



**BUILDING CAPACITY
FOR ACTION**

European Alcohol Policy Conference
Barcelona, 3-5 April

European Alcohol Policy Conference Barcelona, 3-5 April, 2008

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<http://www.ias.org.uk/buildingcapacity/conference/index.html>





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INTRODUCTION

- Building Capacity a challenging project
- Our Department of Health is honoured to collaborate with the Institute of Public Health of Slovenia and all the project partners by leading the Work package 7 “Capacity Building” with its two aims of organizing the Alcohol Policy Conference and 3 advocacy trainings.
- Pleased to take part in the APN and to share with all of you (new and old friends) the challenge.
- Experience in managing and participating in European Projects (PHEPA, ELSA, ALC-VIOL, TAVIM) on alcohol and other drugs (CORRELATION, IMHPA, etc)
- Experience in organizing meetings, workshops, trainings and conferences (regional, national and international).
- Evidence is compiled (Alcohol in Europe Report, Phepa Clinical guidelines, etc.) but ... Building Capacity for Action



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CONFERENCE MODEL

- Hosted by the Health Department of the Government of Catalonia
- Being considered as part of an EC Presidency activity of the Government of Slovenia
- Organized by
 - Health Department of the Government of Catalonia,
 - Institute of Public Health of Slovenia
 - Building Capacity Project
- Co-financed by
 - European Commission
 - Health Department, Government of Catalonia
 - Directorate of Health and Social affairs, Norway
 - ACTIS, Norway
 - IOGT-NTO, Sweden
- Co-sponsored by World Health Organization
- With the support of the Ministry of Health of Spain and Slovenia



INŠTITUT ZA VARNOST ZDRAVJA
REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE



World Health Organization
Regional Office for Europe



CONFERENCE MODEL

- Learn from previous successful conferences (Warsaw, Helsinki, IMHPA, etc.)
- Impact at policy level
- Involvement of all stakeholders (EC, EC projects, WHO, governments at municipal, regional and national level, NGOs, scientific societies, etc.)
- Media Impact
- 2 and 1/2 days - Plenary and parallel sessions



CONFERENCE MODEL

- Tested 10 days ago in the “successful” IMHPA Conference:
 - EC project
 - European Platform on prevention and promotion in mental health (IMHPA)
 - Aim to discuss supporting implementation the EC Mental Health strategy
 - 240 proposed questions for discussion in parallels
 - 381 registered participants
 - 40 different countries
 - Conference report with recommendations to the EC





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**JOINING FORCES ACROSS EUROPE
FOR PREVENTION AND PROMOTION
IN MENTAL HEALTH**

Barcelona, 13th-15th September 2007



CONFERENCE MODEL

- Engagement at policy level
- Highly participatory
 - Networking and exchanging experiences
 - All parallel sessions: 1 summary point and 1 recommendation for the report
- High level plenary and parallel sessions
- Special social events





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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 2 nd APRIL						
14:00-19:00	ALCOHOL POLICY NETWORK MEETING – Only for members					
17:00-19:00	REGISTRATION - At Winterthur Auditorium, Foyer					
19:30-21:30	WELCOME RECEPTION – Park Güell (modernist park designed by Gaudi)					
THURSDAY 3 rd APRIL						
08.30-09.30	REGISTRATION – At Winterthur Auditorium, Foyer					
09.30-10.30	OPENING SESSION - INTRODUCTION TO CONFERENCE –Winterthur Auditorium					
10.30-11.00	<i>COFFEE BREAK - At Winterthur Auditorium, Foyer</i>					
11.00-12.30	ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ON THE ALCOHOL POLICY ENVIRONMENT - Winterthur Auditorium					
12.30-14.00	<i>LUNCH (See lunch info)</i>					
14.00-15.30	ALCOHOL AND CO -MORBIDITY -Winterthur Auditorium					
15.30-16.00	<i>COFFEE BREAK</i>					
16.00-17.30	PARALLEL SESSIONS NH CONSTANZA					
	Building Capacity to protect young people, children and the unborn child	Building Capacity to reduce alcohol related accidents and injuries	Building Capacity to prevent alcohol -related harm among adults and at the workplace	Building Capacity to inform, educate and raise awareness	Building Capacity for a common evidence base at EU level	Building Capacity training session
20.00-23.00	OFFICIAL DINNER. PALAU REIAL PEDRALBES (Invitation by Health Department of Catalonia)					



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SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- The main theme of the conference is to build capacity on alcohol policies and programmes at European, country, regional and municipal levels to invest in the health of Europe's citizens.



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SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- Sufficient time will be provided for advocacy development, networking, partnership building and exchange between the participants.
- It is proposed that the conference follows the format of a mix of plenary presentations, and highly specialized workshops, which will attempt to build capacity amongst scientists, policy makers and programme implementers.



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SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- It is proposed to structure the conference around the five objectives of the Commission's Communication on alcohol:
 - *to protect young people, children and the unborn child;*
 - *to reduce injuries and death from alcohol-related road accidents;*
 - *to prevent alcohol-related harm among adults and reduce the negative impact on the workplace;*
 - *to inform, educate and raise awareness on the impact of harmful and hazardous alcohol consumption, and on appropriate consumption patterns;*
 - *and to develop and maintain a common evidence base at EU level.*



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SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- It is proposed that the conference will include a session on effective alcohol policy at the EU level,



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SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- The conference will profile ongoing European Commission co-financed projects in the field of alcohol (PHEPA, etc).
- It is proposed to include a special focus on the prevention of alcohol-related accidents and injuries within the framework of the conference.



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SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- The aim of the workshops is to present new and pragmatic ways of tackling problems that are encountered by participants.
- Non-governmental organizations, the Building Capacity project, relevant European organizations, Commission co-financed alcohol projects, and other key organizations at all levels (European, country, regional and municipal) are invited to submit proposals to convene and run workshops.



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SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- It is designed to be of interest to policymakers and programme implementers who have direct responsibility for public health and social welfare as well as those who work in other sectors, such as finance, road safety, consumer and family affairs, education, entertainment, communications, marketing and advertising.



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SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- The conference will conclude with two statements:
 - recommendations for alcohol policy and programme development to invest in the health of European citizens at European, country, regional and municipal levels;
 - and recommendations to reduce alcohol-related accidents and injuries at European, country, regional and municipal levels.



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WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

- Working for a common approach with Spanish Ministry of Health
- Initial informal contacts for its inclusion as a Slovenian presidency activity
- Mr. Madelin has agreed to attend
- Contacts with Spanish and Catalan representative offices in Brussels



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NEXT STEPS

- Confirmation of plenary sessions and decisions on parallel sessions
 - Call for participation extended until the 31st of December
- Looking for engagement for ministers/ministries of health of Presidency countries
- Early engagement of all stakeholders and networks at country and European level
 - Contribution of the Building Capacity Partners and the APN members
- More dissemination around Europe and also EUA (NIAAA, PAHO, etc)
- Raising funds, search for other sponsors
 - Municipality of Barcelona, and others



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IN CONCLUSION EXPECTANCIES

- Succeed in high participation at technical and political level
- Not a classical conference
- Promote real debate and dialogue among all stakeholders
- Achieving useful recommendations at local, regional, national and European Level in coordination with or beyond the EC Communication on Alcohol
- European Projects and Networks joining together
- Building capacity for advocacy and action at local, regional, national and European Level
- And maybe constitute a milestone in the alcohol policy development in Europe



Barcelona, a city of diversity and charm



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