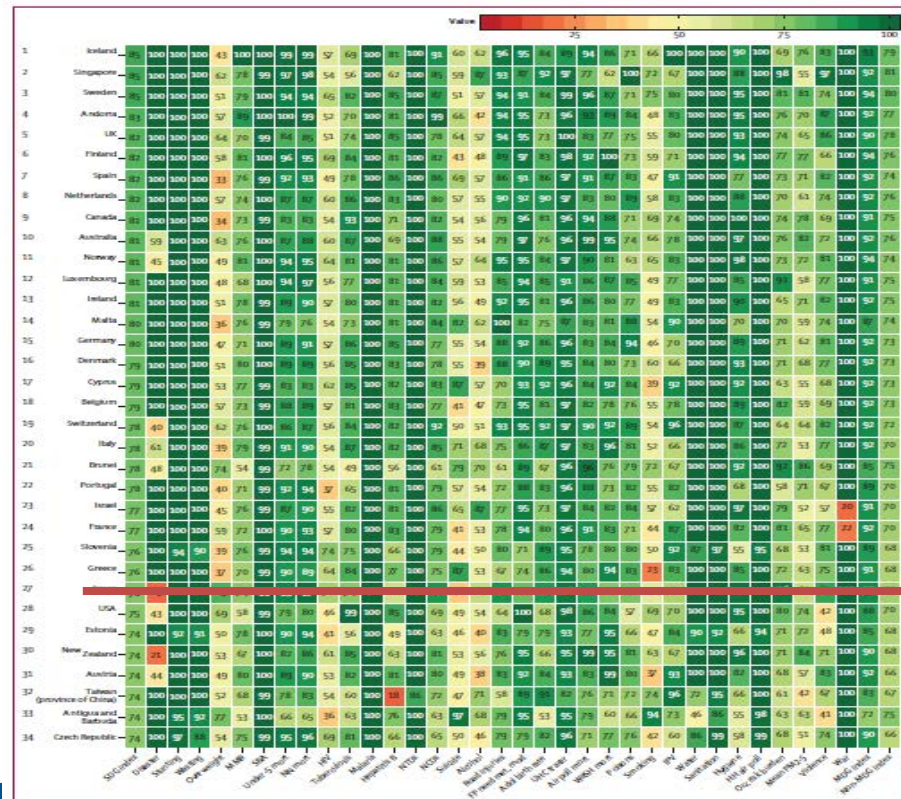
Greece ranks:

- 22 of 51 countries in WHO European region;
- 26 of 188 countries globally.

Key challenges for Greece are:

- **smoking**
- **overweight.**

Source: Lancet 2016;388:1813–50.



Health 2020 and the 2030 Agenda



A dramatically changing world

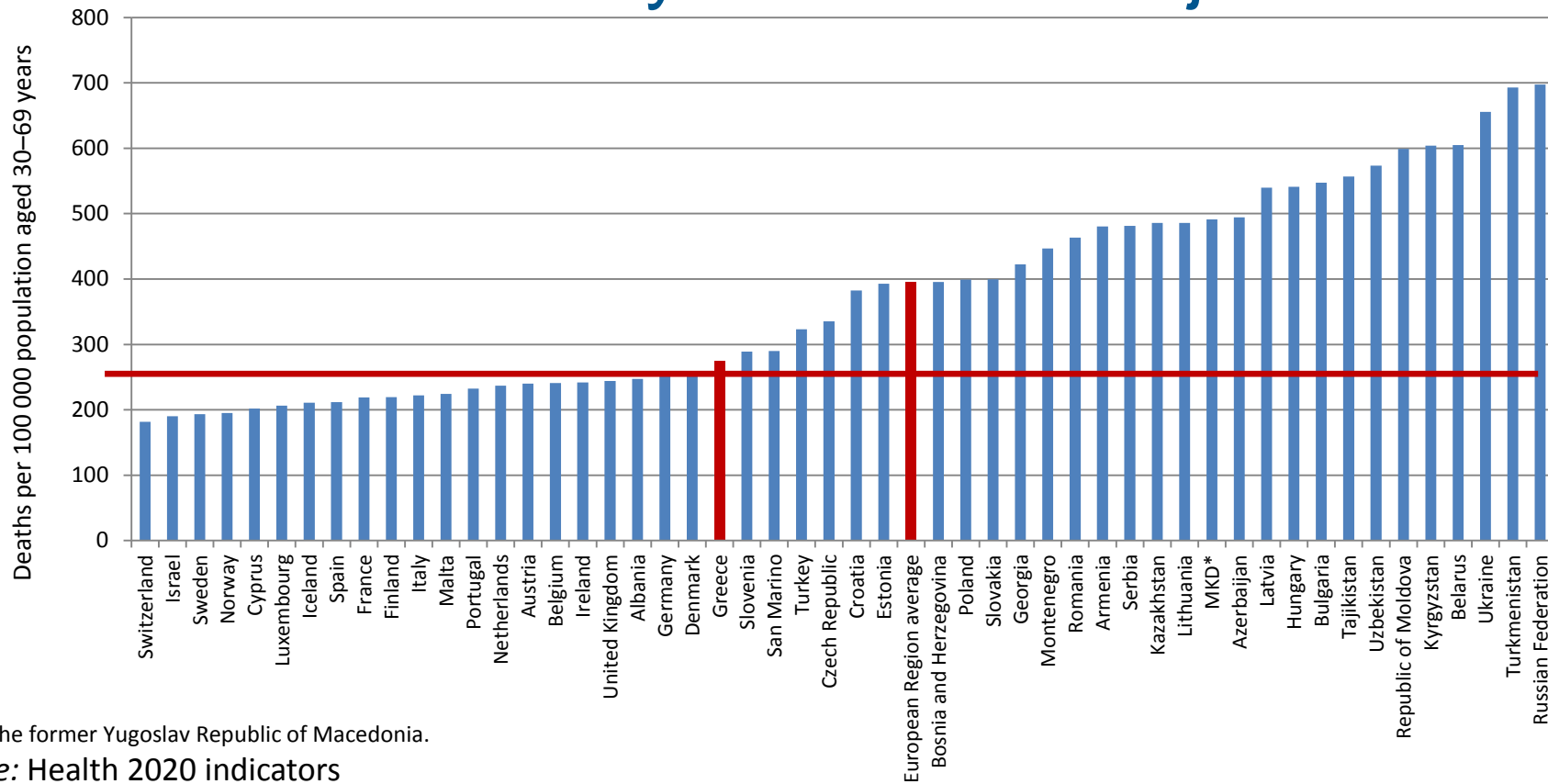
- Rapidly ageing society
- Increased NCDs and multimorbidities
- Economic and financial pressures
- Climate changes, migration, conflicts
- New technologies and social media

The situation in Greece

- Population is ageing more rapidly
- Life expectancy is increasing more slowly than before → Greece is falling behind relative to other European Union (EU) countries
- Life expectancy for women is 1 year below EU15 countries*

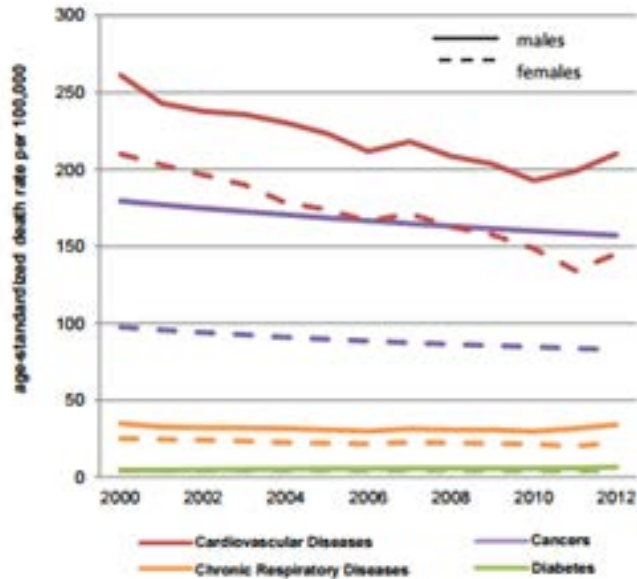
*Countries belonging to the EU before 1 May 2004.

Premature mortality from the 4 major NCDs

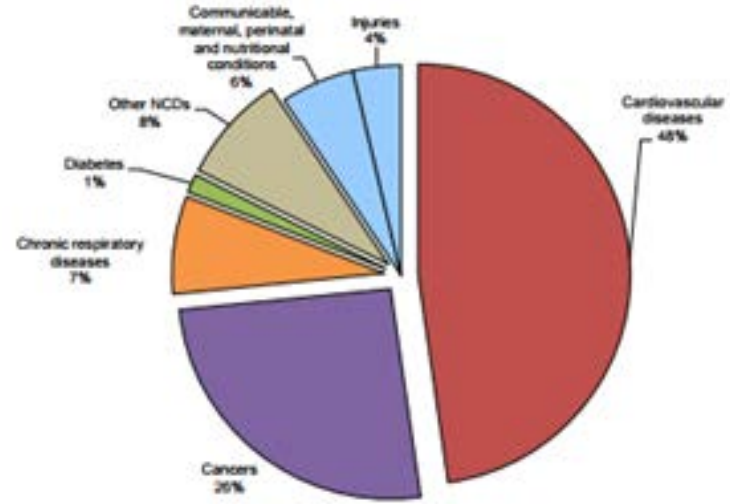


Target 1. Reduce premature mortality rate in Europe: Greece

Age-standardized death rates*

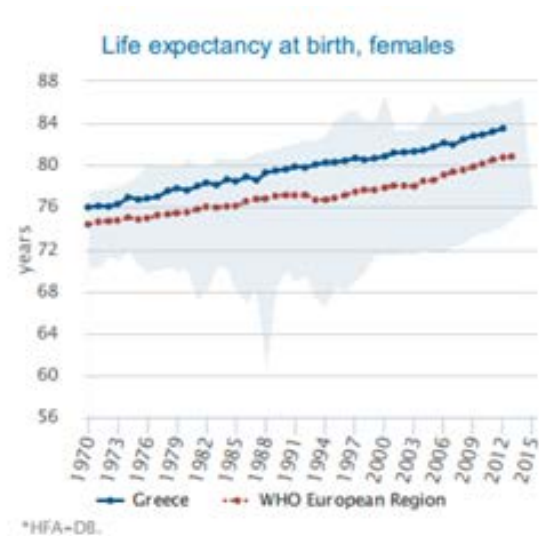
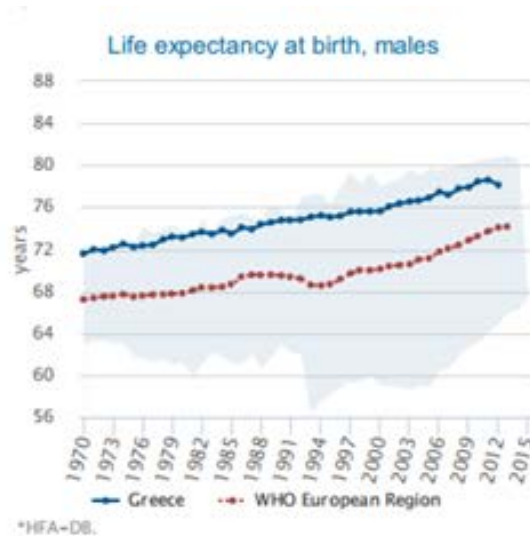
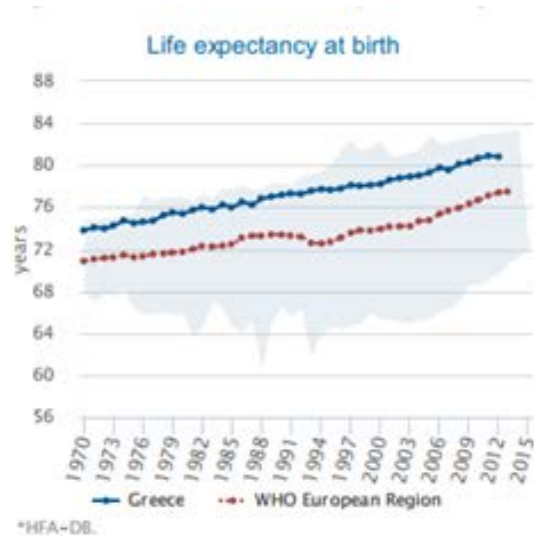


Proportional mortality (% of total deaths, all ages, both sexes)*

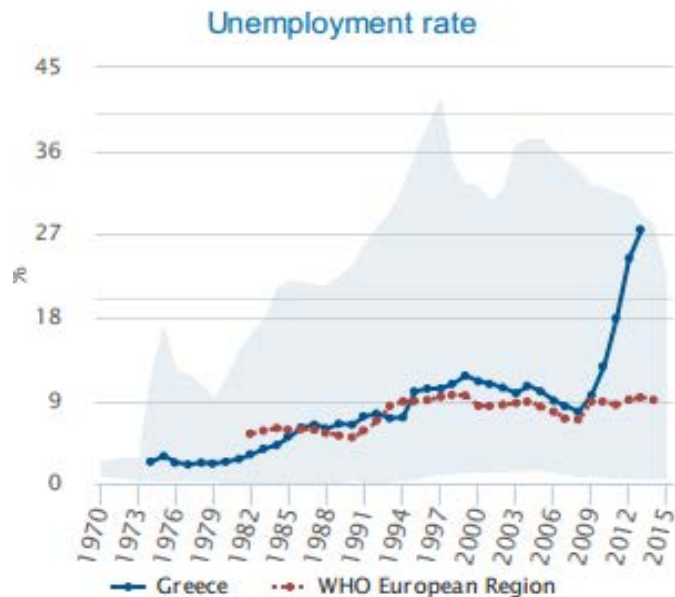


Total deaths: 112,000
NCDs are estimated to account for 91% of total deaths.

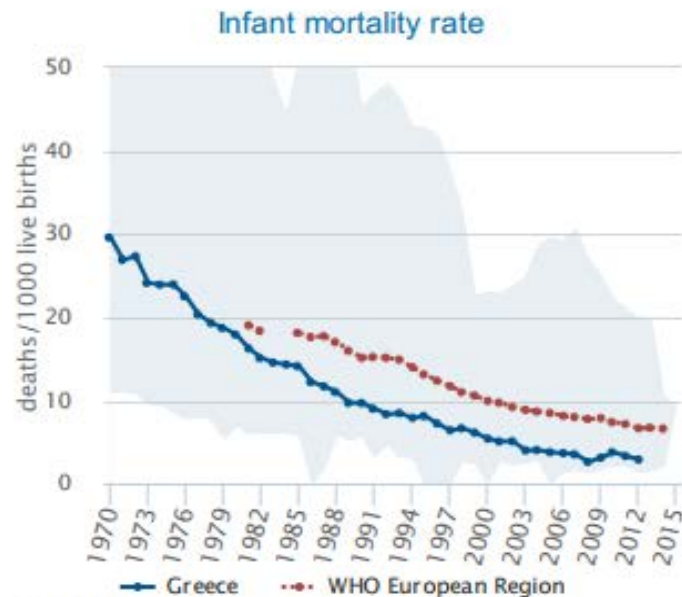
Target 2. Increase life expectancy in Europe: Greece



Target 3. Reduce inequities in Europe: Greece



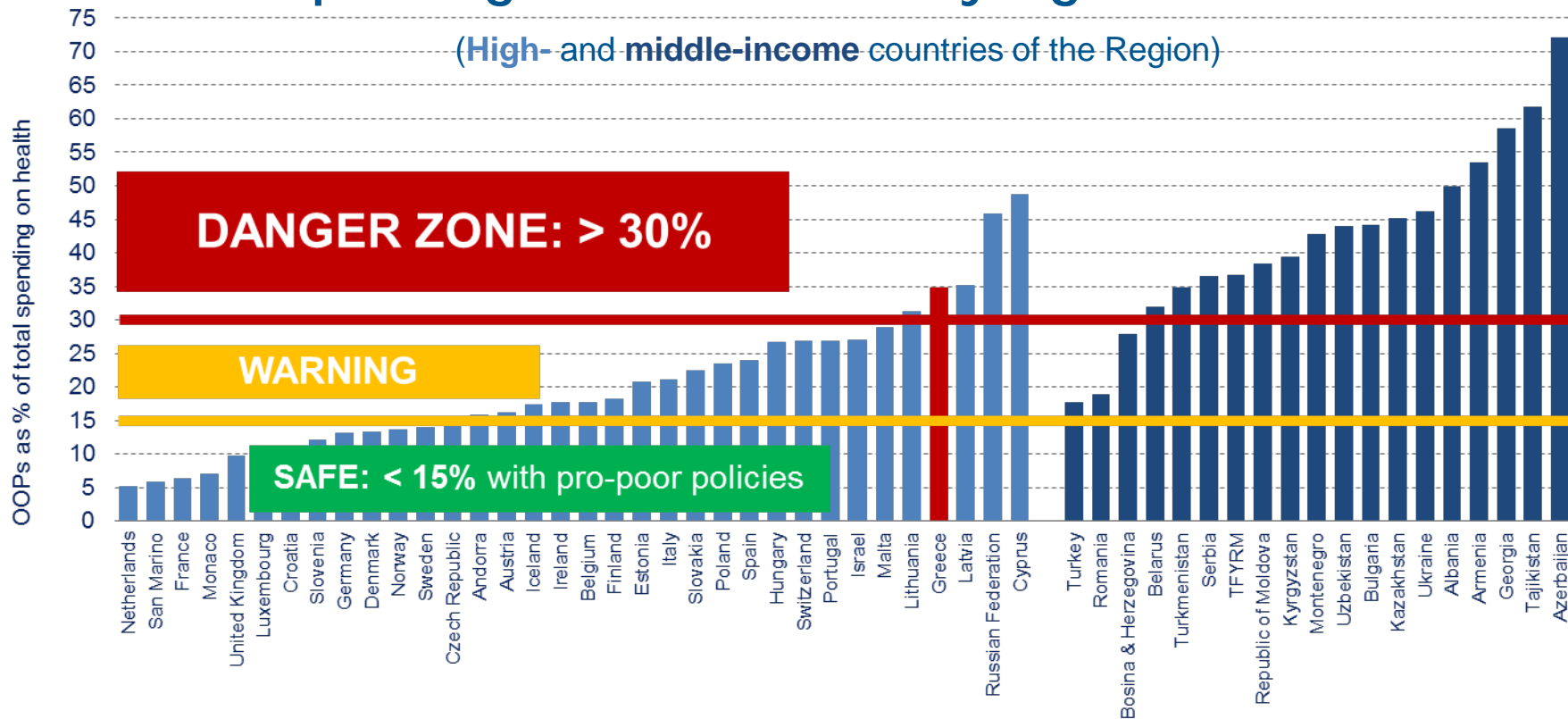
*ILOSTAT and Eurostat.



*HFA-DB.

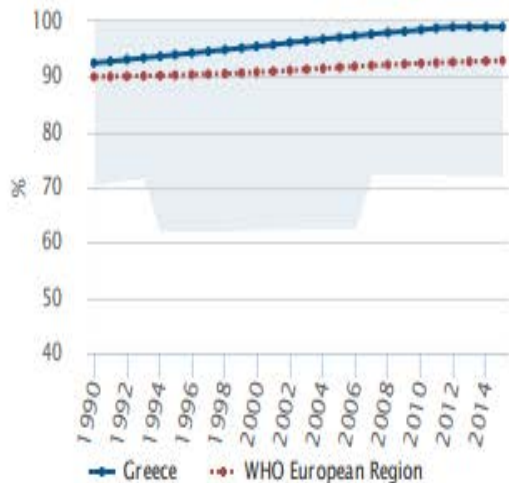
Out-of-pocket payments (OOPs) as a percentage of total spending on health are very high in Greece

(High- and middle-income countries of the Region)



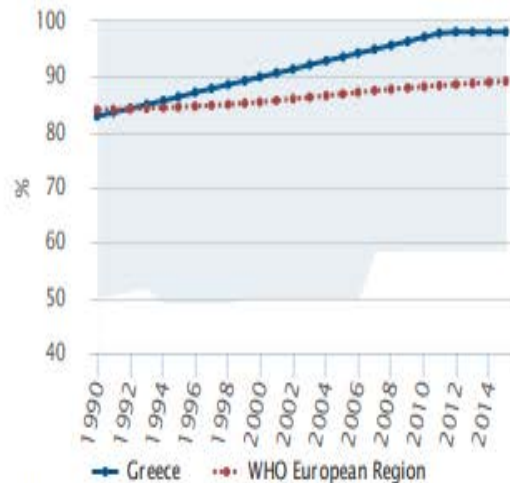
Target 4. Enhance well-being of the European population: Greece

Percentage of population with improved sanitation facilities



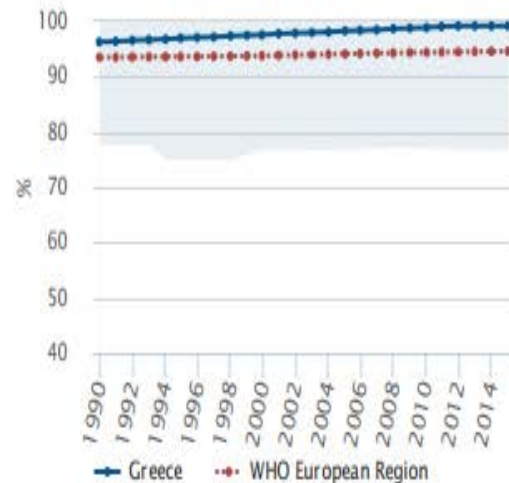
*HFA-DB.

Percentage of population with improved sanitation facilities, rural



*HFA-DB.

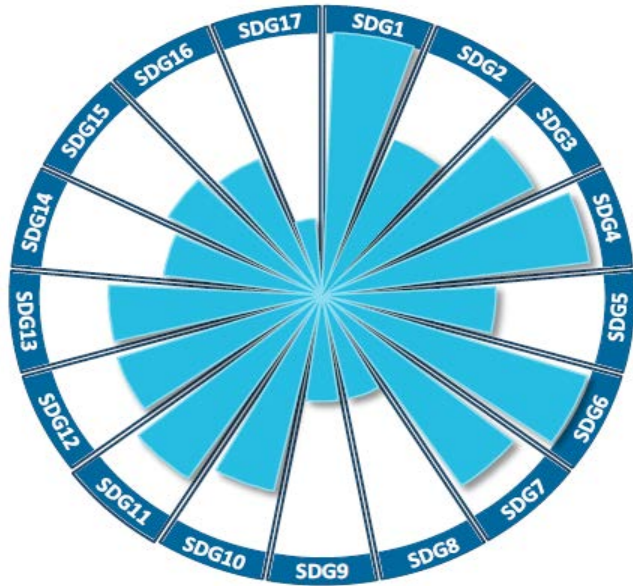
Percentage of population with improved sanitation facilities, urban



*HFA-DB.

Greece: SDG profile

SDG Index	Global rank	Score	Regional average
	37 (of 149)	70/100	75.3/100



Average performance by SDG

The SDG Dashboard



Source: <http://sdgindex.org>

What should be done? (1)

- Invest in those areas and services that:
 - encourage economic growth and reduce unemployment; and
 - reinforce solidarity and equity (such as health, unemployment and social protection/benefits, education).
- Continue investing in the health systems to:
 - build primary health care; and
 - seek universal coverage.

What should be done? (2)

- Invest in public health.
- Establish a new paradigm for public health that emphasizes all determinants of health and that utilizes whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to improve health outcomes and reduce inequities.
- Localize the SDGs to put health at the center of Greece's development agenda.

Policy dialogue on public health reform

- Agreement on the key elements of a new public health policy/strategy for Greece
- Consensus on how to move forward
- A (re)commitment to public (population) health

THANK YOU!