HIA in the Czech Republic

Ing. Jana Loosová, Ph.D. ¹ and Mgr. Lenka Mařincová ²

¹Regional Public Health Authority Liberec, with headquarters in Liberec
²Palacký University, Olomouc
Implementation at the national level
HIA in SEA in the Czech Republic

- HIA is a part of SEA (law no. 100/2001 Sb. according to law no. 93/2004 Sb.)

- The Ministry of Health is an authorized body and issues a certificate (as amended by the Decree no. 353/2004 Sb.)
Role of public health authorities in the SEA process

- Within the SEA process, they assess the conception according to its impact on public health

- Sometimes screening and scoping is attempted to strengthen positive and mitigate negative influences, compare with health policy / Health 2020

- The quality and expertise of the documents are assessed

- They argue professionally in a public hearing

- They complete the conception - measures, monitoring, and conditions for subsequent projects based on the conception

- Their decision can influence the SEA process toward the assessment and conception of the municipalities
Implementation of HIA at the region level

- Implementation of the HIA in the framework of legislation (regulation) that the Board may issue in a delegated scope. The guarantor and coordinator was the Regional Public Health Authority Liberec

Process:

- The decision of the Regional Council (No. 660/05/RK) ordered the creation of an HIA implementation methodology.

- The Council Resolution (No. 1282/05/RK) called on the elaboration of a training methodology, assessment methodology and ensured the permanent establishment of assessment in the Region → implementation of two training sessions, creation of assessment manuals

- The Council Resolution (No. 1034/06/RK) imposes an obligation on the contracting authorities of the regional documents to carry out Health Assessment (HIA) and compliance assessment with health policy.
5.1 Priority 1 – Improve prevention in health risk assessment and health impacts of planned conceptions, strategies, and intentions

5.1.1 Preparation of documents for the legislative establishment of health impact assessment of all concepts / strategies including the preparation of methodologies, dissemination and the introduction of a system of undergraduate and postgraduate education in the HIA method

5.1.2 Improving the quality of health risk assessment of new projects (buildings, technologies, etc.) within the EIA process
National network of healthy cities

www.healthimpact.cz

HIA – education at the national level

Two publications for the HIA (in 2006, 2016), current detailed methodical material is missing

www.khslbc.cz
WHO Workshop 2016

“HIA and EIA: Strengthening HIA Practice in the Czech Republic”


Who 37 participants (Ministry of Health, Transport, Environment, KHS, HCCZ, SZÚ, HIA experts, SR representatives)

Objective: To open discussion on options and ways to improve the implementation of HIA in the Czech Republic.

View of HIA practitioners within SEA

- HIA is focused on environmental determinants of health. Practically no evaluation is made with regard to health inequalities and a sense of well-being.
- HIA is performed on order – therefore, it lacks sense (routine trend without taking needs into account) screening and scoping is done only in a limited way.
- Methodologically, the most common use of the HRA method indicates that the perception of the terms HIA and HRA is not accurate.
View of HIA practitioners within SEA

- Current use of the HIA conception
- Human resources capacity and HIA quality review
- Expert opinion on the Czech Republic's preparedness for nationwide implementation
- Promoting regional policies and a national strategy for the protection and promotion of health and the prevention of diseases Health 2020 in HIA
Setting up a working group and establishing priorities

- **Objective:** Advancing training in health impact assessment (HIA) in the Czech Republic, deadline: 20.9.2017, number of members: 10

- Prioritization of HIA implementation objectives in terms of priority and the factor of limitation - implementation in legislation; creating manuals, using tools and instructions; setting up a platform, website, reviving a database; sustainability of HIA, quality, education; indicators ...
View into the future?