



“What’s new, Committee 2?” Social Policy and Public Health June 2010

General Issues

Outcomes of the Conference “What Does Alcohol Do To Your Region”, Barcelona, 11 May 2010

Building partnerships with all relevant stakeholders, shifting from a focus on the drinker to a focus on the drinker’s environment: these are examples of measures that could help your region to fight alcohol-related harm. Read all conclusions and access the presentations made during the AER Conference “What Does Alcohol Do To Your Region” [online](#). Do not forget to log in to access the documents!

AER Committee 2 Autumn Plenary Session - Save the date!

The next Plenary Session of AER Social Policy and Public Health Committee will take place on 7-8 October 2010 in Brussels (B). The Conference held in conjunction with the plenary session will be dedicated to health inequalities. If you wish to contribute to the conference, please contact the AER Secretariat (c.bulot@aer.eu)

Committee 2 Priorities

Consultation on Committee 2 Priorities for 2011-2012

In preparation for the adoption of the Committee priorities 2011-2012 during the Committee autumn plenary meeting, we are consulting our members on what they think should be the key orientations of our Committee’s work. What do you think are priority issues in health and social affairs? What do you want AER to do to help you in your work? We need your input! Please

send your contribution to the AER Secretariat (c.bulot@aer.eu). The results of this consultation will be discussed during the next plenary in Brussels on 7-8 October.

Call For Candidates

Take the lead in Committee 2!

At the occasion of its Autumn Plenary meeting (7-8 October, Brussels), the Social Policy and Public Health Committee (2) will elect a new Committee President and Vice-President. For your region, this is the occasion to become more involved in the work of AER Committee 2 by contributing to the development of its political priorities and by representing the AER at external events.

Candidates may submit their candidatures until the **1st of September**. An information note describing the function of Committee President and Vice-President as well as the election procedure is [available on our website](#). For further information, do not hesitate to contact the AER Secretariat (g.ourania@aer.eu, +32 2 421 87 57)

Emergency Planning

Reflection on the future of the Emergency Planning Network

We are currently evaluating the AER Emergency Planning Network to develop a new strategy and a work plan for AER activities in this area. Is your region active in this field? Do you have specific needs? We are interested in your ideas!

If you wish to contribute and give your opinion on what we should focus on, please contact the AER Secretariat (g.ourania@aer.eu). Information on the AER Emergency Planning Network and its past activities is available [here](#).

Structural Funds and Health

Launch of the new technical platform for cooperation on Public Health Issues

The European Commission-DG SANCO (Health and Consumer Affairs) and the Committee of the Regions (NAT Committee dealing with issues of Public Health) are launching a technical platform on cooperation on public health issues at the occasion of a conference on the use of Structural Funds in Health in Brussels on 11 June 2010. This technical platform is open to experts from the regions and is an opportunity to contribute actively to shaping and implementing the EU's strategy on public health.

AER will of course take an active role in this new platform. If your region is interested in participating to this platform, please contact us (g.ourania@aer.eu; +32 2 421 87 57)

Euregio 3: Upcoming workshop

The Euregio III project, to which the AER is a Collaborating partner, will be holding a **workshop on Health investments in Structural Funds** on June 22nd-24th in Berlin (D). The main objective of this workshop is to learn lessons from the 2000-2006 funding period on what is an effective and sustainable investment of structural funds in the health sector. This workshop is addressed to policy makers at both national and regional level, health planners and more generally people who have an interest in health investment or health management.

More information is available [here](#).

Equal Europe for People with Disabilities

Developing an AER training project on the UN Convention

During the last meeting of the working group on 10th May, the decision to develop a project around the themes of awareness-raising and accessibility was made.

We propose to develop a **series of training sessions** for regional politicians, officers and stakeholders **on the UN-Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities**. The aim would be to raise awareness of obligations created by the UN-Convention and to focus on awareness raising and accessibility provisions.

The province of Istanbul proposes to take the lead of the above-mentioned project. **We are looking for regions that would be interested to join this project and participate to the training sessions.**

Our aim is to apply for co-financing under an EC programme call for proposals.

If you are interested to join this project group, please contact the AER Secretariat (c.meschede@aer.eu)

AER Regions' Handbook on the UN Convention on People with Disabilities

The AER Secretariat has drafted a handbook in order to assist the regions in the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. It will be updated with more detailed information on the basis of the outcomes of the Working Group's meetings. The handbook can be downloaded [here](#).

If you wish to contribute to the Handbook with your region's experience and best practice, please contact the Secretariat (c.bulot@aer.eu).

E-health

Joint EHTEL-AER-Euregha eHealth Symposium

The AER e-health network will contribute to the organisation of the EHTEL 2010 eHealth symposium that will take place **in Brussels on 22-23 November 2010**. The European Health Telematics Association (EHTEL) brings together a variety of actors (industry, health providers, research institutes) and promotes the implementation of ICT for the delivery of health and social services. The aim of AER's cooperation with EHTEL is to help AER member regions identify the benefits that e-health can offer and to successfully deploy ICT in their territories.

Funding Opportunities

AAL Call for Proposals – deadline 30th July 2010

The Ambient Assisted Living programme promotes independent living for the elderly and funds the transposition of R&D tools to the market. The 3rd call for proposals focuses on **ICT solutions for the advancement of older persons' independence and participation in the 'self-serve society'**. Full details for this call, including eligibility rules and application forms, are available at: <http://www.aal-europe.eu/calls/aal-call-3-2010>

PROGRESS Call for Proposals for strategies on health inequalities – deadline 2nd July 2010

PROGRESS is the EU's employment and social solidarity programme, set up to provide financial support for the attainment of the European Union's objectives in employment, social affairs and equal opportunities as set out in the Social Agenda.

This second call for proposals aims at **taking forward the actions outlined in the Commission Communication on health inequalities**, specifically by providing support to national/regional authorities in PROGRESS participating countries to strengthen policies to address health inequalities. Deadline for submitting applications is July 2nd 2010.

Further information can be found in the [public health session of the AER funding trackers](#) (please log in !).

Dates for your Diary!

Date	Location	Event
22-24 June	Berlin-D	Euregio III Workshop on Health Investments in Structural Funds
1 st September		Deadline for Candidatures for Committee 2 Presidency and Vice-Presidency
7-8 October	Brussels-B	AER Committee 2 autumn plenary and Conference on Health inequalities
10-12 November	Istanbul-TR	AER General Assembly: Research & Development for Regional Prosperity? – Demands for an effective R&D Policy
22-23 November	Brussels-B	Joint Symposium EHTEL-AER-EUREGHA Exploring the role of eHealth in interregional cooperation in healthcare

If you would like to have information from your region included in our newsletter, please contact us (c.bulot@aer.eu)