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this newsletter offers you all the latest project news from the International Development Collaboration at STAKES.

The newsletter is also available at our website at <http://idc.stakes.fi>

June 2008

News

STAKES and the National Public Health Institute (KTL) to be joined

STAKES and the National Public Health Institute of Finland will be joined to form a new research centre on welfare and health.

The new institution will start its operations on January 1, 2009 and will emphasize the common development needs of social and health care and have a strong customer focus.

The new institute will be located in Helsinki and it will have regional satellite offices in the cities where the two organizations currently operate. The aim is to move about 100 man-years to the satellite offices by 2015.

– From IDCs’ perspective this organizational change is very positive and will allow us to offer to our clients and partners a wider coverage of expertise in the fields of social and healthcare as well from policy making perspective as from structural development collaboration, says Director Jutta Immanen-Pöyry of IDC at STAKES.

Text: www.stakes.fi and IDC at STAKES News

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The coast of Indian Ocean in Tanzania

Photo: Marja Anttila

National public health institutes of the world collaborate – STAKES experts continue their involvement

The International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI) is an organization dedicated to linking and strengthening national public health institutes (NPHIs) around the world.

IANPHI’s goal is to improve public health service delivery and decision-making globally by helping low-resource countries to strengthen or develop their NPHIs. IANPHI is also fostering an international network to connect the world’s public health institutions and their leaders.

IANPHI has developed an internationally accepted framework for NPHI development & strengthening providing scientific and technical support to this end. IANPHI’s annual meetings, leadership development activities, research seed grants, and communication efforts enhance the linkages among the NPHIs. Funding for IANPHI’s grants and techni-

cal assistance programmes comes from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Tanzania’s National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) is a partner in an IANPHI medium-term project with a focus on strengthening non-communicable disease surveillance and response in the country. In January 2008 NIMR’s project proposal was appraised by a team consisting of experts from the Finnish Public Health Institute (KTL) and STAKES. The proposal was further developed and activities are planned to start later this year. IDC at STAKES collaborates with KTL also in another IANPHI project to strengthen the functions of Ethiopia’s Health & Nutrition Research Institute.

Further information from <http://www.ianphi.org>

Text: Dr Marja Anttila, Senior Expert, IDC at STAKES

News from Twinning Project: Slovak and French colleagues studied about the Finnish social support and re-socialisation programmes

In the framework of the EU Twinning Project “Improving and broadening the care for the re-socialization and rehabilitation of persons addicted to psychoactive substances” our Slovak and French colleagues visited Finland between March 31 and April 4, 2008.

The aim of the visit was to study the Finnish social support and re-socialisation programmes dedicated to persons with addiction problems.

The programme kicked off at STAKES where the representative of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health gave a presentation on Finnish Drug Policy, followed by a presentation by STAKES research experts from the field of drug addiction and related services, as well as substance abuse training policy and practice. We also had the opportunity to visit the Myyrmäki A-Clinic Facility in the City of Vantaa and learn about the city's local policy and services concerning drugs.

Kisko therapeutic model and Kerava prison

During the week we also had the opportunity to become acquainted with the Kisko therapeutic model being used at the Kisko clinic and in Kerava prison. The Therapeutic Community (TC) of Kisko is a 24-bed, long-term residential treatment and rehabilitation program for drug abusers. The treatment facility is located in the municipality of Kisko in south-western Finland. The program operates according to the principles of addiction TC. The treatment program is divided into four stages: an evaluation period and three consecutive treatment stages, the last of which (re-entry) takes place in the program's half-way house in Helsinki, Finland's capital. The treatment program is a combination of three main components: the hierarchical model of the TC, transactional analysis (TA) - based therapy and 12-step programs (AA / NA). There is also an outpatient

application of the program, which operates in Helsinki, a program for adolescents and four prison-based programs. TC of Kisko is a full member of the European Federation of Therapeutic Communities (EFTC).

“Stoori”- for those who are not welcome elsewhere

We also visited “Stoori” a Drop-in Centre that functions on the principles of low entry threshold and implementation and development of new models for social work. The services offered here are especially directed at persons who are not welcome elsewhere. Being under the influence is not an obstacle to benefiting from the services offered. The objective is to offer services to those target groups whose needs are not served by the existing public services. The central issues at stake are to relieve human suffering and to reduce the impact of harmful factors. The staff is made up of professional social welfare and public healthcare workers.

Stoori offers its clients a place where they can gather and spend time, a place they will actually use. There is coffee, porridge, bread and a daily hot meal available at low prices. Stoori offers shower facilities, a laundry, and clean clothing from the clothes storeroom. Clients have at their disposal newspapers, a television, a radio, a telephone, and a computer. In addition, a nurse, a doctor, and a social worker are on duty to assist.

Finnish NGOs, A-Clinic Foundation, Finnish Blue Ribbon, Hietalinna community, an urban therapeutic community operating in the Centre of Helsinki and Probation Foundation also gave presentations on their activities and roles in the service provision.

Text: Minna Sinkkonen, Project Manager, IDC at STAKES

Photo: provided by Twinning team Slovakia/France



Finnish “korvapuusti” – cinnamon bun offered by Renata Brenerová and Ivana Mrazkova, both from the Department for Social and Family Policy of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Slovakia.

STAKES has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Iranian Ministry of Health and Medical Education



Entrance of Apadana palace in Persepolis, Iran
Photo: Markku Pekurinen

At the end of April STAKES signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Iranian Ministry of Health and Medical Education.

In Finland the collaboration will be coordinated by IDC at STAKES and will involve capacity building in health policy and long term planning, health economics and health insurance among other topics. In the future the collaboration will hopefully expand also to social sector and involve various parties in both countries with a goal of creating an integrated approach to development issues.

The collaboration started early 2007 and has facilitated several study tours and seminars between the experts of both countries involving also WHO Tehran and Cairo offices. STAKES sees this kind of collaboration as an excellent example of creating a dialog between experts from quite different cultures but having common goals. The recently signed MOU gives a good framework for continuous and consistent collaboration.

Text: Director Jutta Immanen-Pöyry, IDC at STAKES

Helsinki Process brought an important visitor to Finland

STAKES had a privilege to meet Dr Ahmad Mango, Advisor to HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordania.

Dr Mango was invited to Finland by Helsinki Process globalisation and democracy. Helsinki Process has been active in promoting regional cooperation for social and economic development in the West Asia, North Africa (WANA) region.

According to Dr Mango one of the biggest challenges in WANA Region are wide disparities of income and education. The gap between different population groups is widening and there are very low or relatively high income groups. This situation should be addressed by means of comparative work and promoting good practices in human development and poverty reduction. The Finnish experts at STAKES introduced its international af-



fairs activities in the field of social protection, poverty analysis and health care.
Text: Communications Officer Anne Rissanen, IDC at STAKES

From left: Ambassador Ilari Rantakari, Dr Mango and Senior Social Development Advisor Ronald Wiman of Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

International Development Collaboration at STAKES

NEWS

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Visiting Asian Development Bank (ADB)

IDC at STAKES participated in a Trade Mission to the Asian Development Bank headquarters in Manila.

I had the pleasure of participating, along with some 100 colleagues from all over the world, in a three-day event organized by the embassies of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, The Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. The very well organized event consisted of different interactive seminars presenting on one hand the long-term, strategic framework of ADB and on the other hand the programs in different sectoral and geographical areas, not forgetting the opportunities of networking with seminar participants and ADB experts.

The participants also got a very interesting presentation on ADB Strategy 2020. To fulfill its mission and realize its vision of an Asia and Pacific free of poverty, the bank will focus on five key areas of operation, namely: Infrastructure, Environment (including climate change), Regional Cooperation and Integration, Finance Sector Development, Education. Although the strategy seems reasonable and consistent it leaves e.g. the healthcare sector experts somewhat concerned. In the future ADB will contribute to improvements in health mainly through infrastructure projects and will be more selective on other health related issues.

Text: Director Jutta Immanen-Pöyry, IDC at STAKES



From left: Jutta Immanen-Pöyry, Mike Timmermans and Dr. Janet Hatcher Roberts
Photo by: Finpro



Visit also our webpages: <http://idc.stakes.fi>

Exciting opportunities exist with IDC at STAKES

Experts working in our projects are highly qualified professionals who have experience in international development programmes. We are constantly looking for experts to work on long- and short-term assignments in our projects worldwide.

We are seeking to recruit:

- Health and social policy experts
- Health care and social protection experts
- Health and social management experts
- Health economists

- Human resource development experts
- Reproductive health experts
- Experts in social and health management information systems
- Training experts
- Health technology experts and other health professionals experienced in eg. HIV and AIDS, eHealth.

Send us your CV to idc@stakes.fi
More information is also available from our website.