



Generalitat de Catalunya
Departament de Salut

HIA implementation

Different models, different results?

A review of HIA implementation worldwide

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Framework

- The world-wide implementation of HIA presents great differences by country/region/town in: format, scope, aims, legislation, institutions...
- Catalan Public Health Law (from October 2009)
 - Defines HIA : “A combination of procedures, methods and tools used to assess a policy, program or project in relation with its potential effects over the health of the population and population groups”
 - Title 2 “*From the Public Health Policies*”
 - Article 6 Is part of the Public Health Services, to do HIA on the interventions (programs or policies) related to the determinants of health of the population
 - Article 17 HIA is a task of the Public Health Catalan Agency

Objectives

To Review different ways in which HIA has been institutionalized worldwide through a literature and internet search

Methods

□ Search (until December 2010):

- Pub med search
- Internet search:
 - WHO HIA page: <http://www.who.int/hia/en/>
 - HIA-Gateway:
<http://www.apho.org.uk/default.aspx?RID=40141>
 - Other HIA pages through the section “related sites” on WHO, HIA-gateway
- Contact by mail with key informants

Methods

- Variables collected by country, region or town:
 - Legislation on HIA
 - Aim of HIA implementation
 - Institution supporting HIA
 - Characteristics of HIA implementation (Integrated vs Isolated, guides and HIA tools developed, webs,...)
 - HIA published

Information gathered

Information found for 47 administrations*

1 town (London)
6 countries no further info found
1 broader administration (Europe)
(Other: Global Bank, Private companies)

39 administrations

18 countries

21 Regions
(Autonomic Health Authority)

Country and HIA method

	Independent/ Integrated
Australia	HIA + EIA
USA	HIA
Denmark	HIA
Hungary	HIA
Ireland	HIA
Slovenia	HIA
Spain	HIA
Switzerland	HIA
Netherland	HIA
Thailand	HIA
Canada	Integrated
Italy	Integrated
Sweden	Integrated
Lithuania	Integrated
New Zeland	Integrated
Poland	Integrated
Finland	Integrated (EIA+HuIA)
UK	Integrated

EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment

HIA: Health Impact Assessment

HuIA: Human Impact Assessment

Countries and HIA Regulation

	Regulation	How
Australia	X	
USA		
Denmark		
Hungary	X	HIA Department
Ireland	X	In National Health Strategy
Slovenia		
Spain		future PH Act?
Switzerland	X	HIA Platform
Netherland	X	Screening Public policies
Thailand	X	National Health Act
Canada	X	Mandatory into EIS
Italy		As health protection
Sweden	X	HIA is legal req under environmental code
Lithuania	X	Economic development Law & PH
New Zealand	X	1991 resource management Act. HIA Unit
Poland	X	Health protection
Finland	X	Mandatory in EIA, voluntary for HUIA
UK	X	Health Act 2007: Mandatory

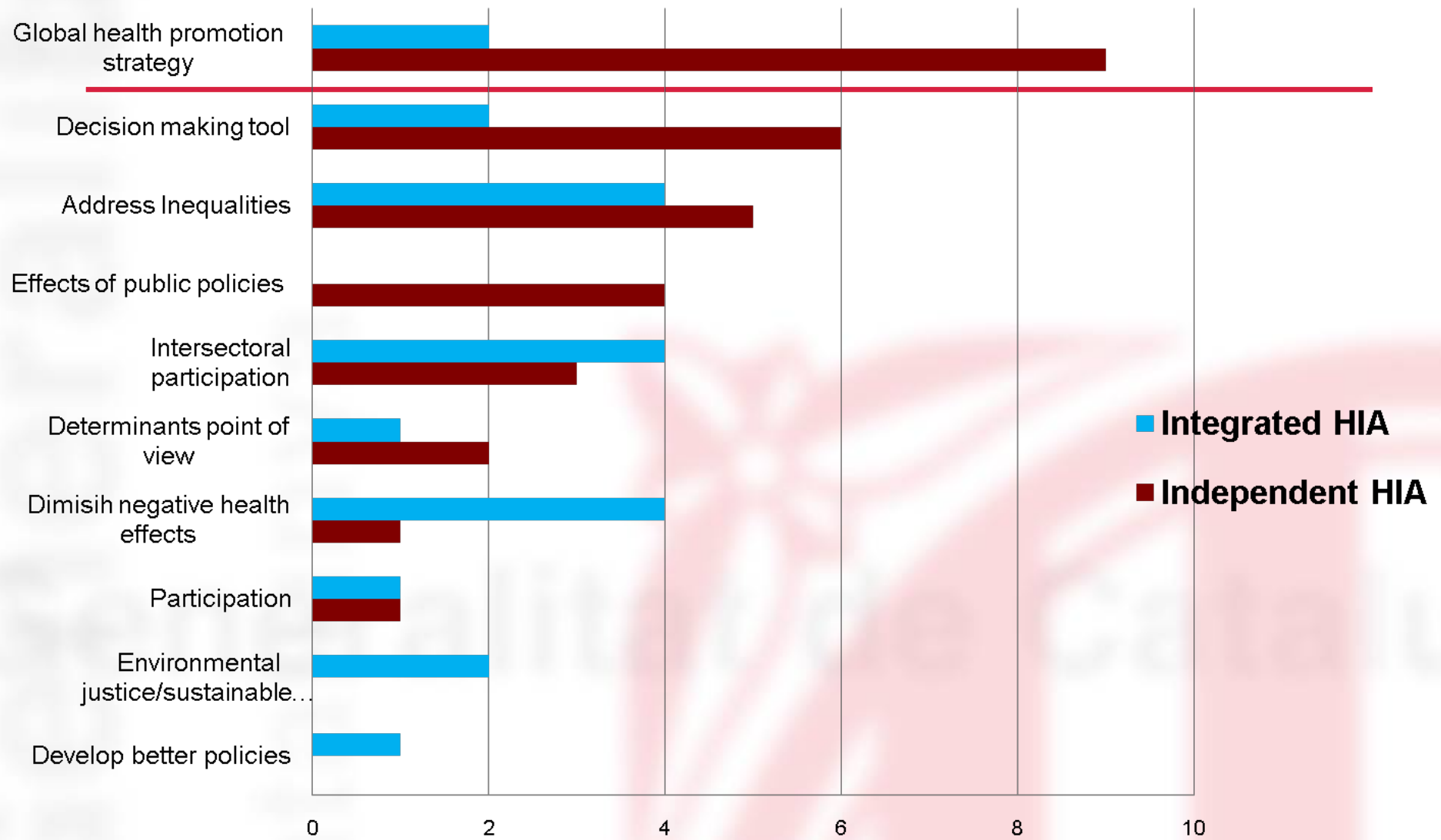
HIA Regulation vs Methodology in 18 Countries



HIA by Regions: Local implementation

Region	Regulation	Independent/ Integrated
UK Northern Ireland	PH Investing for health & Ministerial group.	HIA
UK Wales	PH strategy: Not mandatory but promoted at all levels (participation)	HIA*
UK Scotland	2008 "Equally well": IA/ SEA. Equality IA (EQIA) legal requirement	Integrated
AUS Capital territory	1997 Public Health Act. As part of EIA	Integrated
AUS Northern territory	Health Department participates on EIA	Integrated
AUS Queensland	Population Health Plan 2007-2012	HIA
AUS South Australia	PH strategy: EQIA	HIA
AUS Tasmania	Integrated on EIA	Integrated
AUS Victoria	PH strategy	HIA
AUS Western territory	PH Act establishing mandatory HIA (in process)	HIA
AUS New South Wales	2003 Health and Equity Statement	HIA
CAN Quebec	New PH Law: HIA legal framework. Systematic HIA on EIA	Integrated
SUISS Genève	2006 Health Act.	HIA
SUISS Jura	PH strategy	Integrated
SUISS Ticino	2005 law on HIA & HIA Inter department HIA Commission	HIA
USA California	2008 Health Act (funds)	HIA
USA Maryland	2008 Healthy Places Act (funds)	HIA
USA Massachusetts	2007 Act. HIA part of EIA (environmental justice)	Integrated
USA Minnesota	2009 Healthy Communities Act (funds)	HIA
USA Washington	2006 PH Act. Disparities.	HIA
USA West Virginia	2007 Bill. HIA part of EIA (Health promotion)	Integrated

Aim of HIA implementation by strategy



In general...

- 21 administrations : Independent HIA
 - 18 promoted through Public Health Act or other policies
 - None HIA mandatory
- 17 administrations: Integrated HIA
 - In 13 HIA was not mandatory, but promoted through Public Health Act
 - In 4 HIA mandatory as part of IA, EIA

In general...

- ❑ Great variation of HIA implementation and institutionalization by country / region:
 - By country: 13 of 18 countries have some regulation on HIA but still needs local level implementation (local regulation...)
 - By region: Regulations on HIA more clear, mostly local implementation
- ❑ Independent HIA has more impact but present national strategies of implementation (often regulated by PH law but not mandatory)
- ❑ Integrated HIA into EIA, IA, SIA more often mandatory and regulated at national level, but HIA results diluted
- ❑ The objective of HIA implementation is different for each administration, and determines the utilization of integrated vs independent strategy

Conclusions

- There are differences in HIA implementation by countries/ regions.
- Besides Integrated HIA favors sustainability, its impact seems diluted.
- Success relies on political will to facilitate local implementation through HIA working groups, implicating all stakeholders, resources and training.
- Review of the different experiences could be of great interest for HIA implementation in Catalonia, especially since approval of 2009 PH law and the pending Spanish PH law, where HIA could be a requirement.



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