

Folder eCC_00019136 is in stage Annual_Report_Review

Name of the University, Hospital, Research Institute, Academy or Ministry

Curtin University

Name of the Division, Department, Unit, Section or Area

Faculty of Health Sciences

City Perth **Reference Number** AUS-78

Title WHO Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health Impact Assessment

Report Year 02-2020 to 02-2021

1. Annual report on the agreed workplan

Describe progress made on the agreed workplan. For each activity, detail (1) the actions taken, (2) the outputs delivered, as well as (3) any difficulties that may have been encountered. Three responses are expected. [maximum 200 words per activity]. Indicate, if an activity has been completed previously, has not yet started or has been placed on hold.

Activity 1

Title: Assist WHO in strengthening the institutional capacity in Member States for HIA through activities coordinated under the HIA Network Asia Pacific

Description: HIA is one of the important policy tools for the health sector to influence other sectors. The Regional Framework for Action on Health and Environment (RCM 2016) recommended WHO to provide support for HIA policies, plans and tools within Strategic Action 1. WHO is asking the CC to undertake activities to support its implementation of this recommendation. WPRO will use the HIA Network Asia Pacific as a knowledge network for Member States contributing to institutional capacity building in relevant countries to exchange their experiences in strengthening governance and institutionalization of HIA, as the implementation of the Regional Framework on HAE

Status: ongoing

This was the key activity of the Centre in this year, particularly with respect to the continued support for the HIA Network Asia Pacific. Active recruitment resulted in expansion of membership to 80 including members from countries not previously represented - Malaysia, Fiji and Tonga. The Centre coordinated the publication of Network Newsletters which included articles from members related to their respective experiences and reflections on COVID-19. The topics included infectious diseases, malaria, urban planning and infrastructure projects and WASH recovery and resilience in the Pacific. Network members also authored a significant number of HIA-related publications that are available on the HIA Network website. This website and the Network Facebook page are also maintained by the Centre. A survey 'Understanding the capacity, training and research needs for HIA in the Asia Pacific Region' was developed and distributed to all Network members. The final report, including recommendations was provided to WHO.

Activity 2

Title: Support WHO in developing educational materials for HIA and organizing annual HIA training events
Description: HIA is one of the important policy tools for the health sector to influence other sectors. The Regional Framework for Action on Health and Environment (RCM 2016) recommended WHO to provide support for HIA policies, plans and tools within Strategic Action 1. WHO is asking the CC to undertake activities to support its implementation of this recommendation. WPRO will use the materials and training events of this activity for Member States (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Philippines and Viet Nam) to build HR capacity to implement the HIA policies, according to the Regional Framework on HAE.

Status: ongoing

Plans for face to face training were postponed due to COVID-19, however online activity was provided by a Webinar co-hosted by the WHO Centre and the WHO Asia-Pacific Centre for Environment and Health (ACE). The Webinar was entitled "Charting the Course of HIA in the Asia Pacific post-COVID-19". A total of 4 speakers, all drawn from the HIA Network Asia Pacific, provided diverse perspectives on the application of HIA. Speakers were joined by the Director of ACE, Dr Marco Martuzzi, and the facilitator, Dr Gene Peralta. Presentations were delivered on HIA and Urban Health in China, Managing Pandemic Risk through HIA, Indigenous People and COVID, and Building Political Will for HIA in Uncertain Times. A total of 146 participants from around the world joined the Webinar and provided input during the open forum that followed. Details of the Webinar, including a recording, are available via the HIA Network website.

Activity 3

Title: Development of guidance materials for sector- or topic-specific HIA tools

Description: HIA is one of the important policy tools for the health sector to influence other sectors. The Regional Framework for Action on Health and Environment (RCM 2016) recommended WHO to provide support for HIA policies, plans and tools within Strategic Action 1. WHO is asking the CC to undertake activities to support its implementation of this recommendation. However, WPRO has constraints of HR resources to support Member States in this subject. Therefore, WPRO is asking the Centre for this activity. WPRO will use the practical guidance and tools developed by this activity for Member States to use in their enforcement of HIA.

Status: ongoing

Questions on the selection of relevant sectors for the development of sector-specific guidelines were included in the HIA Network Asia Pacific Survey. These results and recommendations were provided in a final report to WHO. The key results from the survey indicated the greatest demand for sector specific guidelines in the areas of energy, waste/wastewater, urban planning, transport, building and construction and agriculture. Work has commenced on the development of a transport-sector HIA. The survey results also highlight that sector-specific guidelines should focus on how best to engage and communicate health risks with sectors external to health.

Activity 4

Title: HIA-related research on health impacts of climate change and health co-benefits of climate actions (mitigation and adaptation)

Description: There are urgent needs in Member States of WHO for HIA of the impacts of climate change and health co-benefits of mitigation and adaptation. WHO is asking the CC to undertake activities to support its implementation of this recommendation. WPRO will use the services and outputs of this activity for Member States (particularly the PICs and the Mekong countries) to identify/estimate the impacts of climate change and climate actions on health and health systems.

Status: not yet started

No member country was identified and this activity was not commenced.

2. Annual report on other activities requested

Should WHO have requested activities in addition to the agreed workplan, please describe related actions taken by your institution [maximum 200 words]. Please do not include in this report any activity done by your institution that was not requested by and agreed with WHO.

No other activities requested.

3. Resources

Indicate staff time spent on the implementation of activities agreed with WHO (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above). Do not include any data related to other activities done by your institution without the agreement of WHO. Please indicate staff time using the number of “full-day equivalents” – a day of work comprising 8 hours (e.g. 4 hours work per day for 7 days should be recorded as 3.5 full-day equivalents).

Number of staff involved (either partially or fully)

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
1	2	0

Number of full-day equivalents, total for all staff involved

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
50	200	0

Implementation of the agreed workplan activities (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above) normally require resources beyond staff-time, such as the use of laboratory facilities, purchasing of materials, travel, etc. Please estimate the costs of these other resources as a percentage of the total costs incurred (e.g. if you incurred costs of USD 100 and the value of your staff time was USD 50 which makes the total of USD 150, please report 33.3% and 66.7%).

Percentage of costs associated with staff time	Percentage of costs associated with other resources	Total
100.00	0.00	100.00

4. Networking

Describe any interactions or collaboration with other WHO Collaborating Centres in the context of the implementation of the agreed activities. If you are part of a network of WHO Collaborating Centres, please also mention the name of the network and describe your involvement in that network [maximum 200 words].

Attended the Australian WHO Collaborating Centre Network Forum in November, 2020. The priorities of the Australian Network were set and based on both WHO and Australian Government priorities.

Staff took part in a workshop organised by the Australian WHO Collaborating Centre Network providing input to the development of climate change and health indicators being developed by the Department of Health and Human Service in Victoria, Australia.