



Memorandum of Understanding

For Cooperation in Public Health

between

The International Health Partnerships Association

And

The South Eastern European Journal of Public Health

The International Health Partnerships Association (the IHPA) and *The South Eastern European Journal for Public Health (the SEEJPH)*, hereinafter referred to as the "Participants";

Whereas the Participants recognize the importance of the public health to support political cooperation and economic development in the SEE region, in Europe and globally;

Whereas the Participants desire to expand their exchanges in public health in a spirit of equality, reciprocity, consensual decision making and mutual benefit;

Havereached the following understanding:

1.

1. The Participants will encourage and facilitate, subject to their approval, mutually acceptable contacts, exchanges and cooperation in public health by:

- a) exchange of information, lessons learned and best practices through participation in congresses, meetings, conferences and symposia organized by the Participants;
- b) cooperation between the governing bodies, the expert structures and technical experts of the Participants;
- c) cooperation on mutually selected subjects, and
- d) cooperation on joint development and/or implementation of projects.

2. The Participants will support and develop their partnership for cooperation activities with the intention of strengthening public health systems, public health services and public health

capacities in areas referred to in this Memorandum of Understanding and mutually decided upon by the Participants.

3. In the development of the work plans and activities pertaining to the cooperation activities, the Participants intend to cooperate, among others, with other public institutions, nongovernmental and international organizations, technical cooperation agencies, and funding organizations or agencies.

2.

1. The Participants will give priority to jointly proposed subject areas which could include:
 - a) public health system strengthening;
 - b) governance for public health;
 - c) communicable diseases;
 - d) non-communicable diseases;
 - e) mental health;
 - f) social determinants of health;
 - g) antibiotic resistance;
 - h) human resources in health;
 - i) accreditation and quality of health promotion; and
 - j) other public health areas decided upon by both Participants.

3.

1. The Participants will constitute and co-chair a joint committee, which will meet in person or via teleconference at least once a year, to monitor and report on progress, to define how cooperation will be carried out and to make decisions on work plans including specific initiatives, outputs and expected results to be jointly developed;
2. Within three months following the signature of this Memorandum of Understanding, the co-chairs will decide on the composition of the committee and designate their respective committee members;
3. Each Participant will define how those exchanges and cooperation will occur over the duration of this Memorandum of Understanding, recognizing that additional activities or modifications of existing activities may be required by the Participants.

4.

1. As required, each specific activity pursued under the work plans will include:
 - a) distribution of tasks among the Participants;
 - b) information relevant to contacts; and
 - c) description of exchanges and cooperation.
2. Each participant will determine, on a case-by-case basis, the costs of each activity that they will pay, in accordance with the work plans and the nature of the activity.

5.

1. Any issues concerning intellectual property that may derive from activities and actions resulting from the present Memorandum of Understanding will be mutually decided upon by both Participants, taking into account the nature of the activities, and the objectives of the work plans, and also considering the applicable international laws.

6.

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect upon signature and will remain in effect for a period of three (3) years. It shall be extended automatically for an additional period of time if not terminated by the Participants.

7.

1. A Participant may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by providing ninety (90) days advance written notice to the other Participant.

8.

1. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended in writing by the Participants upon mutual consent to that effect.

9.

1. This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create legally binding obligations under either domestic or international law.

Signed in two originals, in English, one for each of the Participants, on the 21th May 2018 in Sofia, Bulgaria and Tirana, Albania

**For the International Health
Partnerships Association**



Ms. Gabriela Haralanova
Chair, Management Board

**For the South Eastern European
Journal of Public Health**

GENC BURAZERI


Prof. Genc Burazeri
Executive Editor