



# ***Developing best practices***

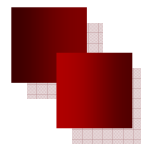
**A proposal for a field-based and validated approach to HIA training**

**Paolo Lauriola, Nunzia Linzalone**

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Region<sup>§\*</sup>, Institute of Clinical Physiology, National Research Council<sup>°</sup> and others,  
Italy*

April 14th, 2011



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# Italian Agenda 21 working party on HIA



Three main actions were identified:

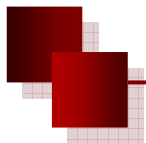
- Establish an archive of knowledge, data and available documents from national HIA experiences;
- Pilot a national training course on HIA procedure to harmonize curricula and competencies of HIA practitioners;
- Propose a “best practice tool” aimed at increasing the value of training performed at the local level.



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ECHP  
Health Impact Assessment  
Discussion papers



Number 1

## Strategies for institutionalizing HIA

Reiner Banken



April 14th-15th, 2011

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR HEALTH POLICY BRUSSELS



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- **Legal frameworks** constitute the most effective means of institutionalizing HIA. Uncertainties about the types of project, programme or policy that should be subjected to an HIA need not constitute an obstacle for a legal framework.
- The supranational level, such as the World Trade Organization, represents a particular problem for implementing and institutionalizing an effective HIA procedure. The **negative effects of the international trade agreements** on health can be very important



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- Research on the worldviews of **public health practitioners would facilitate the organization of an intersectoral dialogue** that is quintessential in HIA. The perception of political power by public health professionals would be one aspect worth studying.
  - The aim is not to increase the relative power of public health actors but **to add health awareness** to policy-making and to inform decision-making.
  - Public health professionals are used to gathering information, interpreting its significance in terms of public health, and deciding on actions. A model of HIA based on knowledge transfer, **enabling non-health actors to produce public health knowledge**, demands a departure from this tradition.



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# Fitting the context



- “Health in All Policies” in sectors outside of the authority of the public health sector. *Finland’s EU Presidency, Helsinki, July 2006.*
- HIA tools to estimate the effects of policy, programs and project and integrate available knowledge into healthier decision-making process. *Ministry of Health - Italy Health Plan 2011-2013, November 2010.*
- Regional-national existing networks promoting sustainability and community health (Agenda 21, Healthy Cities, Doctors for the Environment).



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# Moving forward through WPs

## Developing common best practices to promote urban health

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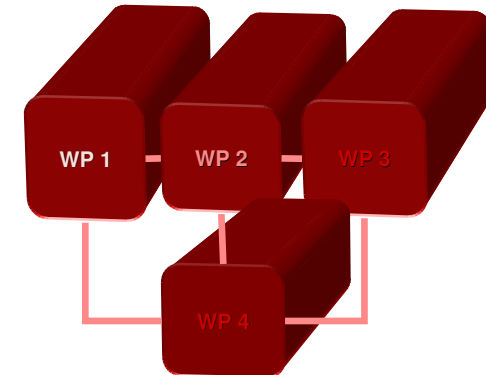
(e) Public Health Office Department, Emilia-Romagna Region, Italy



Geneva 7 April 2010  
Health Impact Assessment  
Urban development and extractive industries:  
what can HIA offer?  
Topic 1  
HIA in Cities

### WP1

- Review HIA experiences in Italy
- Increase knowledge integration providing a basis of evidence and information for new applications



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# WP1 - Stemming actions

*National Workshop*  
Rome, 28 September 2010

- Italian Local Agenda 21, based on the experience gained so far in the various regions of the country, stresses the need for a mandatory requirement on HIA and greater support from the Institutions.

"Health Impact Assessments (VIS) in Italy: experiences and perspectives"



*workshop nazionale*

*La valutazione di impatto sulla salute (VIS) in Italia:  
esperienze e prospettive*

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# WP1 - Stemming actions

***EU-INTERREG IV Call  
(to be approved)  
IFC-CNR and Italian Local  
Agenda 21 collaboration at a  
local and regional level***

- To analyse existing knowledge and develop a common Web platform to enable the exchange and transfer of good experiences/practices and thus stimulating a better use of HIA data for regional policy making

“IMPROVING EU REGIONAL “CO-OPETITION” (COOPERATIVE COMPETITION) IN HUMAN NEEDS” to be financed by the European Regional Development Fund



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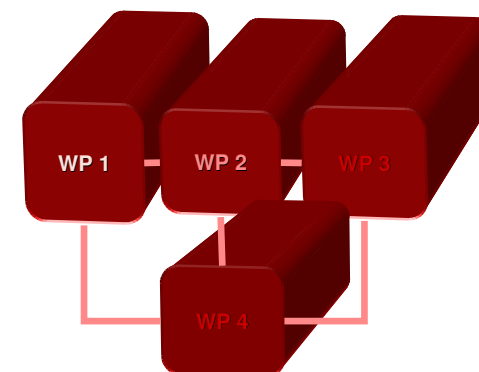
Geneva 7 April 2010  
Health Impact Assessment Conference.  
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### WP2

- Commitment on training for public health officials to develop a skilled task force within the departments of health to interplay along with the environmental and sustainable impact assessment.

### WP3

- Pilot a case study to identify a feasible administrative process for HIA tool



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# WP2,3 - Stemming actions

**LIFE 10 ENV/IT/000331 - Environment Policy and Governance (to be approved).**

- **Partnership: IFC-CNR, Consorzio Mario Negri Sud, ARPAT, ARPA E-R, ISDE, AgL21, Comune di Lanciano (CH)**

"Participative evaluation of environmental-health and socioeconomic impacts due to urban waste management"



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# WP2,3 - Stemming actions

*The 'VISpa' Project.  
On field application of HIA tools  
by the PHD officials within  
different regional operational  
health-care units*

- Training issues:
  - ✓ Basic knowledge
  - ✓ Operational skills
  - ✓ Communication methodologies

“Opportunities for the public health sector to growing up”. Bologna, December 2010



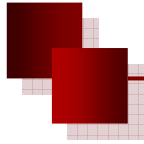
**Il progetto formativo**

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# Durability of results over time



## WP4

- Disseminating overall results, outputs and growing knowledge at local level by promoting local institutions ownership and commitment on HIA tool use and development

To build a specific model to involve public actors, To connect actions among local players, to institutionalize relationships with partners to facilitate the exchange of information, to be reproduced and exported.



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