



**“What’s new, Committee 2?”
Social Policy & Public Health
January/February 2008**

Health & Social Affairs

AER Activities

EU Budget Review

The AER will launch a reflection on the future EU Budget and in particular the position of Health in the next budget – do we want more money? Is health a sufficiently big priority for the EU?

To access the EU consultation document on the EU Budget Review, please log in to the AER website and click on:

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

Future Cohesion Policy

The AER has a working group on the Future Cohesion Policy. Its study can be accessed at: <http://www.aer.eu/en/news/2008/2008011701.html>

Moreover, the AER will contribute to the Committee of the Regions COTER working group. The AER Committee 2 will attend the meeting of this working group on the 26th March, which will look at economic and social aspects of cohesion policy.

European Public Health Programme – 2008 call for proposals

The European Commission will publish the 2008 work plan for the European Public Health Programme by the end of February 2008.

An information day on the 2008 call for proposals will be organised by the Public Health Executive Agency in Luxembourg on 12th March 2008.

The AER will send you information on the 2008 call as soon as this becomes available.

e-health

AER Activities

AER Network Seminar, 11th April, Brussels (date tbc)

The AER e-health network is planning a working meeting in Brussels on 11th April to discuss European and regional developments in ehealth. Please note this date in your diaries! Further practical information will be made available very soon!

Events

EHTEL Seminar – 5th March 2008

Enabling Better Care Through Sustainable Satellite-based Telemedicine Solutions

On the 5th March 2008, the European Health Telematics Association (EHTEL) is holding a Healthware Symposium with live demonstrations in Cannes, France. The workshop will showcase the most successful pilot applications within the project and thereby connect telemedicine user communities across Europe. All AER members are invited to take part to this event. Further information is available at:

<http://www.a-e-r.org/home-en/main-issues/health/e-health.html>

Emergency Planning

AER Activities

EURISY-AER Seminar, 10-11 March, Sinaia (Prahova, RO)

AER members are invited to participate to this seminar on the added value of satellite technology and tools in the risk management. This non-technical workshop will teach regional representatives about decision-making processes, fund-raising possibilities, implementation and management of satellite information and services for the particular challenges with which they are confronted. Further information & registration form available at:

<http://www.aer.eu/en/events/health-social-affairs-committee/2008/aer-eurisy-workshop.html>

Training Seminar on Crisis Communication, 15-16 May, Sandoe Island (Västernorrland, S)

The next Emergency Planning Training Seminar will take place on the 15-16 May 2008 on Sandoe Island in Västernorrland-S. This Seminar is organised in cooperation with the Mid-Sweden University.

The target audience of this seminar is regional politicians and experts. The training session will teach participations:

- How to communicate with the public during a crisis – Giving the right information at the right time
- How to work with the media in preparing and responding to a crisis
- Ensuring communication between all actors during a crisis

More information to be published soon!

Alcohol

AER Activities

2nd AER Alcohol Peer Review, 4th June, Umeå (Västerbotten, S)

The 2nd AER Alcohol Peer Review will focus on preventing alcohol-related harm among children and young people. The AER Youth Team will actively contribute to this peer review.

European Alcohol Policy Conference, “Building Capacity for Action”, 3-5 April, Barcelona

This European Alcohol Conference is part of the EC co-funded Building Capacity project, to which the AER is a partner. The aim of this conference is to build on existing European, national, regional and local programmes for preventing alcohol-related harm and help all the actors involved to get to better implement their policies and achieve their objectives.

Detailed information on this conference is available under:

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

During the conference, the AER is organising a parallel 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.

Gender Equality

AER Activities

Gender Equality Meeting, April 2008, Brussels (B)

The AER Gender Equality working group is organising a working meeting in Brussels, with a focus on Micro-credit for Women and on crimes of honour, as part of the newly launched Observatory on Migrant Women. The AER Award for Project Recognition guidelines will also be adopted.

The meeting will be held on 21 or 28 April. We kindly request members of this group to confirm their preferred date by email to Mr Stéphane Cools (s.cools@aer.eu)

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?
- Could migration be part of the solution?
- How can the economy adapt to these trends?

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

More information to be published soon!