



Iechyd Rhyngwladol
International Health

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2: JANUARY 2024

Global Status Report on Road Safety 2023

The newly released Global status report on road safety 2023, details the scale of global road traffic deaths, and progress in advancing laws, strategies and actions to reduce them around the world.

It provides an overview of progress between 2010 and 2021, and sets a baseline for the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030 target of halving road traffic deaths and injuries by 2030.

The report shows that the number of road traffic deaths has fallen slightly to 1.19 million per year since 2010. Globally, as of 2019, road traffic crashes are the leading killer of children and youth aged 5 to 29 years and are the 12th leading cause of death when all ages are considered. More than half of fatalities are among pedestrians, motorcyclists and cyclists. The European Region reports the largest drop in deaths since 2010 – a 36% decline in fatalities.

The report calls for countries to design and build their mobility systems for people first instead of motor vehicles, and with safety as the main concern.

Additional information, resources, and background material are available at this [link](#).

Building a Wales of Active Global Citizens



Susie Ventris-Field outlines the importance of global citizenship to a thriving Welsh democracy, and argues that we need a roadmap for global citizenship education that goes far beyond the school gates.

You can read her article with the Institute of Welsh Affairs [HERE](#).

NHS Global Citizenship Modules

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](#).

Public Health Wales's new International Health Strategy



Public Health Wales has updated its 2017 International Health Strategy to better reflect the significant changes in the global landscape and to enable Public Health Wales' new Long-Term Strategy.

Wales shares a number of its challenges with the international community including addressing the health impacts of the climate emergency, the long-term impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, inequality, mental health and well-being, and the cost of living crisis. Public Health Wales' International Health Strategy sets out how the organisation will work with partners such as public health institutes, Welsh Government and others to enable learning and partnership working for example, by providing an International Health Community of Practice.

The new strategy aims to:

- Maximise benefits for the health and well-being of people in Wales.
- Develop globally responsible people and organisations.
- Respond to global health threats and benefit from international opportunities.

International health working can range from research partnerships, sharing of mutual knowledge via digital meetings to joint training and collaboration on projects. This learning can then be implemented in Wales to improve population health and reduce inequalities.

Liz Green, Consultant in Public Health, Policy, and International Health, said:

"Working with our international partners carries significant potential benefits in improving population health and creating a fairer Wales.

"This refreshed strategy will assist our colleagues at Public Health Wales and beyond in mutually learning through and sharing international health expertise, helping us to prevent disease, promote and protect health and wellbeing, and address inequalities that can have a life-long impact on population health."

You can find the refreshed International Health Strategy: Nationally Focused, Globally Responsible [HERE](#).

Diana's Health Improvement project in Malawi



As part of Cardiff University's ongoing partnership with Kamuzu University of Health Sciences, I have been leading a health improvement project to embed Haemoglobinopathies teaching across Malawi's nursing, midwifery, and community curriculum. A site visit to Blantyre Campus took place in summer 2023 to look at potential opportunities for further staff and student mobility. To date, this venture has led to over 400 interprofessional students, educators, clinical staff engaging in Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia learning. 16 clinical staff from departments across Blantyre's Queen Elizabeth Hospital were also trained how to implement a daily life-saving splenic palpation. Evaluative feedback from all that engaged in the teaching and training has been awesome. Having taught here in Wales for a rather long time, birds flying through the classroom was certainly something my PG Cert had not prepared me for!

Anaemia health promotion (with a translator) also took place with rural communities empowering 53 mothers and young people from 4 different schools to seek out more healthy blood foods, iron supplementation and when to access health services for excessive or abnormal bleeding related to menstruation or post-partum haemorrhage. Donations of medical kit, clothing and period dignity items were much appreciated and distributed as part of the visit. Delivering hygiene products to a safehouse (accompanied by armed police) was equally a humbling experience. This leg of the visit was arranged by the Wales led Fisherman's Rest Charity

Post-visit scholarly dissemination talks took place at 2 events in October 2023 during the Welsh Government's annual Hub Africa Global Health Conference and at a 'Hereditary Anaemias in Wales.' This event was organised by Friends of Cymru Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia community engagement group. Here experts and community members showcased amazing projects, celebrated progress, and looked at ways of improving health equity through collaboration.

Diana De
Cardiff University School of Healthcare Sciences



Dr Liz Green's successful PhD defense at Maastricht University

On 6th September, the Director of the Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit (WHIASU) and IHCC Lead, Liz Green, successfully defended her PhD thesis, "Health Impact Assessment (HIA) as a tool to mobilise Health in All Policies", at Maastricht University and has obtained her Doctorate. This is the first time ever that HIA has been the explicit focus of a PhD.

If you would like to watch Liz's defence of her thesis, you can watch it [HERE](#)

Applications open for 2024 HEPA Europe and WHO/Europe Early Career Professional's Development Programme

A new call for applications is now open for the 2024 HEPA Europe and WHO/Europe Early Career Professional's Development Programme. As explained in the link, the HEPA Europe network "works for better health and well-being by promoting more physical activity for all. Its mission is to provide a forum for the advancement of health-enhancing physical activity (HEPA) research, policy and practice across the WHO European Region." The call is targeting "early career researchers, practitioners and policy-makers across the WHO European Region". More information on the call and how to apply is available at the link above.

New call for proposal from EU4Health programme

A new Call for proposals for operating grants to non-governmental organisations has been launched under the EU4Health programme. The Call's aim will be to provide financial contributions to the functioning of health NGOs. The deadline to submit proposals is 31 January 2024. More information can be found [here](#).

International Learning Opportunities 2023/24

The ILO scheme, which sends people from Wales on 8-week placements in Africa has reopened for applications. The ILO programme is aimed at experienced managers and leaders who live or work in Wales. Potential participants must be fully committed and able to undertake a placement. You can find out more information [HERE](#).



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International Horizon Scanning and Learning Report

Embedding Prevention in Primary and Community Care

Report 47, December 2023

This new report highlights that cross-sector collaboration and integration can support Primary and Community Care (PCC), including health promotion and improvement, disease prevention and surveillance. While PCC focuses on individuals, public health addresses the needs of the whole population, so integration is crucial. Moving primary care into the community is an international priority as it can improve efficiency, whilst reducing or stabilising healthcare costs.

The International Horizon Scanning and Learning Report 47: Embedding Prevention in Primary and Community Care identifies solutions-based actions and learning from several countries. Common practices and enabling approaches include integrating digital systems and sharing data; comprehensive assessment and analysis of population health needs and assets; developing integrated pathways; incentives that support collaboration; cross-sector partnerships enabling upstream delivery, such as through social prescribing; multi-professional practices; joint training and promoting PCC as an attractive career.



Skills for Public Health Systems Leadership Report

Public Health Wales, in collaboration with Wolverhampton University, have published a report on Skills for Public Health System Leadership. The role of public health leaders is ultimately to improve health outcomes, especially for the most vulnerable in our society. Public health leaders have to work across multiple 'systems' because the

causes of public health issues are often complex and multi-faceted. Leading systems change is a vital skill needed in the field of public health; the ability to influence decision makers and to inspire others to lead change and to facilitate this to happen. Now more than ever, with fiscal constraints and the need to shift health systems towards prevention, having the leadership skills to bring partners on the journey is essential. This report, via a brief literature review and interviews with public health systems leaders, aims to explore the role of public health leaders in driving change for better health outcomes and the attributes needed to be successful. We hope that the report findings will be useful for future systems leaders to develop their skills in these areas. Please find the link to the infographic HERE.

For further information please contact jo.peden@wales.nhs.uk



Global Health Workforce Programme

Funded by the UK Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and managed by the Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET), the Global Health Workforce Programme (GHWP) aims to strengthen the health workforce in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria. The programme has the ambition of achieving more resilient health systems for post-pandemic recovery and supporting progress toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Grants for new or existing Health Partnerships between UK, Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria will be awarded to respond to national workforce priorities identified through a scoping assessment which is due to be carried out in partnership with national governments and stakeholders, along with the DHSC and the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), in autumn 2023. Successful grants will then be awarded to run from February 2024 until January 2025.

THET will award up to 20 strategic grants of £200,000 – £350,000 with the grants split across the three countries, although the exact split is dependent on the number and quality of applications received and broader priorities. 15 smaller grants of up to £50,000 will also be available for projects on specific areas such as innovation, rural health facilities, diaspora engagement, leadership opportunities for women and protected groups, and the climate crisis.

Please email grants@thet.org with any specific queries about the Global Health Workforce Programme



Tallinn Charter 15th Anniversary Health Systems Conference: Trust and transformation – resilient and sustainable health systems for the future

12 – 13 December 2023, Tallinn, Estonia

On 12–13 December 2023 WHO/Europe and the Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia co-hosted a high-level health systems conference to commemorate 15 years of the Tallinn Charter: Health Systems for Health and Wealth. The principles agreed during previous Tallinn health systems conferences (2008, 2013 and 2018) are enduring, and this year's event offered an opportunity to reflect on the challenges that countries face, while looking at how they can develop resilient, responsive and sustainable health systems needed in the 21st century.

Wales and Africa Health links Network

Wales and Africa Health Links Network are pleased to announce two new trustees: Amanda Daniel & Israa Mohammed.



Amanda is the Nurse Lead for Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) in the Community for Public Health Wales. Her heritage is from Calcutta, India where both her parents were born before migrating to the UK. Amanda.daniel@wales.nhs.uk



Israa works as an Advanced Epidemiological Scientist at Healthcare Associated Infection, Antimicrobial Resistance & Prescribing Programme (HARP), supporting Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) in routine surveillance and outbreak investigations. She holds a first-level university degree in pharmacy, along with two master's degrees in Clinical Pharmacy and Public Health for Development. israa.mohammed@wales.nhs.uk

Both are passionate about international health and are excited to start their new roles!

Wales and Africa Health links Network Annual Lecture



This year WaAHLN welcomed Dr Matthew Harris to deliver the lecture on the subject: "Decolonising healthcare solutions: Low-cost innovations from low-income countries".

In this lecture, Dr Harris offered a pathway for the NHS to adopt low-cost but effective innovations from areas of the world

traditionally seen as beneficiaries rather than providers of help and support. In an era of increasing demand and dwindling resources, and where the Covid-19 pandemic has illustrated the structural limitations of the current system, he provides examples of simple, frugal but high-quality alternatives to current practice and explores the barriers to adopting them.

Upcoming Events and Conferences



15th conference of the European network for the promotion of health- enhancing physical activity (HEPA Europe) 19th-21st August 2024

The objective of the conference is to engage and connect scientists, leading experts, policy-makers, professionals and other stakeholders to enhance and facilitate the implementation of knowledge in the field of health-enhancing physical activity, and to provide a forum for sharing the latest scientific, practice and policy developments in Europe and beyond. Full details can be found [HERE](#).



Safeguarding Essentials Training 20th February 2024 10:00 - 13:00

This training will take participants through the essential Safeguarding practices and requirements for organisations working in global solidarity with partners in Africa.

Register [HERE](#).

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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