## Call for papers

## INTERSECTORAL ACTION FOR HEALTH

Monika Kosinska<sup>1</sup>, Piroska Ostlin<sup>1</sup>

Correspondence to: Monika Kosinska (email: MKO@euro.who.int)

Public Health Panorama invites papers for its second thematic issue on the topic of intersectoral action for public health and reduction of health inequalities in the European Region. Following the first themed issue on intersectoral action for health and well-being published in September 2015, the papers for the next issue may be reports of scientific research or practiceoriented case studies that highlight lessons and experiences drawn from the long legacy of such action in the WHO European Region.

### INTERSECTORAL ACTION AND THE SDGs

One of the key aims of the issue is to strengthen the discussion on intersectoral action in the context of the recent adoption by all Member States of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015. These provide a framework and opportunity for increased intersectoral action. This themed issue will focus on the implementation of intersectoral action between the key target sectors necessary to tackle health inequalities and promote health and well-being. It is in this context that papers are invited. This will provide a stronger evidence base for policy and planning decisions.

### INTERSECTORAL ACTION **AND HEALTH 2020**

Intersectoral action for health and well-being is fundamental to fully realizing the Health 2020 vision. Health 2020 promotes governance for health, with special emphasis on systemic and sustainable intersectoral action through whole-of-government, whole-of-society and health-in-all-policies approaches. Only such an approach can address today's growing

systemic risks to health, and maximize new opportunities.

The momentum for implementing intersectoral action for health is increasing in Member States of the European Region. In April 2015, it was addressed at two dedicated technical meetings in 2015, "Promoting intersectoral and interagency action for health and well-being in the WHO European Region: synergy among the health, education and social sectors" held in Paris, France, and "Strengthening health in foreign policy and development cooperation" held in Berlin, Germany. It has also been addressed in high-level political for asuch as the "South-East European Health" Network" held in Belgrade, Serbia in June 2015, and the "Second high-level meeting of small countries initiative" held in Andorra in July 2015.

In September 2015, it was a key theme of the discussions at the Sixty-fifth Regional Committee in Vilnius, Lithuania, and informed the discussions at the "WHO European Ministerial Conference on the Life-course Approach in the Context of Health 2020" in Minsk in October 2015, as well as the subsequently adopted Minsk Declaration.

#### GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING PAPERS

We invite papers that describe good practice in intersectoral governance for health and well-being at the regional, national or subnational levels of the WHO European Region. Priority will be given to papers that can demonstrate outcome-oriented approaches, successful practices, innovative solutions and lessons learned from experience.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Division of Policy and Governance for Health and Well-being, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen.

Intersectoral collaboration and governance between the following sectors will be a defining feature of this issue:

- Health
- Education
- Social welfare
- Labour.

Papers should explicitly consider the role of intersectorality and whole-of-government approaches in addressing public health and sustainable development priorities, such as:

- the role of intersectoral action in working towards the SDGs:
- addressing health inequalities, including among groups facing vulnerability;
- ensuring a healthy start in life and healthy children;
- tackling complex public health challenges, such as noncommunicable diseases, obesity, ageing and mental health with a focus on the social determinants of health/equity;
- establishing new partnerships across sectors, including implementation of the European Environment and Health Process;
- improving health literacy and empowerment, and building resilient communities.

# PAPERS SHOULD REFER TO ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING COMPONENTS:

- Processes, tools and mechanisms involved in intersectoral governance for health at the political, strategic or technical levels;
- Political, financial and legal considerations for intersectoral governance;
- Sustainability of processes, tools and instruments;
- Monitoring and evaluation of intersectoral processes or mechanisms;
- Accountability frameworks or mechanisms.

We welcome papers that document experiences from low-resource and transitional economy settings. Manuscripts may be submitted in either Russian or English. The deadline for submissions is **31.01.2016**. Manuscripts should respect the guidelines for contributors and mention this call for papers in a covering letter. All submissions will go through *Public Health Panorama's* peer-review process. For further queries, please see <a href="http://bit.ly/1PNcJOS">http://bit.ly/1PNcJOS</a> or contact panorama@euro.who.int.