



Iechyd Rhyngwladol
International Health

NEWSLETTER

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UK to associate to Horizon Europe!

The UK's status as an associate country member of the programme has been confirmed. This means that for the 2024 work programme, organisations from Wales will be eligible to apply and receive funding from the Horizon Europe programme. In the meantime, the UK Guarantee is available to applicants to the 2023 programme. Information days on some areas of the programme will take place soon: Horizon Europe info days (europa.eu).

New UK Global Health Framework

The UK Government published their new Global Health Framework in May, which sets out their ambition to play a leading role in improving health globally and in building resilience to future threats. It outlines the actions the UK will take over 2023 to 2025 in support of health and for a safer and more prosperous UK and world.



Global Citizenship eLearning modules

The International Health Co-ordinating Centre (IHCC), WHO Collaborating Centre on 'Investment for Health and wellbeing', Public Health Wales's Global Citizenship e-learning resource is aimed at health professionals in Wales and for anyone in the NHS interested in learning more about Global Citizenship (GC), what it is and understanding other health professionals' experiences and perspectives and how they can be more of a global citizen.



For the full modules visit my.esr.nhs.uk learner homepage and search for Global Citizenship Core Module OR log in to your account at learning.nhs.wales and search for Global Citizen Programme. You can also watch an introductory video [HERE](#).

Julia's Mental Health Nursing Collaboration

In April – June 2023, I was the happy recipient of the Welsh Government funded International Learning Opportunity (ILO) in eastern Uganda. Being a mental health nurse academic, I was able to use my knowledge and skills in a very different healthcare and educational environment.

The ILO lead in Mbale Regional Referral Hospital (RH) picked up my CV and we had a zoom discussion about what I could offer to hospital staff and the university setting where they teach nursing students. I was pleased to learn that there was opportunity for collaboration for a mental health nursing module starting imminently.



I arrived in eastern Uganda to find a very supportive arrangement with Mbale Coalition Against Poverty staff and staff at Mbale RRH. After being orientated to the university and the local mental health inpatient unit, I quickly settled into the next four weeks of planning and teaching the mental health nursing programme to final year students.

I spent time as a clinical nurse educator at the mental health inpatient unit alongside the students. Here we met with patients and their caregivers and participated in ward rounds,

and learned about different mental health conditions, symptoms and people's lived experiences, which was really helpful for student learning in the classroom too.

For the second half of my experience, I visited local NGOs to understand more about the Ugandan health system. A real highlight was visiting community groups, understanding about livelihoods, community healthcare environments, and monitoring other existing projects such as motorbike ambulances and health worker training packages. I finished my time in Uganda in Kampala, visiting a deaf school and several deaf charities, as I wanted to connect with potential partners for further research bids.

The main benefits to me were learning about the health system in another country, and the context within which people live, learn and work. I have increased my cultural competencies about health inequalities, and I also understand more about what works well. Other benefits included the opportunity for confidence building and self-development, as well as knowledge transfer.

The experience was extremely developmental, and I've gained knowledge and experience that I have taken back with me to Wales. Collaborating on a mental health nursing module and connecting with potential research partners will also help me build upon and expand my work. I would recommend anyone to apply!

Ultimately having staff in health, care and education sectors who are globally aware as citizens, and who have had a potentially life and career-enhancing experience will often benefit organisations in Wales as staff return with a wider worldview. I have already been using my learning to submit research bids with partners to improve health facilities. I have also been able to share widely about what is helping in terms of health improvements, reducing maternal and infant death, feedback from ministries of health and what I've witnessed first-hand in local health centres in terms of what works as well as understanding ongoing health challenges, and why they exist.

If you'd like to learn more, I kept [a blog](#) about my time in Uganda.

Julia Terry

Associate Prof. Swansea University

Interim Chair of the Wales and Africa Health Links Network

The Welsh Health Equity Solutions Platform



A new digital platform launched to help stakeholders develop measures to reduce health inequality in Wales. Developed by the Policy and International Health team within the WHO Collaborating Centre on Investment for Health and Well-being it is a tool for health professionals, local authorities and policy makers to help stimulate ideas and find answers to equity problems.

The Welsh Health Equity Solutions Platform (WHESP) will act as a repository of information, case studies and previous interventions used to help combat inequity and share good practice in Wales.

The platform features searchable data tools and a report generating function which allows users to input their search terms and produce outputs related to those terms. The platform also offers a spotlight feature that can be used to highlight particular solutions or themes.

The team will develop the platform over time to add additional content and features.

The platform was launched at a webinar on 22 June 2023, further webinars will be held to highlight uses and new developments of the system.



World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank joint Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Global Monitoring Report 2023

The report reveals an alarming stagnation in the progress towards providing people everywhere with quality, affordable, and accessible health care. [Billions left behind on the path to Universal Health Coverage \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int)



The Lancet Global Health September Issue

The latest issue of The Lancet's Global Health journal focuses on equity, synergistic partnerships and how joined up care is needed to address multi-morbidity.

You can read the latest issue [HERE](#).



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International Horizon Scanning and Learning Report

Mental Health and Well-being of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

Report 45, July 2023

A review of international evidence and country experiences has found that asylum-seekers, refugees, and other displaced peoples have poorer mental health outcomes than those of the general population.

The International Horizon Scanning and Learning Report 45: Mental Health and Well-being of Refugees and Asylum-Seekers, also provided insights from Germany, Ireland, The Netherlands and Sweden on innovative and effective approaches to address the mental health and well-being of displaced people.

In 2019, Welsh Government developed the 'Nation of Sanctuary' plan which outlines the work being undertaken across Wales to ensure inequalities experienced by asylum-seekers and refugees are reduced; and to improve access to opportunities for education, employment, connecting and integrating with local communities and making friends.



Race Alliance Wales: Deconstructing Unsafe Spaces

Race Alliance Wales published a report earlier this year which looks into how to create a truly inclusive workplace culture for racialised staff.

This report aims to explore how a racist culture impacts racialised staff, specifically considering office-based work environments, due to the high percentage of public and third sector employment in Wales. Importantly, the research considers how this culture manifests through frameworks of policy, ways of working and professional relationships. And with this,

the aim is to provide clear, concrete recommendations that can be holistically adopted by employers to enable positive change that will lead to improved impact and outcomes for racialised staff in these environments across the nation.



THET are delighted to have launched their new Global Health Workforce Programme. The programme which is funded by the Department of Health and Social Care will provide £8.9 million to strengthen the health workforce in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria.

You can read more in their full announcement about this brilliant programme [HERE](#).

One of THET's trustees, Dr Titilola Banjoko, was featured in the Health Service Journal on 15 August with an article titled 'Racism is preventing the NHS from getting the most from its international recruits', which was based on the work THET completed on [Experts In Our Midst](#). You can read the full article [HERE](#).



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International Horizon Scanning and Learning Report

Five Essential Conditions for Health Equity

Report 46, September 2023

A review of international evidence and country experiences has found evidence that multi-sectoral policies may reduce health inequities.

The International Horizon Scanning and Learning Report 46: Five Essential Conditions for Health Equity examined determinants of health inequity and highlighted five policy areas where action could be taken to reduce inequity.

The report found in all countries there are wide disparities in the health status of different social groups, with the general trend showing the lower an individual's socioeconomic position, the more likely they are to experience and be at risk of poor health. These inequities have a significant social and economic costs, both to individuals and societies. The overall picture shows policies that distribute more resources to areas with greater health, social and economic needs have a positive impact on reducing health gaps between social groups and geographical areas.

Upcoming Events and Conferences



World Health Summit 2023

Join the World Health Summit 2023 from October 15-17 and meet stakeholders from politics, science, the private sector, and civil society from around the world in Berlin, Germany and online. Under the theme "A Defining Year for Global Health Action", WHS 2023 will set the agenda for a healthier future.



16th European Public Health Conference 2023 Our Food, Our Health, Our Earth : A Sustainable Future for Humanity

The 16th European Public Health Conference will be held in Dublin between the 8th and 11th of November. It will focus on the current climate emergency, looking specifically at gender and health, health care delivery, the use of digital tools and the necessary staffing and skills to provide good care.

You can find out more about the upcoming Conference [HERE](#).



2023 THET Annual Conference

This year's THET Conference on 31 October & 1 November, titled "Accelerating action on Universal Health Coverage: the role of Health Partnerships", follows the UN General Assembly marking the midpoint of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as three High Level Meetings (HLM): on Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Pandemic Preparedness and TB. With a backdrop of the intersecting crises of climate crisis, conflict, and the devastating legacy of the COVID pandemic, limited progress on universal health coverage, and regression on some health SDGs, these meetings aim to reinvigorate progress on access to health for all.

You can register for it [HERE](#).



73rd Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, 24-26 October 2023, Astana, Kazakhstan



European Health Forum Gastein “Health systems in crisis Countering shockwaves and fatigue”

The Forum will discuss how to ride out the current shockwaves and explore how crises can help catalyse the development of new approaches to health system problems. Full details can be found [HERE](#).



Wales and Africa Health Links Network Annual Conference

Get ready for an exciting day of collaboration, learning, and networking with healthcare professionals from Wales and Africa. This in-person event will take place on Monday 9th October 2023 at sbarc|spark, Maindy Road, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ.

Energising and Expanding Partnerships in Global Health will be this year's theme, and Ilora Finlay, Baroness Finlay of Llandaff, will deliver the keynote address.

Get in Touch

If you have any stories or international projects you wish to be featured in our upcoming newsletters, please email:

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