



“What’s new, Committee 2?” Social Affairs & Public Health May 2008

Demographic Changes

AER Activities

AER Committee 2 Plenary & Conference, 2-3 June, Umeå (Västerbotten, S)

The first Committee 2 session for 2008 will include a full-day conference on demographic challenges. The idea of this meeting is to go beyond observations and to take real steps towards responding to the demographic challenges regions face. The ALIVE network will present the outcomes of its study on regional policies for elderly care.

Questions to be addressed include:

- Challenges of new family policies: How to find incentives to raise the fertility rate in the European regions/countries?
- Active and health ageing: How to facilitate the autonomy of the elderly and their integration into society?
- How can the economy adapt to these trends?

Regions’ Corner – Share with our members!

Regions interested in showcasing their best practice in this area, please contact us! (Ms Claudia Meschede, c.meschede@aer.eu).

A full programme, further information and working documents are available at:

<http://www.aer.eu/events/health-social-affairs-committee/2008/plenary-demographics-conf.html>

eHe@lth

AER Activities

AER eHe@lth network meeting, 11 April 2008, Vienna (A)

During the meeting the regions presented their current activities and upcoming priorities in eHealth as well as the possibilities of cooperation and funding opportunities were discussed.

St Gallen (CH) has invited AER to hold its next eHealth seminar on 25 September 2008 in Luzern (CH). The seminar will deal with the theme “Overcoming the legal challenges to eHealth”.

Vienna meeting outcomes and presentations are available at:

<http://www.aer.eu/events/health-social-affairs-committee/2008/ehealth-meeting.html>

AER participation to Slovenia eHealth Ministerial Conference

On 6-7 May 2008 at the invitation of the European Commission (DG Information Society) the AER’s delegation participated in the Slovenian eHealth Ministerial conference “eHealth Without Frontiers”, which was exclusively addressed to national governments of the EU Member States. The AER participants’ feedbacks on the outcomes of the conference will be available at:

<http://www.aer.eu/en/home-en/main-issues/health/e-health.html>

Emergency Planning

AER Activities

“Facing a pandemic scenario: the challenge of crisis communication” AER Seminar in Sandö (Västernorrland, S) postponed

Because of the organisational reasons the emergency planning seminar, which was supposed to take place in Sandö (S) on the 15-16 May 2008 has been postponed. We will publish a new date shortly.

AER Regions React Project Proposal still on track!

The AERs proposal for an Interreg IVC project on emergency planning is moving forward. An application for the second call for proposals to be expected in mid-2008 is being prepared.

Want more information?

<http://www.aer.eu/home-en/main-issues/emergency-planning/risk-prevention-under-interreg/ivc.html>

Interested in joining the project? Contact us! c.meschede@aer.eu

Alcohol

AER Activities

European Alcohol Policy Conference, “Building Capacity for Action”, 3-5 April, Barcelona (as part of the EC co-funded Building Capacity project, to which the AER is a partner.)

During the conference, the AER co-organised a parallel session entitled: “Partnerships for implementation: local and regional authorities work together”. Our aim is to develop partnerships joint strategies between regions and communities to prevent alcohol-related harm.

Detailed information & the outcomes are available at:

<http://www.ias.org.uk/buildingcapacity/conference/index.html>

**2nd AER Alcohol Peer Review: Availability of Alcohol
4th June, Umeå (Västerbotten, S)**

The 2nd AER Alcohol Peer Review will focus on regional policies for the availability of alcohol. Partner regions are requested to fill out a 1-page survey on their policies in this area and a table on used methods in achieving regional policies on alcohol implementation.

Both documents are available at:

<http://www.aer.eu/events/health-social-affairs-committee/2008/plenary-demographics-conf.html>

Equal Opportunities

AER Activities

Working Meeting of the AER Equal Opportunities Group, Brussels, 28th April 2008

During the meeting the AER members met with the EC’s representatives and discussed the latest European equal chances between men and women policy. The meeting also focused on the potential of micro-credit to create economic independence, especially for migrant women and Calabre Region presented their experience. Special attention was also given to gender-related violence inflicted upon migrant women, with the presentation of a comprehensive study and of the measures adopted by Andalucía.

The group also decided to change its name. It will now be known as: *AER Observatory on Gender Issues*

Meeting outcomes and presentations available at:

<http://www.a-e-r.org/events/1/2008/equal-opportunities-brussels.html>

VIIIth Conference on Equal Opportunities between men and women & Committee 2 plenary, Valencia (E), 18-19 October 2008

The next Equal Opportunities Conference will take place on the 18-19 October 2008 in Valencia – E and will be linked with the Committee 2 autumn plenary session. The theme to be discussed is *Women & the labour market*. More information to be published soon!

Dates for you Diary

Date	Location	Event
2-3 June	Västerbotten (S)	Conference on Demographic Change & Committee 2 plenary
4 June	Västerbotten (S)	2 nd AER Alcohol Policy Peer Review “Preventing alcohol-related harm in traffic situations” Emergency planning network – working meeting
18-19 September	Valencia (E)	8 th AER Conference on Equal Opportunities between men and women: building a regional micro-finance network Committee 2 plenary session
25 September	Luzern (CH)	AER eHe@lth conference: 'Overcoming the legal challenges to eHealth'