



Programme Stakeholder workshop on BlueHealth Futures.

March 13th, 2019, Barcelona, Spain

Time and date

Wednesday March 13th, 2019, 10:00 to 13:00 AM

Location

ISGlobal, PRBB (room Charles Darwin)
C/ Doctor Aiguader, 88
08003 Barcelona

Contact

Mireia Gascón (mireia.gascon@isglobal.org), Wilma Zijlema (wilma.zijlema@isglobal.org), Mark Nieuwenhuijsen (mark.nieuwenhuijsen@isglobal.org), Susanne Wuijts (susanne.wuijts@rivm.nl), Marit de Vries (marit.de.vries@rivm.nl), Henk Hilderink (henk.hilderink@rivm.nl)

Scope BlueHealth project and objective of the workshop

The majority of Europe's population lives in urban areas characterised by inland waterways and coastal margins. Horizon2020 project 'BlueHealth' is researching how these environments can affect health promotion and disease control, and is working with communities, private sector organisations and policymakers to ensure its findings are focused and relevant (<https://bluehealth2020.eu/>). In this project, partners from the United Kingdom, Estonia, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Greece, the Netherlands and the World Health Organization work together. BlueHealth runs from 2016 to 2020.

In policy development, scenarios are being developed to explore future trends, their possible impact and strategies to adapt upon these trends. Multiple studies describe economical, societal and environmental trends at global, national or sometimes regional levels. It is however difficult to assess the impact of global trends on a local scale. In the BlueHealth project we aim to develop scenarios on a local level that enable policy makers to decide on resilient strategies that contribute to a healthy environment for its citizens. The scenarios will be developed with input from local experts and stakeholders. The BlueHealth project holds several case studies on BlueHealth interventions as well (e.g. the restoration of the Can Moritz modernist spring in Rubí). The scenarios can be used to analyse the potential of these interventions under different local circumstances.

Due to processes such as climate change and urbanisation, the availability of sufficient good quality water during droughts and floods becomes more challenging. Both these aspects of water management are of influence on public health. Other factors that influence water and our health are developments in the field of demography, economy, policy, social-cultural and technology.

The objective of this stakeholder workshop is to identify values and ambitions for the city of Barcelona regarding its urban blue spaces and related interventions (e.g. the redevelopment of the river Besòs area), identify the most relevant global economic, societal, and environmental trends with your input, and investigate their possible impacts on a local scale (i.e. in Barcelona).

We will use this input to develop scenarios for the city of Barcelona regarding urban blue spaces and health which can then be used by the city council and any other interested stakeholders. Scenarios can be used for future planning (in this case for a healthy 'blue' environment) and to analyse the potential for successful blue space interventions in Barcelona.

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 666773.

Participants

This workshop is organized for local experts and stakeholders working in the field of water, public health, urban planning and local economic development, who would like to reflect with us on water and health related future trends and their possible effects on a local scale for the city of Barcelona.

Programme

- 10:00 Welcome, scope and objective of the workshop within the BlueHealth project
(Mark Nieuwenhuijsen)
- 10:10 Health benefits of blue spaces: an overview of latest research results (Mireia Gascón)
- 10:30 A short introduction on scenario building, why are we doing this? (Susanne Wuijts)
- 10:40 Interactive identification of values of the participants: What is an important value/perspective to consider for BlueHealth futures in Barcelona? (result: key values in this group)
- 11:00 Identification of future trends (overview),
Interactive prioritization of most relevant trends for Barcelona
- 11:30 Short break
- 11:45 Discussion on results (result: trend landscape for Barcelona)
- 12:00 What is the impact of the most relevant trends on a local scale from two of the key values?
Characteristics of the current city profile of Barcelona, Spain is used as input for the discussion
- 12:10 Scaling of (inter)national trends to a local level: interactive discussion
- 12:45 Reflection and discussion on results
- 13:00 Closure of the workshop and lunch