



Health Equity Pilot Project Final Conference

Evidence into practice: action on health inequalities

6th December 2018 / Renaissance Brussels Hotel

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

INTRODUCTION



John F. Ryan, Director public health, country knowledge, crisis management, DG SANTE, European Commission

John F. Ryan is Director of the Commission Public Health, country knowledge, crisis management directorate since September 2016. Previously, in the same department, he was the Head of Unit responsible for health threats, health information, the cancer programme, the pollution related disease programme, the drugs prevention programme, the health monitoring programme, the health promotion programme, the rare diseases programme and the injury prevention programme. Most recently, he led the unit responsible for health determinants and inequalities.



Karen van Hertog, Programme Manager, The Amsterdam Healthy Weight Programme, Netherlands

In June 2018, Karen den Hertog became programme manager of the Amsterdam Healthy Weight Programme. Over the past ten years Karen (Msc Public Administration) has been managing various programmes, focused on complex problems in the social domain, for the municipality of Amsterdam. The common denominator in these programmes has been to shape a collaborative approach with various departments and districts, with every stakeholder taking his of her own responsibility. Karen has been with the Amsterdam Healthy Weight Programme from the start. As deputy programme manager, since 2014 Karen was also responsible for the 'First 1000 Days' part of the programme, national lobbying and international affairs.



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ALCOHOL: INEQUALITIES IN ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND HARM - EVIDENCE AND ACTION



Colin Angus, Researcher, Sheffield Alcohol Research Group, University of Sheffield, UK

Colin Angus is a Research Fellow and the senior modeller in the Sheffield Alcohol Research Group at the University of Sheffield. His research focuses on the use of quantitative approaches to examine questions around alcohol policy and the changing environment in which these policies sit. The central theme of this research is understanding variation across the population, in terms of differences in alcohol consumption, alcohol-related harm and drinking environments as well as the potential for policy actions to have differential effects across different groups. In particular, much of Colin's research addresses questions of socioeconomic inequality: the extent to which alcohol drives inequality and how different policy approaches may improve or exacerbate existing inequalities in health.



Manuel Cardoso, Deputy General-Director, General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, Portugal

Medical doctor and public health consultant, with a post-graduation in Occupational Medicine and Health Management, Dr. Cardoso has 20 years' experience on public health, drugs and alcohol issues and holds management positions in public administration since 1998. At international level, he has represented Portugal at the "Committee on National Alcohol Policy and Action", which plays a major role in implementing "The EU strategy to support Member States in reducing alcohol related harm". He also represented Portugal in the development of the Global Strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol and of the WHO Action Plan for Europe, as well as in the WHO national counterparts for alcohol.

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Triinu Täht, Public Health Advisor, Ministry of Social Affairs, Estonia

Triinu Täht works in the Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia for the last 11 years. She has fulfilled different duties in the Department of Public Health in the areas of community and workplace health promotion, health equity and social cohesion, promoting mental health and physical activity and preventing alcohol and tobacco use. She has coordinated Estonian alcohol strategy and also represented Estonia in the European Union, WHO and Northern Dimension expert groups on alcohol policy and health inequalities. Lately, at the European Alcohol Policy Conference in Scotland, Triinu Täht accepted an European Award for Reducing Alcohol Harm 2018 on behalf of Estonian Government.



Joanna Głazewska, Head of Unit for the National Health Programme, Ministry of Health, Poland

Joanna Głazewska – head of unit for the National Health Programme in Public Health Department, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Poland. She is responsible for planning, executing and monitoring of many public health interventions. Experienced in international and intersectoral cooperation. Her main fields of interest are focused on risky behaviors, health as a human right, equality and equity issues, communicable and non-communicable diseases combination prevention. She is a member of the Polish team working within the Joint Action Health Equity in Europe.

NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY: INEQUALITIES IN OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY - EVIDENCE AND ACTION



Tim Lobstein, Director of Policy, World Obesity Federation

Dr Tim Lobstein is the World Obesity Federation's Director of Policy and Programmes. He is a specialist consultant to the World Health Organization on food policy, with an interest in social inequalities and commercial determinants of health. He is the author of more than 30 peer-reviewed papers and several text book chapters on obesity and food policy issues. He is a visiting professor at the Boden Institute, University of Sydney, and at Curtin University, Western Australia. He has been principal investigator in two European Commission-funded research projects and a work-package leader in six others



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Alison Giles, Chief Executive, UK Health Forum

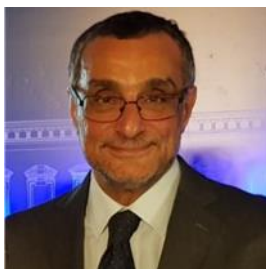
Dr Alison Giles has spent 18 years in public health policy. Following seven years as Associate Director at the UK Health Forum between 1998-2005, Alison spent two years at the Department of Health in England leading the cross-Government physical activity strategy. In 2007, she was appointed by the National Health Service in North West England to establish and lead a charitable enterprise focused on promoting community engagement in public health advocacy.

Alison was delighted to return to the UK Health Forum in 2018 as interim chief executive. She has a PhD in Cancer Research and a Masters in Public Health. She is a trustee of Breast Cancer UK, a charity focused on the primary prevention of breast cancer.

*Picture to be
uploaded shortly*

Corina Pop, State Secretary for Health, Romania

Bio to be uploaded shortly.



John Attard Kingswell, Project Leader – European Social Fund, MoH, Malta

John Attard Kingswell graduated as a Public Health Inspector in 1981. Since then he has worked in various fields within the Public Regulation Department at the Ministry of Health in Malta. Since 2013 he has been instrumental in acquiring the necessary EU funding to address social determinants of health in Malta. He currently works as Project Leader on the ESF funded project on “Establishing a National Platform to address Social Determinants of Health” and is the head of the recently established Social Determinants of Health Unit within the Office of the Superintendence of Public Health.



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Picture to be
uploaded shortly

Ursula O' Dwyer, Health promotion policy advisor, Healthy Ireland

Ursula O'Dwyer is part of the Healthy Ireland team. She is a Dietitian and is the HI Health Promotion Policy Advisor. She represents Ireland on the EU High Level Group on Nutrition and Physical Activity and led on the EU Childhood Obesity Action Plan, an Irish Presidency initiative. Ursula is also the nutrition/ obesity liaison with WHO Europe.

NEXT STEPS



Professor Sir Michael G. Marmot, Director of the Institute of Health Equity, UCL Department of Epidemiology & Public Health

Sir Michael Marmot is Professor of Epidemiology at University College London. Marmot has led research groups on health inequalities for over 40 years. He chairs the Commission on Equity and Health Inequalities in the Americas, set up in 2015 by the World Health Organization's Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO). He was Chair of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH), which was set up by the World Health Organization in 2005, and produced the report entitled: 'Closing the Gap in a Generation' in August 2008. At the request of the British Government, he conducted the Strategic Review of Health Inequalities in England post 2010, which published its report 'Fair Society, Healthy Lives' in February 2010. This was followed by the European Review of Social Determinants of Health and the Health Divide, for WHO Euro in 2014.



Giuseppe Costa, Programme Manager, Joint Action Health Equity in Europe

Giuseppe Costa, is professor of public health at the Department of Clinical and Biological Sciences of the University of Turin, and is an epidemiologist and head of the Regional Unit of Epidemiology and Health Promotion in the Piedmont Region from 1994. He is a member of advisory committees of the Piedmont region, Ministry of Health, Istat, European Commission in the main fields of scientific research of its interest: health inequalities and in particular social inequalities in health, health information systems, environmental and occupational health (occupational mortality, occupational injuries, risk communication), migrants and health system, health impact assessment and policy evaluation.

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Caroline Costongs, Director, EuroHealthNet

Caroline Costongs is Director at EuroHealthNet and expert in public health and health promotion. She leads a highly experienced and multi-disciplinary team that facilitate network exchange and development, project management, policy development, advocacy, and communications within existing capacities and budgets. Caroline is active in many EU and WHO platforms such as the EU Expert Group on Health Inequalities and Social Determinants, the WHO Action Plan on strengthening public health services, the International Council of the European Public Health Conference series..Being at EuroHealthNet since 1999, she managed several EC co-funded projects on health inequalities, sustainable development, health services access, healthy ageing, HiAP, social inclusion and capacity building for health promotion

THE HEPP TEAM



Peter Goldblatt is a senior advisor to the Institute of Health Equity. His main activities are in the field of measurement and monitoring and contributing to European and other international project to review and monitor the social determinants of health. He previously worked in a number of UK Government Departments, most recently the Office for National Statistics (ONS). He was seconded from ONS to University College London (UCL) for the duration of the Strategic Review of Health Inequalities in England post-2010 (the Marmot Review). Following this review he co-ordinated reviews of health inequalities in the WHO European Region, for WHO, and a review of health inequalities in European, for the European Commission. He subsequently contributed to DRIVERS, a collaborative research project funded by the EU 7th Framework Programme, to develop European evidence and recommendations on key social determinants of health. He has subsequently contributed to several projects, including two European Parliament pilot projects (on health of vulnerable groups and on interventions to reduce health inequalities associated with diet, physical exercise and alcohol harm), a UNDP project to assess the impact of development projects on inequalities in health and its determinants, developing a model for assessing return on investment from health equity initiatives in England and a review of equity and health inequalities in the Americas.

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Mark Gamsu, Facilitator, HEPP

Mark Gamsu is a professor at Leeds Beckett University and a fellow of the Faculty for Public Health. He has a specific interest in inequality and the relationship that members of the public have with their local health system. He has worked with the UK Health Forum on delivery of the Health Equity Pilot Project and previously Equity Action a three year European Commission programme working with 15 EU member states.

With colleagues at Leeds Beckett University he has developed the 'Expert Hearing' methodology, an action focussed platform that brings together researchers, practitioners and policy makers to together develop ideas and actions for change in complex policy areas such as inequality and the social determinants of health. Mark comments regularly on public health and local democracy on his blog www.localdemocracyandhealth.com and you can follow him on twitter @markgamsu



Chris Brookes, Director: Global Business Development / HEPP Manager at UK Health Forum

Chris has extensive experience of international public health, business development, and project design and management, and has worked in the public health field for 16 years, and for the 10 years prior to that worked in development, including leading on statutory donor funding for a major UK development charity. He has focused particularly on actions to address health inequalities internationally, and led Equity Action, the Joint Action between Ministries of Health in the EU on Health Inequalities from 2010-2013. He has also been working closely with international colleagues on reducing alcohol related harms. In addition, Chris has been the national focal point for the European Commission Public Health Programme.



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Dr Aileen Robertson, PhD. MSc, BSc, RNutr (Public Health)

Dr Robertson is a Public Health Nutritionist at University College Copenhagen, Denmark. Previously she worked as Regional Adviser for Food and Nutrition Security at the WHO European Regional Office Europe advising more than 50 Member States how to develop and implement their multi-sectoral food and nutrition policies and action plans. The Department where she works was designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Nutrition in 2010. Dr Robertson has been a partner in many European Union DG Research and DG SANTE funded projects. In addition she carries out a variety of consultancies related to public health and food and nutrition policy, especially focussed on inequalities e.g. “HEPP – Maintaining a focus on health inequalities” specifically the scientific report relating to “Infant nutrition and diet in the first 1000 days” and to provide information on evidence-based interventions to reduce health inequalities in Europe.



Sara Wood, Public Health Researcher, Division of Policy, Research and International Development, Public Health Wales

Sara Wood is a Senior Public Health Researcher based at Public Health Wales (UK), a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Investment for Health and Well-being. She carries out evidence reviews, primary research and data analysis across a range of public health projects both within Wales and internationally. As part of the Health Equity Pilot Project, Sara has been involved in work identifying inequalities in alcohol consumption, patterns and harm across EU member countries and evidence for what works to prevent or reduce them.