

GOING FROM LODZ 2009 TO AMSTERDAM 2010

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With the 2009 annual scientific conference just finished in Lodz, Poland, we are looking back at a successful year for EUPHA:

The Lodz 2009 conference was very successful. We had just over 800 participants travelling to Lodz and participating in the 5 plenary sessions, 70 oral sessions and 13 poster sessions that were organized between 25 and 28 November. Some highlights of Lodz 2009:

- The organization of the conference was smooth, efficient and highly appreciated by the participants. We again wish to thank the local organizing team for their outstanding efforts and for the warm and pleasant collaboration.
- The partnership for Lodz 2009 was positive. The collaboration with our key partner, ASPHER, was smooth and the joint stand of EUPHA and ASPHER showed that both organizations can work well together.
- Partnership expanded as well. The European Environment Agency, EPHA and the European Society for Quality in Healthcare were some of the collaborating partners in the program. Something we wish to continue in the coming years.
- The extra sessions on the H1N1 virus (Mexican flu) and the impact of the economic crisis on public health were appreciated and showed that the conference can be used for pressing health issues.
- The new way of organizing poster presentations, in actual poster sessions and with moderators, was highly appreciated, both by the presenters as well as the audience.

The more active involvement of EUPHA in European projects is another successful development of EUPHA. With the start in 2009 of the STEPS project, we increased our visibility, our activities and our office staff (senior project officer).

As our president described above, the EUPHA Governing Council meeting in Lodz approved the new operational plan for 2010-14. The Governing Council also elected Prof. Walter Ricciardi from Italy as president-elect of EUPHA and Prof. Peter Allebeck from Sweden as the incoming editor-in-chief of the EJPH. A new EUPHA section on Urban Health was also installed, bringing the total number of EUPHA sections to 18.

This positive momentum in 2009 is reflected in the work plan for 2010. As the president describes, an ambitious plan, where all EUPHA's members and actors are invited to actively participate. We, at EUPHA office, are looking forward to taking up this challenge and working towards further development of EUPHA, to build capacity and knowledge among our members and to work in partnership to further European public health.

With the distribution in Lodz, of the first announcement for the third European public health conference, together with the bag of tulip bulbs, 2010 got off to a good start. The tulip bulbs are not just a reminder to submit your abstract on time, but also to work towards letting EUPHA blossom in many different colors in 2010.

EUPHA and ASPHER are pleased to invite you to the 3rd joint European Public Health Conference combining the 18th annual EUPHA meeting and the 32nd annual meeting of ASPHER. The conference will be organized from 10 to 13 November in Amsterdam by the Netherlands Public Health Federation (NPHF). The main theme of the conference is integrated public health.

Please note the following important dates:

- 1 March 2010 Abstract submission opens
- 1 May 2010 Abstract submission closes
- 15 June 2010 Decision on abstracts are communicated
- 15 September 2010 Deadline for early conference registration