

Minutes of the fourth partner meeting in Totnes (UK) from the 20th to the 24th of April 2009

Participants

Henriette Hansen	SDEO	David Pearson	Niace (Healthy School)
Anne Sofie Mørk Puggård	SDEO		
Arne Gårn	RSD	Justine Womack	SWRPHG
Anne Smetana	RSD	Emily Gallannaugh	SWRPHG
Anette Nielsen	UC Vest	Eva Baldassari	Veneto Region
Anette Reinholdt	UC Vest	Daniela Negri	Veneto Region
Mikael Sorknæs	BAW	Sara Carbone	Veneto Region
Eva Bellsund	Örebro	Roberta Carlesso	Veneto Region
Britt-Louise Nilsson	Östsam	Birgitt Uhlen Blucha	HBS
Birgitta Larsson	Östergötland	Marianne De Troyer	ULB
Katie Kelsey	Niace	Ingrid Vanhaevre	CRIOC
Simon Mauger	Niace		

Input from the Steering Committee Meeting

(Henriette, Arne, Anne, Birgitt, Marianne, Britt-Louise, Katie)

The steering committee meeting ended up with the following main comments:

- 1) We have to bear in mind that some of the special issues about this project is:
 - a. To establish a dialogue with decision makers
 - b. To implement practical processes
 - c. To involve industry in some way or the other in order to create a connection between regional strategy, health promotion, the regional business economy and the aspect of economic growth.
- 2) We should try to establish more inter-regional co-operation between the partner meetings to motivate and promote a better international “flavor”
- 3) All regions are using the tools and work with the project, but do it in very different ways. This should be seen as one of the forces in the project as it sets the frame and give inspirations through the proposal of different tools, and culture and traditions determines the way it is used in different settings.
- 4)

Welcome to the partner meeting (first day)

Henriette and Justine welcomed all participants to the fourth partner meeting, which is different than the former ones, because we started the meeting by having a one day scenario planning workshop, which was led by Alister Wilson.

Please find attached the report from the workshop.

Reporting back from the regions (second day)

All regions presented their work with the tools, and in these minutes, I have put a few bullet points from each country:

Sverige (Eva)

- Establishment of a Steering group, a working group and a health think tank
- EU projects are still seen as foreigners, but through the dialogue with politicians and decision makers, the project is seen as something which can bring added value to the county.
- The project has inspired to a national conference focusing on health and democracy in August and Eva will present the healthy regions project.
- Within the frame of the project a “Healthy Dancing” pilot project is implemented
- Meeting in June about the project catalogue on how to get inspired
- Working with the development council in Örebro about the business aspects.

Sverige (Britt-Louise)

- Work a lot with the results from the traffic light
- Östergötland area contacted Östergötland to get assistance for a strategic process and Britt-Louise has used the traffic light together with the “healthy tourism cluster” and they have through the use of the traffic light described objectives for the cluster.
- Health for all: report from Swedish national institute of public health – www.fhi.se

UK

- The process in the project is brings input to the Single regional strategy (2012)
- Many meetings with stakeholders
- Mapping exercise has given a very good overview of where they are now. Stakeholder engagement in December 2008.
- One of the pilots in the region is to establish a forum to gather knowledge and experiences from within and outside the region.

Denmark (Arne & Anne)

- Difficult to work with the philosophy of the project in the beginning because the atmosphere in the region was not “mature” to create this kind of co-operation at that moment. It was not possible to start talking about a common strategy in the beginning, so the Danish partners started a more bottom-up oriented process with the municipalities.
- In November there are regional and local elections, which is a good opportunity to work more actively with the philosophy of the project; if we want to have money for public health, we have to put it on the political agenda.
- The Danish partners have made a discussion paper that the politicians can bring with them when they meet the citizens
- The upcoming strategy is very general in order to support the positive political climate to work together. This climate did not exist two years ago when the project started.
- The region has an important role to play in bridging between research and practice and assist the municipalities in prioritizing what kind of interventions they should promote.

Denmark (Anette & Anette)

- 2 times Anette presented some of the pilot projects that the Danish partners want to work with.
- Health ambassador from Esbjerg is one of the pilots and the healthy regions project and the tools will be used as inspiration in training situations; what to consider when municipalities develop strategies and how to implement them.

Italy

- Results from SWOT was lack of co-ordination and official documents, and also lack of support from the regional ministry of health.
- Proposal to create a basis for a common regional health strategy.
- Agreement achieved on strategic level with the school authorities.

Germany

- Seminar in October 2008, to discuss visions for Mittel Holstein (5 different visions)
- Working together on strategic level with the Acting Executive Committee and the regional project management department
- Has used the spiderweb within different groups.
- Will make pilot projects with kindergartens and schools.
- Starting the process to develop a health strategy for the Active Region Mittel Holstein

Belgium

- The Belgian partners have had difficulties in working together with the region and the municipalities and the health observatory has refused to work together with the project.
- Good to have the project catalogue in order to show what is going on.
- Working more together with the municipalities than the region and they have asked them to work with the dialogue tool. 3 municipalities filled out the dialogue tool.
- Health is not on the agenda in the municipalities. Only in one, which is the poorest one.
- Interesting to read the Danish report about the mapping tool.
- Title gives problems in order to explain economic growth as a positive thing.

Based on the presentations from all partners, good discussions about how to work with the project in the regional context came up, and to put it short there are two extremes; 1) The EU project is “invisible”; stakeholders are not even told that the tools are part of a European project and tools and processes are incorporated as a part of normal co-operation and procedure or 2) The EU project becomes very “visible” and is promoted as an activity in itself, bringing new and innovative knowledge and tools to the stakeholders. It is important for the partners to distinguish between these two approaches to involve stakeholders, and find the one which is most appropriate for their context and political atmosphere.

The more the partners work with the tools, the more experiences we gather in order to explain and give concrete examples on how to use the tools in good ways. The tools are rather time consuming, meaning that we have to explain that they are meant to be used a tool to facilitate (strategic) processes, meetings and dialogue between different stakeholders and not really to be send out to stakeholders by e-mails.

We can see from the practical work that we do not really follow the milestones that were set for the project process. To give an example it was the intention that all regions should have had developed a regional strategy at this stage of the project, which is not the case and which have not been possible in neither region. But all regions are on the way, so what we have decided is that as long as the regions, by the end of the project, ends up having a strategy, it is a success.

We therefore talked about “living documents” throughout the project. This goes for the protocol, which will be the document in the end of the project that will give external partners an understanding of how the tools have been used in different regions and what has been positive and negative conditions etc for the implementation. This will improve a process of transferability of the concept and tools and will therefore be a document supporting for the European level and outcome of the project.

It also goes for the document we use to report back from the regions, this document will be process oriented and will explain the process and activities in each region, and will be a supporting document that we will use for the reporting to the European Commission to show activities, effects and outcomes on a regional level.

Evaluation Workshop

Our external evaluator, who will not only function as an evaluator but also as a facilitator for the implementation of the project made an evaluation workshop, where we in workgroups focused on the following three themes:

- Relevance and Innovation of the project
- European added value
- Impact & sustainability

Jolande will summarise the results from the workshop in a report, which we will have before the deadline of the interim report by the 24th of June. We will use the report to see if we should change any focus within the project.

Interim report

By the 24th of June, an interim report has to be submitted to the European commission. All partners are therefore requested to send their report based on the document “reporting back from the regions” and the financial report to the project manager by the end of May. Financial report covers all expenditures and vouchers (original or certified copies) of bills concerning e.g. travel costs and dissemination costs and timesheets signed by you and your employer with activities mentioned in the corresponding column.

If I have not received this from you, I cannot pay you the second installment from the project!

Presentation of Web design

Mikael presented 5 different designs of how the website could look like when the project is finished. After showing us the advantages and disadvantages with each design, we decided to continue the development work of the “AMSTERDAM model” having both a concept oriented approach, having an entry to the subjects through the “concept triangle” and a process oriented approach, having an

entry to the subjects through small boxes showing the regional working process on how to work more strategically with health.

Next meeting

The 5th partner meeting in the project will be in Sweden from the 22nd to the 24th of September. Britt-Louise will as soon as possible tell us where the meeting will be held, so that you can already now arrange your travel so that you can get them as cheap as possible.....☺

Your presentations

As these minutes only give a very short description of each presentation, it is important that we upload the power point presentations on the dialogue forum. Under “dissemination” I have created the following sub groups; “kick-off meeting”, “2nd meeting” and “3rd meeting”, “4th meeting” etc. where I would like you to put the presentations you have prepared for the 3 meetings we have had until now.

Thank you

I would like to say thank you to Katie and Emily for having organized such a nice meeting at the Darlington Hall – a very beautiful and inspiring place to have our meeting and scenario planning workshop.

And thank you to all of you for - once again - to have participated to an active and inspiring meeting. I was especially pleased to see Birgitta among us again – it is good that you have recovered from having been sick.

May 2008
Henriette Hansen
Project Manager