

# RESEARCH INTO CHILD HEALTH IN EUROPE

## Background

CHILD HEALTH IN EUROPE IS GOOD, BUT THERE ARE SERIOUS PROBLEMS, E.G. OBESITY, MENTAL HEALTH, ALCOHOL ABUSE, AND DEVELOPING SEXUALITY. FIXING THESE WILL REQUIRE ANSWERS TO COMPLEX QUESTIONS, CROSSING DISCIPLINARY BOUNDARIES, AND POLICY SECTORS. WE WILL SET UP A SUSTAINABLE NETWORK FOR RESEARCHERS, FUNDERS, POLICY MAKERS, ADVOCATES AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN EUROPE, TO SUPPORT COLLABORATION IN DEVELOPING THE FUTURE OF CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH.

## SCIENTIFIC (STRATEGIC) OBJECTIVES

- \* IDENTIFYING, AND CHARACTERISING, THE DIVERSITY OF EUROPEAN CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH.
- \* DESCRIBING, AND CHARACTERISING, THE FRAGMENTATION IN EUROPEAN CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH.
- \* DEVELOPING AN EVIDENCE-BASED PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING GAPS IN EUROPEAN CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH.
- \* DEVELOPING A REASONED PROCESS FOR DETERMINING PRIORITIES IN CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH.
- \* PROPOSING KEY AREAS IN WHICH RESEARCH SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN.
- \* PROVIDING A PLATFORM WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE, CHILDREN'S ADVOCATES, AND OTHER NGO'S CAN CONNECT WITH RESEARCHERS TO REVIEW AND DEVELOP PRIORITIES IN CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH.
- \* ASSESSING CURRENT CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH CAPACITY, AND PROPOSING AND FACILITATING WAYS OF BUILDING IT UP.

## TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES

- \* IDENTIFY AND CLASSIFY RECENT AND ON-GOING CHILD RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AT NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN LEVELS (WP1)
- \* IDENTIFY PREVIOUS AND ON-GOING WORK ON MEASURING CHILD HEALTH AND CHILD HEALTH INDICATORS (WP2)
- \* DEVELOP AND APPLY A FORMAL EVIDENCE BASED PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING GAPS IN CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH (WP3)
- \* DEVELOP AND APPLY A CONSULTATIVE AND FORMATIVE PROCESS TO MAKE ROADMAPS FOR THE FUTURE OF CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH (WP4)
- \* DESIGN, DEVELOP AND DEPLOY A SUSTAINABLE PLATFORM TO SUPPORT THESE ACTIVITIES, DURING THE PROJECT AND AFTERWARDS (WP5)
- \* DISSEMINATE THE RESULTS TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS INCLUDING YOUNG PEOPLE, ADVOCATES, RESEARCHERS, FUNDERS AND POLICY MAKERS (WP5)
- \* PROVIDE A SPACE WHERE RESEARCHERS AND OTHERS CAN REGISTER THEIR COMPETENCIES AND INTERESTS, POST STUDY DETAILS, AND INTERACT WITHIN A RESEARCH COMMUNITY AND WITH POTENTIAL COMMISSIONING BODIES (WP5)



### WP1 INVENTORY

*The objective of this WP is to gather and classify research outputs, relevant to child health, from all across Europe. We will provide tools to enter, classify and search these from our website. We will develop a classification system, supporting multiple EU languages, which will support searching and finding relevant items. We will use existing taxonomies and existing metadata to the fullest extent possible. Our intent is to make the child health research across Europe more visible, and more accessible to policy makers, child health advocates, young people, and researchers.*

### WP3 GAPS

*Our aim is to define and implement a process to find gaps in European child health research. To start we will analyse the research priorities of stakeholders, then looking at the health needs of children and the content of child health surveys. We will build on WP1 and WP2, and finish with a major meeting on Gaps in Child Health Research.*

### WP4 ROADMAPS

*This WP is to identify paths to the future of child health research in the EU. We will build on WP1-3, and existing work on moving research into policy, and on frameworks for research priorities. We will use a rapid open consultation to develop a consensus on the roadmaps, and to identify capacity to deliver them, and prioritise them.*

### WP5 PLATFORM

*The Platform is where we ask you to work with us. It is like 'Facebook for child health researchers', an open collaborative social network, for all who produce, use, or are interested in child health research. On our platform, you can register yourself, complete a profile, and add in projects, articles, reports, theses, and other grey literature, in many languages. We are developing a collaborative platform where you can readily form groups, recruit collaborators, and work, with other researchers, child health advocates, policy makers, and young people, to improve child health. The platform will do what you want it to do, so help us build the tools for the futures of child health research.*

### WP2 CHILD HEALTH MEASUREMENT

*Developing and implementing sound indicators, based on good measurements, for various aspects of child health and its determinants is essential for the future development of child health within the EU. We will provide a platform for identifying key resources and important topics in such future developments.*



**Please join us at <http://childhealthresearch.eu/>**