



Observatory Newsletter Number two!

Dear colleagues,

We would like to update you on the progress of our project and give you some excellent news!

» 1) Global Observatory for Physical Activity - GoPA

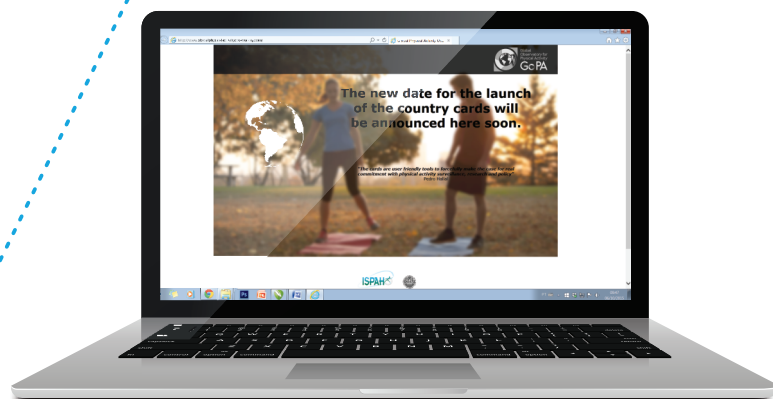
As you know, we have been working very hard to have our country cards and website launched. In April we decided to delay the launch to have our products peer reviewed by the Lancet. Unfortunately, the Lancet staff has not been able to commit sufficient time to review the country cards. We will continue to work closely with the Lancet, but the Global Observatory will function independently and without the need for review by the Lancet of products such as the country cards.

We believe that it is urgent to launch our cards and website and start using the cards to improve the physical activity level in each country.

Therefore, and still having The Lancet as our partner, we decided from now on to run the Observatory as the Global Observatory for Physical Activity - GoPA.

Due to this change, we will update the country cards and website

<http://www.globalphysicalactivityobservatory.com>



with the new logo and have them ready to launch in December 2015.

We will keep you informed of all the details and of the specific launch date.



» 2) Country card statistics

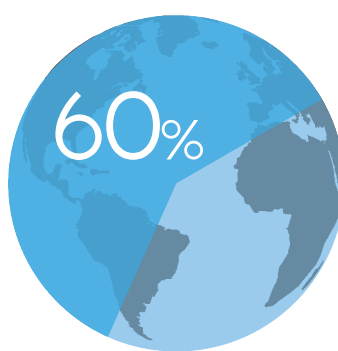
☒ 128 ready to launch!



Regarding review of the cards, we now have 140 confirmed contacts and 128 approved cards with up to date research, surveillance, and policy indicators. We have achieved an outstanding global coverage of 60% of all countries in the world.

140 confirmed contacts

global coverage of



» 3) The 6th ISPAH International Congress on Physical Activity and Public Health

We would like to invite you to join us in Thailand! this congress will be held from November 16-19th 2016 in Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand.



6th ISPAH Congress

16-19 November 2016 Bangkok Thailand

The International Congress on Physical Activity and Public Health

We will conduct academic activities and meetings specifically related to the Observatory and you will be able to present your country cards as posters! We will be sending the activities proposal soon.

We would be thrilled if you could join us in Thailand!

For more information about the abstract submission and the congress please visit: <http://www.ispah2016.org/>

Online Abstract Submission Now Open!

Submit your abstract at: www.ispah2016.org/
Key dates for abstract submission
1st sep 2015- 29th feb 2016.

» 4) Help us find country contacts!

We ask for your help in finding potential representatives for those countries in which we still have no contact (you may use the attached flyer to identify these countries). Do you know anyone who could be the country contact for:

A Afghanistan Albania Algeria Andorra Armenia Azerbaijan	E El Salvador Equatorial Guinea Eritrea	M Madagascar Malawi Malaysia Mali Mauritania Mauritius Moldova Monaco Montenegro Morocco	Sudan Suriname
B Bahrain Belarus Belize Burkina Faso Burundi	G Gabon Gambia, The Georgia Guinea Guinea-Bissau	N Namibia Niger	T Tajikistan Tanzania Timor-Leste Togo Turkmenistan Turks and Caicos Islands
C Cambodia Central African Republic Chad Channel Islands Comoros Congo, Dem. Rep. Cote d'Ivoire Curacao Cyprus	H Honduras I Iran, Islamic Rep. Isle of Man Israel	P Pakistan Philippines	U Uganda Ukraine Uzbekistan
D Djibouti	J Jamaica K Kazakhstan Korea, Dem. Rep. Kyrgyz Republic	S San Marino Sao Tome and Principe Senegal Seychelles Sierra Leone Sint Maarten (Dutch part) Somalia South Sudan	V Virgin Islands (U.S.) Y Yemen, Rep. Z Zambia Zimbabwe
	L Latvia Lesotho Liberia Libya		

Presenting country contacts

» 6) Presenting country contacts

We continue to introduce your colleagues around the world. We will be contacting you to send us your brief CV and a photograph.

Sylvia Titze
Country contact Austria

Prof. Titze studied Biology and Sport Science at the University of Graz and did her MPH postgraduate degree in Switzerland. She got involved in a worksite physical activity intervention after her PhD. This was the starting point for her research on health-enhancing physical activity (HEPA). Since that time her research interest has moved to the relationship between environmental, social and personal variables and physical activity behaviour partly focusing on bicycling as a means of transport. In 2012 she was the head of the work group developing the first physical activity guidelines and graphs for Austria. More recently, she has become active in encouraging political commitment for the promotion of HEPA. In this context Prof. Titze is involved in the development of a physical activity monitoring system in Austria. The HEPA Europe Network, the wonderful HEPA colleagues all over the world as well as the Global Observatory for Physical Activity Network are a valuable support throughout her work.

Katja Siefken
Country contact Germany and Pacific Islands

Katja Siefken is a senior researcher with particular expertise in physical activity and public health research. She is consulting the World Health Organization and collaborates with Government bodies in various Pacific Island countries. Here, she provides technical input for NCD prevention and control initiatives, ranging from rural and urban community project evaluations to workplace health policy development. She is specialised in physical activity and public health; both in an academic and practical environment with particular focus on workplace health promotion. Since 2014, Katja Siefken is employed by the Medical School Hamburg, Germany, as a senior researcher in the Department of Prevention, Health Promotion and Sports Medicine. She completed her PhD in Public Health and Physical Activity in the Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition (CPAN) at Auckland University of Technology (AUT) in Auckland, New Zealand. Katja has published research findings in academic journals and has received several awards for her academic work. She has authored book chapters and compiled reports for the WHO. She further co-founded the Journal of Sport for Development.



Thank you very much! We look forward to your comments.

Best regards,

Pedro C Hallal, PhD

Michael Pratt, MD, MSPE, MPH

On Behalf of the Global Observatory for Physical Activity Steering Committee

