







Policy Symposium on NCD Prevention:

# Future directions for nutrition and physical activity policies to prevent NCDs across Europe

14th-16th June 2022 Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre



The four projects organising this event have received European funding as follows: CO-CREATE and STOP have received funding from the European Union's tearton 2020 Research and innovation Programme under the grant agreement No. 7744210 and No. 774548 respectively. JA Best ReMail has received funding from the European Union's Health Programme under the grant agreement No. 957207 and PEN has received funding from the John Programme Institution No. Healthy Data for a Healthy Ulife (IPH HDHL).



Session 6 - Oslo 09:00 - 10:30







Expert Workshop:
Harmonised pan-European surveillance for diet and physical activity behaviours PEN & STOP

## Chairs:

# Dr. Antje Hebestreit

Leibniz Institute for Prevention Research and Epidemiology – BIPS

## Dr. Celine Murrin

University College Dublin

#NCDPrevention22



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## Agenda

	eillance Workshop, (Day 2 final PEN symposium) June 15, 2022, <mark>Parallel session 6</mark>
9:00-10:30	Opening Session (A. Hebestreit, C. Murrin)     Welcome and introduction     Towards a harmonised pan-European surveillance for dietary and physical activity indicators'     (A. Hebestreit)      A central role in the harmonisation process. The Methodological Competence Platform'     (A. Hebestreit and C. Murrin)      Forming the Methodological Competence Platform (K. Wickramasinghe)      SIMPLE: Harmonising indicators for monitoring dietary behaviour in Europe' (C. Murrin)      SIMPLE: Harmonising indicators for monitoring physical activity in Europe' (K. Abu-Omar)
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break Parallel session 8
11:00-12:30	EACEA project for harmonising physical activity/sport data (M. Semeels) Socio-economic position variables used in childhood obesity studies – challenges in harmonisation (H. Tolonen) Panel discussion on the aims and priorities of the Methodological Competence Platform inviting: K. Wickramasinghe, I. Rakovac, K. Castetbon, and S. Fagt (W. Ahrens) Wrap up and good bye (A. Hebestreit, C. Murrin, W. Ahrens)
12:30-13:30	Lunch







# Surveillance and monitoring



Expert workshop on harmonised pan-European surveillance

## Towards a harmonised pan-European surveillance for dietary and physical activity indicators

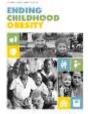
Antje Hebestreit, Stefanie Do, Maike Wolters, Gert B.M. Mensink, Lina Garnica Rosas, Karim Abu-Omar, Sven Messing, Agnieszka Neumann-Podczaska, Katarzyna Wieczorowska-Tobis, Nanna Lien, Isobel Stanley, Wolfgang Ahrens, Celine Murrin

on behalf of the PEN Consortium

15<sup>th</sup> June 2022

# Pelicy Evaluation Network

## **Background**



→ The EU member states committed themselves to support nutrition and health related actions and surveillance systems across the life course



→ "A process is needed to develop internationally comparable core indicators for national health surveillance systems".

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/204176/9789241510066\_eng.pdf, https://www.euro.who.int/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0006/96459/E90143.pdf



## **DEDIPAC Inventory**

Energone theored of Public Health, 1949

C. The Author 2017, Published by Colord University Fress on Solutil of the Suropson Public Health Association. All sights sourced-det-in 1002-encyclockedity.

Inventory of surveillance systems assessing dietary, physical activity and sedentary behaviours in Europe: a DEDIPAC study

Silvia Bel-Serrat<sup>1</sup>, Inge Huybrechts<sup>1</sup>, Barbara F, Thumann<sup>2</sup>, Antje Hebestreit<sup>2</sup>, Peter M, Abuja<sup>3</sup>, Stefaan de Henauw<sup>4</sup>, Carine Dubuisson<sup>5</sup>, Thorsten Heuer<sup>6</sup>, Celine M, Murrin<sup>2</sup>, Giacomo Lazzeri<sup>8</sup>, Caroline van Rossum<sup>3</sup>, Lene F, Andersen<sup>10</sup>, Robert Szeklicki<sup>11</sup>, Jesús Vioque<sup>12</sup>, Rachel Berry<sup>13</sup>, Hidde P, van der Ploeg<sup>14</sup>, Wolfgang Ahrens<sup>2,15</sup>, Nadia Slimani<sup>1</sup>; on behalf of the DEDIPAC Consortium



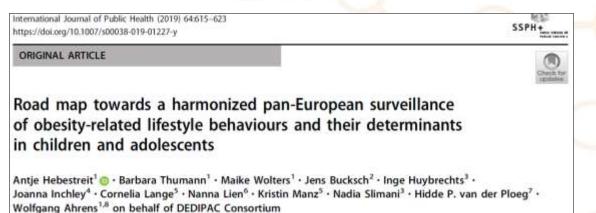
- 1. List of indicators common to member states but measured differently "Indicators are specific and measurable characteristics of changes that demonstrate progress towards outcome or impact. Indicators may be observable or not observable"
- 2. Identification of international surveillance systems measuring health indicators

Bel-Serrat et al., Eur J Public Health, 2017; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Brief 5: Evaluating Policy Impact, Step by Step-Evaluating Violence and Injury Prevention Policies



# DEDIPAC Knowledge Hub DEDIPAC





Hebestreit A, et al; In J Public Health 2019

## DEDIPAC Knowledge Hub DEDIPAC







Hebestreit A, et al; In J Public Health 2019



# (1+2) Identification and Prioritization of key indicators

- Aim
  - To identify and prioritize key indicators for both diet and physical activity
- Methods
  - Based on:
    - Frameworks targeting obesity prevention
    - European Core Health Indicators
    - Literature research to complete missing indicators
  - Criteria for the selection of indicators, e.g.
    - Relevance
    - Feasibility
    - International comparability



# (1+2) Identification of Indicators

Upstream	Midstream	Downstream
National	Population	Policy regulations
Subnational Subnational	Society  Society	Community Setting Individual behaviour
R B	≥   Environment	Interpersonal
Community	Systems	
Indicators for policy regulations	Indicators for measures	Public Health Indicators

## (1+2) Results

#### 3 expert ranking rounds

#### Diet

Policy: 37 37 Determinants: 284 24 Behaviour outcome: 21 11

## Physical Activity & Sedentary Behaviour

Policy: 36	30
Determinants: 106	22
Behaviour outcome: 18	13

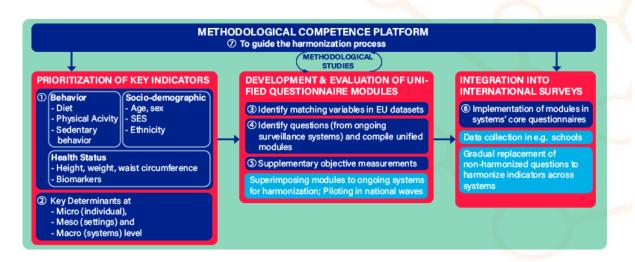
METHODOLOGY Selection of key indicators for European policy monitoring and surveillance for dietary behaviour, physical activity and sedentary behaviour Lina Garma Roue", Gert R.M. Meraink "de Izona D. Finger", Anja Schlenbanka", Stefeye Do", Malin Wichers', Bodiel Sterkey", Nario: Anja Chras", Katochra Weccolowska Fidde", Caffeline B. Woodd", Cyfine Musin", Wolfgang Weiner<sup>17</sup>, Angis referenterit<sup>\*\*</sup> and on behalf of the MN-Conscribin Background: A particulation opposed to evaluate politic a conservual set of established and referent indicators. Section in part of the dark Programming inhalted on a Healthy Dief for a Healthy Life, the Pulsy Sections Section ISM shortfield lies exclusive of match behaviours and from determinant. Have large scholarious an atmosp, or hour the commission to be, adopted by large European Union survivilence control for the association of policy tripact. The interies addiction process included consultations in new marks its event pair in a 2-days region.

Garnica-Ross et al. (2022) Eur J Public Health

# DEDIPAC Knowledge Hub DEDIPAC







Hebestreit A, et al; In J Public Health 2019



## (3) Identify matching variables in EU data sets

- Aim
  - Mapping of key indicators against available European indicators in monitoring datasets
- Methods
  - Available European datasets
    - Identification of national contact points, data managers
    - Request for data dictionaries/variable lists and properties
    - Develop criteria for inclusion, e.g. degree of aggregation of data
  - Mapping
    - Checking data dictionaries for relevant variables
    - Agree on fit of indicators PEN/data sets (Likert scale)



## (3) Existing surveillance and monitoring systems

- WHO Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative (COSI)
- WHO Health Behaviour in School Aged Children (HBSC)
- European Health Information Survey (EHIS)
- WHO Stepwise Approach to CVD risk monitoring (STEPS)
- Nordic Monitoring Survey (NORMO)
- Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)
- · EPHA policy mapping
- HEPA PAT
- Eurobarometer 88.4
- European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)
- European Social Survey (ESS)
- · Eurostat Food Price Monitoring Tool
- EFSA Food composition database
- · Global dietary database
- WHO Global Nutrition Policy Review, etc.



# (3) Results

	Diet	Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour	
Level	Mapped (n)	Mapped (n)	
Policy regulation	26	27	
Determinants: Environment	7	14	
Determinants: Population	2	6	
Determinants: Individual	8	0	
Behaviour Outcome	9	11	
Total	52	58	



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# (3) Online catalogue on indicators available in European data sets

European Journal of Public Health, 1–7
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which permits unrestricted rease, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly dited.
https://doi.org/10.1093/europib/ckac043

Health surveillance indicators for diet and physical activity: what is available in European data sets for policy evaluation?

Isobel Stanley <sup>1</sup>, Agnieszka Neumann-Podczaska<sup>2</sup>, Katarzyna Wieczorowska-Tobis<sup>2</sup>, Gert B.M. Mensink<sup>3</sup>, Lina Garnica Rosas<sup>3</sup>, Stefanie Do<sup>4</sup>, Karim Abu Omar <sup>1</sup>, Catherine Woods<sup>6</sup>, Wolfgang Ahrens<sup>4,7</sup>, Antje Hebestreit<sup>4†</sup>, Celine Murrin<sup>1†</sup>; on behalf of the PEN Consortium



https://www.jpi-pen.eu/pen-eu-policy-indicatorcatalogues.html

Stanley I. et al. (2022) Eur. J Public Health



## (4) Identify instruments and compile unified questionnaire modules

- Aim
  - Short instruments for measuring comparable indicators in the ongoing surveillance surveys
- Methods
  - Identification of measurement instruments according to specific criteria, e.g.
    - Application in one/several existing system(s).
    - High validity
    - High reliability
    - Suitability to monitor adherence to WHO recommendations
    - Robustness in a cross-cultural context



## (4) Identify instruments and compile unified questionnaire modules

- The questionnaire modules allow
  - The measurement of individual-level behavioral indicators in ongoing surveillance systems
  - The incorporation of policy and contextual indicators into downstream indicators (individual determinants and behavior) and weight status

SIMPLE Modules: "Selected Instruments for Multilevel PoLicy and Impact Evaluation"



## (4) Results

7 unified questionnaire modules to measure indicators in dietary and physical activity behaviour





→ See also presentations of Celine Murrin and Sven Messing

https://www.jpi-pen.eu/



## (6) Implementation of modules into systems' core questionnaires

- Aims
  - Explore barriers and facilitators for implementation of one or more questionnaire modules
  - Opportunities for (in-country) piloting
  - Discuss membership in a methodological competence platform
- Methods
  - Consultative process with main representatives of the surveillance systems
  - Recording and transcription of consultations to circulate and agree on the main aspects

# (6) Expert consultation rounds - representatives of surveillance systems



- WHO COSI: 6-9 years

- WHO HBSC: 11, 13, 15 years

NORMO: 7-12 yearsEHIS: 15+ years

Adults

NORMO: 18-65 yearsEHIS: 15+ years

– WHO STEPS: 18+ years





## (6) Results

## **Barriers**

- · Pressure of systems to present time trends
- Limited resources of EU member states (money, personnel)
  - Limitations on length of questionnaire/ duration of interview
  - Unsuitability to repeat very similar questions
  - Only a limited number of questions and variables can be added between waves
- EU member states may focus on different health policy targets
- · Backwards- rather than forward-oriented view of systems

## **Facilitators**

- · Consensus on the need to harmonise surveillance data
- Need to update instruments or include measurement of new indictors





# (6) Results

European Journal of Public Health, 1–12
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## Towards a harmonized European surveillance for dietary and physical activity indicators in young and adult populations

Antje Hebestreit<sup>1</sup>, Stefanie Do<sup>1,2</sup>, Maike Wolters<sup>1</sup>, Gert B.M. Mensink<sup>3</sup>, Lina Garnica-Rosas<sup>3</sup>, Karim Abu-Omar<sup>4</sup>, Sven Messing<sup>4</sup>, Agnieszka Neumann-Podczaska<sup>5</sup>, Katarzyna Wieczorowska-Tobis<sup>5</sup>, Nanna Lien<sup>6</sup>, Isobel Stanley<sup>7</sup>, Wolfgang Ahrens<sup>1</sup>, Celine Murrin<sup>7</sup> and on behalf of the PEN Consortium



# (7) Establishment of a Methodological Competence Platform

- Aims:
  - To guide and sustain the harmonisation process
  - Goal Setting and strategic planning and methodological advancement of survey instruments, etc.





## Thank you to all people involved in this work!



Antje Hebestreit, Stefanie Do, Maike Wolters, Wolfgang Ahrens



Celine Murrin, Isobel Stanley





Gert B. M. Mensink, Lina Garnica Rosas



A. Neumann-Podczaska, K. Wieczorowska-Tobis



Karim Abu-Omar, Sven Messing



# Surveillance and monitoring



Expert workshop on harmonized pan-European surveillance

## A central role in the harmonization process: The Methodological Competence Platform

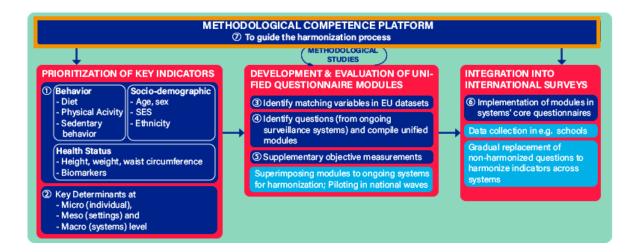
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on behalf of the PEN Consortium

15<sup>th</sup> June 2022

# DEDIPAC Knowledge Hub





Hebestreit A, et al; In J Public Health 2019

#PEN

## Similar structures proposed by....

## Patton et al. Lancet (2012)

- 'The UN and its agencies need to have a central role in aligning systems of data collection, drawing in expertise from academia and [...] research institutes to develop strategies to fill the present gaps in knowledge.

#### Fehr et al. Archives of Public Health (2018)

- ,Establish an ECHI indicator platform, i.e. a single point of access for
  - ...existing methodologies, expertise, historical and current knowledge; [...]
  - Exchange of expertise and capacity building on health indicators and their use in EU [...]'

## Snoek et al. Trends in Food Science & Techn (2018)

'Clearly, this requires not only a high degree of alignment and standardization of tools, but also requires a
well-accepted mechanism to determine the research agenda with the Member States and the European
Commission.'



## Methodological Competence Platform

## **Members**

Principal investigators of surveillance systems and monitoring systems, e.g. WHO COSI, HBSC, STEPS, NORMO, EHIS, OECD, EUROSTAT, DG SANTE, EFSA

## **Functions:**

- Goal setting (mid-term/ long-term)
- · Strategic planning, e.g. on
  - Common quality standards;
  - Implementation of (novel) harmonized questionnaire/ examination modules;
  - Acquisition of grants (harmonization activities, methodological studies, calibration studies etc.)
- Initiation of working groups and appointment of WG members
- Propose plans and strategy to a decision making policy group (to be established with Member States in phase II)





## Methodological Competence Platform

## **WHO Collaborating Centers**

### **Functions:**

- · Management & admin support
- Statistical support

#### **Working groups**

- Investigators in monitoring and surveillance systems and/or external experts with knowledge on: Indicators, assessment methods, methodological research (reliability/ validity)
- Potential working groups:
  - Diet
  - PA/SB
  - Sustainability?
  - Others...



## Evaluation of the first seven Joint Funding Actions of the JPI HDHL



in 2013 started the first Joint Funding Action (IFA) initiated by the IPI HDHL followed by six further funding activities until 2015. From these seven calls much can be learned for future activities. For this purpose, detailed evaluation reports were conducted to assess the monitoring data of the funded research projects in relation to the respective wind of the call and to analyse the output, outcomes and impact of IPI HDHL funding activities (both on call and project level). The results will feed into the continuous, improvement and development of new funding activities to reach the expectations of all stateholders and fulfil the IPI HDHL objectives.

#### Selected highlights of the first Joint Funding Actions

The DEDIPAC Knowledge Hub achieved great progress towards a pan European surveillance system by establishing an inventory of 50 existing surveillance systems and the generation of a four step-roadmap towards the development of a joint and standardised monitoring system for Europe.





## Methodological Competence Platform

- Role of platform members: discuss and agree on
  - Future-oriented measurement of European health indicators (data provider and user)
  - Strategic planning and methodological advancement of survey instruments
  - Integration of objective measurements in surveillance
  - Guiding and sustainig the harmonization process
- Platform members:
  - Principal investigators from national and international surveillance systems:
    - WHO COSI, WHO HBSC, WHO STEPS, EHIS, NORMO
  - Principal investigators from monitoring systems
    - EFSA, DG Sante, Eurostat
  - Decision making policy group (to be established with Member States)
- Established by the WHO European Office for the Prevention and Control of NCD



## **Establishing the Methodological Competence Platform**

## **Dr Kremlin Wickramasinghe**

# Acting Head, WHO European Office for the Prevention and Control of NCDs



# SIMPLE: Harmonising indicators for monitoring dietary behaviour in Europe



Celine Murrin Isobel Stanley

School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sport Science, University College Dublin, Ireland.

Policy Evaluation Network
Expert Workshop

Antje Hebestreit Stefanie Do

Leibniz Institute for Prevention Research and Epidemiology Germany

Joint Symposium, 15 June 2021



## What is a SIMPLE module?

Selected Instruments for Multilevel Policy and impact Evaluation.

- · Short sets of instruments
- Assessment of individual health indicators/behaviours
- Alignment with the determinants of these behaviours
- Indicators are interconnected on different levels of an ecological model.





## What is the purpose of the SIMPLE modules?

#### Selection of minimal indicator set that:

- Aims to harmonize data collection and assess comparable healthrelated data across European monitoring and surveillance systems.
- 2. Facilitate the evaluation of **temporal and regional changes** in physical activity, dietary behaviour and associated health outcomes.
- 3. Allows for measurement of the **impact of policy action** on individual health and the **proximal** and **distal determinants**.



## How can the SIMPLE modules be used?

## 1. Individual level modules

- primary data collection by health-related surveillance systems for physical activity and diet.
- surveillance systems can integrate one or more modules into their established instruments
- comparable individual data.

## Multilevel modules

- existing surveillance systems measure variables that may determine health
- thus providing routine monitoring data.
- Can use these different data sources to evaluate outcomes related to policy actions and infrastructure support influencing individual and population behaviour at a national or pan-European level.

# Example Simple Module 'Food Prices'





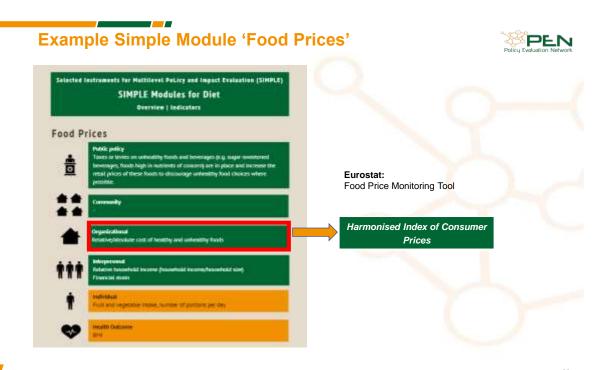
**EU Monitoring System:** WHO Global Nutrition Policy Review

Survey question and answer categories

Are fiscal policies implemented to reduce the consumption of unhealthy foods and beverages or to encourage the consumption of healthier foods

If yes, what kinds of fiscal policies are implemented? Multiple responses may

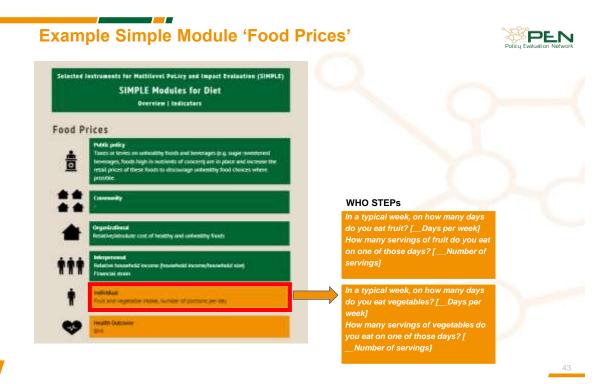
healthier foods and beverages - Introduction of or increase in subsidies on healthier foods and



# **Example Simple Module 'Food Prices'**



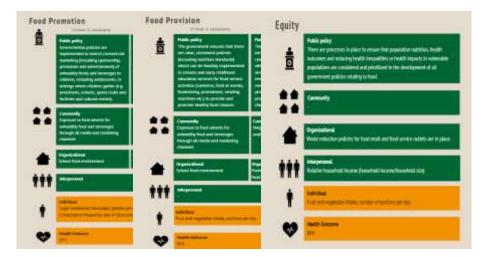




# Selected Eastraments for Netitievas Petery and Impact Evaluation (SIMPLE) SIMPLE Modules for Diet Overvier | Indicators Food Prices Food Prices



## **Three additional Diet modules**





# **Indicator Gaps**

## **Current indicators at different levels**

	Public policy	Community	Organisational	Interpersonal	Individual
roog prices	X		*		X
Promotion	×	X		×	×
Provision	×	×	*		×
Composition	x		×		
Labelling	×		×	*	×
Retail	x	x	×		
Education & Counselling	x			×	×
Monitoring & Evaluation	×	( <b>x</b> )	×		×
Governance	X .				×
Platforms & Leadership	×			*	×
Resources & Funding	×	×	×		×

Develop further Modules; Prioritise indicators to fill the gaps in surveillance and monitoring systems



# **Selected Instruments for Multilevel PoLicy and impact Evaluation (SIMPLE) Modules**

Available on the PEN webpage





https://www.jpi-pen.eu/physical-activity-and-diet-simple-modules-overview.html

## **Acknowledgements**

Sven Messing and Karim Abu Omar (Friedrich-Alexander University, GER)

Gert.B.M. Mensink (Robert Koch Institute, GER)

Catherine Woods (University Limerick, IRE)

Agnieszka Neumann-Podczska and Katarzyna Wieczorowska-Tobis (Poznan University of Medical Sciences, POL)

Nanna Lien (University of Oslo, NOR)

Hidde P. van der Ploeg (VU University Medical Center, The Netherlands)

Maike Wolters, and Wolfgang Ahrens (BIPS, GER)

Ina Alvarez Franco (BIPS, GER)

Eva Gahler (BIPS, GER)

PEN workshop: Harmonised pan-European surveillance for diet and physical activity behaviours

Forming the methodological competence platform

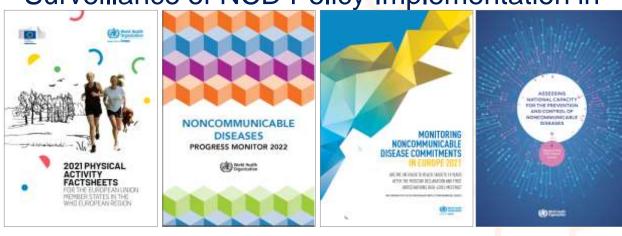
#### Dr Kremlin Wickramasinghe,

Head a.i. WHO European Office for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs), Regional Adviser, Nutrition Physical Activity and Obesity

15 June 2022

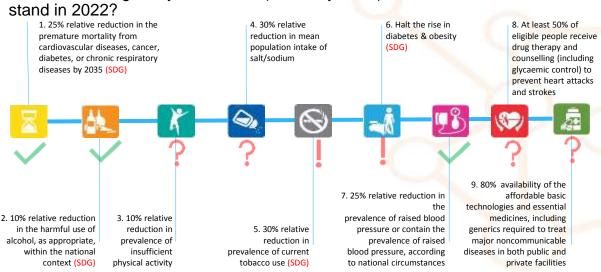


# Surveillance of NCD Policy Implementation in





# NCD Outcomes: NCD Global Monitoring Framework (GMF) / European Action Plan targets by 2025/2030 (SDGs by 2030) – where do we stand in 2022?

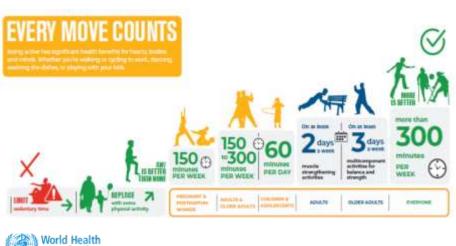


# Progress Monitor Indicator: NCD risk factor surveys 2019



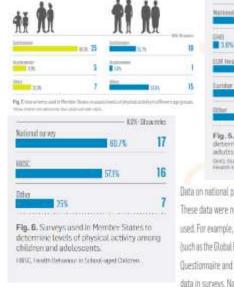
- This indicator is considered fully achieved if the country responds "Yes" to each of the following for adults: "Have surveys of risk factors (may be a single RF or multiple) been conducted in your country for all of the following: "Harmful alcohol use" (optional for the 10 Member States where there is a total on alcohol), "Physical inactivity", "Tobacco use", "Raised blood glucose/diabetes", "Raised blood pressure/hypertension", "Overweight and obesity", and "Salt / Sodium intake". For risk factors "Raised blood pressure/hypertension", and "Overweight and obesity", the data must be measured, not self-reported. Additionally, for each risk factor, the country must indicate that the last survey was conducted in the past 5 years.
- This indicator is considered partially achieved if the country responds that at least 3, but not all, of the above risk factors are covered, or the surveys were conducted more than 5 years ago but less than 10 years ago.

# WHO Physical Activity Guidelines











These data were not compared, as the results of surveys depend on the methods used. For example, different sampling methods, statistical modelling, instruments buch as the Global Physical Activity Questionnaire, the International Physical Activity Questionnaire and accelerometers) and definitions of "physically active" influence data in surveys. National surveys allow monitoring of trends over time only if the same methods and instruments are used each time.

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World Health Organization European Region

# Challenges with breastfeeding surveillance

- The indicator is measured in different ways across countries
- Some countries use "up to six months" and some use the indicator "at six months" or "at three months" for exclusive breastfeeding.

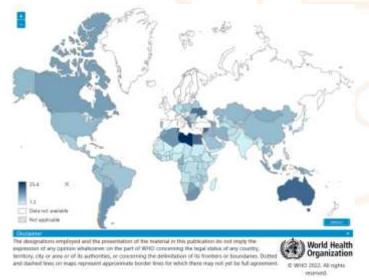
There is no a harmonized study that measures breastfeeding and early childhood nutrition across the region. Results from national surveys are used for reporting.





Estimates of overweight in children younger

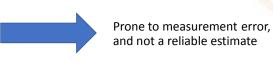
than five years





# Issues around adolescent overweight and obesity

Use of self-reported anthropometrics from the HBSC study for adolescent age group



Challenge: adolescents are more likely to refuse being measured (as they are in COSI), so it is an ongoing problem



Probably there is underestimation of true levels of overweight and obesity among this age group



# Towards a methodological competence platform for nutrition and physical activity data? Why do we need it? and physical activity data? other areas?

- Different surveys collect nutrition and physical activity data using methods and questionnaires which are not comparable to each other
- Not possible to compare data from different surveys:
  - Geographies
  - Over time
  - Life-course / age-groups
- Not always possible to evaluate (WHO) recommendations on nutrition and physical activity
- Lack of data to report on international commitments (SDGs, GMF), especially in the EU Member States
- Duplication of efforts and sub optimal use of resources
- Difficult to evaluate impact of policies

- Common standards and classifications indispensable step towards more comparable data:
  - International Classification of Diseases (WHO)
  - System of Health Accounts (Eurostat, OECD, WHO)
  - Indicators for assessing infant and young child feeding practices (UNICEF/WHO)
  - Global Physical Activity Questionnaire (WHO)
- Joint data collections (Eurostat / OECD / WHO):
  - Health accounts
  - Non-monetary health care statistics (resources for health and health care activities)
  - Reduce reporting burden and while ensuring effective use of resources
- - YES
  - But requires considerable effort and resources (including time)

- · Each surveillance system: :
  - · Started in different point in time
  - · Has potentially different target group
  - Has different governance mechanism
    - - Important to respect and comply with each governance mechanism
  - Was established with a different purpose
  - Changing methods can result in break in time series:
    - Comparative studies might provide estimates of differences between methods
- Communication between surveillance systems (and data users) can be improved)



European Region

Methodological competence platform can be an important contribution towards improving communication, reducing inconsistencies and improving data quality.





# SIMPLE: Harmonising indicators for monitoring dietary behaviour in Europe



#### Celine Murrin Isobel Stanley

School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sport Science, University College Dublin, Ireland.

# Policy Evaluation Network Expert Workshop

## Antje Hebestreit Stefanie Do

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Funded by the Joint Programming Initiative "A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life" (JPI HDHL) with contributions from national funding agencies of participating countries

Joint Symposium, 15 June 2021





## What is a SIMPLE module?

Selected Instruments for Multilevel Policy and impact Evaluation.

- · Short sets of instruments
- Assessment of individual health indicators/behaviours
- Alignment with the determinants of these behaviours
- Indicators are interconnected on different levels of an ecological model.





## What is the purpose of the SIMPLE modules?

#### Selection of minimal indicator set that:

- Aims to harmonize data collection and assess comparable healthrelated data across European monitoring and surveillance systems.
- 2. Facilitate the evaluation of **temporal and regional changes** in physical activity, dietary behaviour and associated health outcomes.
- 3. Allows for measurement of the **impact of policy action** on individual health and the **proximal** and **distal determinants**.

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## How can the SIMPLE modules be used?

## 1. Individual level modules

- primary data collection by health-related surveillance systems for physical activity and diet.
- surveillance systems can integrate one or more modules into their established instruments
- comparable individual data.

## 2. Multilevel modules

- existing surveillance systems measure variables that may determine health
- thus providing routine monitoring data.
- Can use these different data sources to evaluate outcomes related to policy actions and infrastructure support influencing individual and population behaviour at a national or pan-European level.

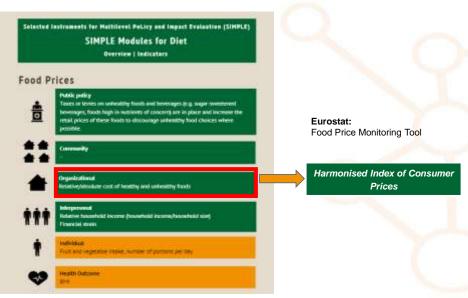






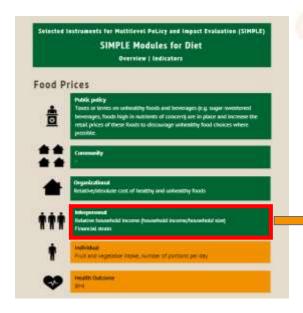
# **Example Simple Module 'Food Prices'**





# **Example Simple Module 'Food Prices'**





#### European Health Information Survey

Net monthly equivalised income of the household (Total net monthly income of the household/Equivalent Household Size)

EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)

Thinking about your household income is your household able to make ends meet to pay for its usual necessary expenses?

#### **European Social Survey**

Which of the following descriptions [card shown] comes closest to how you feel about your household income nowadays?

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# **Example Simple Module 'Food Prices'**

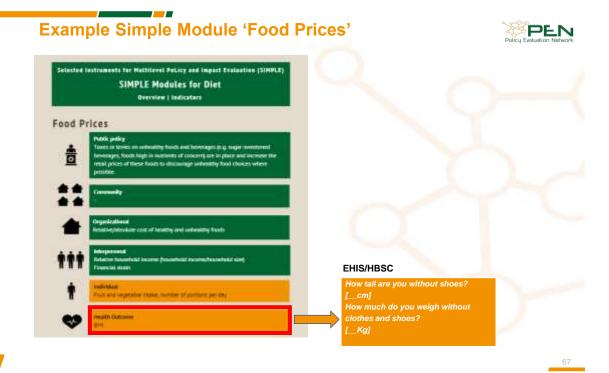




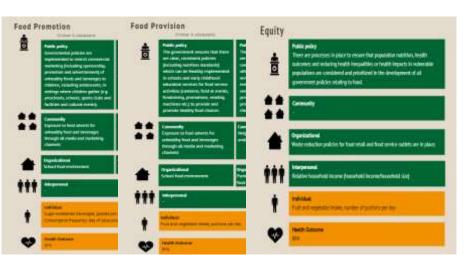
#### WHO STEPs

In a typical week, on how many days do you eat fruit? [\_Days per week] How many servings of fruit do you eat on one of those days? [\_Number of servings]

do you eat vegetables? [\_\_Days per week] How many servings of vegetables do you eat on one of those days? [



## **Three additional Diet modules**



PEN Policy Evaluation Network

# PEN Policy Dividuals

## **Indicator Gaps**

#### **Current indicators at different levels**

	Public policy	Community	Organisational	Interpersonal	Individual
rood prices			*	*	X
Promotion	×	x		×	×
Provision	×	×	*		×
Composition	x		×		
Labelling	×		×	*	×
Retail	X	x	×		
Education & Counselling	×			×	×
Monitoring & Evaluation	×	( <b>x</b> )	×		×
Governance	· X				×
Platforms & Leadership	×			*	×
Resources & Funding	×	×	*		×

Develop further Modules; Prioritise indicators to fill the gaps in surveillance and monitoring systems

#PEN

# **Selected Instruments for Multilevel PoLicy and impact Evaluation (SIMPLE) Modules**

Available on the PEN webpage



**THANK YOU** 

https://www.jpi-pen.eu/physical-activity-and-diet-simple-modules-overview.html

#### **Acknowledgements**

Sven Messing and Karim Abu Omar (Friedrich-Alexander University, GER)

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Nanna Lien (University of Oslo, NOR)

Hidde P. van der Ploeg (VU University Medical Center, The Netherlands)

Maike Wolters, and Wolfgang Ahrens (BIPS, GER)

Ina Alvarez Franco (BIPS, GER)

Eva Gahler (BIPS, GER)





# SIMPLE: Harmonising indicators for monitoring physical activity in Europe



# Policy Symposium on NCD Prevention

Karim Abu-Omar, Sven Messing, Isobel Stanley, Celine Murrin, Gert Mensink, Stefanie Do, Maike Wolters, Agnieszka Neumann-Podczaska, Katarzyna Wieczorowska-Tobis, Catherine Woods, Enrique Garcia Bengoechea, Liam Kelly, Kevin Volf, Nanna Lien & Antje Hebestreit



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15th June 2022





## **SIMPLE Modules for Physical Activity: Overview**

Three SIMPLE Modules for physical activity have been developed:



Physical activity recommendations



Cycling and walking



Physical activity at schools

#### **Additional indicators** for future modules:

- General PA policies
- Active transport
- > Schools

- Urban design
- Worksite
- Healthcare
- Kindergarten

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#### **Module 1**



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## **Module 1: Physical activity recommendations**

Level	Nr.	Survey question	EU Monitoring System / Database	Data gathered from
Public policy	1	Are there any national guidelines which provide recommended levels of physical activity for the population or a specific segment of the population?  If yes: Are there guidelines specifically addressing any of the	WHO Country Capacity Survey	National level experts
Community	2	following age groups?  To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about sport and physical activity?  The area where you live offers you many opportunities to be physically active.	Eurobarometer	Population
Organizational	3	Considering all the key physical activity policy documents listed in question 7, please indicate which settings are included for the delivery of specific HEPA actions.	HEPA PAT	National level experts
Interpersonal	4	Earlier you said you engage in sport or another physical activity, vigorous or not. Where do you do this?	Eurobarometer	Population
Individual	5	In a typical week, on how many days do you carry out sports, fitness or recreational (leisure) activities for at least 10 minutes continously?	EHIS	Population
	6	How much time in total do you spend on sports, fitness or recreational (leisure) physical activities in a typical week?	EHIS	Population

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### Module 1: Physical activity recommendations (Example)

Level	Nr.	Survey question	Germany
Public policy	1	Are there any national guidelines which provide recommended levels of physical activity for the population or a specific segment of the population?	Yes
Community	2	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about sport and physical activity? The area where you live offers you many opportunities to be physically active.	89%
Organizational	3	Considering all the key physical activity policy documents listed in question 7, please indicate which settings are included for the delivery of specific HEPA actions.	13/14 settings
Interpersonal	4	Earlier you said you engage in sport or another physical activity, vigorous or not. Where do you do this?	39% In a park, outdoors, etc. 41% At home 29% On the way between home and school, work or shops 14% At a health or fitness centre 21% At a sport club 18% At work 9% At a sport centre 4% At school or university 4% Elsewhere (spontaneuous)
Individual	5	In a typical week, on how many days do you carry out sports, fitness or recreational (leisure) activities for at least 10 minutes continously?	44,8 % of women fulfil the WHO physical activity recommendations
	6	How much time in total do you spend on sports, fitness or recreational (leisure) physical activities in a typical week?	51,2 % of men fulfil the WHO physical

#### PEN Policy Evaluation Network

#### Module 2





## Module 2: Cycling and walking

Level	Nr.	Survey question	EU Monitoring System / Database	Data gathered from
Public policy	1	Are the European Guidelines for Improving Infrastructures for Leisure-Time Physical Activity applied systematically to develop leisure-time infrastructures in your country?	HEPA	National level experts
Community	2	OpenCycleMap	OpenStreetMap	Users of OpenStreetMap
Organizational		-	-	-
Interpersonal		-	-	-
Individual	3	In a typical week, on how many days do you walk for at least 10 minutes continuosly in order to get to and from places?	EHIS	Population
	4	How much time do you spend walking in order to get to and from places on a typical day?	EHIS	Population
	5	In a typical week, on how many days do you bicycle for at least 10 minutes continuosly to get to and from places?	EHIS	Population
	6	Hoch much time do you spend bicycling to get to and from places on a typical day?	EHIS	Population

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#### PEN Policy Evaluation Network

#### **Module 3**





## Module 3: Physical activity at school (primary schools)

Level	Nr.	Survey question	EU Monitoring System / Database	Data gathered from
Public policy	1	In your country, is physical education a compulsory school curriculum subject in primary school?	4th Worldwide Survey of Quality Physical Education	National level experts
Community	2	In your opinion, how safe are the routes to and from school for your child to walk or ride a bicycle, skateboard or non-motorized scooter?	cosi	Population
Organizational	3	Within the policy framework of the compulsory school programme, how much time is allocated to the physical education curriculum each week in primary schools?	4th Worldwide Survey of Quality Physical Education	National level experts
Interpersonal	4	Does your school organize any sport/physical activities at least once a week for primary school children outside school hours?  Do children attend these organized sport/physical activities?	COSI	Population
Individual	5	Outside school hours, during a normal week, how many hours per day is your child usually playing actively/vigorously (e.g. running, jumping outside or moving and fitness games inside)?	COSI	Population

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## Module 3: Physical activity at school (secondary schools)

Level	Nr.	Survey question	EU Monitoring System / Database	Data gathered from
Public policy	1	In your country, is physical education a compulsory school curriculum subject in lower secondary school?  In your country, is physical education a compulsory school curriculum subject in upper secondary school?	4th Worldwide Survey of Quality Physical Education	National level experts
Community	-	-	-	-
Organizational	2	Within the policy framework of the compulsory school programme, how much time is allocated to the physical education curriculum each week in lower secondary schools?  Within the policy framework of the compulsory school programme, how much time is allocated to the physical education curriculum each week in upper secondary schools?	4th Worldwide Survey of Quality Physical Education	National level experts
Interpersonal	-	-	-	-
Individual	3	Over the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day?	COSI	Population



### **SIMPLE Modules: Strengths and limitations**

#### **Strengths**

- First step towards a better harmonization of monitoring and surveillance systems in Europe
- Developed in a participative process together with representatives of surveillance and monitoring frameworks.
- Comprehensive and brief approach covering indicators from public policies to health behaviours of individuals.
- Additional screeners can be developed in future based on the work of PEN.





#### Limitations

- **1.** Path-dependency of existing monitoring and surveillance systems.
- Data are gathered from different sources (national level experts / populations).
- 3. Limited focus of the screeners.
- **4.** Parts of validated instruments are used.

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## Thank you!

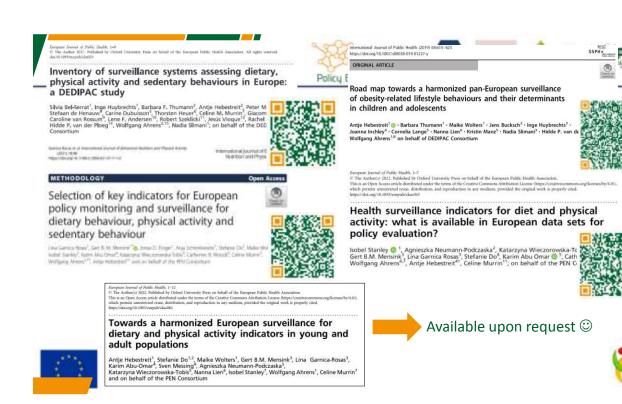


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# Support to the development of harmonized sport statistics in the EU

European Commission
Directorate-General for Education
Youth Sport & Culture / Sport Unit

Michael Serneels

Policy Officer



### Overview

- History
- Description
- Tender







- History
   Art 165 of TFEU: "EU should promote European sporting issues and develop the European dimension in sport"
  - take support, coordination and development measures in the area of sport
  - increasing demands on European Commission by policy-makers, experts and sport stakeholders to support the development of a sound knowledge base for sport, including reliable information and comparable data







## History 2006: informal EU Working Group "Sport & Economics"

- ➤ harmonised statistical definition of sport ("Vilnius Definition of sport")
- common methodology to measure the economic impact of sport, i.e. Sport Satellite Accounts (SSAs)
- EU Work Plan for Sport 2011-2014 & 2014-2017 & 2017-2020
  - ➤ Expert Group on Sport Statistics → Expert Group on the Economic Dimension →
    Cluster meeting on the economic dimension of sport







## History

- Measuring physical activity levels
  - ➤ Eurostat data (European Health Interview Survey (EHIS))
  - Commission's **Eurobarometer** on sport and physical activity (2003, 2010, 2014, 2018, 2022) to support the developing policy framework for promoting sport and physical activity







#### History Measuring physical activity levels

- ➤ Council Recommendation on promoting health-enhancing physical activity (HEPA) across sectors (November 2013)
  - 23 indicators used to monitor progress in Member States on policies to promote HEPA and to evaluate physical activity levels
  - ❖Country fact sheets (WHO + Commission 2015, 2018, 2021)
- An increasing demand to harmonise physical activity questionnaires in the EU







## Description

Overall objective: building on previous research, support evidence-based policy-making at national and EU level by harmonising existing methodologies and definitions on sport statistics, paving the way towards a possible future European Sport Satellite Account







## Descriptiones:

- set-up of a **task force** to elaborate, in collaboration with Eurostat, harmonised definitions and methodologies on sport statistics
- provide technical support to national efforts of developing national Sport Satellite Accounts
- contribute to the EU and national policy-making process by providing background information and analysis on specific topics using sport statistics on economic and social aspects
- results will support policy process (follow-up of Expert Groups on Economic Dimension and on Sport Statistics & implementation of the EU Work Plan for Sport 2021-2024)







### Tender

- Contracting authority: European Education and Culture Executive
   Agency
- Call for tenders: 27/07/2021 13/09/2021
- Contractor: GOPA Luxembourg (28/12/2021)
- Duration: 3 years (final report January 2025)







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## Thank you











# Socio-economic position variables used in childhood obesity studies - challenges in harmonisation



## SES indicators of childhood obesity

- Related activities under STOP project
  - To evaluate which SES indicators are used in different studies of childhood obesity
  - To examine how comparable data from different countries on SES indicators is available





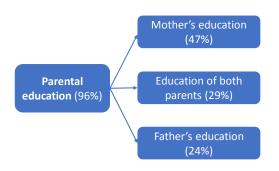
## A scoping review of family SES indicators and childhood adiposity in Europe

- Publications from 2000-2021 on European general population aged 0-17 years, published in English
- 53 articles included
- Generally SES information is based on self-reported data, only one study used register data





## Education and occupation as SES indicators Best-ReMap



Parental occupation (42%)

Mother's occupation (18%)

Father's occupation (14%)

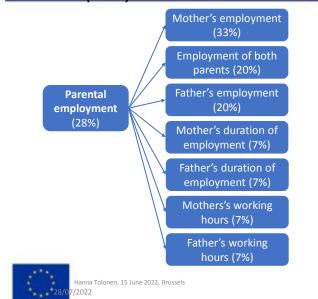
Educational level based on highest degree or years of school with varying number of categories (low/high, 2-5 categories)

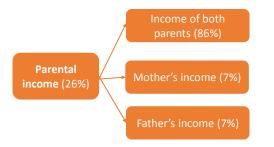
Occupational level based on occupational categories (2-6 categories), employment, manual or non-manual





## Employment and income as SES indicators Best-ReMap



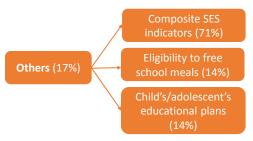


Yearly parental/household/family income, net household income (adjusted for household composition and size), disposable annual family income adjusted for family size, annual family income tax, family income per week



# Properties and affluence and some there SES Best-ReMap Finding Evaluation Network SES Best-ReMap Finding Findi





SES based on education, occupation and income; SES based on occupation and income; SES composite index incl. 8 indicators of wealth, occupation and education;

## Availability of common indicators varies Best-ReMap

SES indicator	Belgium (S)	Estonia(S)	Finland (R)	UK-England(S)
Ethnicity		Two groups		5 categories
Country of birth			x	
Marital status			4 categories	
Father's education		5 categories	7 categories	6 categories
Mother's education		5 categories	7 categories	6 categories
Educational level of household	4 categories			
Occupational status + occupation			x	
Equivalized income				5 categories
Monthly household income		x		
Total income + several other income variables			x	
Size of the household + age structure + family type			x	
Municipality and region of living			x	
Model of housing + living space			x	
28/07/2022				Selection and childrens of

## Conclusions



- Availability of SES indicators varies substancially between countries
- Even same/similar indicators are often collected using different methods/questionnaire wording
- Post-harmonization across the countries is challenging for most of the indicators
- Need for a common set of standardized indicator definitions and related survey questions









## Thank you!







## SIMPLE: Harmonising indicators for monitoring physical activity in Europe



Policy Symposium on NCD Prevention

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15th June 2022



## **SIMPLE Modules for Physical Activity: Overview**

Three SIMPLE Modules for physical activity have been developed:



Physical activity recommendations





#### Additional indicators for future modules:

- General PA policies
- Active transport
- > Schools

- Urban design
- Worksite
- ➤ Healthcare
- Kindergarten

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#### **Module 1**







## **Module 1: Physical activity recommendations**

Level	Nr.	Survey question	EU Monitoring System / Database	Data gathered from
Public policy	1	Are there any national guidelines which provide recommended levels of physical activity for the population or a specific segment of the population?  If yes: Are there guidelines specifically addressing any of the following age groups?	WHO Country Capacity Survey	National level experts
Community	2	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about sport and physical activity?  The area where you live offers you many opportunities to be physically active.	Eurobarometer	Population
Organizational	3	Considering all the key physical activity policy documents listed in question 7, please indicate which settings are included for the delivery of specific HEPA actions.	HEPA PAT	National level experts
Interpersonal	4	Earlier you said you engage in sport or another physical activity, vigorous or not. Where do you do this?	Eurobarometer	Population
Individual	5	In a typical week, on how many days do you carry out sports, fitness or recreational (leisure) activities for at least 10 minutes continously?	EHIS	Population
	6	How much time in total do you spend on sports, fitness or recreational (leisure) physical activities in a typical week?	EHIS	Population

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## **Module 1: Physical activity recommendations (Example)**

Level	Nr.	Survey question	Germany
Public policy	1	Are there any national guidelines which provide recommended levels of physical activity for the population or a specific segment of the population?	Yes
Community	2	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about sport and physical activity? The area where you live offers you many opportunities to be physically active.	89%
Organizational	3	Considering all the key physical activity policy documents listed in question 7, please indicate which settings are included for the delivery of specific HEPA actions.	13/14 settings
Interpersonal	4	Earlier you said you engage in sport or another physical activity, vigorous or not. Where do you do this?	39% In a park, outdoors, etc. 41% At home 29% On the way between home and school, work or shops 14% At a health or fitness centre 21% At a sport club 18% At work 9% At a sport centre 4% At school or university 4% Elsewhere (spontaneuous)
Individual	5	In a typical week, on how many days do you carry out sports, fitness or recreational (leisure) activities for at least 10 minutes continously?	44,8 % of women fulfil the WHO physical activity recommendations
	6	How much time in total do you spend on sports, fitness or recreational (leisure) physical activities in a typical week?	51,2 % of men fulfil the WHO physical

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#### Module 2



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### Module 2: Cycling and walking

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Level	Nr.	Survey question	EU Monitoring System / Database	Data gathered from
Public policy	1	Are the European Guidelines for Improving Infrastructures for Leisure-Time Physical Activity applied systematically to develop leisure-time infrastructures in your country?	HEPA	National level experts
Community	2	OpenCycleMap	OpenStreetMap	Users of OpenStreetMap
Organizational	-	-	-	-
Interpersonal	-	-	-	-
Individual	3	In a typical week, on how many days do you walk for at least 10 minutes continuosly in order to get to and from places?	EHIS	Population
	4	How much time do you spend walking in order to get to and from places on a typical day?	EHIS	Population
	5	In a typical week, on how many days do you bicycle for at least 10 minutes continuosly to get to and from places?	EHIS	Population
	6	Hoch much time do you spend bicycling to get to and from places on a typical day?	EHIS	Population

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#### Module 3



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### Module 3: Physical activity at school (primary schools)

Level	Nr.	Survey question	EU Monitoring System / Database	Data gathered from
Public policy	1	In your country, is physical education a compulsory school curriculum subject in primary school?	4th Worldwide Survey of Quality Physical Education	National level experts
Community	2	In your opinion, how safe are the routes to and from school for your child to walk or ride a bicycle, skateboard or non-motorized scooter?	CÓSI	Population
Organizational	3	Within the policy framework of the compulsory school programme, how much time is allocated to the physical education curriculum each week in primary schools?	4th Worldwide Survey of Quality Physical Education	National level experts
Interpersonal	4	Does your school organize any sport/physical activities at least once a week for primary school children outside school hours?  Do children attend these organized sport/physical activities?	COSI	Population
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#### Module 3: Physical activity at school (secondary schools)

Level	Nr.	Survey question	EU Monitoring System / Database	Data gathered from
Public policy	1	In your country, is physical education a compulsory school curriculum subject in lower secondary school?  In your country, is physical education a compulsory school curriculum subject in upper secondary school?	4th Worldwide Survey of Quality Physical Education	National level experts
Community	-	-	-	-
Organizational	2	Within the policy framework of the compulsory school programme, how much time is allocated to the physical education curriculum each week in lower secondary schools?  Within the policy framework of the compulsory school programme, how much time is allocated to the physical education curriculum each week in upper secondary schools?	4th Worldwide Survey of Quality Physical Education	National level experts
Interpersonal	-	-	-	-
Individual	3	Over the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day?	COSI	Population





#### **SIMPLE Modules: Strengths and limitations**

#### **Strengths**

- First step towards a better harmonization of monitoring and surveillance systems in Europe
- Developed in a participative process together with representatives of surveillance and monitoring frameworks.
- Comprehensive and brief approach covering indicators from public policies to health behaviours of individuals.
- Additional screeners can be developed in future based on the work of PEN.





#### **Limitations**

- Path-dependency of existing monitoring and surveillance systems.
- 2. Data are gathered from different sources (national level experts / populations).
- 3. Limited focus of the screeners.
- Parts of validated instruments are used.

## Thank you!





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# Support to the development of harmonized sport statistics in the EU

**European Commission** 

Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport & Culture / Sport Unit

Michael Serneels

Policy Officer

## Overview

- History
- Description
- Tender



## History

- Art 165 of TFEU: "EU should promote European sporting issues and develop the European dimension in sport"
  - ➤ take **support**, **coordination** and **development** measures in the area of sport
  - ➢increasing demands on European Commission by policy-makers, experts and sport stakeholders to support the development of a sound knowledge base for sport, including reliable information and comparable data

## History

- 2006: informal EU Working Group "Sport & Economics"
  - harmonised statistical definition of sport ("Vilnius Definition of sport")
  - common methodology to measure the economic impact of sport, i.e. Sport Satellite Accounts (SSAs)
- EU Work Plan for Sport 2011-2014 & 2014-2017 & 2017-2020
  - ➤ Expert Group on Sport Statistics → Expert Group on the Economic Dimension



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## History

- Measuring physical activity levels
  - ➤ Eurostat data (European Health Interview Survey (EHIS))
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## Description

Overall objective: building on previous research, support evidence-based policy-making at national and EU level by harmonising existing methodologies and definitions on sport statistics, paving the way towards a possible future European Sport Satellite Account

## Description

- Specific objectives:
  - set-up of a task force to elaborate, in collaboration with Eurostat, harmonised definitions and methodologies on sport statistics
  - provide technical support to national efforts of developing national Sport Satellite Accounts
  - contribute to the EU and national policy-making process by providing background information and analysis on specific topics using sport statistics on economic and social aspects
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### Tender

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- Call for tenders: 27/07/2021 13/09/2021
- Contractor: GOPA Luxembourg (28/12/2021)
- Duration: 3 years (final report January 2025)

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# Socio-economic position variables used in childhood obesity studies - challenges in harmonisation



## SES indicators of childhood obesity

- Related activities under STOP project
  - To evaluate which SES indicators are used in different studies of childhood obesity
  - To examine how comparable data from different countries on SES indicators is available





## A scoping review of family SES indicators and childhood adiposity in Europe

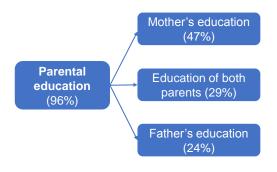
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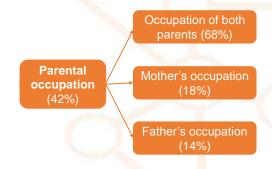
Source: Sares-Jäske L et al. Preventive Medicine 2022. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2022.107095



## Education and occupation as SES indicators

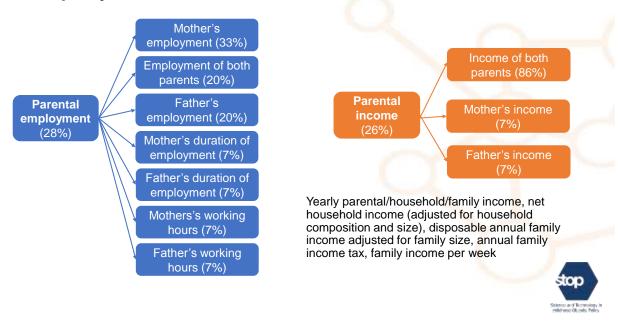


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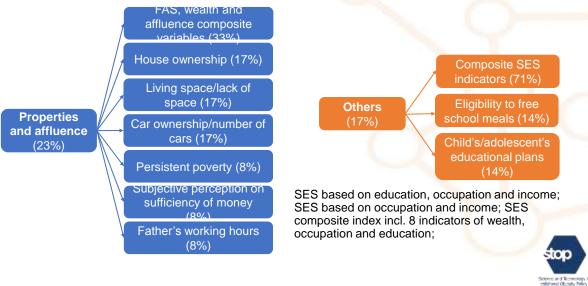


Occupational level based on occupational categories (2-6 categories), employment, manual or non-manual

## Employment and income as SES indicators



Properties and affluence and some other SES indicators



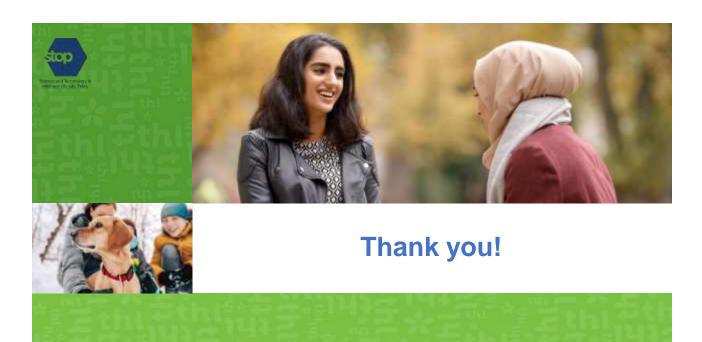
## Availability of common indicators varies

SES indicator	Belgium (S)	Estonia(S)	Finland (R)	UK- England(S)
Ethnicity		Two groups		5 categories
Country of birth			x	
Marital status			4 categories	
Father's education		5 categories	7 categories	6 categories
Mother's education		5 categories	7 categories	6 categories
Educational level of household	4 categories			
Occupational status + occupation			x	
Equivalized income				5 categories
Monthly household income		x		
Total income + several other income variables			х	
Size of the household + age structure + family type			х	
Municipality and region of living			x	
Model of housing + living space			х	

## Conclusions

- Availability of SES indicators varies substancially between countries
- Even same/similar indicators are often collected using different methods/questionnaire wording
- Post-harmonization across the countries is challenging for most of the indicators
- Need for a common set of standardized indicator definitions and related survey questions





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