

European Community Health Indicators Monitoring (ECHIM) – the project funded by the European Union Second Programme of Community Action in the Field of Health 2008–2013 through the Joint Action, Grant agreement No. 20082391.

Duration of the project: 2009–June 2012

Objectives of ECHIM

The general objective of ECHIM is to consolidate and expand the ECHI Indicator system towards a sustainable health monitoring system in Europe with the focus on collecting and disseminating comparable health data and information based on the ECHI shortlist.

Specific objectives are to:

1. improve, document and maintain the ECHI Indicators,
2. develop guidelines and MS specific plans for ECHI shortlist indicators implementation at MS, regional and EU-level, as needed,
3. implement ECHI shortlist indicators in MSs and to achieve a good coverage,
4. maintain a network of national health indicator experts for ECHI Indicators and the needed data collection,
5. map, design and test the data flow between MSs and a central capacity for health monitoring,
6. present health data based on the ECHI shortlist, in connection with the EUPHIX system,
7. produce the first joint analysis and report on data based on ECHI shortlist indicators.

Partners in ECHIM

Most of the practical work is carried out by the five main project partners:

- National Institute of Health and Welfare (THL), Helsinki, Finland;
- National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), Bilthoven, the Netherlands;
- Robert Koch Institute (RKI), Berlin, Germany;
- Public Health Institute (ISS), Rome, Italy;
- Institute of Hygiene (HI), Vilnius, Lithuania.

The collaborating partners are from Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Ireland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and WHO.

During the project methodologic descriptions of 88 ECHI indicators were prepared. The Institute of Hygiene Health Information Centre translated the methodologic descriptions of the ECHI indicators into Lithuanian, posted them on the Institute of Hygiene website http://sic.hi.lt/html/echim_r.htm; reviewed and updated the Lithuanian Health Indicators System, included the currently computable ECHI indicators into it, and the system is being updated yearly and posted on <http://sic.hi.lt/html/srs.htm>. Lithuania headed the Eastern European group (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, and Hungary), provided consultations in aiming to get as many countries to join the created indicator system as possible.

More information:

www.echim.org

www.healthindicators.eu

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