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Deliverable RA 2.7-4: Report on Capacity Development EURRECA-Training workshop for non-EURRECA members NCDNCEE for grey literature. (task 4)

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Report of the 4th Meeting of the UNU/SCN Network for Capacity Development in Nutrition in Central and Eastern Europe (NCDNCEE)

Belgrade, 10th-12th November, 2008

Introduction

The Venue was at the Palace Hotel (http://www.palacehotel.co.yu/home_e.php) in Belgrade. The programme can be seen in Annex 1. The meeting was hosted by the Institute for Medical Research (IMR) of the University of Belgrade, planned and run by Drs. Maria Glibetic and Mirjana Gurinovic, IMR, University of Belgrade, together with their staff. Drs. F. Pepping and Arne Oshaug functioned as facilitators. At this Network meeting there were 31 participants from 15 countries (See Annex 2).

At the opening the participants were welcomed (Glibetic), the purpose and agenda of the meeting was presented and discussed and the participants were introduced (Pepping). It was also a presentation of the result achieved since the last meeting in 2007 (Gurinovic), a report from the annual session of SCN in Hanoi in March 2008 (Oshaug), and presentation of specific national activities by Spirovski (Macedonia), Vilic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Duleva (Bulgaria), Kresic (Croatia), and Halicka (Poland).

Capacity development activities

1. NCDNCEE and EURRECA training workshop about Grey Literature

The first capacity development activity this year was to address the issue of grey literature: Sources, EURRECA relevance, value and data analyses of information in grey literature for RA2 EURRECA. That was discussed as a subject by itself, but also in relation to since that was an integrated part of this EC funded research project. The outline of the EURRECA project was presented (Gurinovic). It was one formal presentation linked exclusively to the issue of Grey Literature, and 8 presentations linking the issue to EURRECA.

The main theoretical introduction to the topic was given by Primož Južnič, University of Ljubljana, Department of Library and Information Science and Book Studies, Slovenia. Here definitions of grey literature were given and discussed, sources, users and producers of grey literature. Common examples of grey literature were listed and he pointed to differences within this source according to discipline. Another issue was to notice grey literature as a challenge and recognize it as important information source.

Also the implications of data collection and analyses of grey literature was discussed, particularly the relevance for immigrants and low income groups. One of the tasks of the EURRECA RA 2.7, low income and immigrants, is about the utilisation of grey literature. Grey literature relevant to immigrants was presented by Joy Ngo de la Cruz (Spain). Intake methods (RA 1.1) in low income population were addressed by Vesna Vucic, Status, and iodine systematic (RA 1.2) review by Danijela Ristic. Results from EURRECA RA 1.3, RA 1.4 and RA 2 were presented by Adrienne Cavelaars.

Grey literature sources and use for nutritional researchers in CEE was discussed by Romana Novakovic. A possibility for strengthening cooperation between CEE countries was perceived through discovering valuable data from CEE countries that have never been published due to different reasons (e.g. language barriers) and by exploiting that raw data from, for example, national epidemiologic studies which can be a way to produce a paper published in peer reviewed journals. An exploratory Questionnaire on Grey literature was sent to all partners prior to this workshop and the results were shown, confirming that main users of GL are researchers and experts who use it for their professional work, but, so far, didn't hear about GL definition in any of their courses. Their responses made a base for further discussion on identifying GL in their countries.

It was approved that searching grey literature on low income and immigrants will be in collaboration with the UNU/SCN Network for Capacity Development in Nutrition in CEE.

The examples of GL were given from the JUSAD study in Serbia (Gurinovic), and for low income study in Belgium and Poland (Ewa Halicka), and finally low income study from UK (Jasna Tepsic). These were all examples of the importance of grey literature. The issue of a data base of grey literature as part of a EURRECA research activity was presented and discussed (Agnes Kadvan).

The participants were divided into two groups to discuss the identification and extraction of valuable data from grey literature sources (facilitators Maria Glibetic and Primož Južnić). The result of the group work was presented and discussed in plenary. It turned out that even if one could agree on a definition of what grey literature really is, the issue of low income and immigrants were much harder to agree on. In fact the groups could not come to a consensus on how low income and/or immigrants meant. Definitions on low income varied from country to country, some used fixed sums while others used percentage of median or mean income, etc. Also issues such as orphans (institutionalised and non-institutionalised), homeless, Roma, etc was raised. This showed the complexity of the situation and the difficulty to agree on definitions since both the statistics and the real situation varied considerably country by country. Contextual issues needs to be taken into account.

The session on grey literature was rich in detail and showed the complexity both in terms of issue, jargon, definition and use; in addition to the variation in the national situation. It can be concluded that this issue will be with us for quite some time, and that grey literature as a source of information and many cases as a source of data, is underestimated. The group looked forward to the continuing discussion on the issue and to the future when results of the EURRECA search and application stats to yield results.

Another apparent benefit of this network's mutual work was a possibility to improve nutritional health of CEE population through scientific cooperation between CEE and Western countries. An exchange of information and use of EURRECA best practices will enable application of nutritional recommendations and policies in this part of Europe.

2. How to develop an EC project in nutrition?

The second issue on capacity development at this meeting of the network was how to develop EC project applications in nutrition. This was started by two formal presentations and plenary discussion. The first was on the developments within the European Network for Public Health Nutrition and especially the PHETICE project and the JOBNUT project (Yngve). Additionally a summary discussion of "The 10 default principles of capacity development" – based on country assessment done by CEE Network participants, was handed out and discussed. Further more funding frameworks for educational programmes in the EU – the examples JOBNUT, and DG SANCO funding was presented and discussed (Yngve). These activities were followed up by discussing demands from EC on applications. Included was also discussions on techniques of writing applications in an "easy" way (facilitators for this session were Prsic and Pepping).

This session was highly rated by the participants. Included in the discourse were:

- Identification of the necessary qualifications for a Public Health Nutritionist: Creation of partnerships in PHN; increasing the number of PHN as competent decision makers and trainers, preparation of future PHN professionals for the European market.
- Introducing further developments for European Network for PHN through joint initiatives: Pro Greens, Eurodiet, Jobnut, Leonardo, Phetice etc.
- Must understand: The European dimension, financing, partners and including NGOs and/or public sector and/or private sector; and that there is no universal message!! The approaches are different across Europe; co-financing essential; always remember overhead that can very considerable, be careful to chose partners, spread of responsibilities, include NGO's, PPP, and the public, remember the 40-30-30 principle.

- Contract negotiations: Don't cut budget below one's threshold in negotiations; evaluator needed in all projects (external – internal); make sure that all partners are involved in negotiations, be matriculate on minutes, receipts, schedules and changes, staff particularly internships (also open for higher level students).
- Smith vs Brown: A discussion of finding based on a constructed case of two researchers. It pointed to basic issues such as there exists broad categories of readers (general, analytical, fellow-scientist); and the way people read (skim, scan, switch, topics, content issues). Handouts for this part of the session were: Basic building blocks; an unofficial guide that included evaluation summary report of applications. The criterions used were: relevance, quality of the support action, potential impact, quality of the management, mobilisation of resources, overall remarks.

The handout for evaluation of EC applications was used in the discussion, and a concrete case of an application with scores by evaluators was used. The participants scored themselves and compared that with the given score. It was concluded that this part with hands on examples was very useful, and it was commented that more people should signal to the EC that they are ready and willing to be evaluators.

Academic training in nutrition in CEE countries

The issue of capacity development in nutrition education based on identified needs in CEE – a summary of the NCDNCEE framework, was presented and discusses (Gurinovic). The definition of CD was presented, further existing gap in capacity in nutrition education is major challenge in the region, and the main causes of the nutritional problems in the region including food and meal pattern, and nutrition and life style elements related public health problems. The presentation included also possible political dimensions and an overview of nutrition related challenges in CEE countries. Based on that possible capacity development needs in CEE countries were presented, and subsequently a framework and planning guideline for capacity development in nutrition in CEE. Much of this had been developed at earlier NCDNCEE meetings, and provided a kind of basis for the discussion. One should bear in mind that this was done not by a complete set of members from all countries in the region, so the situation in countries like Poland and Croatia was not included. This time representatives from these countries were present and had presentation on problems and possible solutions, which they shared with their colleagues at the meeting.

This session also included a presentation of results from a EuroFIR research activity on training needs in production and use of food composition databanks in non-EuroFIR countries in Central and Eastern Europe. The presentation ended by the following conclusions: Training needs in CEE countries in food and nutrition are identified, and not considered adequate; Capacity development was seen as an important tool academic education, and should have national priority in the different CEE countries; the CEE network CD activities, the EuroFIR and EURRECA training, and other exchange programs, are considered valuable contributions supplementing national activities; Adequate institutional capacity is seen as necessary; Adequate facilities and organizational structures must be developed; Relevant national policies must be influenced; Academic nutrition training needs to be promoted and established (national, regional, international); Up-to-date education material needs to be developed; Further development of training courses for professionals with international collaboration is needed; Needs based curricula must be developed at academic level; Must harmonise with EU approaches, particularly the Bologna process; Accreditation and certification of higher training in nutrition would be needed.

The next issue in this session was named: "Principles for approaches to building an academic learning programme in nutrition" (Oshaug). This presentation started with a description of the learning outcome, which now has been focused upon in the Bologna process; the suggested framework for qualification can be consulted on the Internet¹. In order to link this properly to academic work it was clarified what one meant about a framework for qualification as included in the Bologna documents.

¹ <http://www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hogeronderwijs/bologna/qf/qf.asp>; <http://www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hogeronderwijs/bologna/qf/overarching.asp>.

The reason for going into the details and modifying the academic training approaches were: To increase the mobility of students and academic workforce within and between countries; Help the acknowledgement of qualifications between countries; Make the qualifications of academic education more relevant; Make the qualification more understandable for the work-environment, for educational institutions and the society in general; Ensure better use of the acquired competence for the benefit of the individual and of the society; Facilitate new qualifications; Facilitate life-long learning; Change the focus from teaching to learning; Support the educational institutions in their development of study programmes and qualifications; and Ease the planning of educational avenues for the individual. The JOBNUT project highlighted by several presenters earlier, attempts to establish a pan European system for certification in PHN. This project is funded by EC and takes account of the Bologna process.

The session continued with discussing what a learning outcome actually is and why it is important. The focus must take account of the needs of people, and the learning challenges of students. Many have a wrong focus, which is lead by professors and their interests, rather than on the needs in the community and the leaning needs of students. This is needed if we want to train real change agents that can help to solve the problems rather than to be part of the problem.

The session also included a discussion of the relationship between a professional profile and the educational objectives, and further on to the learning outcome. It underlined the need to base academic training on the reality where public health nutritionists are working, linked to the local needs, and how this can be linked to a needed competence and skills in an academic programme. The purpose of doing this is: To train professionals who will acquire a leaning outcome which can enable them to work with health promotion and disease prevention, with food culture and political work, and with public health nutrition within multilateral work, with public health nutrition as a profession; Through an active leaning process; Based on scientific principles and experiences; Combine skills – the real change agents; To be attractive nutritional experts who are contributors to solutions to future challenges.

The session also included specific presentations: Medical University - Varna-Bulgaria - Capacity Development potential (Ivanova), and Project application for Tempus – Modernizing Nutrition and Dietetics Higher Education in Moldova and Ukraine (Dupouy).

From the discussion it became clear that the presented needs correspond fairly well with what has been identified earlier, but as always with some contextual differences and seen from a few professionals' judgement of the situation. One agreed that there was a need to have trained more professionals in several of the disciplines of nutrition, both clinical and public health nutritionists. The Bologna process would be helpful in the course of harmonisation which will be necessary, both to see the communalities and the specificities which are embedded in the contextual reality of peoples lives.

Finally there was a discussion on approaches towards future academic training in nutrition in the CEE area, by focusing on concrete proposal for next year's capacity development. A list of possible issues for CD activities of the NCDNCEE was drawn up, which will be consulted by the chair and her advisers in due time for the next annual meeting (Annex 3).

Application of EURRECA web tools in nutrition education

This session included two presentations. One was an e-learning module on intake methods. This was based in work at the Wageningen University, for the EURRECA project (Novakovic); and another on dietary software tool for implementing micronutrient recommendations. This is considered to be a web application as software including Nutrient Recommendations and individual dietary planning, and constitute a tool within the EURRECA project, to be used by various countries in Europe in general, and in the CEE region particularly (Glibetic and Kadjan).

Revision of the Work plan 2008/2009

The final session was on the revision of the work plan; it started with a presentation and discussion of the status, development and maintenance of the NCDNCEE Network's website (Ranic). Since the official website is on the Agro Web Network homepage the CEE Network needs to decide on the process further on. One issue is linked to what by some is consider to be an FAO website; the access for up-keeping, development and maintenance has been difficult in the past. This has led the IMR to develop their own webpage so that new developments could be updated continuously. This is however not a sustainable way of doing it, unless everything is brought to IMR. It was decided to follow the possibility of keeping it as part of the Agro Web homepage, and thus for Ranic to go to Budapest for learning how to handle and manage the NCDNCEE Network's website as part of the Ago Web Network homepage.

The future of the Network (introduced by Pepping), was considered important by the participants. They felt strongly that it should continue, addressing identified needed issues, from pure information to specific CD activities as has been done up to now.

A draft of the report from the NCDNCEE meeting would be circulated to the participants by the Network Chair, Dr. Gurinovic. Deadline for responding with comments and changes will be given.

Linked to this also some relevant information was shared. The following was presented:

EuroFIR, EURRECA, and other training opportunities relevant for NCDNCEE members

There would be several specific regional training courses, workshops and training exchange visits linked to the work of EuroFIR, EURRECA and other planned activities. They include:

- EuroFIR workshop titled "Training and Capacity Building for non EuroFIR Balkan Countries", Belgrade 2009 (probably in April)
- Summer school in Sweden, June 2009
- 3rd EURRECA integrated meeting Cyprus Monday 8 June to Saturday 13 June 2009, in Cyprus. Possible participation by NCDNCEE Network members – to be decided.
- Course NUTLIFE, WU, September, 21- 26, 2009
- 4th EuroFIR Network meeting, Vienna September 2009
- Food Comp Course Wageningen, October 12- 23, 2009
- EuroFIR Regional Workshop in Egypt in 2009 - MENANA
- 19th International Congress of Nutrition 2009 - Nutrition Security for All. This IUNS Congress is open for all nutritionists. It will take place on October 4-9, 2009, in Bangkok Thailand. For more information, please see the Congress website at <http://www.icn2009.com>.

5th Network meeting 2009 dates when?

1st possibility: Link the CEE network meeting to the 3rd EURRECA meeting in Cyprus 2009.

2nd possibility: To organize the annual meeting in Belgrade, probably in November 2009.

36th SCN Meeting

The next annual meeting is not decided yet. Whether there will be a specific SCN annual meeting is unsure because there is no chair at the moment and the secretary will be changed in the coming 6 months. If there will be an annual SCN meeting the Chair of the NCDNCEE Network will participate.

ANNEX 1. Agenda of the meeting

Venue: Palace Hotel, Belgrade

The time included in the agenda was indicative since there were changes according to progress. The time for lunch was 13:00 to 14:00 hours, and there were a coffee/tea break in the morning and afternoon.

First day: 10th November 2008

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| 09:00 | Welcoming address: Maria Glibetic/Mirjana Gurinovic, IMR, University of Belgrade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening: Purpose and agenda of the meeting, introduction of new participants. Fré Pepping, Wageningen University, The Netherlands |
| 09:30 | Reporting and information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report and outcome of the work since the last meeting. Chair of the Network. Mirjana Gurinovic, IMR, University of Belgrade • Reporting to the annual session of SCN. Arne Oshaug, Akershus University College, Norway • Participants' report on specific national activities |
| 11:00 | Capacity development: NCDNCEE and EURRECA training workshop about Grey literature: Sources, EURRECA relevance, value and data analyses of information in grey literature for RA2 EURRECA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EURRECA project. Mirjana Gurinovic, IMR, University of Belgrade • RA 1 Activities -Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RA 1.1.Intake methods in low income population, Vesna Vucic, IMR, University of Belgrade ○ RA 1.2. Status, Iodine systematic review. Danijela Ristic Medic, IMR, University of Belgrade • Results from RA 1.3& RA1.4 & RA 2 Population group activities in EURRECA. Adrienne Cavelaars, Wageningen University, The Netherlands • Grey literature in research. Primož Južnić, University of Ljubljana, Department of Library and Information Science and Book Studies, Slovenia • Data collection and analyses of grey literature relevant for immigrants (EURRECA RA 2.7 activity). Joy Ngo de la Cruz, FIN, Spain |
| 14:00 | Capacity development cont.: Chair Maria Glibetic, IMR, University of Belgrade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey literature sources relevant to EURRECA objectives and use of grey literature by nutritional researchers in CEE. Romana Novakovic, IMR, University of Belgrade • Examples of grey literature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example 1: JUSAD study, Serbia. Mirjana Gurinovic, IMR, University of Belgrade • Example 2: Low income study in Belgium and Poland. Ewa Halicka, Warsaw University of Life Sciences • Example 3: UK low income study. Jasna Tepsic, IMR, University of Belgrade • Group work on identifying and extracting the valuable data from grey literature sources (two groups). Coffee break included. Facilitator: Maria Glibetic, IMR, Univeristy of Belgrade and Primož Južnić, University of Ljubljana |

16.45-17.00 Grey literature data base: Introduction and use in EURRECA RA activities, Agnes Kadvan, IMR, University of Belgrade

17:00-18.00 Presentation of group work, discussion and conclusions. Facilitator: Maria Glibetic, IMR, University of Belgrade

Second day 11th November 2008

09:00 Capacity development: How to develop an EC project in nutrition

- The developments within the European Network for Public Health Nutrition and especially the PHETICE project and the JOBNUT project. Agneta Yngve, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
- Summary and discussion of “The 10 default principles of capacity development”² – based on country assessment. Facilitator Fré Pepping, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- Funding frameworks for educational programmes in the EU – the examples JOBNUT and DG SANCO funding. Agneta Yngve, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
- Demands from EC on applications – techniques of writing applications in an “easy” way. Vesna Prsic/Fré Pepping, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- Discussion of the way forward towards a complete EC application for an Intensive Programme, follow up of last years priority setting. Vesna Prsic

14:00 – 18:00 Academic training in nutrition in CEE countries

- Capacity development in nutrition education based on identified needs in CEE – a summary of the NCDNCEE framework. Mirjana Gurinovic, IMR, University of Belgrade
- Principles for approaches to building an academic learning programme in nutrition. Arne Oshaug, Akershus University College, Norway
- Medical University-Varna-Bulgaria-Capacity Development potential, Diana Ivanova, Medical University Varna, Bulgaria
- Project application for Tempus – Modernizing Nutrition and Dietetics Higher Education in Moldova and Ukraine. Eleonora Dupouy, Technical University of Moldova
- Approaches towards a future academic training in nutrition in the CEE – concrete proposal for next year’s capacity development. Arne Oshaug, Akershus University College, Norway

17:00-18:00 Application of EURRECA web tools in nutrition education

- Presentation of the e-learning module. Intake methods-work from Wageningen University, EURRECA team. Romana Novakovic, IMR, University of Belgrade
- Dietary software tool for implementing micronutrient recommendations ,Web application of Nutrient Recommendations – EURRECA tool. Maria Glibetic and Agnes Kadvan, IMR, University of Belgrade

20:00-22:00 Joint dinner and social event

1. Lopes C, Theisohn T. Ownership, Leadership and Transformation. Can we do better capacity development? United Nations Development Programme. Earthscan Publications Ltd, London and Sterling, Virginia, 2003.

Third day 12th November 2008**09:00-12:00 Revision of the Work plan 2008/2009**

- NCDN-CEE Website maintenance, development and status, Maria Ranic, IMR, Belgrade University.
- The future of the Network. Fré Pepping, Wageningen University, the Netherlands
- The process with the report and planning of future activities. Mirjana Gurinovic, IMR, University of Belgrade
- Summing up of the experiences and viewpoints from this NCDNCEE meeting. Arne Oshaug, Akershus University College, Norway
- Other issues
- Final conclusion by Network conveners

ANNEX 2. Participant list

| No | Country | Name | Institution/address |
|----|---|---|---|
| 1. | United Nation University/ Food and Nutrition Program / The Netherlands | Fre Pepping PhD Managing Director, Regional coordinator UNU Food and Nutrition Program | The Graduate School VLAG Wageningen University P.O.Box 8129 6700 EV Wageningen www.wau.nl/vlag |
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| 5. | Sweden | Agneta Yngve Associate professor, Unit head | Unit for public health nutrition Department of biosciences and nutrition Karolinska Institutet NOVUM SE 141 57 Huddinge |
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| 13 | Bulgaria | Diana Ivanova, head biochemistry | Molecular medicine and Nutrition, Medical University Varna, Bulgaria |
| 14 | Czech Republic | Jiri Ruprich | Department for food safety and nutrition National Institute of Public Health Palackeho 3a 61242 Brno |
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| 16 | Hungary | Dr. Eszter Györei PhD Student | Nutrition Research Unit Department of Paediatrics University of Pécs József Attila u. 7. H-7623 PÉCS |
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ANNEX 3. A list of possible issues for capacity development activities of the NCDNCEE in 2009

This list was drawn up by the participants of the NCDNCEE meeting in Belgrade in 2008. It indicates possible topics for CD sessions at the next NCDNCEE in 2009. Decision to be taken later.

- Work of EFSA and relation to CODEX/ FDA on nutrition
- Ownership of research data
- Regional FCDB development via web tool
- School catering and nutrition
- Update of nutrition knowledge of senior staff/ training of trainers
- Consumer issues on food and nutrition
- Platform for action on diet, physical activity and health (WHO, EU, national level)
- How to influence policy makers? (Tim Lang, Daan Kromhaut)
- Recent development of grey literature- an update
- Use of the who growth reference standards
- Food, nutrition and health in the media/communication on food, nutrition and health
- Using research tools in nutrition practice.