



EQUITY ACTION

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Summary Report of the National Workshop on Intersectoral Action and Health Equity

Intersectoral action and health promotion -
at local level -



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Summary report

The General Directorate of Public Health, Quality and Innovation of the Spanish Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality (MSSSI) organized, as a partner of the Equity Action, the **National Workshop: Intersectoral Action and Health Equity: Intersectoral action and health promotion at local level**. The Workshop program is presented in Annex 1.

This workshop was framed in the Work Package 4 of the Equity Action "Tools to improve the health equity focus in cross government policy making".

The workshop took place on the **28th January 2014** in Madrid, at the MSSSI. There were 19 participants, all of them from the public health sector. They came from the local level (4 professionals), regional level (5 professionals) and national level (9 professionals).

The technical guidance of the workshop was ensured by Rafael Cofiño. He is Head of the Health and Programme Evaluation Service and manager of the Health Observatory of Asturias in the General Directorate of Public Health of the Department of Health of Asturias (a Spanish region).

Workshop Objectives:

- To review key issues for local intersectoral work: social determinants of health and inequities.
- To understand how participation and connections between sectors and institutions are working for health; which structures and methods apply and how health services interrelate with the local level.
- To establish and initiate a process for generating a consensus tool for intersectoral action on health at local level, with the participation of different actors in the area.
- To establish and initiate a process for generating a consensus tool for the development of health resource maps at local level.

Methodology

The methodology was based on theoretical sessions on the core contents, with - an active participation of all the participants in discussions, experience sharing - and work in groups around some specific activities. -

After the workshop, conclusions for the different participants were collected, - with the aim of synthetising them to obtain consensuated conclusions of the - workshop. -



Workshop evaluation:

A workshop evaluation form was completed by the participants (95% completed it). The workshop was valued **very positively with 8.8 points** on a scale of 1 to 10.

The design and objectives of the workshop, the teaching methodology, the documentation provided and the usefulness of the acquired knowledge has been classified by the attendees as excellent or good (from the 4 eligible categories: excellent/good/fair/deficient).

Regarding the length of the workshop, 61% of the participants would have preferred a longer duration.

The trainer received also very positive comments with a 9.7 score for the level of knowledge and 9.4 for the training methodology and 9.4 for the attention he gave to the participants, on a scale of 1 to 10.

When asked to the participants what they liked the most about the workshop, the most common answer was the diversity of the participants which enriched the workshop and allowed the participation and exchange of experiences. Also the participants highlighted the content of the workshop for its effectiveness and usefulness. Regarding the areas for improvement, the length of the workshop was the most common comment, proposing a longer workshop with more time for work in groups and participatory dynamics.

Conclusions:

The workshop gave an excellent opportunity for deepening into intersectoral action on health, through the sessions conducted and the enriching participation of the professionals involved in it.

Specifically, it will have an impact on the implementation of Spanish National Strategy on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention which is now a national political priority. This Strategy was approved the last 18th of December by the National Health System Interterritorial Council¹. We are currently working on the implementation process, in which we have the goal of including the health equity and social determinants of health approach (since equity was established as one of the key principles of the strategy). And we have also the aim of developing the Strategy at local level as a key element for success.

¹ The National Health System Interterritorial Council is the body responsible for the coordination, cooperation and liaison among the central and regional (Autonomous Communities) health administrations, and is formed by the Minister of Health, Social Services and Equality and the Regional Ministries of Health of the Autonomous Communities.



The importance of the local level for the development of health actions and the integration of equity and social determinants of health approach was highlighted. And intersectoral action between sectors and between different levels of implementation (national, regional and local) was identified as key elements on this area of work.

It will help on moving forward to health and equity in all policies, taking into account the importance of intersectoral action in the field of public health.



Annex 1. Workshop Programme

Tuesday 28th January 2014, 10:00-18:00

Room 3015, Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality. Paseo del Prado, 18-20, 28014, Madrid.

- Workshop and participants introduction. Workshop objectives.
- Explore and share information on the current situation of health, health promotion and intersectoral work at local level.
- "The zip Code is more important than the genetic code for your health": General review of aspects related to social determinants of health and inequities at local level.
- Addressing social determinants of health at local level through intersectoral work. Agenda 21, Healthy Cities, Age-friendly cities, Smart cities... Is it possible to conciliate the different intervention strategies?
- Participation and coordination in Intersectoral interventions. Intervention cycle for Health promotion at local level.
- Main lines for addressing social determinants of health at local level.
- From information to action: the initial experience of the Health Observatory of Asturias. Providing information on social determinants of health to generate intersectoral action.
- Health risk and health assets mapping. Health assets as a possibility to connect local resources with clinical practice.
- Health assets mapping methodology.
- Connecting clinical practice with health assets: health assets prescription.
- Intersectoral work experiences.