GIG CYMRU NHS WALES | Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales
Y Ganolfan Ryngwladol Cydlynu Iechyd (CRC)
The International Health Coordination Centre (IHCC)

Polisi ac Iechyd Rhyngwladol
Canolfan Gydweithredol Sefydliad Iechyd y Byd ar Fuddsoddi ar gyfer Iechyd a Llesiant

Policy and International Health
World Health Organization
Collaborating Centre on Investment for Health and Well-being

# International Health Newsletter

**Issue11, November 2026**



*PAHO team in Ecuador. Anna Stielke is third from right on the back row. Image courtesy of Anna Stielke*

## PAHO in Ecuador - Vaccine Research Trip

**by Anna Stielke (Public Health Wales)**

**In July 2026, Anna Stielke, Senior International Evidence and Policy Officer within Public Health Wales' Well-being Economics and Value (WEAVE) team, travelled to Quito, Ecuador, to support the delivery of a series of participatory stakeholder workshops.**

*Anna joined the research trip as part of WEAVE's collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). The team is conducting a Social Return on Investment (SROI) study of maternal influenza vaccination in Ecuador, in order to explore the wider value of vaccination programmes.*

These workshops brought together representatives from the Ministry of Public Health, academic institutions, healthcare professionals, and programme beneficiaries, including pregnant women.

Through facilitated discussions, participants explored the changes and outcomes resulting from the maternal influenza vaccination programme, identified those outcomes they considered most significant, and reflected on any unintended positive or negative impacts.

By identifying and valuing the outcomes that matter most to stakeholders, the study will support future funding, investment, and policy decisions that maximise social impact and population well-being.

## PAHO Research Study

**The study seeks to understand the broader social, economic, and health outcomes generated by the programme and to support evidence-informed decisions on vaccination investment and funding.**

**In addition to informing policy in Ecuador, the findings will contribute to the evidence base used by Welsh decision-makers to consider the wider social value of vaccines and support more sustainable and equitable decision-making.**

**Forming part of a broader PAHO-funded programme, this work aims to strengthen evidence for health investment and vaccination policy across the Americas.**



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## Ecuador research trip

**The study findings will provide the Ministry of Public Health with a richer understanding of the programme's value from the perspective of those directly affected by it, complementing traditional assessments that often focus on funders or service providers.**

**The SROI approach enables the study to:**

- **Understand value from the perspective of individuals, families, and communities affected by the programme.**
- **Identify outcomes and impacts that may not be captured through routine monitoring and administrative data.**
- **Ensure stakeholder voices, including those of beneficiaries, are reflected alongside the perspectives of government officials, healthcare professionals, and policymakers.**

**By identifying and valuing the outcomes that matter most to stakeholders, the study will support future funding, investment, and policy decisions that maximise social impact and population well-being.**

## Funding Opportunity Protecting Tropical Rainforests & its People

**The Waterloo Foundation has invited project proposals for initiatives aimed at safeguarding tropical rainforests and/or the communities living within them.**

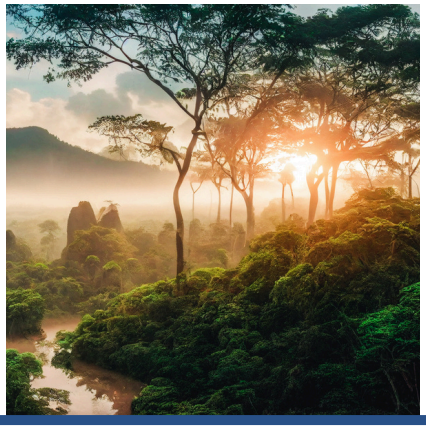
Available worldwide, funding is offered in two categories:

- **Strategic** prioritises projects which influence policy - halting deforestation, and promoting rights of forest people were the focus of previous recipients.
- **Local** provides for practical initiatives run by indigenous (local) people and/or communities - examples include developing sustainable forest livelihoods; managing protected areas no bigger than 10,000 hectares; addressing local drivers of deforestation.

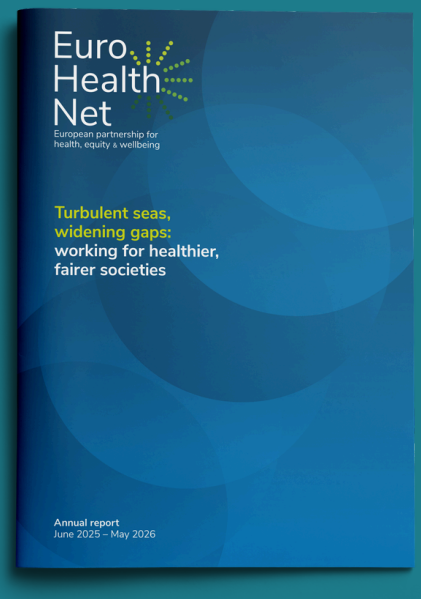
**The deadline is 1 November 2026.**

**▶ Read more about it at The Waterloo Foundation.**









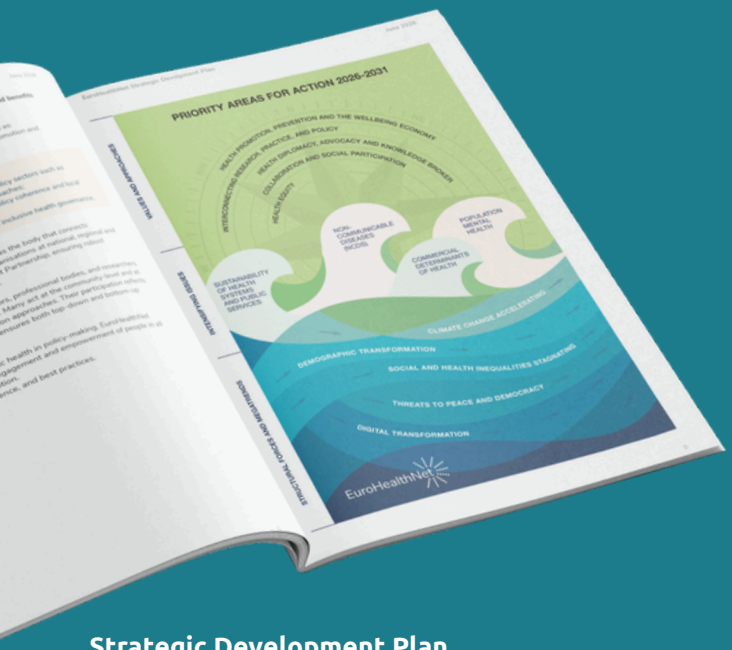

**EuroHealthNet Annual Report 2025/26**

## EuroHealthNet Papers

**Two publications emerged from the summer's EuroHealthNet conference held in Warsaw.**

Its Annual Report - subtitled *Turbulent seas, widening gaps: working for healthier, fairer societies* - charted EuroHealthNet's activities from June 2025 to May 2026.

Following on, priority concerns were highlighted in EuroHealthNet's Strategic Development Plan taking the group from 2026 to 2031.




**Strategic Development Plan June 2026 - June 2031**

## NHS Global Citizenship E-Learning

**Health in Wales doesn't stop at the border. Global forces shape it, and our actions have consequences beyond our own borders. The IHCC brings you two updated modules.**

### Global Citizenship Core

This module sets out what being a global citizen means and how to apply it in your role.

Why it matters for health professionals:

- Patients' health is shaped by global factors you'll encounter in everyday practice
- International evidence and good practice can directly improve local care
- Understanding structural inequalities leads to more equitable, culturally informed practice

It supports Wales's role as an outward-looking, responsible nation in global health.

**ESR - 000 NHS Wales - Global Citizenship Core Module**

**Learning@Wales - Global Citizen Programme**

### Climate Change and Sustainability

Climate change is one of the defining health challenges of our time. This module covers its causes and consequences, looks at the impact on health in Wales and globally, and gives examples of action being taken to address it.

By the end of this module, you'll be able to:

- Describe the key drivers and consequences of climate change and sustainability challenges in Wales and globally
- Evaluate the impact of climate change on health
- Identify good practice in sustainability and apply global citizenship principles to your own context.

**ESR - 000 NHS Wales - Climate Change and Sustainability**

**Learning@Wales - Global Citizen Programme**




*Kevin Mears (artist); image used with permission of Israa Mohammed for Global Health Partnerships Cymru*

# Learnings from Global Health Partnerships in Practice: Shared Investment, Shared Impact

**by Zuwaira Hashim (Public Health Wales)**

**On 22 June 2026, colleagues from Public Health Wales, Welsh health boards, international health partnerships across Wales and England, Global Health Partnerships Cymru, Hub Cymru Africa and Dolen Cymru came together at 2 Capital Quarter for a shared learning event on the theme "Learnings from Global Health Partnerships in Practice: Shared Investment, Shared Impact."**

The event provided a valuable opportunity to reflect on the collective impact of international health partnerships and to share practical learning on how to build, sustain and strengthen equitable global collaborations. Bringing together professionals from across sectors and organisations, the day highlighted the power of partnership in addressing shared global health challenges while fostering mutual learning and benefit.

Through a series of inspiring lightning talks and case study presentations, participants explored the opportunities, challenges and innovations that occurred in partnerships they were involved in. Speakers shared candid reflections on lessons learned, achievements realised and approaches that have helped create meaningful, long-term impact. A strong theme throughout the day was the importance of equity, reciprocity and shared ownership in building partnerships that deliver benefits for all involved. The event showcased the strength of Wales's commitment to global solidarity and demonstrated how international collaboration can contribute to better health outcomes both locally and globally. It reflected Wales' ambition under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act to be a globally responsible nation that works in partnership to improve well-being beyond its borders.

Among the presenters were three teams from the Policy and International Health Directorate: the International Health Coordination Centre (IHCC), the Welsh Health Impact Assessment Unit (WHIASU), and the Welsh Health Equity Status Report Initiative (WHESRi).



# Learnings from Global Health Partnerships in Practice: Shared Investment, Shared Impact

## Public Health Wales' Part in Shared Learning Event

The IHCC highlighted its role in connecting NHS Wales with international networks, evidence and expertise, enabling organisations across Wales to learn from global best practice and contribute to international health improvement efforts.

The WHESRi team presented findings from their recent report, '***Strengthening Health with Equitable International Partnerships: Key Learning and Best Practices***'.

The report identifies key principles and practical approaches that support the development of successful, sustainable and equitable international health partnerships. It emphasises the importance of mutual benefit, shared decision-making, trust-building and long-term commitment as foundations for effective collaboration.

Importantly, the report's findings were brought to life throughout the event. The experiences shared by partnership leads and practitioners echoed many of the report's key messages, providing real-world examples of how equitable partnerships can create lasting value for individuals, organisations and communities.

This alignment between evidence and practice reinforced the growing body of knowledge on what makes international health partnerships effective and highlighted the significant contribution they can make to advancing health equity and global well-being.

***As international collaboration continues to grow in importance, events such as this play a vital role in creating spaces for shared learning, strengthening networks and ensuring that partnership working remains rooted in equity, sustainability and collective impact.***

# Welsh Welcome for Grenadian Student Nurses

Six nursing students from Grenada travelled to Wales recently in a collaborative pilot between two academes.

Hailing from Grenada's St George's University, the nurses arrived at Cardiff University in the Welsh capital.

They were hosted by Cardiff's School of Healthcare Sciences, whose Diana De (Reader in Adult Nursing, Global-Civic lead and member of the International Health Activity Group) initiated the link.

The Grenadian student nurses were also invited to visit Public Health Wales. Israa Mohammed, Amanda Daniel and colleagues (Health Protection) organised sessions covering healthcare-associated infections and anti-microbial resistance, health inequalities and vaccination, health protection, and Wales's role in global health.

Public Health Wales speakers included Jasmin Chowdhury, Rose Jones, Liz Green and Laura Holt.

Diana De commented, "As you can see (from feedback below), this collaborative pilot was positively evaluated by the visiting students and those involved are now looking at ways to repeat and sustain this insightful global partnership work."

# HIA Practitioners Seek Law Change in New Zealand

A new briefing calls upon legislators to make Health Impact Assessment (HIA) statutory in New Zealand as it is about to become in Wales next year.

'***Health Impact Assessments should be a mandatory part of policymaking***' is co-authored by Anna Stevenson (Public Health Physician - Te Whatu Ora Waitaha and University of Auckland), Professor Liz Green (Consultant in Public Health - Public Health Wales), Robert Quigley (Consultant and Co-founder - Quigley and Watts Ltd.), Professor Louise Signal (University of Otago) and Professor Michael Baker (Public Health Physician and Epidemiologist - University of Otago).

Informing policy and practical decisions to improve and protect population health, mitigate unintended negative impacts and promote equity is a key aim of HIA.

The briefing highlights that New Zealand has a history of HIA and can build on that platform to strengthen its health in all policies responses to address pressing health and equity needs and issues.



# Feedback!

## Grenadian student nurse speaks:

***One of the highlights of the program was the public health session with government advisors, senior nurses, and the heads of various healthcare programs.***

***As a student, it was a privilege to be in the room with such experienced professionals. The session was highly interactive, informative, and inspiring, and I learned a great deal from the discussions and presentations.***

# Benefits of International Health for the People of Wales

## International Health Coordination Centre

> **International Health Partnerships working and the benefits to Wales and beyond outlined in a short and informative way**
>
> **Prof Liz Green, Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit (WHIASU)**

> **A wonderful tool to show the general public how many ways Wales stands on a global stage in terms of public health**
>
> **Cara Davies, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Hub Coordinator**

> **I wasn't aware how much Wales did for global healthcare**
>
> **Kay Kendall, member of the public**




**An animated information video has been launched to demonstrate the importance of Welsh involvement in global health.**

The animation (in English or Welsh) talks about how Wales is within the world - affected by international healthcare scares, while benefitting from health breakthroughs made anywhere around the globe.

Aimed at a target audience of everyone, the narrative is easily understandable beyond its academe and professional sector.

The short feature was commissioned by the International Health Coordination Centre, part of Public Health Wales' Policy and International Health directorate. It was created by Cardiff's Savage and Gray Design.

# Upcoming Events and Conferences

## 18 NOVEMBER 2026

**Public Health Wales' International Public Health Forum**
Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

Putting Maternal Health on the Global Health Agenda

**Register for Int'l Public Health Forum**

## 19 NOVEMBER 2026

**5th East of England Global Health Conference**
Robinson College,
Cambridge University, England
9am - 5pm (GMT)

Partnerships that Deliver: Equitable, Effective and Sustainable Global Health

**Global Health Conference Registration**

## 30 NOV - 2 DEC 2026

**The Lancet Summit**
Sitges, Spain

Shaping the Future of Diabetes Prevention

**Lancet Summit Registration**

## 8 - 9 DECEMBER 2026

**19th Global Healthcare, Preventive Medicine & Public Health Summit and Exhibition (Healthcare UCG)**
AC Hotel by Marriott,
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Advancing Healthcare Through Innovation, Prevention, and Public Health Excellence

**Register for 19th Healthcare UCG**

## Get in touch

Any global health stories, announcements or news? Research to share - a new report; recent publications; and publicity required for projects and campaigns. Are you planning an event?

**For your item to feature in an upcoming newsletter, please email: Laura Holt | Jo Harrington**

**Scan QR code to email**

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