



Strengthening health systems in Europe in the context of the financial crisis



World Health Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

Europe



Organisation mondiale de la Santé

BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'

Europe



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Europa



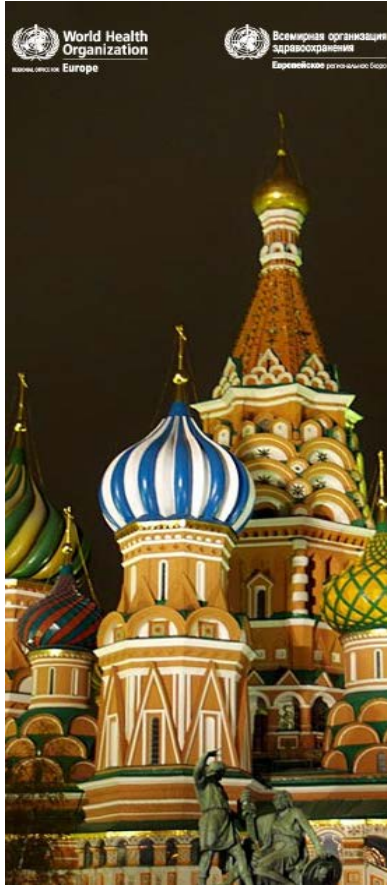
Всемирная организация здравоохранения

Европейское региональное бюро

Zsuzsanna Jakab
WHO Regional Director
for Europe

High-level Conference on Greek Reforms in the Health Sector: Improving Citizens' Health
12–13 December 2013, Athens, Greece

Health systems and the right policies go hand in hand



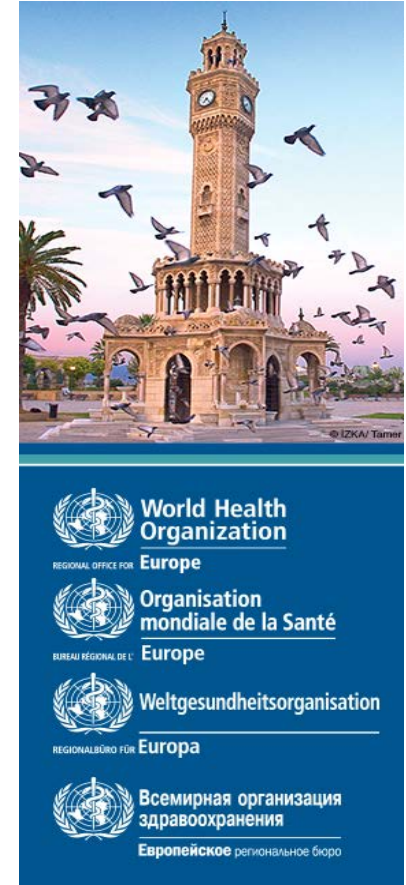
2010



2011



2012



2013

Improved life expectancy but European Region scarred by inequalities

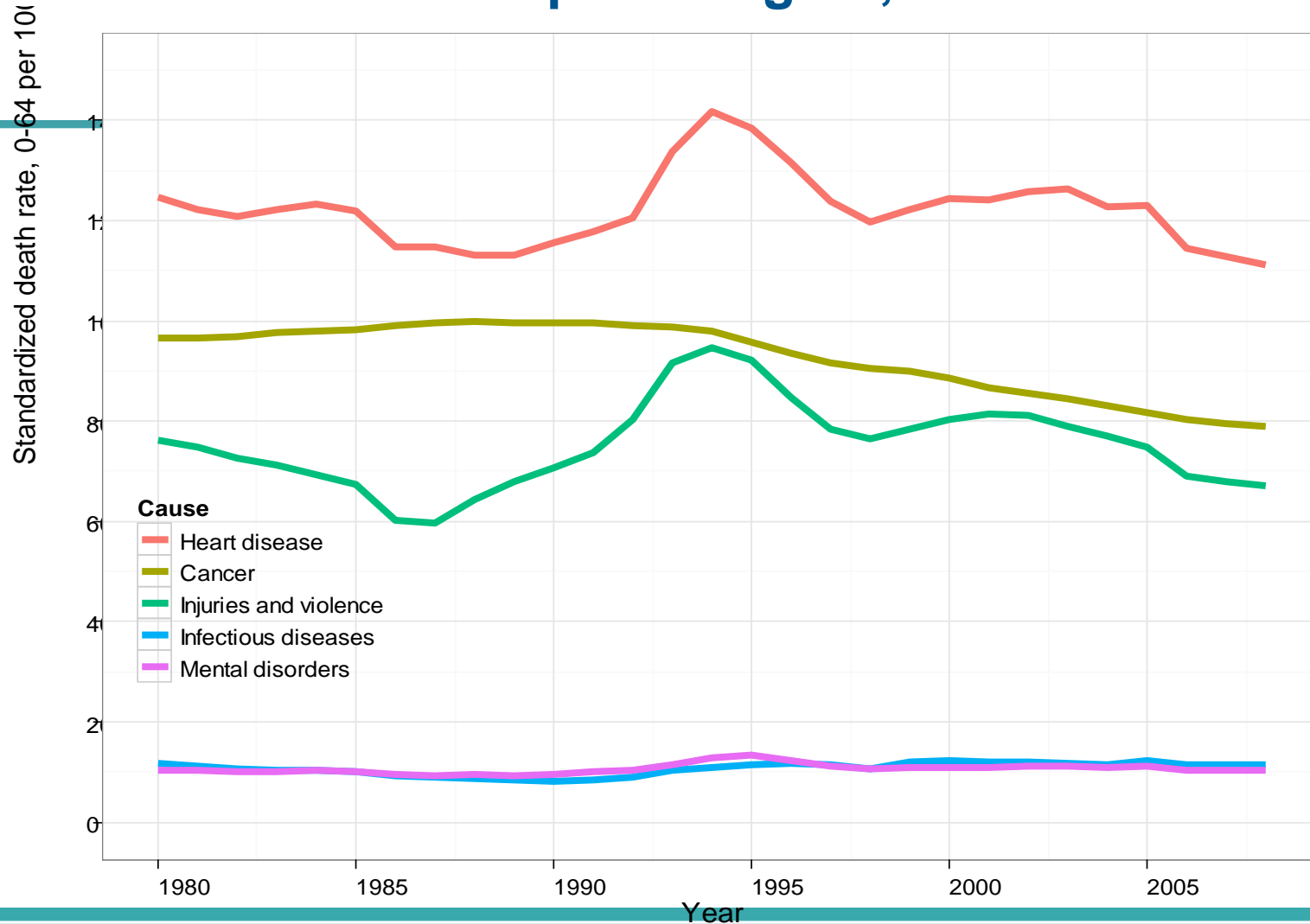
Life expectancy at birth trends by European regions, 1980-2010

Regions
■ CIS
■ EU 12
■ EU 15
■ European Region

CIS: Commonwealth of Independent States
EU12: countries belonging to the European Union (EU) after May 2004
EU15: countries belonging to the EU before May 2004

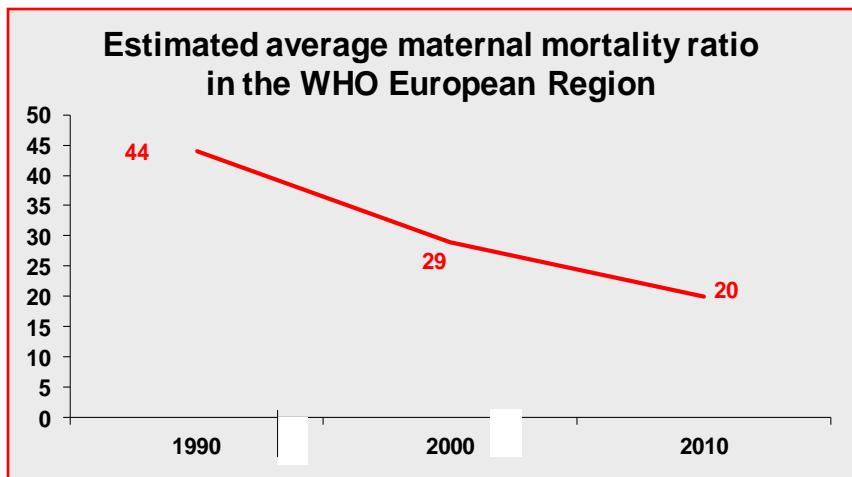
Source: European Health for All database. Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2010.

Trends in premature mortality by broad group of causes in the European Region, 1980–2008



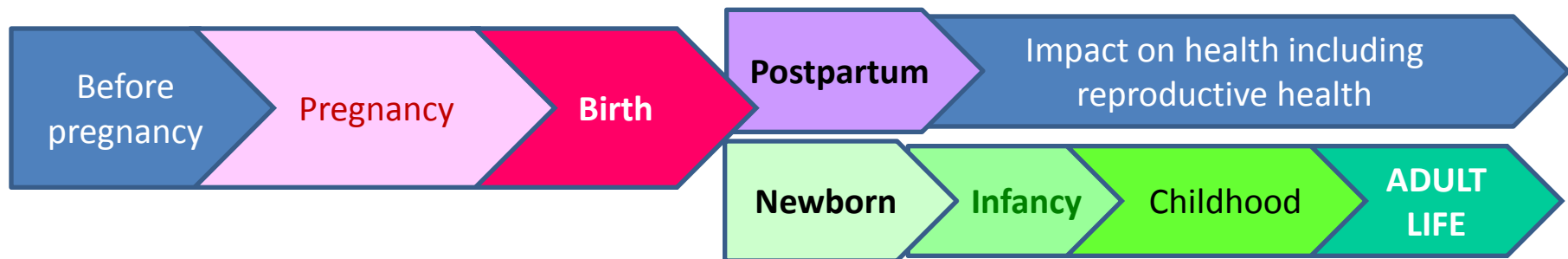
Source:
European
Health for All
database.
Copenhagen,
WHO Regional
Office for
Europe, 2010.

Maternal, newborn, sexual and reproductive health



Maternal mortality ratio decreased by 54% since 1990

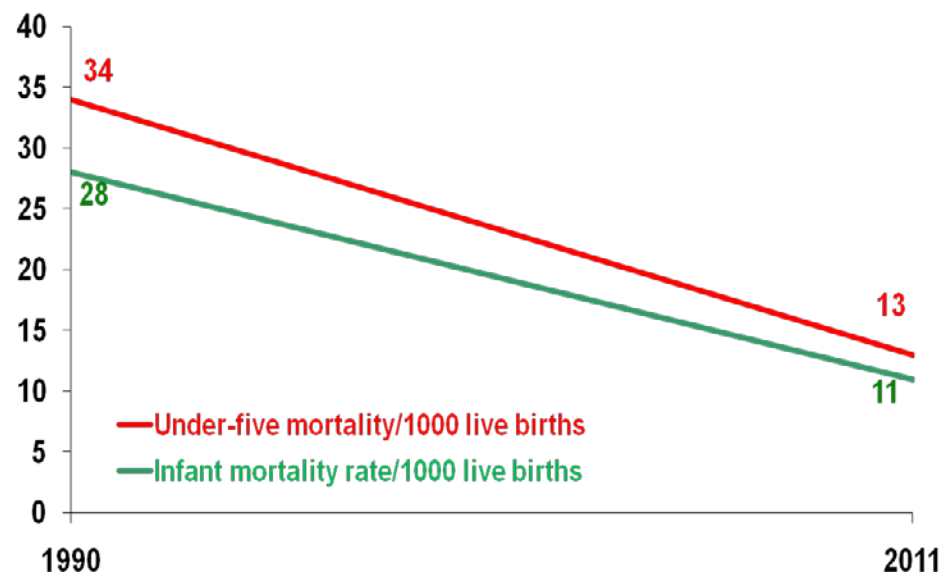
but more than 40 times difference in related risks



Millennium Development Goal 4: reduce child mortality



- Regional average mortality rates for children under 5 years decreased from 34 per 1000 live births in 1990 to 13 per 1000 in 2011 (by almost two thirds: close to the 2015 target of 11 deaths per 1000 live births)
- Regional average infant mortality rates decreased from 28 per 100 live births in 1990 to 11 per 1000 in 2011
- Nevertheless, there are major discrepancies within and between countries



Source: WHO European Region estimates, WHO, 2013.

Health 2020: strategic objectives

Working to improve health
for all and reducing
the health divide

Improving leadership, and
participatory governance
for health

Health 2020: four common policy priorities for health

Investing in health
through a life-
course approach
and empowering
people

Tackling Europe's
major health
challenges:
noncommunicable
diseases (NCDs)
and communicable
diseases

Strengthening
people-centred
health systems,
public health
capacities and
emergency
preparedness,
surveillance and
response

Creating resilient
communities and
supportive
environments

Health-related indicators, Greece

23,925



The Tallinn Charter and the Declaration of Alma-Ata: two key anniversaries



Tallinn: 2008 and 2013
governance



Alma-Ata: 1978 and 2013
primary health care (PHC)

Tallinn follow-up meeting

Tallinn, Estonia, 17–18 October 2013



1. A platform for understanding new frontiers to improving population health
2. An exchange of inspiring examples of health-system strengthening
3. Agreement on the future direction of the interwoven commitments to the Tallinn Charter and the Health 2020 policy framework

Tallinn meeting: basis of our work to strengthen health systems

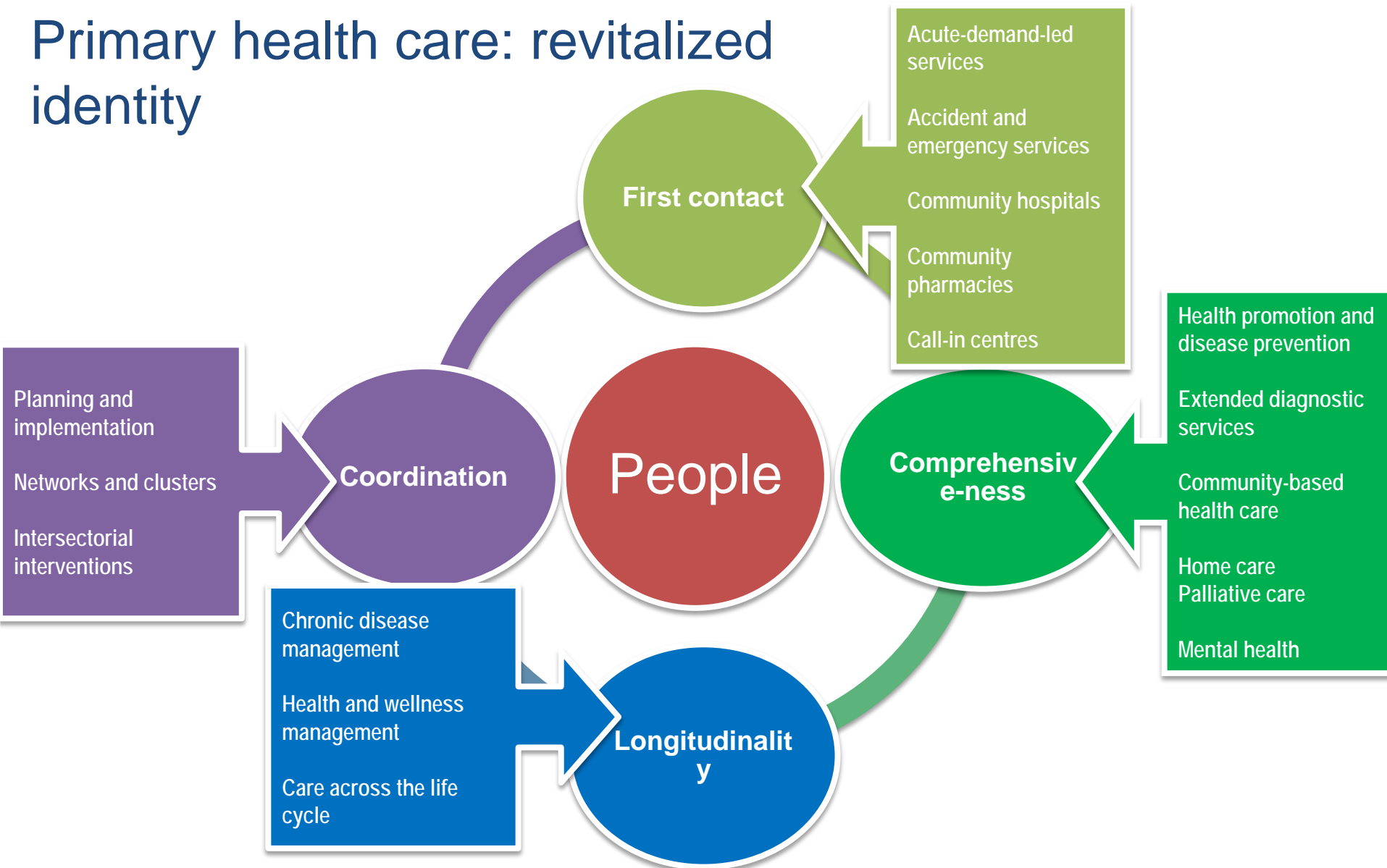
Supporting Member States in keeping or moving towards universal health coverage (UHC), guided by the mission and vision of Health 2020

- Transforming financing arrangements to overcome sustainability concerns
- Positioning primary health care as the hub for other levels of care
- Ensuring coordination across primary health care and public health services
- Revitalizing a flexible, multiskilled workforce with aligned task profiles
- Strategizing the use of modern technology and medicines for maximum benefits

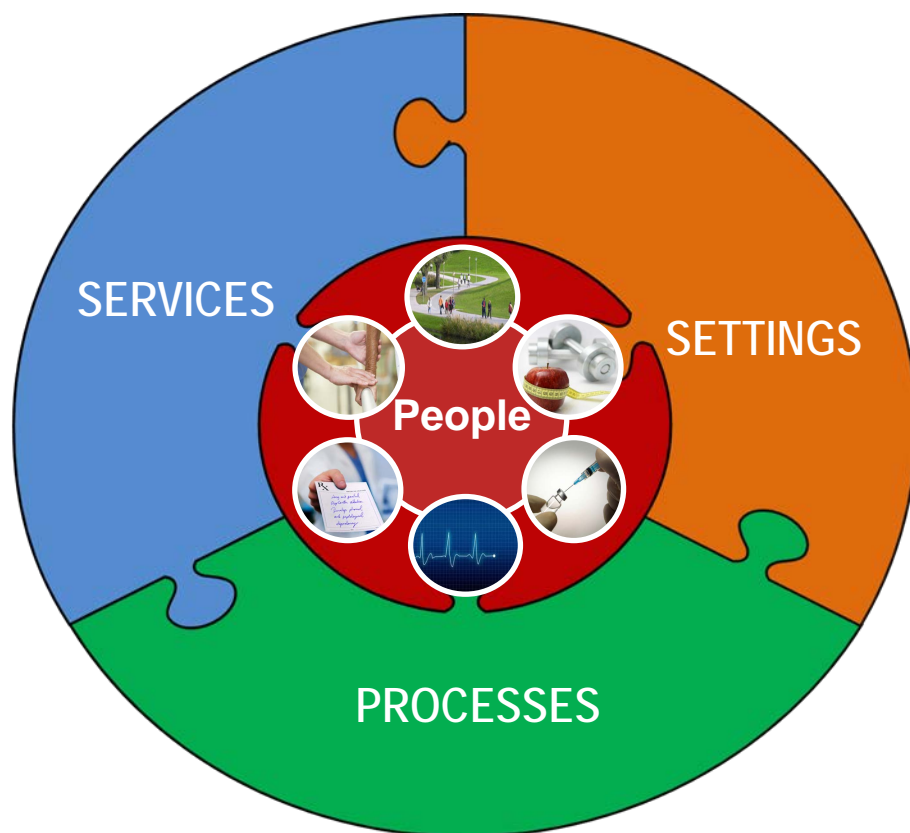
International conference marking 35th anniversary of Declaration of Alma-Ata: 6–7 November 2013, Almaty, Kazakhstan



Primary health care: revitalized identity



Greek health system towards more people-centred services delivery with PHC at the centre



SERVICES

- Health protection
- Health promotion
- Disease prevention
- Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Rehabilitation
- Palliative care

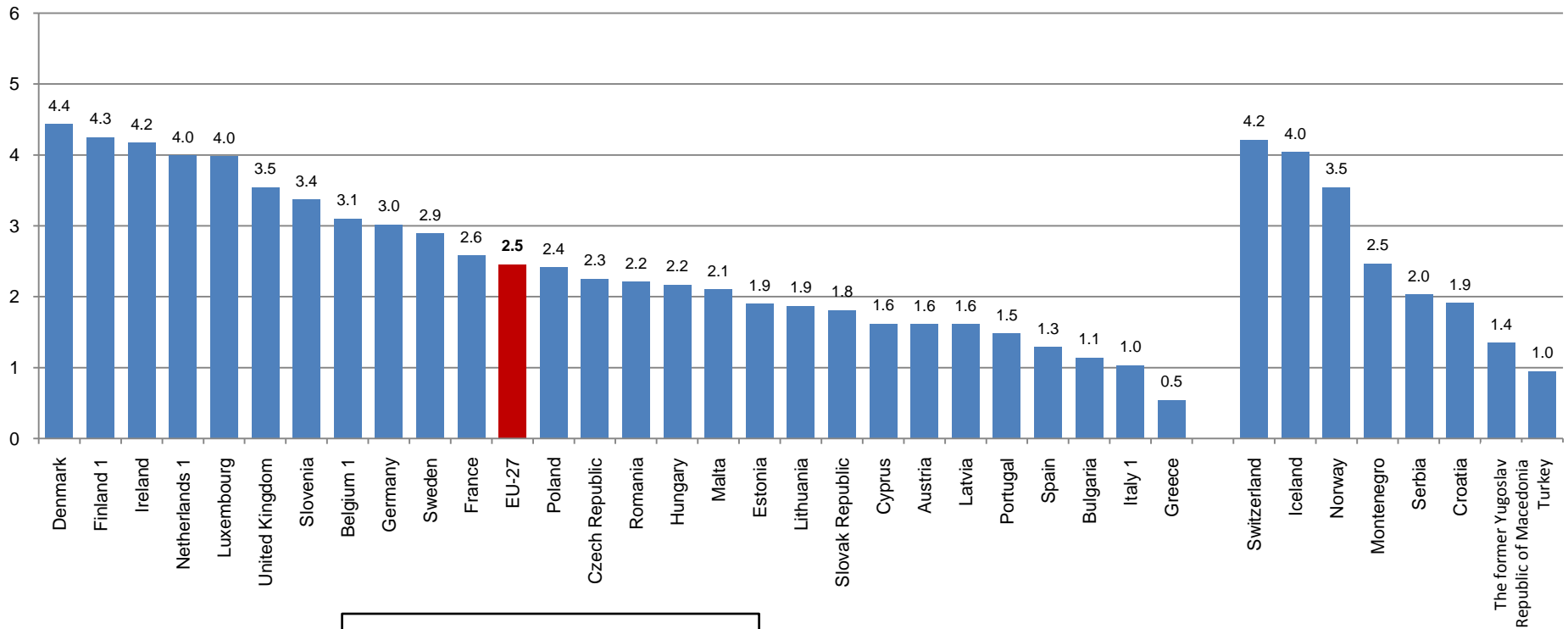
SETTINGS

- Public health (National Health Service – NHS)
- Primary health care (NHS)
- Secondary care (EOPYY)
- Long-term care
- Community, home and social care
- Pharmacies

PROCESSES

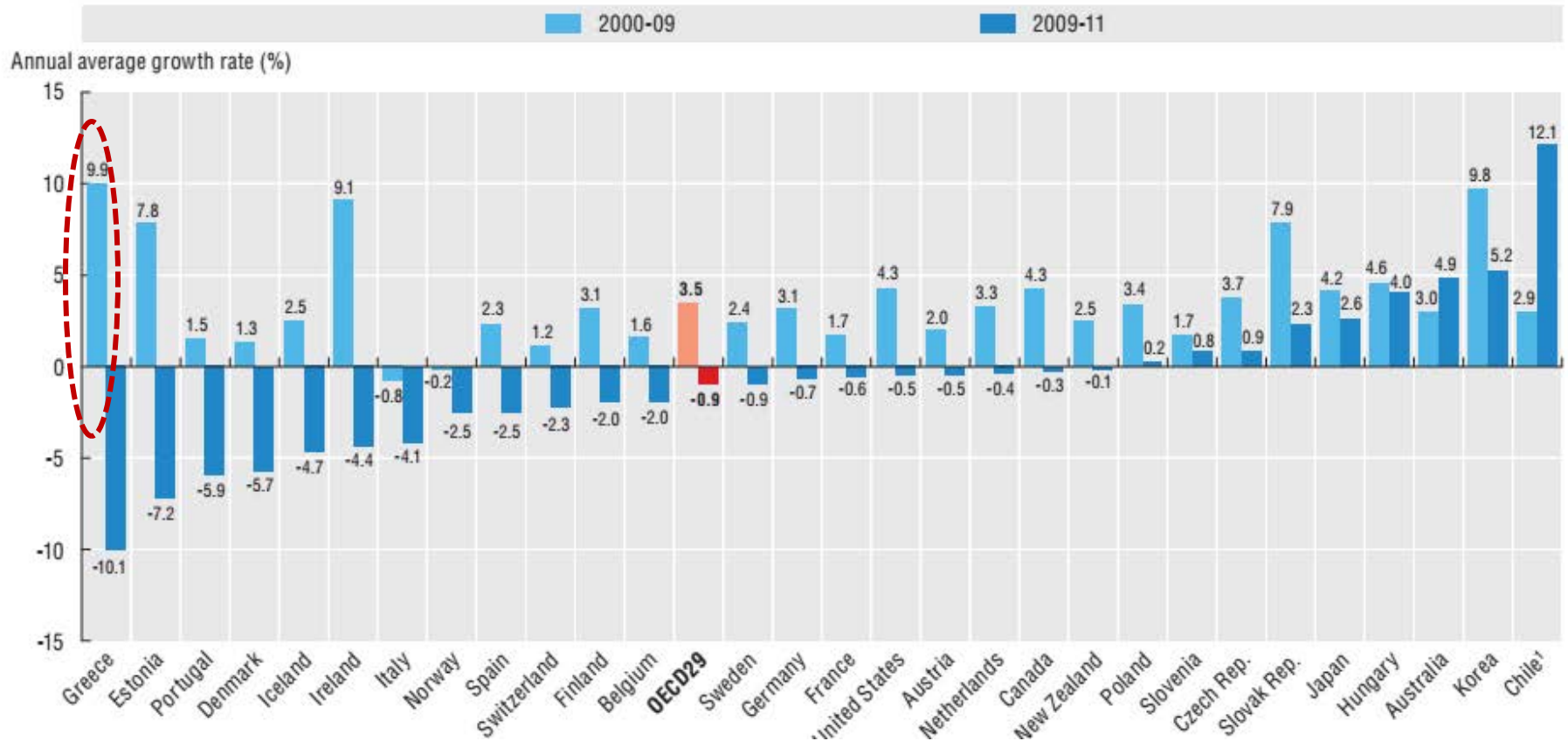
- Delivery system (re)design (case managers, multidisciplinary teams, co-location of services)
- Alignment of incentives (P4P)
- Common information systems (e records, e-prescription)
- Decision support (integrated care pathways)

Human resources for health: requirements in the Greek context

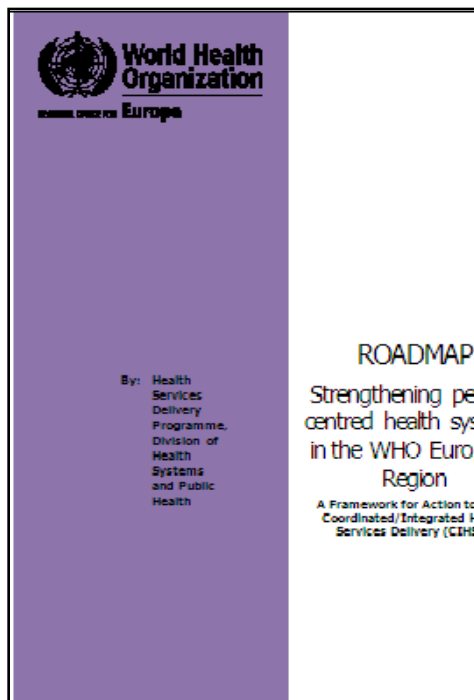


EU-27: the countries belonging to the EU as of 1 January 2007.

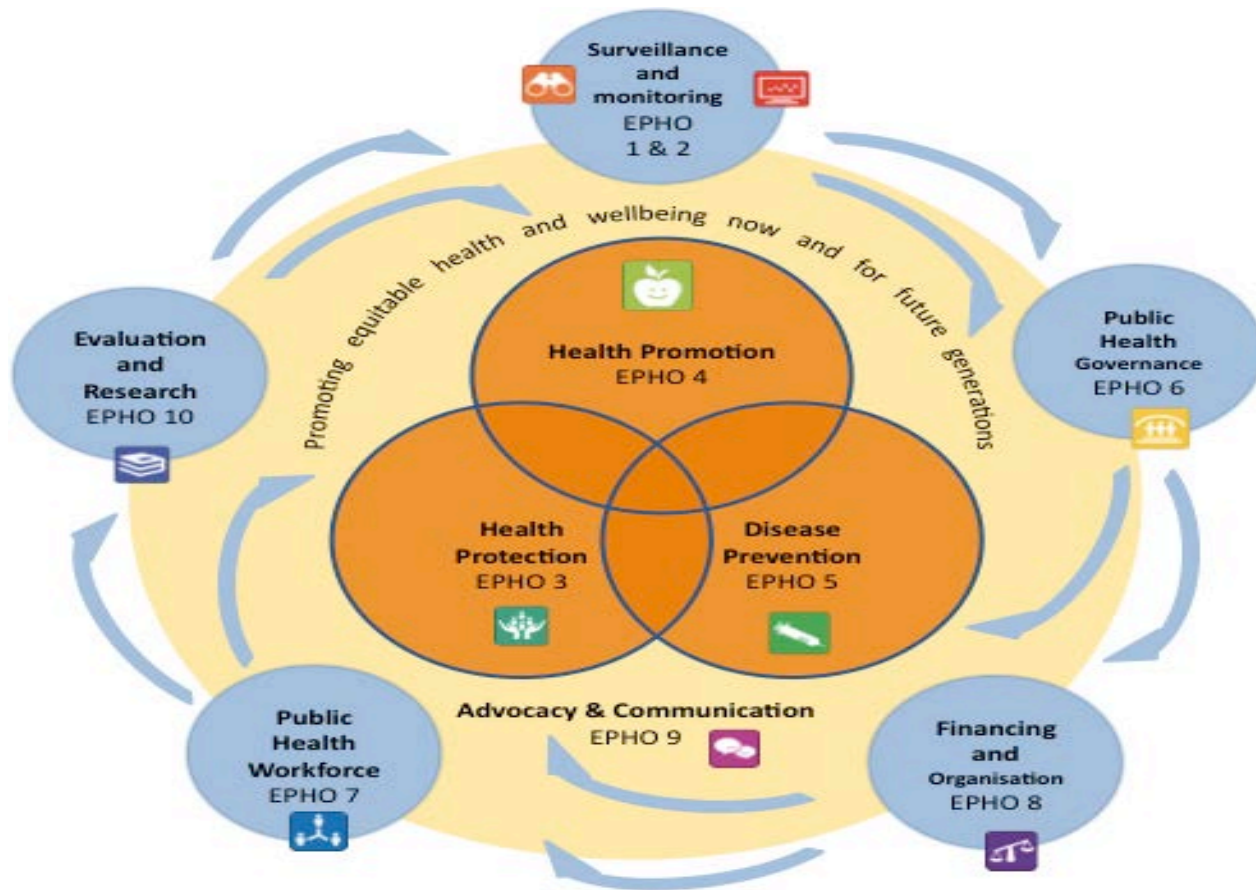
Average annual growth in pharmaceutical expenditure per capita in real terms, 2010/2011



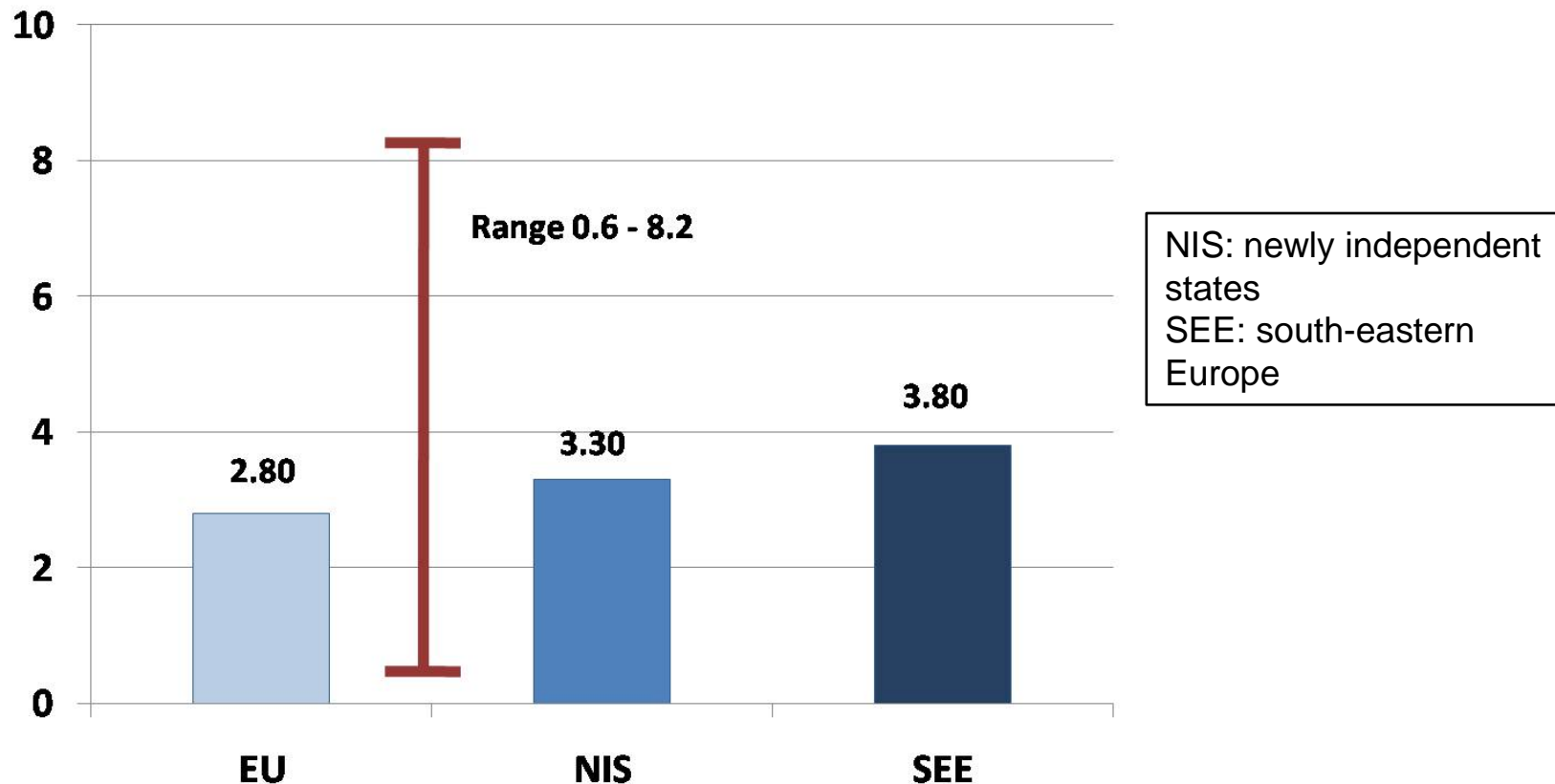
Transforming service delivery, addressing NCDs, investing in prevention



WHO Regional Office for Europe's essential public health operations (EPHOs) in relation to the policy cycle



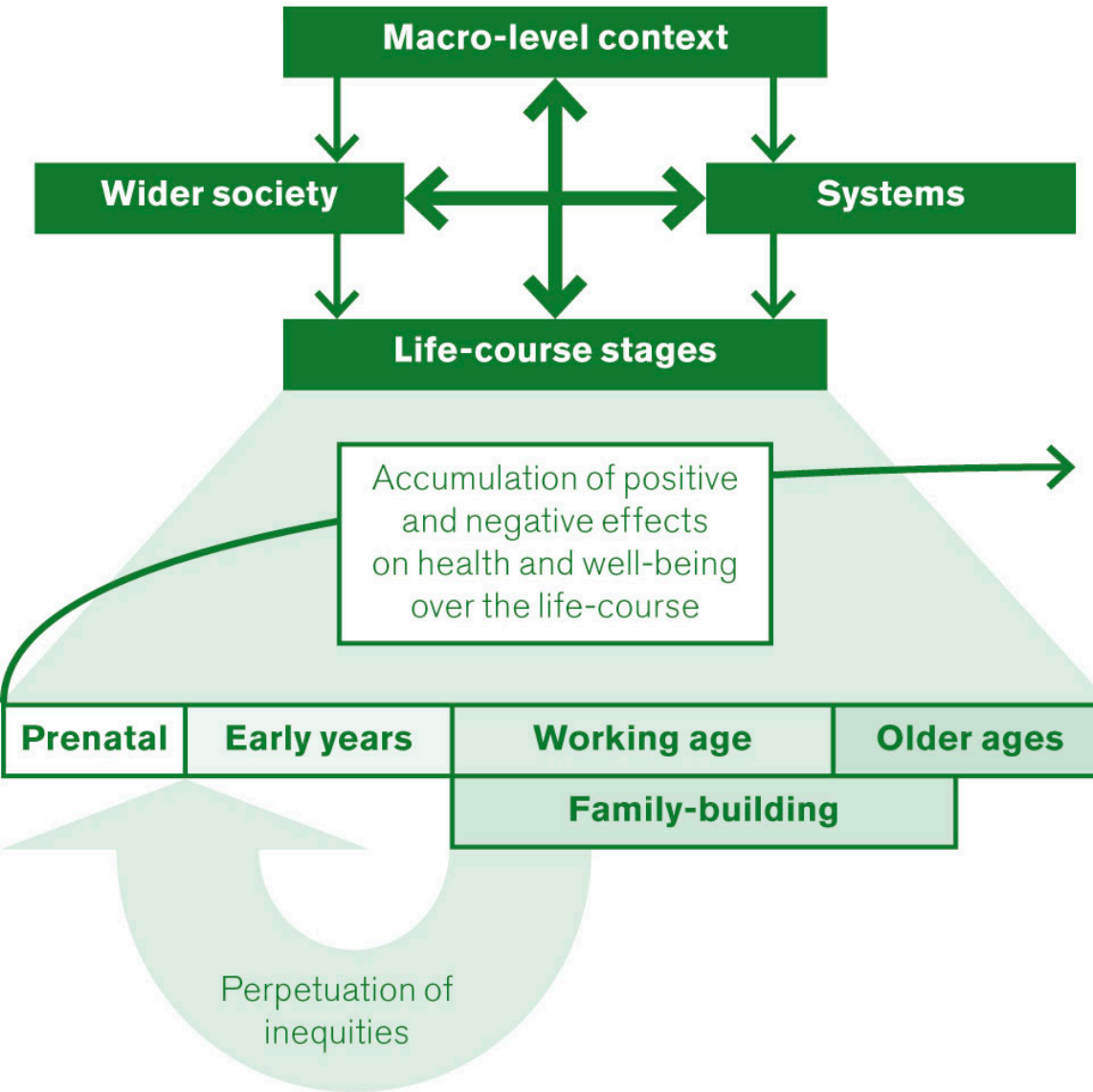
Case for investing in public health: estimated expenditure on prevention and public health as % of total health expenditure



WHO cost-effective public health interventions

- Anti-tobacco interventions
 - Taxes, tobacco-free environments, health warnings, advertising bans
- Reducing harmful alcohol use
 - Taxes, health warnings, advertising bans
- Improving diet and physical activity
 - Reducing salt intake and salt content, reducing trans fats, promoting public awareness

Four areas for action to address health inequalities – emphasizing priorities



Crisis has been challenging

Severe, sustained pressure on public spending on health

2008	2009	2010	2011
Andorra	Andorra	Albania	Andorra
Azerbaijan	Bulgaria	Armenia	Armenia
Belarus	Croatia	Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan
Kyrgyzstan	Iceland	Croatia	Belarus
Turkmenistan	Ireland	Czech Republic	Georgia
	Latvia	Estonia	Germany
	Lithuania	Finland	Greece
	Romania	Greece	Kazakhstan
	San Marino	Iceland	Portugal
	Serbia	Ireland	Ukraine
	Ukraine	Italy	United Kingdom
		Kyrgyzstan	
		Montenegro	
		Republic of Moldova	
		Russian Federation	
		San Marino	
		Slovakia	
		Slovenia	
		Spain	

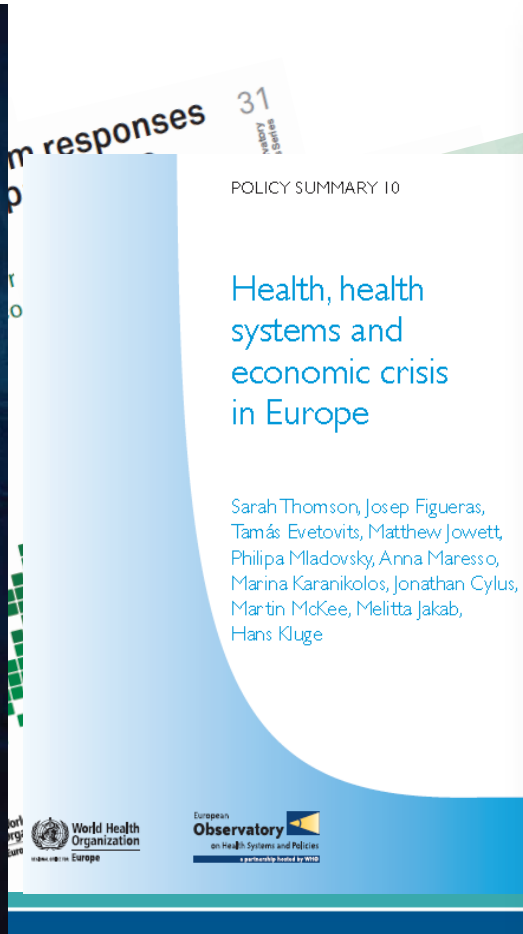
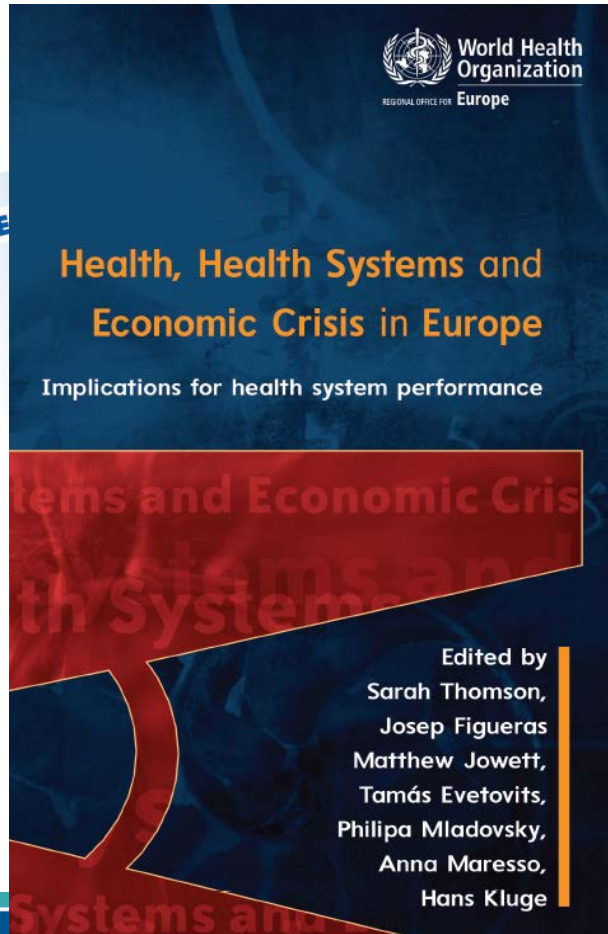
Countries with negative growth in public spending on health

Source: WHO national health accounts, 2013.

Percentage of individuals reporting health care to be unaffordable, EU27, 2007

Hospital		Medical or surgical specialists		Family doctors or general practitioners (GPs)		Dentists		Out-of-pocket share of total health expenditure (2009)	
Greece	45	Portugal	78	Greece	43	Portugal	82	Cyprus	48.6
Portugal	40	Greece	71	Cyprus	39	Greece	75	Greece	35.3
Ireland	33	Cyprus	66	Portugal	37	Spain	70	Portugal	20.3
EU27	21	Ireland	53	Ireland	33	Cyprus	62	Spain	19.0
Spain	10	EU27	35	EU27	11	EU27	51	EU27	15.6
Cyprus	10	Spain	22	Spain	7	Ireland	46	Ireland	14.9

Health systems' responses to economic crisis in Europe



Some positive responses in challenging circumstances

- Needed reforms introduced by countries
- Immediate efficiency gains – lower drug prices
- Other efficiency gains – identifying and prioritizing cost-effective services
- Efforts to protect people from financial hardship

But negative implications for health systems' performance, too

- Countries that reduced population coverage often targeted vulnerable people (poorer people, migrants)
- Over 25 countries increased user charges for essential services
- Some cuts had unintended consequences

Health systems in times of global economic crisis: an update, 17–18 April, Oslo, Norway

Objectives:

- to review the impact of the economic crisis on health and health systems in the Region;
- to draw policy lessons around three themes: maintaining and reinforcing equity, solidarity and UHC; coping mechanisms, with a focus on improving efficiency; improving health system preparedness and resilience; and
- to identify policy recommendations for consideration by countries and possible future political commitments.



Oslo meeting: 10 policy lessons and messages

1. Be consistent with long-term health system goals

2. Factor in impact on fiscal position

3. Safety can mean many things for health

4. Health policy response can influence health effects

5. Protect funding for cost-effective public health services

6. Avoid prolonging excessive health burden

7. High performing systems more resilient

8. Structural reforms need time to deliver savings

9. Need for information monitoring systems

10. Good governance for prepared, resilient systems

Letter of intent



LETTER OF INTENT

The Ministry of Health has developed a Road Map for the reform process under the initiative "Health in Action" (hereafter "Health in Action") in co-operation with the EU Task Force for Greece and Germany as the Domain Leader in the health sector as described in the Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Ministry of Health of the Hellenic Republic and the Federal Ministry of Health of the Federal Republic of Germany and in co-operation with the Task Force for Greece-European Commission of 20 April 2012 (Annex 1 to this Letter).

Under Health in Action the Ministry of Health has set up a governance structure including a Health Reform Steering Committee and nine subcommittees in which the MoU parties participate.

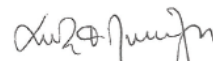
The Greek Authorities have decided to request technical assistance for the implementation of Road Map of reforms in the health sector directly through National Authorities, European Institutions, International Organisations, accredited agencies or via the private sector by using financial resources from the 2007-2013 Greek National Strategic Reference Framework financial envelope, as appropriately reserved for this purpose by the Greek authorities.

In this framework the Greek Authorities would like to involve the World Health Organisation (hereafter "the WHO") in addition to its usual normative and technical cooperation role, uniquely (taking into consideration the Greek financial conditions) to deliver support for the monitoring and implementation of reforms in the context of the Health Reform Steering Committee and Road Map, including technical support in the fields of Public Health, and Primary Health Care and the management of financial resources to ensure high quality in project management and effective implementation deriving from the credibility and extensive experience and expertise of WHO in the health sector.

The undersigned are hereby stating their willingness and intention to further examining the possibility of co-operation in the provision of support to the Hellenic Republic for the implementation of reforms in the health sector in Greece as described hereby.

Athens, 10 April 2013


Minister of Health
Hellenic Republic


Andreas Th. Lykouratzos

Head of Task Force for Greece
European Commission


Horst Reichenbach

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Regional Office for Europe
Health Organisation


Zsuzsanna Jakab

Contribution agreement between WHO Regional Office for Europe and Greece



WHO's public health vision for 2020

- Health – a priority, a core value and a public benefit
- Health – indispensable to development and an indicator of government performance
- Action and advocacy for health
- A strong public health workforce and intersectoral mechanism
- Determinants of health – including social determinants – are our DNA





WHO Regional Office for Europe
**Division of
Health Systems
and Public Health**

σας ευχαριστώ

THANK YOU

(<http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/Health-systems>)

