

The Public Health priorities of WHO/Europe and possible collaboration with HPH

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My main themes

- Health challenges of Europe in the 21st century
- WHO European Health Policy “Health 2020”
- Public health as knowledge and action in modern societies
- Strengthening of public health and health systems across Europe
- The role of health care in preventing diseases
- The role of international partners: HPH

Challenges for European health systems

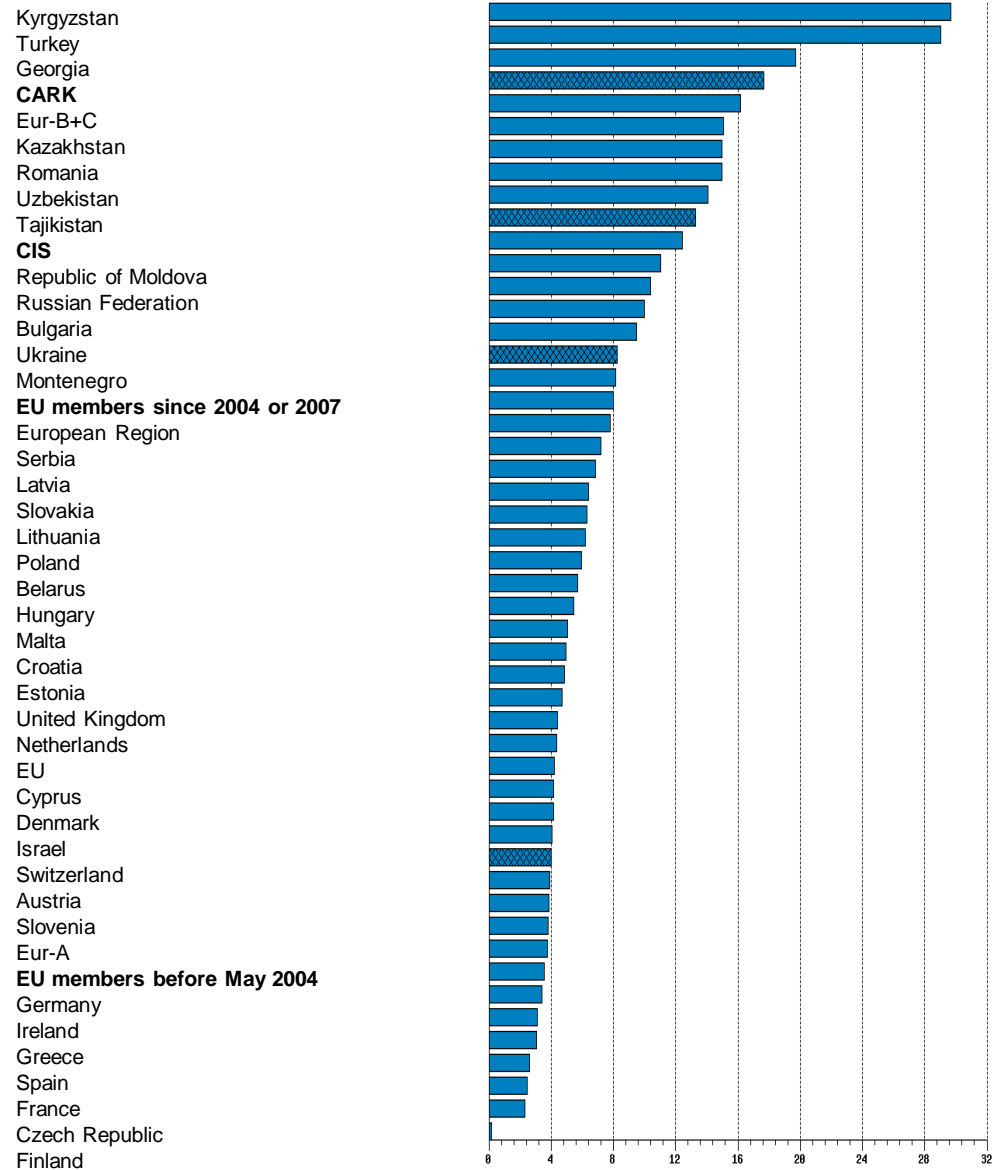
1. Addressing health inequities and the social determinants
2. Current burden and patterns of disease
3. Impact of globalization
4. Changing role of citizens
5. Financial stability
6. Governance and monitoring
7. Intersectoral actions and health in all policies

While these are not all-inclusive, they capture the core disease and contextual challenges of European health systems today.

Addressing health inequities and the social determinants

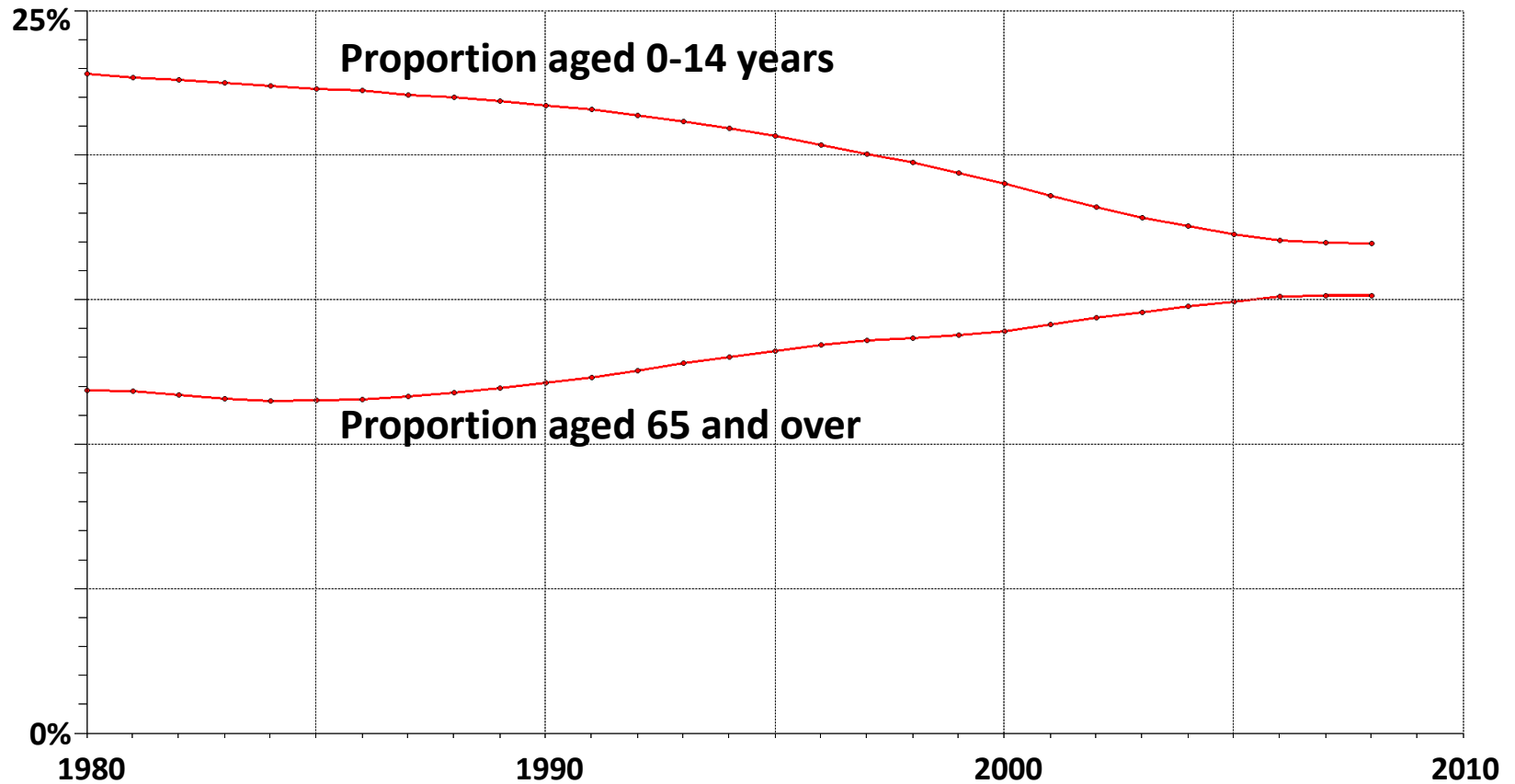
While overall population health has improved, serious inequalities exist depending on ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, educational status and geographical area:

One illustrative example is infant mortality, shown on the right with 2005 WHO data.



Demographic Shifts (1980 to 2010)

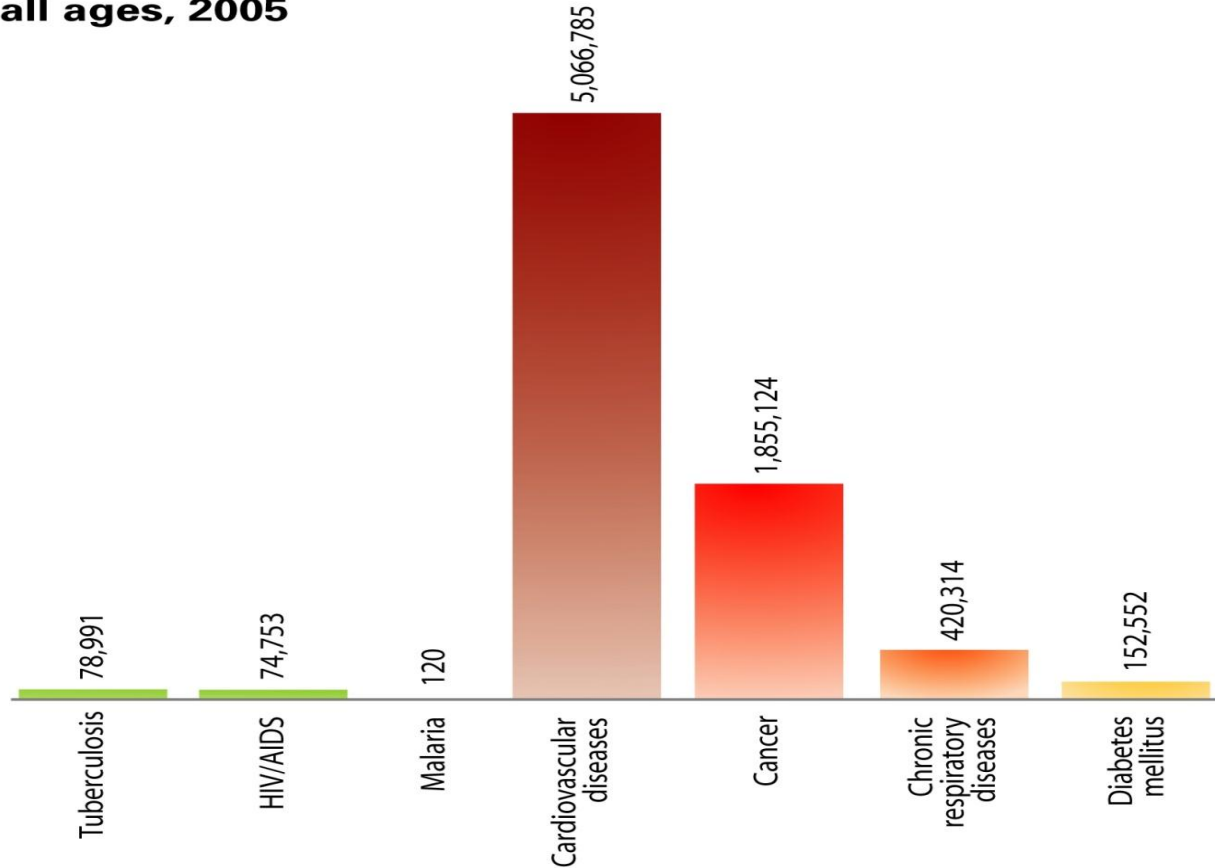
Changing distribution of population in WHO EURO Member States



Source: WHO EURO (2010) Health For All Database.

Main killer diseases in the WHO European Region

Projected deaths by cause in WHO European Region, all ages, 2005

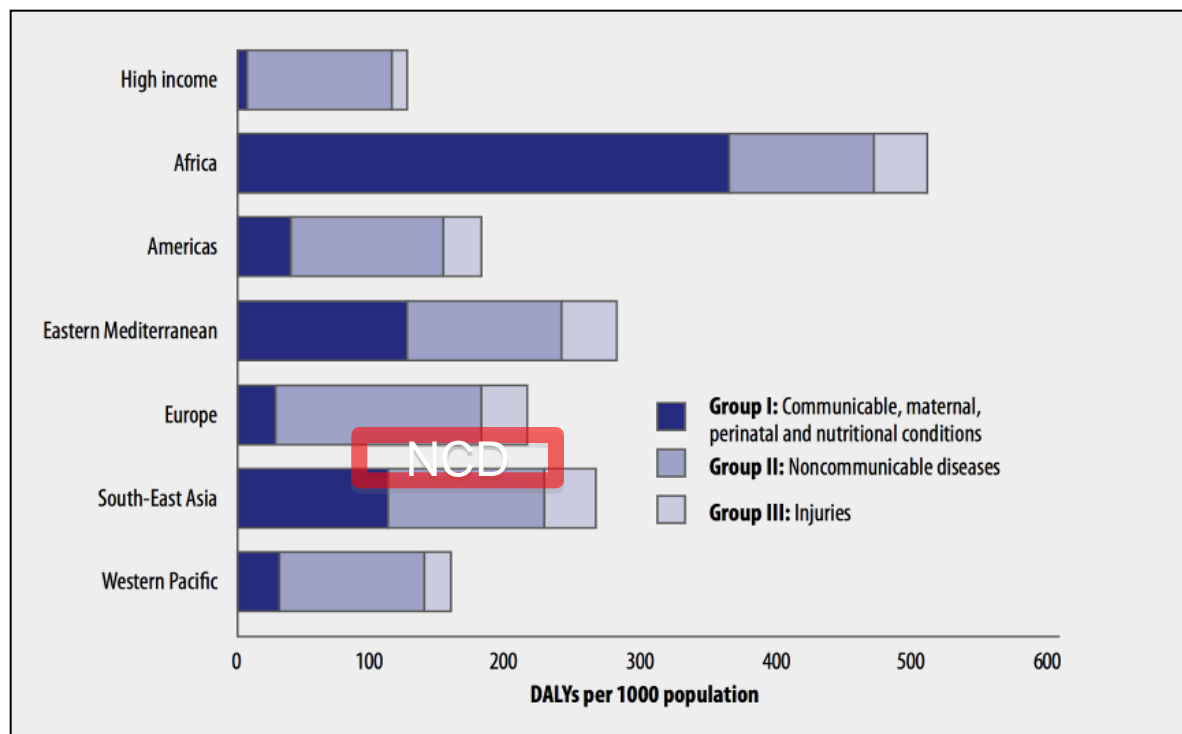


Source: *Preventing chronic diseases. A vital investment*, WHO 2005

Current burden and patterns of disease

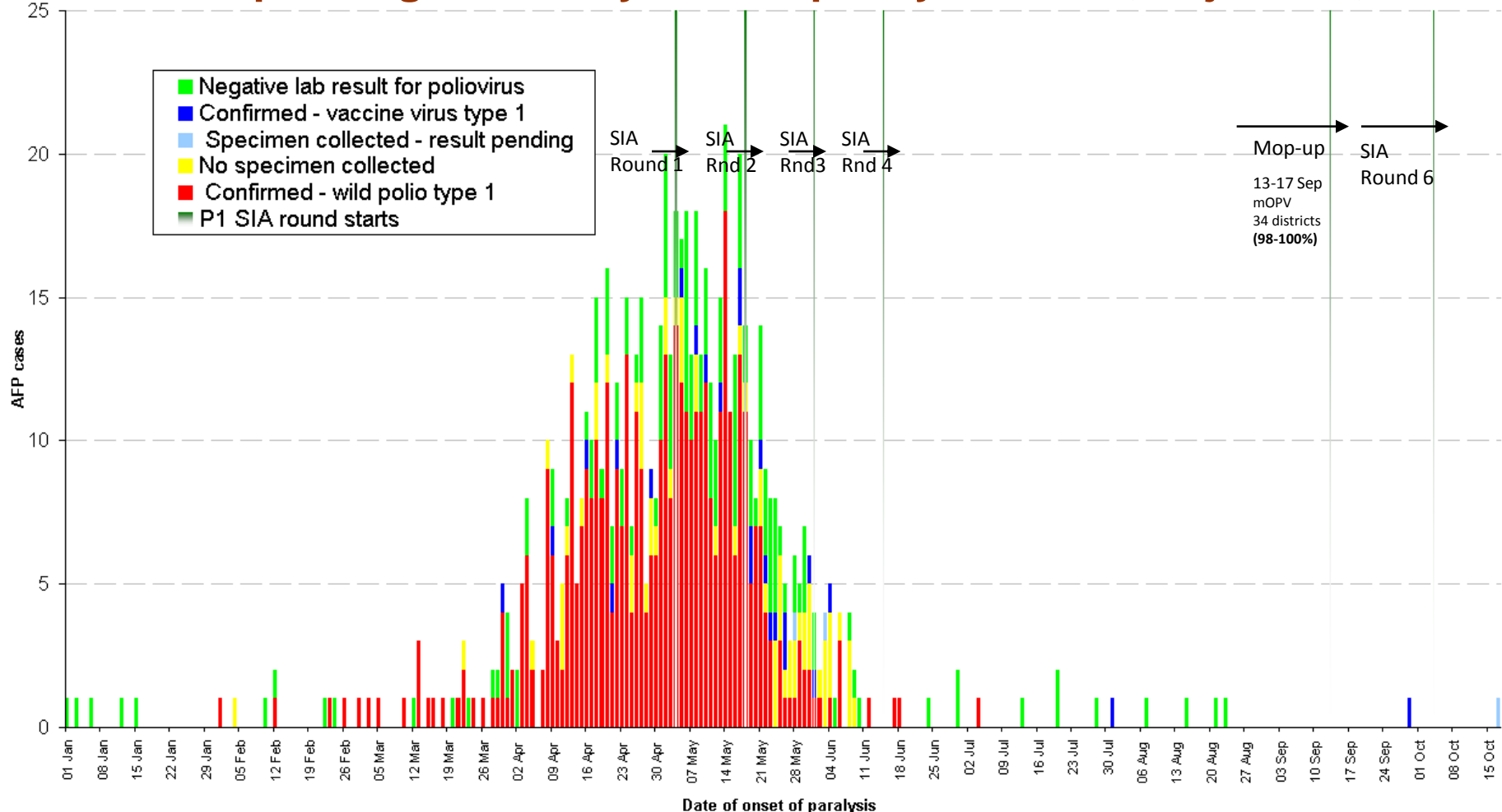
Non communicable diseases – the leading cause of mortality and morbidity in the European Region

NCDs, a burden to health and the economy.



Source: WHO (2008) The global burden of disease: 2004 update.

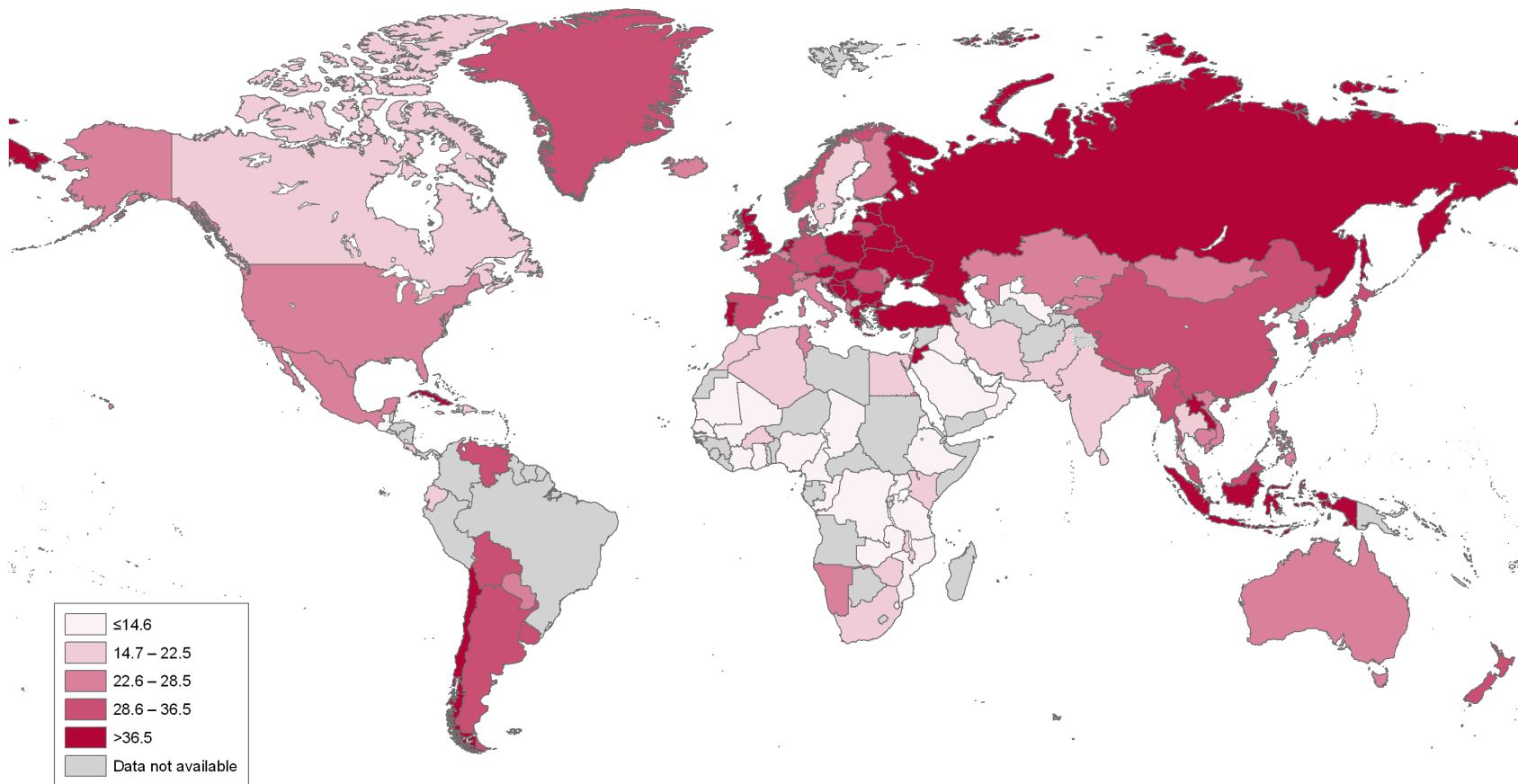
Laboratory confirmed polio cases, AFP cases negative for poliovirus, and AFP cases pending results by date of paralysis onset, Tajikistan, 2010



Total 707 AFP Cases (including 458 confirmed wild poliovirus type1)
Data as of 28 October 2010

Source: Weekly AFP reporting to WHO European Region

Percentage of tobacco use among adults, 2005



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

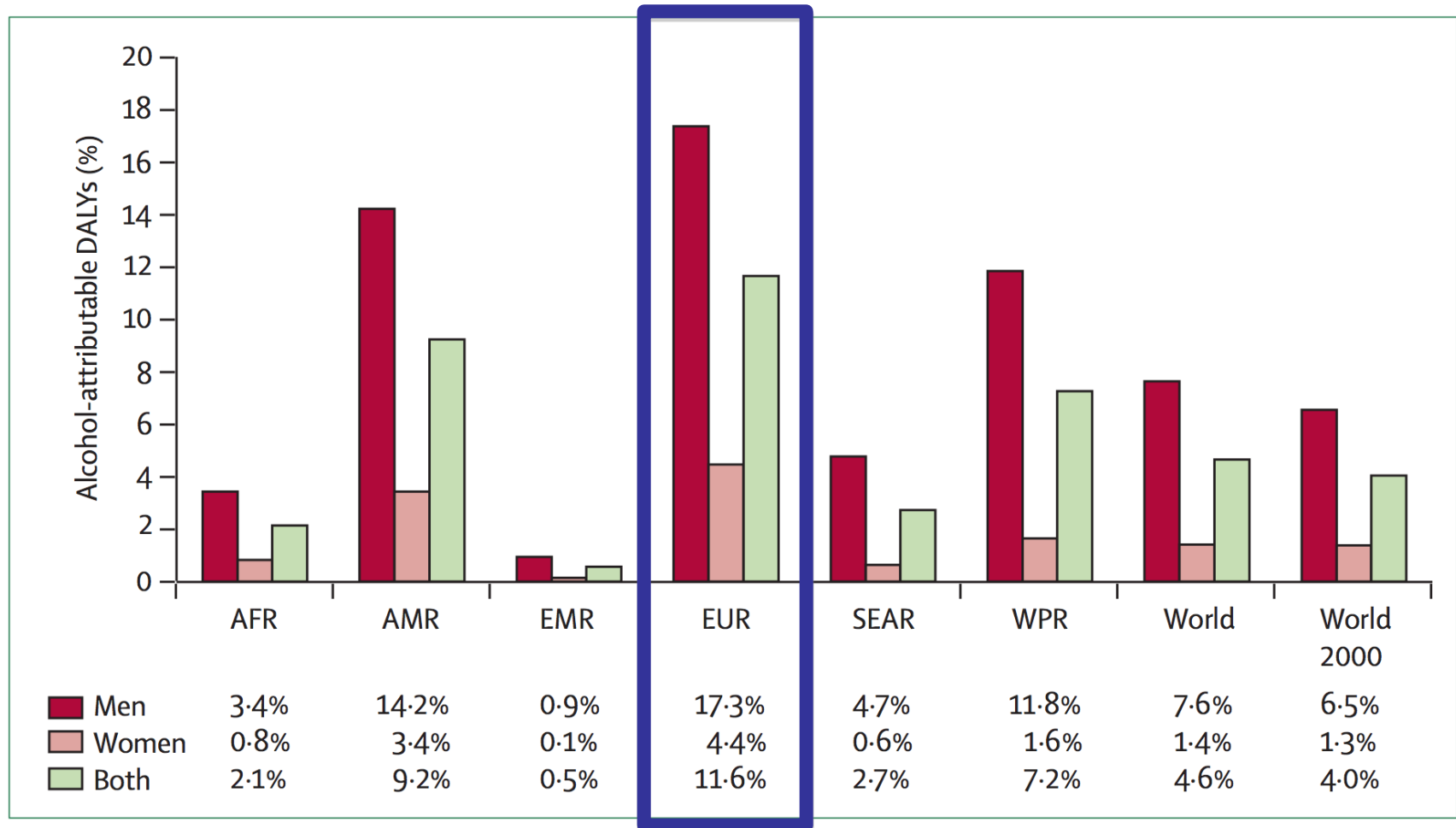
Data Source: World Health Organization
 Map Production: Public Health Mapping and GIS
 World Health Organization



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Alcohol-Attributable DALYs

Alcohol-attributable burden of disease in disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) as proportion of all DALYs by sex and WHO region in 2004



Source: Rehm J et al. Lancet 2009; 373: 2223-33.

Public health challenges in Europe

- **Challenges to health and equity**
 - How can we improve the level and distribution of health, wealth and social well-being through health systems and public health policies?
- **Challenges to societies and health systems**
 - How can we ensure that public health and health systems are sustained in the future?
- **Challenges to individual health services and public health services**
 - Many countries in the region still have inadequate public health services
 - In 2009-2010, 14 countries in the European region were working individually or in a multi-country setting on PHS reform and strengthening
 - How can we monitor, manage and improve performance for greater effectiveness and efficiency?

Defining Health 2020: *A new European Health Policy*

New European health policy: Health 2020

- Is developed through participatory process with Member States, sectors and partners
- Is being informed and underpinned by a European study on social determinants
- Will integrate policy areas and renew the commitment of the Regional Office to public health
- Will renew emphasis to further developing public health systems, capacities and functions and promoting public health as a key function in society
- Will clarify the linkages between public health, health care system, in particular primary health care (Tallinn Charter, 2008)
- Will position health as a critical development sector, and make linkages with the other sectors to promote health as a governmental responsibility under the ministry of health
- Will be an inspiration to Member States to develop, renew and update their national health policy and strategies
- Will be led by the Global Policy Council



WHO European Review on Social Determinants and the Health Divide

Provide evidence on the nature and magnitude of health inequities across the region and their relationship to social determinants.

Investigate gaps in capacity and knowledge to improve health through action on social Determinants

Synthesis evidence on the most promising policy options and interventions for addressing social determinants and reducing health inequities in diverse country contexts



Strengthening Public Health capacities and services in Europe: **A Framework for Action**

Draft Technical Document
WHO Regional Committee for Europe
61st Session, Baku, 12-5 September 2011

Definition of public health

“Public health is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organized efforts of society”

Sir Donald Acheson, 1988

Strengthening public health: guaranteeing delivery of 10 Essential Public Health Operations (EPHO)

Vary according to institution (PAHO, WHO, CDC), but these constitute the backbone of the proposed public health operations for Europe (piloted for the last 4 years):

1. surveillance and assessment of the population's health and well-being;
2. identification of health problems and health hazards in the community;
3. health protection services (environment, occup, food safety);
4. preparedness for and planning of public health emergencies;
5. disease prevention;
6. health promotion;
7. assurance of a competent public health and personal health care workforce;
8. leadership, governance, financing and evaluation of quality and effectiveness of PHS;
9. health-related research
10. Communication for PH

Strengthening of the health systems ... including public health



Renew commitment to public health and rejuvenate the work of the office in this important area.

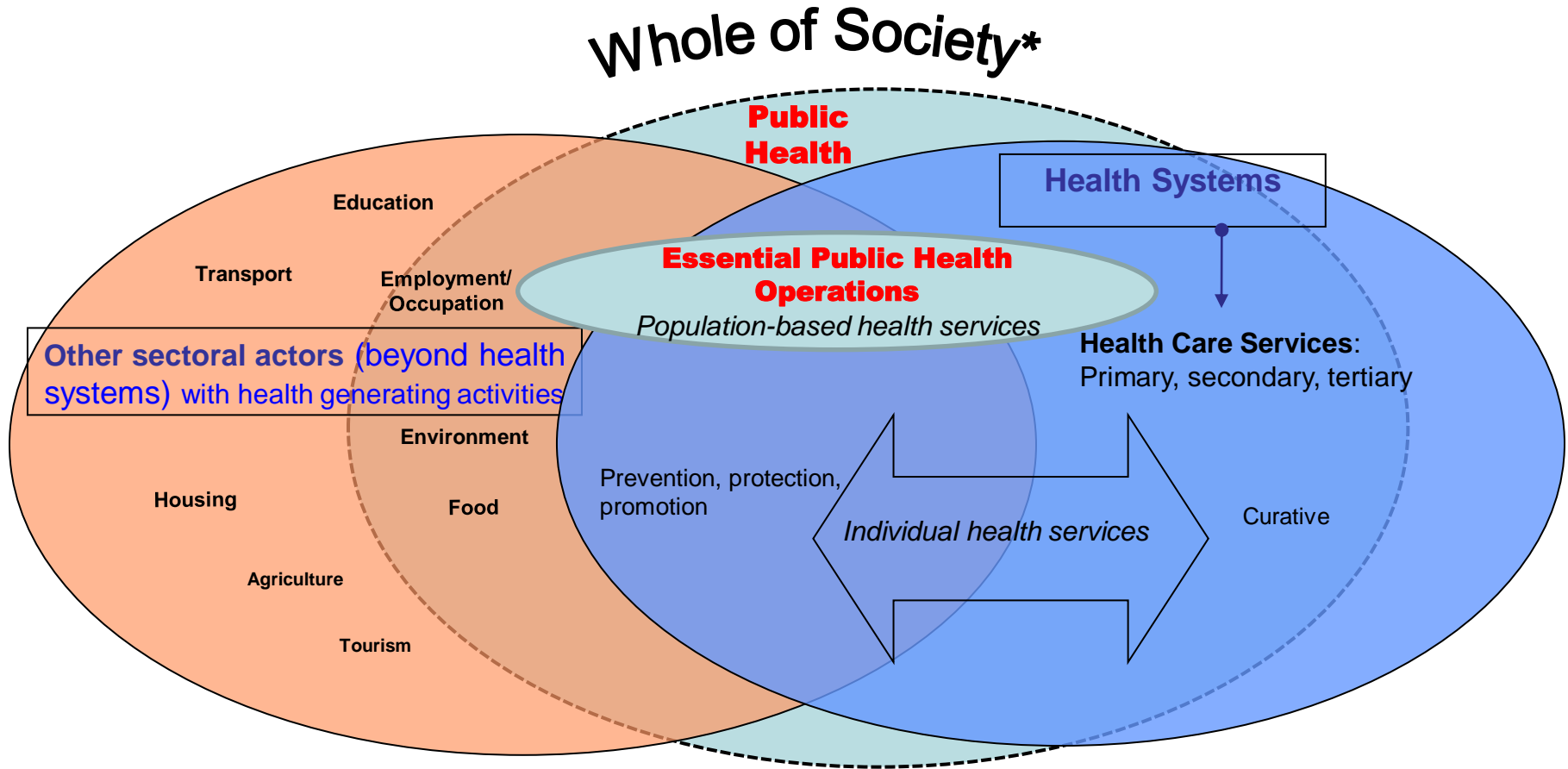
Health system definition

The ensemble of all public and private organizations, institutions and resources mandated to **improve or restore health**. Health systems encompass both personal and population services, as well as activities to influence the policies and actions of other sectors to address the social, environmental and economic determinants of health

Tallinn Charter, 2008

Public health and health systems

Fig. 2: Boundaries of public health competencies and responsibilities



* Link to H2020, its governance, the whole of government and the whole of society approach

Framework for action

1. Conceptual framework
2. Strengthening **regulatory frameworks** for protecting and improving health
3. Improving health outcomes through **health protection** operations and services
4. Improving health outcomes through **disease prevention** operations and services
5. Improving health outcomes through **health promotion** operations and services
6. Assuring a competent **public health workforce**
7. Developing **research and knowledge** for policy and practice
8. **Organizational structures** for public health services

Collaboration between professionals in health(system) organizations

There is a need for a better understanding of collaborative processes and for conceptual tools to help health professionals develop collaboration amongst themselves in complex systems.

Ref: D'Amour D, Goulet L, Labadie JF, San Martin-Rodriguez L, Pineault R

A model and typology of collaboration among professionals in healthcare organizations

BMC Health Services Research 2008, 8:188

doi:10.1186/1472-6963-8-188

Collaboration between professionals in (public) health (care) organizations

Current health policy in most countries calls for more effective delivery of accessible, continuous and comprehensive services.

This phenomenon is related to a trend to new forms of health services organization, such as integrated care, health networks, program management and health in all policies...

Succinctly put, now is the time to carry out **qualitative advances in the organizational model**, overcoming current stagnation and favoring the **implication** of primary care and other **healthcare professionals** collaborating in public health operations.

Policy implications for health systems strengthening

- 1. Useful to distinguish community health services and individual health services**
 - involve very different concerns (population-wide concerns of potential health threats and medical intricacies of individual healthcare patient)
 - both sets of services benefit from internal synergies
- 2. Single-issue programs tend to fragment health systems and services**
- 3. Public health services need to be strengthened**
- 4. Significant gains from stronger public health systems**
 - Avert costs of outbreaks and health threats
 - Build developmental infrastructure

Good opportunity to address this through Health Systems Strengthening initiative

The role of MoH in Public Health: Governance in health systems and beyond

- Public Health as a broad societal function.
- The governance function orchestrates and aligns the several efforts from different sectors in order to maximize health gain.
- Includes organizations, resources and services from the health system and other sectors of society, constrained only by the boundaries of society's "organized efforts" ... and "Health Ministries should play a leading role by advocating, inspiring and guiding multisectoral action."

In conclusion

WHO/Europe will

- develop a coherent European Health Policy
- promote a renewed political commitment to the development of comprehensive national health policies, strategies and plans
- maintain our commitment to strengthen health systems
- Promote public health capacity, functions and services
- ensure a commitment and investment in disease prevention and **health promotion**.
- **Maintain and expand partnerships for public health**

In conclusion

WHO/Europe

- welcomes the renewed partnership with the International Network of Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services
- Believes that HPH will be a key partner in implementing Health 2020
- Trusts that HPH would be one of the main vehicles for scaling up prevention and health promotion in health care

Thank you!

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