PODD-RA

POLitical Decisions on Determinants – Research Area

(Politiska beslut på bestämningsfaktorer för hälsa och tillväxt)

Mid Nordic Public Health network
Trondheim 2014.08.28
MidNordicPublicHealthNetwork - as of today

• Colleagues with common interest
• Knowledge transfer
• Conducted 3 meetings
  – 2 in Norway
  – 1 in Finland
• Midnordic committee
  – Coordinating role
”Context – spring 2014”

• The Nordic Council of Ministers for Health and Social Affairs (MR-S) decided to close down the Nordic School of Public Health (NHV). The school is planned to close at the turn of the year 2014/2015. Through providing research-based higher education in public health issues during the last 60 years, NHV has played a central role in the professionalization of the public health work within the Nordic countries.

• In these circumstances, to maintain a high level of ambition in the continued Nordic public health work it could be an option to focus on interregional research networks - e.g. the already established Mid Nordic Public Health network.

• Due to this – it could be an option for the Mid Nordic Committee to show informal interest (applying for project) to continue to build up and extend the Mid Nordic Public Health network in to an accredited network of PH research institutions within the Mid Nordic region. (as shown in next slide)
”From the Atlantic coast to the eastern border of Finland”

”Building on established PH Centers in all three countries – national and regional”
Implications

• Approach (informally) the Nordic Council of Ministers for Health and Social Affairs to suggest an project with the aim of building a research network – with HUNT and North Karelia Center for Public Health representing to outliers. One specialized in collecting data and conducting advanced research including bio-sciences, the other of operationalizing public health collaborative structures producing health changes at population level.

• Network should focus on PH issues related to structural (sparsely populated areas) as well as individual development

• Another focus should be of knowledge transfer between the regions

• Implement and enhance resilient political processes leading to evidence based political PH decisions (evaluation)

• Include/invite established PH-structures besides HUNT and North Karelia Center for Public Health, research units at C.C. of Jämtland and C.C. of Västernorrland, Public Health Agency of Sweden, THL regional centers, Mid Sweden University, Eastern Finland University, Jyväskylä University, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences, aso
Today!

- Report by Bo Könberg
- ”The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health”
- “Sustainable Nordic Welfare” programme
- Contact taken by politicians with the General director at Nordic Council
- Coordinating person in place from mid September, during the autumn of 2014
"The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health"

Public health and inequalities in health

Proposal 5

Increased co-operation on initiatives to improve public health

The Nordic countries should increase the exchange of information on public health issues, particularly the use of tobacco and misuse of alcohol.
”The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health”

Proposal 6

A Nordic public health policy platform to reduce inequality in health

A Nordic public health policy platform will be set up with the task of developing proposals for Nordic projects and activities aimed at reducing inequality in health.
”The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health”

Exchanges for officials

Proposal 13

New exchange of Nordic officials – pilot project

Increased exchange of Nordic officials in the health area will be set up. More officials in the ministries will be given the opportunity for short exchanges to create more and better networks that will increase Nordic expertise and competitiveness.
”The Future Nordic Co-operation on Health”

Proposal 4

A Nordic virtual centre is set up for register-based research

The Nordic research co-operation on data registers, biobanks and clinical intervention studies will be strengthened by facilitating access to our unique Nordic data sources in research. A model for mutual recognition of ethical reviews of Nordic research projects will be introduced. Such co-operation can help to develop research, business and welfare in the Nordic region.
Why a network? – suggested aim

1. Develop a research-based and project-oriented working knowledge network to do research on the possibilities of working with public health issues in a non-urban (sparsely populated) setting. Which methods work, do not work and what type of data (base) is needed to improve and develop public health in environments where infrastructure, social networking and economy at the local level strongly affects individual health.
Why a network? – suggested aim

2. Continue the well established joint venture in the Mid Nordic Corridor from the Atlantic coast to the Russian border; between the HUNT Research Center, Region of Jämtland Härjedalen and the long-established North Karelia Center for Public Health (formerly the North Karelia project). This is based on the organizations representing different perspectives - from that to collect, manage and analyze health data as HUNT, to the more action-oriented approach with effective interventions and approaches aimed at changing the situation in a population of North Karelia which was well managed. Between these two outer edges of the Mid Nordic Corridor are a variety of organizations and agencies - regional, local as well as state - which could be linked together in a knowledge network.
Midnordic extensive view....
"Next step..."

- Follow up the informal contact between the Mid Nordic Committee and the Nordic Ministry – final mission from the MNC
- Find out if there is an interest to start up a project concerning the development of a Mid Nordic PH Research Network based on the suggested structure

**Activities:**

- Suggested project period of 4 years
- Coordinator financed if project is approved via the Mid Nordic Committee to facilitate the network – initially by the County Council of Jämtlands län
- Political steering group in place
- Executive board from todays network (MNPHN) – additional representatives?
- Mission of the Executive board (autumn 2014):
  - Prepare and communicate an **MUA** (Mutual Understanding of Agreement)
  - Prepare the formal application for project financing
  - Build/support/establish the network
  - Initiate/enhance projects related to the “Sustainable Nordic Welfare” programme
- **Prepare the NEXT MEETING of the NETWORK**
Thank you for your interest

• Don’t forget to write your name on the distributed list together with your e-mail adress for further contact
• Continues updated information will be available on the PODD-RA project home page

http://www.ntnu.no/hunt/podd-ra