



NNGYK
NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC
HEALTH AND PHARMACY

Potential establishment of a European Environment and Health Process (EHP) Partnership on Risk Reduction in School Environments

Dear National Focal Points,

We wish to inform you that the National Center for Public Health and Pharmacy of Hungary and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Environmental Risk Management initiated the process to establish a European Environment and Health Process (EHP) Partnership on risk reduction in school environments. The draft proposal has been formulated in collaboration with the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health. The draft has been circulated initially to those countries who expressed interest at the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health or have significant previous experience and achievements in advancing a healthy school environment. As of June 2024, Germany and Italy have confirmed their intention to participate.

We aim to launch the EHP Partnership on risk reduction in school environment at the upcoming meeting of the European Environment and Health Task Force (EHTF), which will take place on 26–27 June 2024, in Utrecht, Kingdom of the Netherlands. A healthy school environment is fundamental for the health and well-being of children as well as for optimal learning outcomes. It links to Sustainable Development Goal 4.a to “*build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all*” and it is one of the key commitments of the Budapest Declaration to “*promote a safe, clean and healthy built environment across all settings*”. The Partnership proposes a holistic approach to a school environment, including risks associated with indoor air quality and water, sanitation and hygiene. We believe that many countries, organisations and institutions in the pan-European region have good practices to share in the framework of the Partnership and can also benefit from the exchange of knowledge.

Therefore, we kindly ask you to support the establishment of this new Partnership at the meeting of the EHTF. We also seek your interest in joining the Partnership.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best regards,
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