

***USING THE HEALTHY CITY
COLLABORATIVE PLANNING PROCESS
TO IMPLEMENT OCCUPATIONAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS
IN BANSKA BYSTRICA***

***Eleonora Fabianova, M.D., PhD.
Kvetoslava Koppova, M.D.
STATE HEALTH INSTITUTE
BANSKA BYSTRICA
SLOVAK REPUBLIC***

CITY HEALTH PLAN FOR BANSKA BYSTRICA

- ❖ The City Health Plan is a long term strategy aimed at enhancing the quality of life in the city through improvements in the health status of the population and the environment.
- ❖ The Plan is broadly formulated strategy based in the set of measures that focus on gradual improvement in the quality of life and health status of the population through the year 2005.
- ❖ The Plan contains a brief description of conditions related to human health, outlines critical issues to be addressed in individual areas, formulates objectives to be achieved, lists specific actions to be taken towards achieving those objectives.
- ❖ The main goal is to improve environmental and occupational health.

Preparation of the City Health Plan and steps

- ❖ Long way of creation of understanding, trust, partnership and common policy between public health experts, city representatives, local authorities, inhabitants and enterpreners
- ❖ Reports, results of enviro-health projects, meetings with mass media, enviro-health programs on local and national TV, articles, meetings with mayor, presentations for the City council

STEPS

- ❖ 1991 – The City council joined the WHO Healthy City movement
- ❖ 1994 – Healthy City Community Foundation was established as the 1st community foundation in the Central Europe

- ❖ 1994 – 1995 started the CINDI program – intervention program for health promotion, Healthy Schools, Healthy Workplaces at the SHI
- ❖ 1996 – Banska Bystrica signed the Aalborg Charter – European Charter of Sustainable Cities
- ❖ 1997 – Profile of Health Status for Banska Bystrica was elaborated
- ❖ 1998 – The City Health Plan was completed
- ❖ 1999 – Board of Health was approved by the mayor and by the City council. The lord mayor is the head of the Board.
- ❖ April 27, 2000 – Evaluation of the fulfilment of the tasks adopted in the City Health Plan – approved by the City Council
- ❖ June – October 2001 – New Questionnaire survey of community needs

❖ February 2002 – Approval of Local Action Plan on Environmental and Health (LEHAP) of the city Banska Bystrica

❖ April 2002 – Conference of involved stakeholders focused on implementation of updated documents for the investment activities and creation of new coalitions.

ACTORS

❖ The City Health Plan and the new Local Environmental Health Plan (LEHAP) were prepared by team of experts in the areas of public health, social services, education, public transportation, environmental protection, culture, police, representatives of central, regional, and local government, different organizations and the business community

❖ Initiative of the Healthy City Cabinet (board and staff)

- ❖ Working team: Project coordinator, 2 Healthy City Cabinet employees, 31 experts (heads of subgroups), 22 consultants

- ❖ 937 citizens (out of 1000 invited to participate in the survey questionnaire) in 1997, university students and school children participating in the “Managed imaginations” on “How I see the future picture of my town”

- ❖ 21 City council members participating in the survey in 1997

- ❖ 787 citizens in the public survey in 2001

- ❖ The creators are out of 40 organizations

Note: Journalist from local newspaper attended all the meetings of the core group and some meetings of the working subgroups

PRIORITY PROBLEMS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THEIR SOLUTION (The health perspective)

➤ Environment and Health

air, noise in the city, city parks, nature, housing, security, traffic, cleanliness, extermination project, waste management, waste water, drinking water, recreation water, mineral water, food preparation, marked places, health care services and institutions

➤ Lifestyle

lifestyle in general – risk factors, smoking, nutrition and health, physical activity, recreation areas, sport, tourism, HIV/AIDS and sexual health

➤ Social and economical problems

elderly and socially dependent citizens, disabled citizens, single-parent and dysfunctional families with young children, employment, high-risk workplaces

➤ Educational, culture and spiritual life, education, culture, religion in the city

RESULTS:

Out of 285 planned activities:

- 36 completed
- 144 under fulfilment
- 105 have to be changed or canceled

AIR POLLUTION IN THE CENTRE OF BANSKA BYSTRICA

Completed activities:

- The measurements of air pollutions are performed (automatized monitoring station, measurements of specific pollutants)
- The information for inhabitants available in the centre of the city (on time information)
- 3 bigger plants and polluters decreased the ambient air pollution
- City greening plan under implementation

Pending activities:

- traffic related pollution
- small heating units
- big investment activities

AMBIET AIR POLLUTION

Annual average concentrations [$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$]

	1990	1994	2000
NO _x	135.3	116.9	60.2
TSP	69.0	84.5	33.5

FINANCING OF ACTIVITIES

City Hall

Organizations

Healthy City Community Foundation

Other donors

Expectations:

- Better communication between different agencies, experts, officers and with public
- Progress in the quality of life, better health, better environment

Community Foundation:

- Small grants for groups of inhabitants, NGOs, non-profit organization
- Board and staff
- Grants: programs for youth, for residential areas, for women, for villages, for environment
- General program: for disabled, for social area, for education, for health, culture etc.

Donors:

City, private people, companies, foundations

The most important experiences gained in the framework of the work or implementations are:

- identification of actors, stakeholders, partners
- partnership, common understanding, good will
- improved communications between public, experts, city representatives, inhabitants
- new forms of communications with mass media
- variability in involvement, participation
- reflection of socio-economic development
- new ideas, creativity, leadership, support for sustainability