

Minutes of the fifth partner meeting in Linköping from the 22nd to the 24th of September 2009

Participants

Henriette Hansen	SDEO	Andrew Larter	Department of Health
Arne Gårn	RSD		
Anne Smetana	RSD	Emily Gallannaugh	NHS
Anette Nielsen	UC Vest	Sara Carbone	Veneto Region
Anette Reinholdt	UC Vest	Birgitt Uhlen Blucha	HBS
Eva Bellsund	Örebro	Sabine Hoffmann-	
Britt-Louise Nilsson	Östsam	Steuernagel	LVGF
Birgitta Larsson	Östergötland	Ingrid Vanhaevre	CRIOC
Katie Kelsey	Niace		

Input from the Steering Committee Meeting (Henriette, Sabine, Birgitt, Britt-Louise, Katie and Sara)

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

- 1) The main focus for the regions is to develop a proposal for a strategy that many actors in the region support. Input from the trial out of the tools and the pilot projects will be the foundation for the strategy.
- 2) It is very important to let each region follow their own process to develop the proposal for a strategy as they are all in different stages.
- 3) All regions agree that the Healthy Regions project has supported many new directions in the regional development process, where health has become more present. Maybe this would have happened anyway, but the healthy regions project has provided a frame and motivation to continue the work.
- 4) We should revise the protocol and the work we are doing with this. Henriette and the Italian partners look into this and will try to have something ready by end of October. Now that we have the new structure for the final website ready we should simplify the protocol.
- 5) We propose to postpone the partner meeting in Verona with a few months.

Welcome to the partner meeting (first day)

Henriette welcomed everybody and explained that our interim report has been accepted by the European Commission.

Presentations from Linköping and Örebro

Different presentations were given by stakeholders in the two Swedish counties represented in the project, and our Swedish partners will make sure that the presentations are uploaded to the dialogue forum.

The presentations gave a good understanding of how the Swedish regions work with health promotion and assist local and regional actors in their research oriented work. Moreover, we got good inspiration to the pilot project catalogue.

Evaluation Workshop

Jolande presented the results from the workshop we had in UK and after that she took us through an impact workshop where we focused on the following four aspects:

- Success stories of the healthy regions project so far
- Lessons learned so far
- How do we get healthy regions on the European map?
- How do we get healthy regions to the top of the political agenda?

Jolande will draw up the conclusions from the workshop where she will provide us with a set of recommendations on how we can ensure that the project has a good impact on both regional, national and European level, now and in the future.

All presentations from Jolande are available on the dialogue forum under external evaluation.

A few of the very essential things that we discussed were:

- Our definition of target group is very wide – we should work with a more concrete strategy
- Do we want to sell the “Healthy Region Concept” as a branding tool?
- The important thing in the future is not the CONCEPT, but the fact that regions and / or municipalities learn to think about mainstreaming; that health becomes as natural an aspect as environment, economy and regional / local development.
- Could we make a competition?
- In order to make the dissemination more European, we could also contact DG Education and the National Contact Points for health.
- More dissemination on regional level in order to tell about the project and the conferences coming up.
- We should try to make other regions interested in our home countries.

Based on the report from the workshop that Jolande will provide, I will make sure to take action on the different issues.

Reporting back from the regions

All regions presented the work that is going on both in relation to the strategic work and the identification and implementation of pilot projects. All apply different ways of working with the tools that we have developed, which is fine, as it underlines the flexibility in project and the concept. As long as we all work

I have put a few bullet points from each country:

Sleswig Holstein

- The German partners have managed to make the “Healthy Regions” project a project for the whole region, using it to create an identity for region.
- They have created a network of professionals that works actively with health, and are in this way working on bringing evidence from the practical level in order to show to the political level that it works to work more intensively and strategically with health.

South West

- The UK partners have created a “coalition of interest” within the project, which is a temporary alliance of groups in order to achieve a common purpose or to engage in a joint activity.
- They have started an initiative focusing on healthy workplace issues, which is initiated through the use of the tools in the healthy regions project that managed to show a real gap within this area.
- Working with the healthy Regions project and the healthy school plus project simultaneously gives a lot of spillover effect.

South Denmark

- Four municipalities will be involved in the healthy regions project, being Langeland, Fredericia, Esbjerg and Billund, where the tools from the project will be used and local strategies will be developed.
- On a regional level, dialogue and meetings with municipalities, based on scenarios / dilemmas, give input to the strategic work.

Östergötland and Örebro

- The Swedish partners have created a steering group, a working group and a professional network, that meet regularly and discuss public health issues, not only related to the project but to overall questions like; 1) public health and industrial economy and 2) mainstreaming public health into other policies. These two topics are very important for our final conference next year....!!!! As they are essential for the project’s philosophy
- Östsam has the possibility to be involved in the writing of a new programme for public health within the Östergötland county, and this is a perfect possibility to try out the tools from the Healthy Regions project.
- Visits are made in all municipalities to find interesting projects that can support the healthy regions initiative, so that it becomes not only strategic but really has an effect on local level.
- The use of traffic light matrix has given very concrete results, as a strategy for a co-operation with a specific focus on health tourism has been developed on the basis of information gathered through the tool.

Veneto

- Veneto has managed to get the pilot projects part of the school curriculum, meaning that
- On the strategic level, the Italian partners try to co-ordinate that all local health promotion offices gives input to a common regional strategy.

Brussels

- The Belgian partners have taken contact to the local health centers in the Brussels region and are looking very much to the Danish examples on how to work with the municipal level.
- They are working on the establishment of a platform to have a dialogue with all relevant actors in order to illustrate what is needed for the future.

Please put all your presentations on the dialogue forum under the 5th partner meeting, under the folder Dissemination.

Collaboration between regions

As mentioned before, we should try to establish more collaboration between the participating regions. We have decided that the following partners will collaborate and exchange ideas about the following subjects:

- The German partners will work together with the UK partners to get inspired by the **Healthy School Plus** project.
- The German partners will work together with the Danish partners to get inspiration on the **Health Ambassadeurs** idea.
- The Italian partners will work together with SDU from Denmark in order to introduce the **mapping tool** in Italy.
- The Italian partners will work together with the German partners to get inspired by the **healthy food projects in Kindergartens**.
- The Belgian partners will work together with the Danish partners to get inspiration on how to **work on the municipality level**.
- The Danish partners will work together with the Swedish partners to get inspiration on how to make **agreements with municipalities**. This could also be the case for the Belgian partners.
- The Danish partners will work together with the UK partners to get inspiration for the strategic processes and especially the creation of “**coalitions of interests**”.
- The Swedish partners will work together with the UK partners on the **healthy workplaces** issues.
- The UK partners will work together with the Swedish partners on the **Dance project**.

I have created the different discussion themes on the dialogue forum, so there is no excuse anymore for not discussing between the partner meetings.....☺ If some themes are missing, please feel free to add any themes you like.

Presentation of Web design

In the absence of Mikael, who's good mood we missed a lot ☺, Henriette presented the future design of the website. This is the design that we want to have to present the final PRODUCT of the project to external actors.

You can find the future site by going to the website www.healthyregions.eu and in the very bottom of the site you click on “future site”.

I have noted the following comments to the website:

- General satisfaction with the new design
- We would like the HR concept triangle to be active, meaning that clicking on it leads to different texts on the website.
- We should make a direct link to a translation machine
- The flags will be active, and when clicking on the flags the documentation from each participating country becomes available in the different languages.
- Links to European Commission, DG Sanco, DG Education & Culture, WHO and other European institutions.
- Go through the contact details list as there are mistakes in the existing one.

We should also focus on dissemination on regional level. I will make a small standard text that all partners can translate and use as a base for dissemination.

Next meeting & final conference

The Healthy Regions project has been invited to make a presentation during an NGO conference in Örebro, Sweden in the end of October, which is organized within the Swedish presidency of the EU.

Katie will present the project and this is a really good opportunity for us to get the Healthy Regions project and concept on the European map as discussed during the Impact workshop.

We decided to postpone the partner meeting to end of April, as this period suits better for presenting concrete results from the pilot projects. The meeting dates were set from the

We also decided to ask the Commission for a prolongation of the project, as we think that having the final conference in the middle of October would be too early. We decided to have the final conference end of November, and we will therefore ask for a prolongation until mid-December.

So here are the new dates for the two meetings:

6th partner meeting in Verona: from the 26th to the 28th of April 2010

7th partner meeting and final conference in Brussels : from the 23rd to the 25th of November 2010

The final conference will be arranged in the offices of SDEO, and the main aim of the project is to present the ideas behind the Healthy regions concept and how other regions can apply the tools that we have developed. We should try to arrange for a press meeting in order to get our message out on a broader basis.

As we will now only meet in April 2010, we will arrange some skype conferences / telephone meetings during this 7 months period, so that we make sure that all partners are on the right track and that we manage to exchange experiences. I will take the initiative to do this.

Thank you

Thank you very much to all of you for working so engaged with the project in your regions and being active in good discussions during the partner meetings. I hope that the decision about concrete discussion themes will make you collaborate a bit more together between the partner meetings.

Thank you to Eva, Birgitta and Britt-Louise for having planned such a good and interesting partner meeting. It was very inspiring to hear about all your activities and organisations being involved in the public health work and the health sector in your regions. I have already taken contact to "Hälsens nya vertyg" so I hope that our regions will continue the co-operation in another new project.

A special thought is send to Marianne, who could not be among us this time. We hope that you will soon be well, so that you can participate in the meeting in Verona in April.

See you all in April in Verona

October, 2009
Henriette Hansen
Project Manager