## **Potential of European Union Structural Funds** for health gains: an EU project

#### **Ben Cave**

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### ... Some structure

- Who we are
- Working assumptions
- What we are doing
- What we are finding







### The team

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS

PARTNERS & SAB

Milieu

Ben Cave Associates Ltd

Tamarack

Xydesy

Simon Pascoe

Scientific Advisory Board

Working to, and funded by, the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers & DG Sanco







# Project information

Title: Impact of Structural Funds on Health

Funder: EAHC/DG Sanco

Objective

• to support the integration of health considerations into the programming and implementation of EU Cohesion Policy funds; and

to identify and link the health gains that come from non-health investments.

Timeline: January 2011 – August 2012 Info available at: www.healthgain.eu







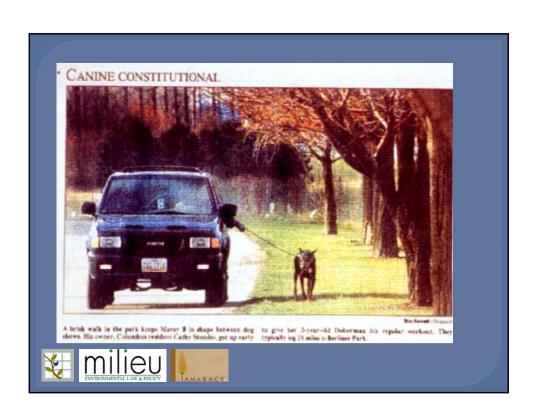
## Working assumptions

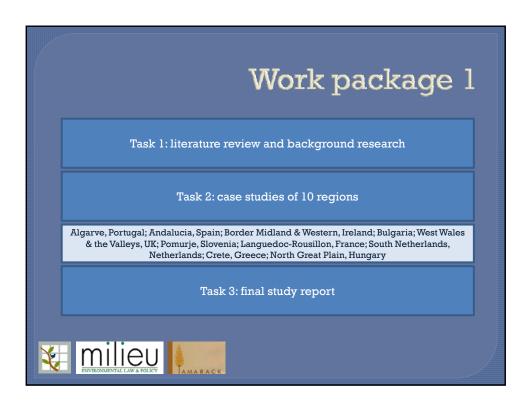
- Addressing the wider determinants of health is key to improving health & reducing health inequalities across, and within, Europe's regions
- Public health has little capacity to contribute to wider public policy
- Structural Fund Managing Authorities and Programme Managers do not have active links with, or knowledge of, public health



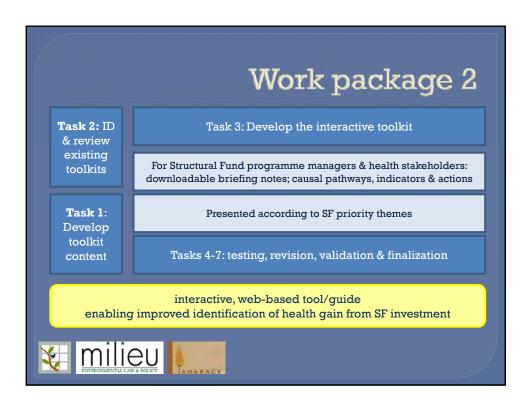


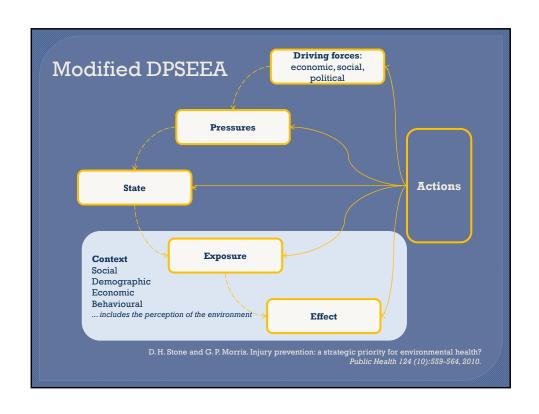


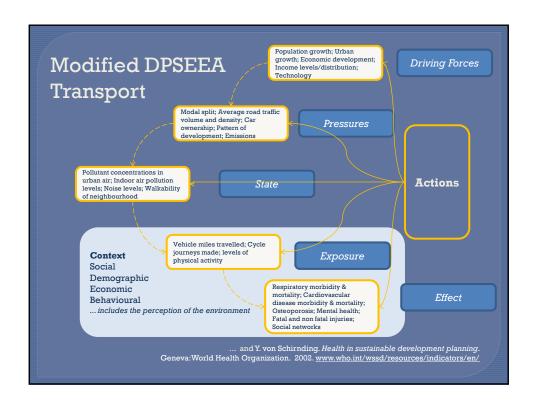


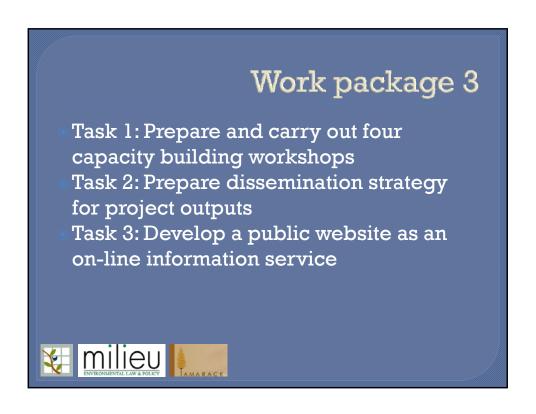












# **Emerging conclusions**

## COHESION POLICY AND HEALTH ...

- Role of health authorities may be negligible if no direct funding for health infrastructure
- Two-way process improving health is good for employment – improving employment is good for health
- EU language can be rigid and hard to bend to needs of regions Tension between heavy-investment (transport, environment infrastructure) and social investment projects?

## WHAT WOULD MAKE THE GUIDE USEFUL ...

Guide should be simple to use Language should comply with Structural Funds programming language & link to EU2020 Suggest questions to be addressed to consultees Guide could 'make people think' ... and/or be used in monitoring & evaluation







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# **International Association** for Impact Assessment

- Conference
- Porto, Portugal
- Energy Future ... including focus on cities
- Late May 2012
- Information on www.iaia.org





