

Annual report 2021

EUPHA- Health Impact Assessment section (EUPHA-HIA)

Goals for 2021

- Analysis of how seriously HIA evidence is being considered in the decision and policy making process for adopting actions to reduce the health impacts related to global threats such as COVID-19 or climate change
- Bridging links with other EPHA sections to identify synergies and promote both human health and sustainable development.
- EUPHA-HIA section will work towards promoting building capacity for addressing health considerations and health equity.

Collaboration with section members

- The EUPHA HIA-section members, together with the Health section of IAIA (International Association of Impact Assessment) finalized and launched in February 2021 the reference paper on principles for the coverage of population and human health within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedure.

Full report available at:

<https://eupha.org/repository/sections/HIA/Human%20Health%20Ensuring%20Protection%20Main%20and%20Appendices.pdf>.

Summary available at:

<https://eupha.org/repository/sections/HIA/HumanHealthEnsuringProtectionSummary.pdf>

- EUPHA HIA-section members, together with the Health section of IAIA (International Association of Impact Assessment) finalized and published the article entitled “*Lessons from an International Initiative to Set and Share Good Practice on Human Health in Environmental Impact Assessment*” at the Int. J Environ Res Public Health. Available at:
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7913344/>

Activities at the EPH conference

1. Wed 10th 16:10-17:10.

1.E. - Workshop: Addressing vulnerability within climate change related health impacts.

Organized by: EUPHA (HIA), EUPHA (CAPH); **Chairperson(s):** Piedad Martin-Olmedo - EUPHA (HIA), Sonia Saxena - EUPHA (CAPH)

- Climate Change in Wales and its health impact: Who is vulnerable and how?, **Liz Green - United Kingdom**
- Child health and wellbeing in a changing climate, **Kam Sripada - Norway**
- Vulnerability risk assessment in the context of climate change – the need for interdisciplinarity, **Fiona Haigh - Australia**

- The European Climate and Health Observatory and related initiatives, **Peter Löffler - European Commission**

2. Wed 10th 17:20-18:20

2.H. - Workshop: Role of Health impact assessment in the policy-making process for the control of COVID-19 pandemic. Organized by EUPHA (HIA), EUPHA (PHPP), EUPHA (PHMR), Observatory. **Chairperson(s):** Piedad Martin-Olmedo - EUPHA (HIA), Petronille Bogaert - EUPHA (PHMR)

- The Health and wellbeing impacts of Home and agile working in Wales: A HIA Approach, Liz Green - United Kingdom
- HIA on lockdown and social distancing to contain the COVID-19 pandemic in Austria – results and lessons learned, Gabriele Antony – Austria
- Assessing the health impact of staying at home, social distancing and lockdown measures during the Covid-19 epidemic, Valentina Chiesa – Italy
- Are public health experts providing useful information for the control of COVID-19 pandemic?, Marleen Bekker - EUPHA (PHPP)

3. Thu 11th, 13:50-14:50

5.N. - Round table: Cross country COVID-19 policy learning: politics, arrangements and conditions for legitimate policy. Organized by: EUPHA (PHPP), EUPHA (PHMR), EUPHA (HIA), EUPHA (PHE). **Chairperson(s):** Marleen Bekker - EUPHA (PHPP), Petronille Bogaert - EUPHA (PHMR)

- Government political ideology and COVID-19 public health policy responses, João Vasco Santos - EUPHA (ECO)
- Experiences from one year Rapid Exchange Forum, Claudia Hahl - Austria
- Policy interactions during the Dutch 'Public Health Foresight, in the light of COVID-19', Henk Hilderink - EUPHA (FS)
- Reflections on the presentations from the rapid Health Impact Assessment perspective, Liz Green - United Kingdom

4. Fri 12th, 11:30-12:30

9.A. - Workshop: The contribution of Environmental Impact Assessments to better health. Organized by: EUPHA (HIA), EUPHA (ETH), EUPHA (LAW), EUPHA (ENV). **Chairperson(s):** Ben Cave - United Kingdom, Odile Mekel - EUPHA (HIA)

- Is Maeckelberghe - EUPHA (ETH)
- Marija Jevtic - EUPHA (ENV)
- Amandine Garde - EUPHA (LAW)
- Sarah Humboldt-Dachroeden - Denmark
- Filipe Silva - United Kingdom

Other activities

- Virtual meeting with members of the EUPHA-HIA section's Steering Committee held on 4 February 2021. Several ideas were discussed in order to promote the section and for preparing

the 14th EPH Conference. Participants: Ben Cave, Luciana Costa, Koustuv Dalal, Rainer Fehr Liz Green; together with Odile Mekel and Piedad Martín-Olmedo, vice-president and president of EUPHA-HIA section, respectively.

- Piedad Martín-Olmedo attended the EUPHA section council meeting from February 9 to 10 (virtual meeting) for the evaluation of the WPHC and the preparation of the XIV Conference of the EPH. A special emphasis was placed on seeking the interrelationship between various sections. The proposals discussed in the previous meeting with members of the EUPHA-HIA Steering Committee were shared with attendances.
- Ben Cave, as member of the Steering Committee is contributing to the new EUPHA activity on Serious Gaming, with the contribution of many other EUPHA sections.

Annual meeting

The Join the Network meeting will be hold via Zoom on 10th of November at 12:50 – 13:50 (lunch).

Objectives:

- Presentation of activities during 2021
- Discussion of future actions and collaborations

General communications with section members

The section communicates mainly by email trough the EUPHA Maillist, e.g.

- Dissemination of the 14th EPH Conference Congress “Public Health future in a changing world” (10/2/2020)
- Dissemination of EUPHA Statement on the Success of the European Public Health Week addressing the need to work together.

International participation in events on behalf of EUPHA

- Piedad Martín-Olmedo represented the EUPHA-HIA section at the Annual IAIA Conference celebrated in Seville between May 18 and May 21st. Specifically, she took part in a roundtable entitled “Smartening health and well-being in IA: From policies to projects”, sharing key messages extracted from the reference document entitled "Human health: Ensuring a high level of protection" produced by EUPHA and IAIA.
- Piedad Martín-Olmedo represented the EUPHA-HIA section at the XV Spanish Environmental Congress organized by the CONAMA Foundation between May 31 and June 3 in Madrid. Specifically, she took part in a roundtable about experiences on HIA, presenting key messages extracted from the reference document entitled "Human health: Ensuring a high level of protection" produced by EUPHA and IAIA.

Piedad Martín-Olmedo, president of EUPHA-HIA section

Odile Mekel, vice-president of EUPHA-HIA section

September, 7th 2021