

Minutes of the sixth partner meeting in Verona from the 26th to the 28th of April 2010

Participants

Henriette Hansen	SDEO	Jane Abraham	Dep of Health
Arne Gårn	RSD	Judy Allies	Dep of Health
Anette Nielsen	UC Vest	Kath Brownell	Dep of Health
Anette Reinholdt	UC Vest	Eva Baldassari	Veneto Region
Mikael Sorknæs	BASW	Sara Carbone	Veneto Region
Eva Bellsund	Örebro	Birgitt Uhlen Blucha	HBS
Thomas Falk	Örebro	Sabine Hoffmann-	
Britt-Louise Nilsson	Östsam	Steuernagel	LVGF
Birgitta Larsson	Östergotland	Ingrid Vanhaevre	CRIOC
Katie Kelsey	Niace	Marianne De Troyer	ULB
David Pearson	Dep of Health		

Input from the Steering Committee Meeting

(Henriette, Sabine, Birgitt, Britt-Louise, Arne, Katie, Marianne, Eva and Sara)

The objective of the steering committee meeting was to discuss and agree upon our track to reach our common European goal and the individual goal for each participating region.

- All regions have worked actively with the tools in some way or the other – depending of political, structural and practical situations – meaning that all regions have experiences to report back in the procedure protocol, from where we will draw recommendations for the tools and concept.
- All regions have tried to create strategic processes with more or less success:
 - o Veneto Region has been affected by the elections, because they have had to explain everything two times, which is not good for a project process like this. A proposal will probably focus on the importance for closer dialogue and co-operation.
 - o Östergotland started a strategic process in August 2009 and will by the end of the project have a concrete proposal for a public health strategy, which is also linked to economic growth aspects.
 - o South West has also been affected by structural changes because the RDA before was a part in the development process of an overall health strategy, but they are no longer part of the process, meaning that it is difficult to relate health and economic growth in a common strategy.
 - o Sleswig Holstein has managed to connect the healthy regions project to the Aktiv Region process, which started more or less at the same time as the HR project. This has given incredible support from many actors to run the processes that the HR project proposes and a very good dialogue has been established which will lead into a concrete proposal for a strategy combining the “AktivRegion” with the “Healthy Region”
 - o In Belgium the HR project has been heavily affected by the complex political and administrative system of the Brussels Capital Region. Because of different “agenda’s” between the actors, it has been difficult to gather people around the same table to discuss the possibility to create a strategy with clear linkages to economic growth. The Belgian partners try to get some extra input from the Hainaut Province in the French speaking part of Belgium.

- The South Denmark Region has no mandate to propose a regional health strategy, so they have mostly used the Healthy Regions project to work on a municipal level with the objective to support the municipalities in their strategic process.
- The overall conclusion from the meeting is that we are on the right track, even though that the participating regions have had flexibility in the way they wanted to implement the project and chose tools and processes that were relevant for them and their specific situation.
- We will have input to develop all European deliverables and all regions will be able to demonstrate progress in relevant areas.

All regions were asked to point out very clearly, when reporting back, how the HR project has had an influence on regional activities. This is important to show to other regions around Europe and to the European Commission

The Swedish partners want to arrange a study trip to SW UK, and the Commission has asked us to discuss this with all partners to hear if other partners would be interested to participate. This is not the case, and we have therefore decided that the study trip will be organized only with Swedish partners, but that a dissemination activity will be organized during the last partner meeting, where the Swedish and UK partners report more in details to the other partners about what they have experienced and learned and how a future collaboration between the partners can continue.

Welcome to the partner meeting and Italian presentations.

Henriette and Eva welcomed everybody to Verona and the floor was given to 2 interesting Italian projects to be presented. You can find the presentations on the dialogue forum. I have created a folder under dissemination for the 6th partner meeting, where you can upload all your presentations.

Evaluation workshop

Jolande presented the results from the online questionnaires that you have answered. There was a good level of answers and in overall terms, people seem satisfied with the project, but things could be better in some areas, and notably in communication internally between meetings. This has been one of our challenges since the beginning, but a discussion in the group was if this is really a problem....? As the project is designed to have many regional activities where the regional partnerships have been focusing on getting the best out of trying out the tools, the need to discuss with the other partners have not been so big. The partners though, agreed that the partner meetings have been very motivating and inspiring to continue the work, as there has been a good transfer of knowledge and experience.

We touched the following four aspects in the workshop:

- The European Added Value and Dimension of the project.
 - Where is the European Added Value
 - Are there enough
- Exploitation of results
 - How can we transfer results around Europe
 - And within our regions
- Dissemination
 - Dissemination strategy for the remaining part of the project
 - On regional and European level
- The Healthy Regions Project as a “best practice project”

- What can we do to bring the Healthy Regions project forward as a best practice project.

We used a lot of the information from the workshop in the following discussion about the website and Jolande will prepare a report with recommendations for the last part of the project.

Slides and report will be uploaded on the dialogue forum asap.

Website discussion

All documents to be posted on the final website will be in pdf format. Please write in Calibri 11, so that all documents look the same. Use the standard word document with our logo, and we will upload a new standard document which both has the web address, EU flag and a connection to the Health programme. The disclaimer will be introduced on the website.

All documents should be accompanied with a short abstract on 3 – 5 lines, which will be the “appetizer” for viewers to open up the document.

On the front page the abstracts will be improved and the following notes were made:

- Welcome text should include a better explanation on how to use the website and there to find things. Clear description of the target groups. Henriette works together with Swedish partners on this.
- Description of toolbox and the relation to the procedure protocol. A description of how the toolbox has been developed through an action based research method and trial out phase in each region. Henriette works together with Italian partner to do this
- Healthy Regions concept, including aspects like best practice, cross cutting, partnership and joint responsibility, awareness raising, effect to all, distribution of tools, transfer of knowledge. Henriette works together with UK partners on this.
- Practical experiences from the regions should be made more into “showcases” and good practice. Henriette works together with the Danish partners on this.

All partners use the procedure protocol to describe the trial out of the tools. This material should be posted on the dialogue forum no later than **the 1st of June**, so that we can draw out some common conclusions and recommendations, which can be presented as supporting documents for the HR concept.

All partners use the “reporting back from the regions” to describe the whole project process in your region. This document will be used as input to the final report, but will also be an important document in the practical experience section. This document has to be ready for the website by **1st of September**. Under this section you are welcome to publish all relevant local material, which will make the website useful for you in the future as a tool to create broad regional co-operation in order to create a “Healthy Region” 😊 or at least to keep health on the political agenda.

Mikael has created sub folders on the dialogue forum under the “Website” folder, where you can upload your documents.

The triangle:

Health competencies: The mapping tool, description of trial outs and links

Health as a business sector: The traffic light, description of trial outs and links

Healthy Settings: The project catalogue and links

Healthy Region: Description of the concept, dialogue tool, scenario planning, dilemmas, framework paper and show cases / “good practice”, the film and links

Please check all links to partner institutions and get back to Mikael if something is not correct. I have also made a subfolder called links to other websites, where you can introduce relevant links, e.g. to other projects, European organizations etc. that are relevant for people who visit the website.

We discussed that it would have been good if the website had been designed with regional / local subsections from the beginning, so that partners had been able to use the website more actively during the project. An important point to bring with us to the next project.

Marianne will rework the framework paper and include new information / knowledge on European level.

Reporting back from the regions

Please upload all presentations to the dialogue forum under Dissemination / 6th partner meeting.

There are a lot of good show cases from the regional presentations that we can present on the website:

- Public health policy process from Sweden
- Healthy Regions concept in national networks from Sweden
- Development of Healthy Schools to Healthy Schools plus from UK
- Health at the Work place from UK
- The dialogue process from Germany and Italy
- The strategic processes on local level from Denmark
- Involvement in the national planning process from Belgium

Birgitta presented her work with the Dahlgren and Whitehead model, and she will try to write her thoughts more in details so that we can present the model on the website.

The Swedish partners showed the film that they have produced, which we will also use on the final website.

Final conference

The overall responsibility for the organization of the conference lies with Henriette.

The final conference in the Healthy Regions project will be held on Wednesday the 22nd of September and we will try to have the Committee of Regions as Venue.

Target groups and networks that we are going to invite from Brussels are; reps from CoR, reps from EP, reps from CE (DG Regio, DG Sanco, DG EMPL), other PHP projects, other regions, networks like ERRIN, EUREGHA, ENRICH, European rep offices from different European networks such as Health Cluster Net, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, European Public Health Alliance.

We decided the following around the conference :

- Objective is to present the European dimension of the rojet and disseminate results and transfer knowledge.
- The important thing is to present the website as a useful tool for other regions in Europe and to present the participating regions successful use of the tools from the project.

- All regions will have time to present (app. 30 minutes for each region) and we will prepare a template for the presentations so that all of you do it more or less in the same way.
- There will be a press meeting in the end of the conference. All of you will be asked to contact journalists from your country that are present in Brussels.
- We will try to make T-shirts for the conference like they have done in Sweden. When a participant gets a T-shirt he or she signs a paper with his e-mail mentioned, with a statement like ; « I want to live in a Healthy Region ». ☺ Or something like that. Still to be considered.....
- All regions should bring local food from their region that we can serve during the coffee break and the final cocktail in the afternoon. You will probably be able to organise this with your regional office in Brussels, so that we can try to keep the shipping costs low, but if there are any minor shipping costs, we can handle it within the budget. Just make sure that you ask me first. You are also welcome to bring any brochures from your regions.
- We will make poster sessions about the pilot projects that participants can visit during the coffee break and cocktail. A template for posters will be produced and circulated.
- We will invite either a member from CoR or EP to provide a view from their position.
- We will try to get 1 or 2 other regions to give a presentation on how they see the possibility to use the results from the project.

Pre-liminary agenda looks like this :

09H30 – 10H00	Registration and coffee
10H00 – 10H30	Welcome and presentation of website and tools
10H30 – 11H00	Showcase from Italy and Q & A
11H00 – 12H00	Coffee, local snacks and poster session
12H00 – 12H30	Showcase from Germany and Q & A
12H30 – 13H00	Showcase from UK and Q & A
13H00 – 14H00	Lunch and poster session
14H00 – 14H30	Showcase from Sweden and Q & A
14H30 – 15H00	Showcase from Belgium and Q & A
15H00 – 15H30	Coffee break
15H30 – 16H00	Showcase from Denmark and Q & A
16H00 – 16H30	European Dimension and transfer, by somebody from CoR or EP
16H30 – 17H00	Views from other European regions, by somebody from another region
17H00 – 18H00	Press meeting, drink and local snacks

You should arrive in Brussels on the 21st during the morning so that we can plan and work together during the day before the conference and have dinner together in the evening. The 22nd is the day of the conference and the 23rd is the final partner meeting, where we will probably organise the last evaluation workshop, last discussion about the website and discussions on how to continue our co-operation in the future.

Thank you

Thank you all for a very good meeting and a special thank you to Sara and Eva who had organised everything so well. I really enjoy working with you and it makes me very pleased to see how enthusiastic you work with the project and the tools / ideas in your regions.

May, 2010
Henriette Hansen
Project Manager