

Implementing healthy public policy *(some) reflections on the role of HIA*

Dublin, 16th June 2007

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European Observatory on Health Systems

The origins...

- Alma Ata Declaration 1978
- Ottawa charter 1986
- Health for All movement
 - *Healthy public policy*
 - *Intersectoral action*
- WHO Commission on Social Determinants
- **Health in All Policies**
- New EU Health Strategy

The implementation gap

- The role of health determinants is known
- The policy guidance is in place
- Effective strategies to address determinants
- But.... much less progress than expected
- Why!?
- What works?
- Are there lessons for HIA?

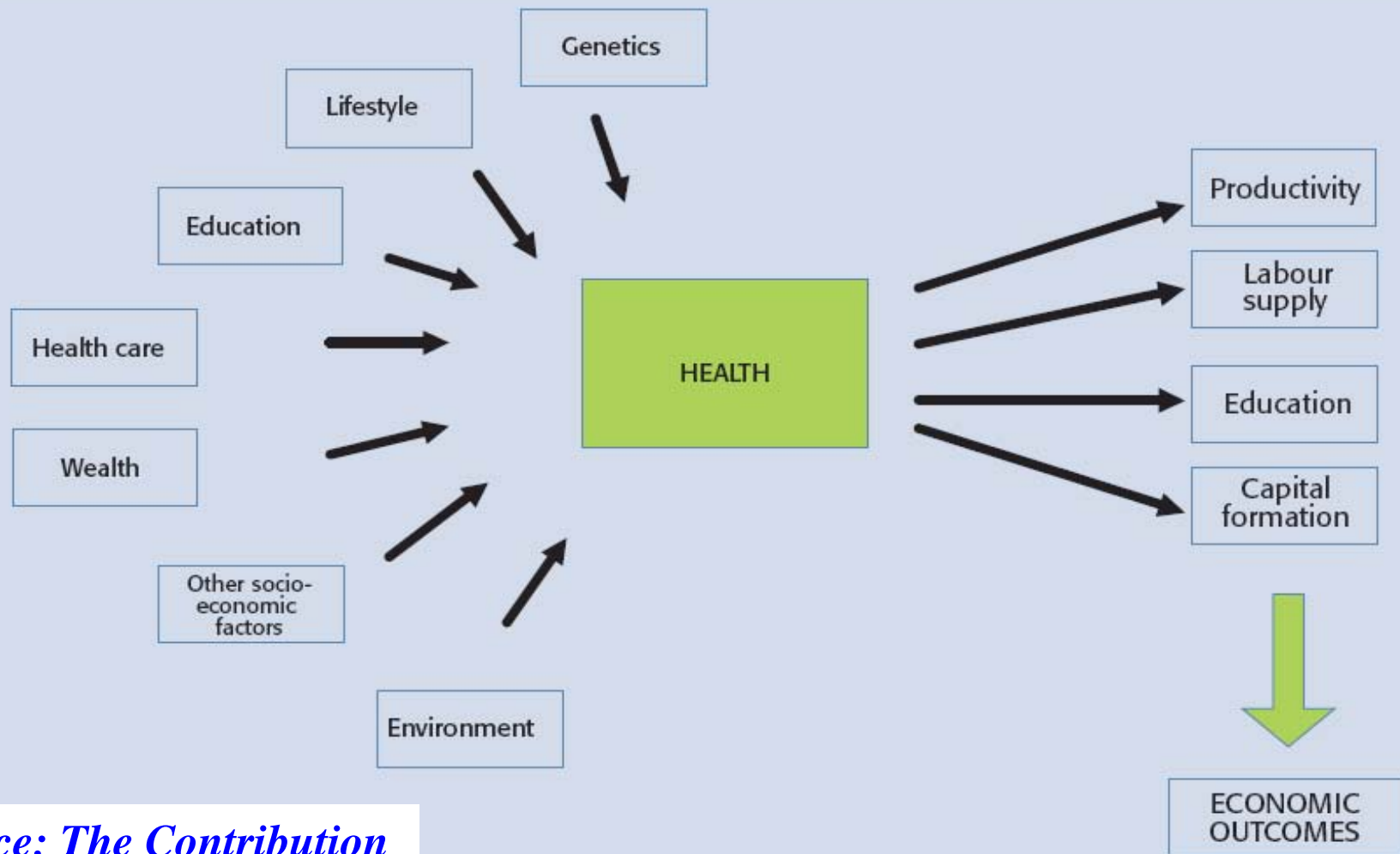
1. Political (MoH) leadership

- MoH: limited power and resources
 - *Urgency* of health care issues
 - “*HIAP comes on top of everything else!!*”
- *Ideally*: health agenda owned by other sectors
- Yet in practice: costs and unclear benefits
- *Empowering ministries of health*
 - Political will
 - Governance mechanisms

2. Demonstrate the links between health and key policies / issues

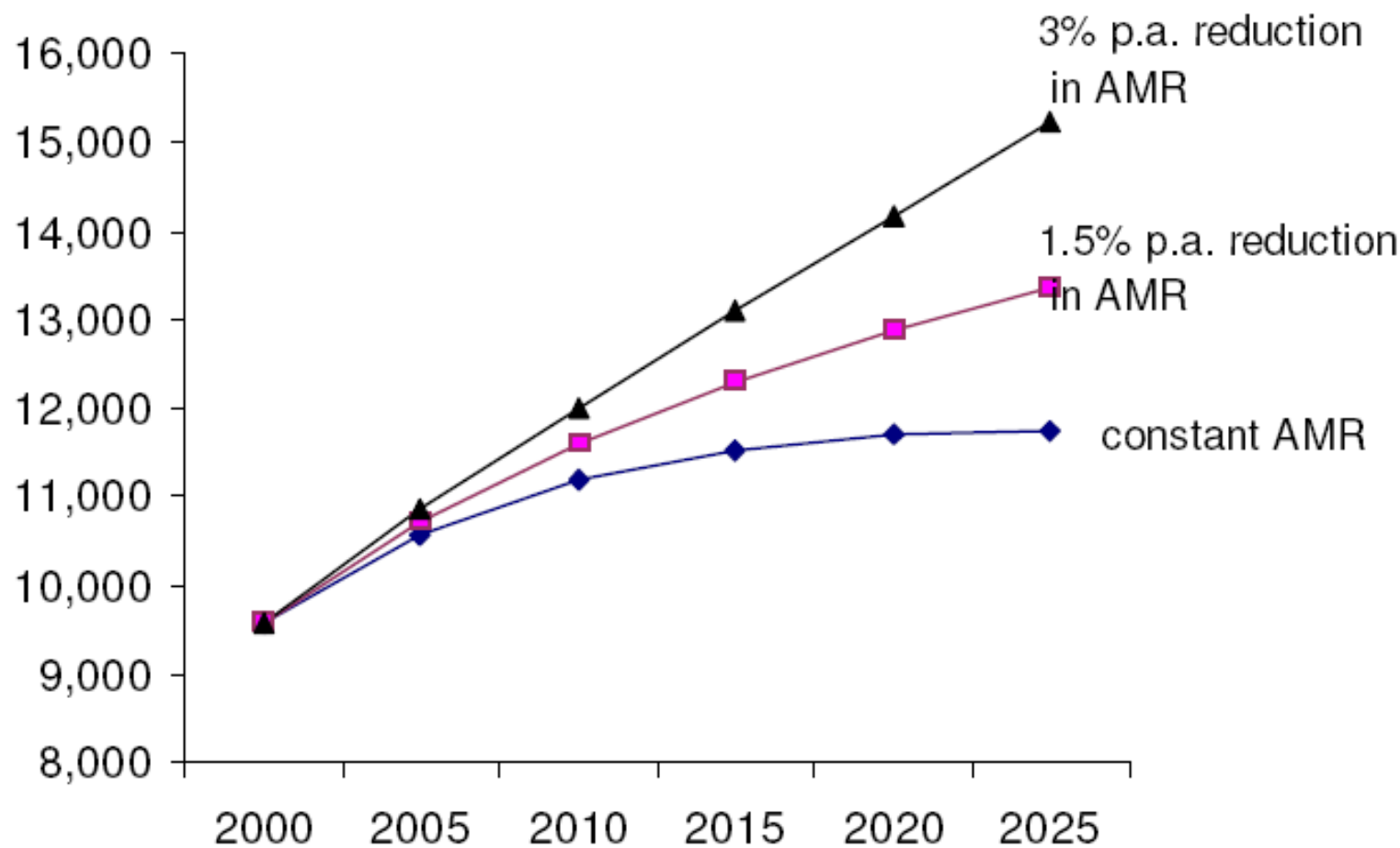
- Health as a driver for economic growth
 - *Health and Wealth*

Relevant channels from health to the economy: a simple framework



*Source: The Contribution of Health to the Economy
Surke, Mckee et al 2005*

Figure 10: Projected GDP per capita (US \$) path for Estonia (based on fixed effects estimation) conditional on three future adult mortality scenarios

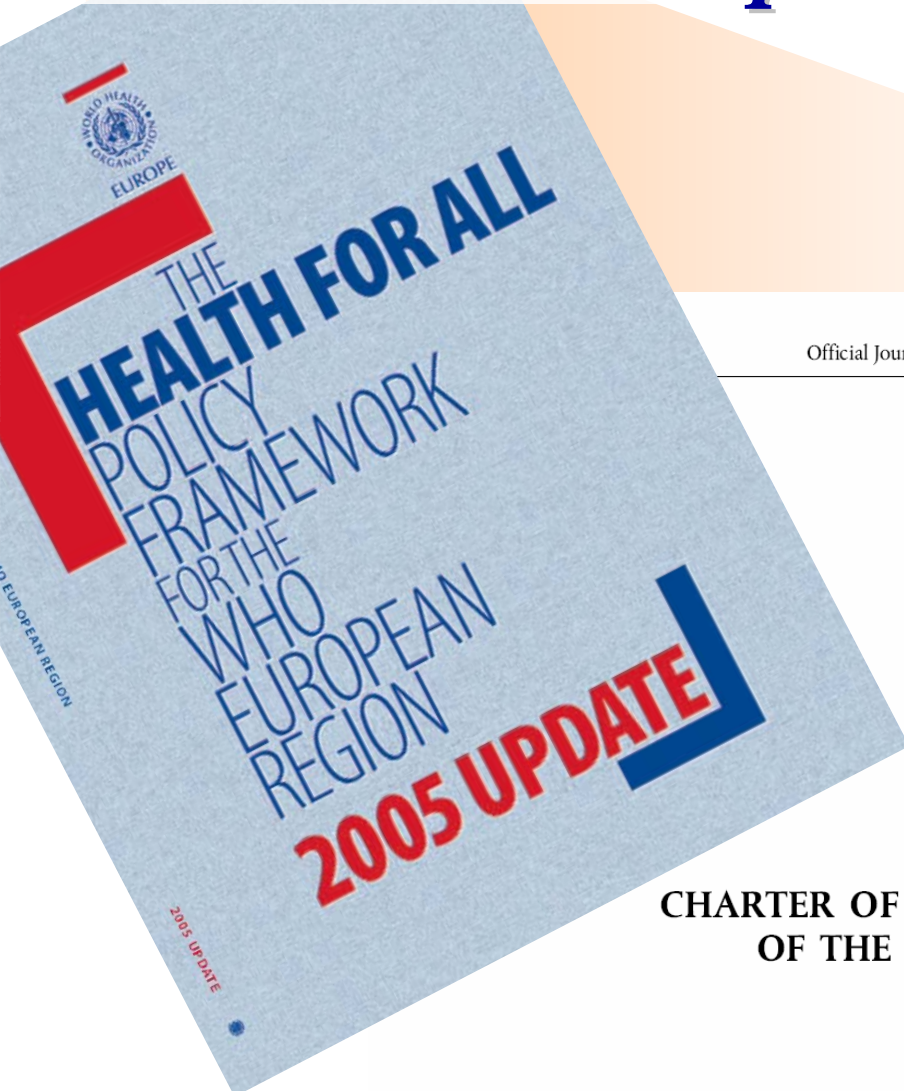


Source: Suhrcke, Vörk, Mazzuco (2006). The Economic consequences of ill health in Estonia

2. Demonstrate the links between health and key policies / issues

- Health as a driver for economic growth
- Lisbon agenda (competitiveness, social cohesion)
- Demographic crisis
 - Compression of morbidity
 - Late retirement: increasing labor market participation
- Financial sustainability
 - The *Wanless reports* in the UK

Solidarity/ participation at the core of European health policy



Official Journal of the European Commr

COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION

Council Conclusions on Common values and principles
in EU Health Systems
2733rd EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH and
CONSUMER AFFAIRS Council meeting
Luxembourg, 1-2 June 2006

CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS
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(2000/C 364/01)

Solidarity and social sustainability



- **Health and social cohesion**
- **Economic impact of reduced solidarity**
- **Equity and economic growth**

2. Demonstrate the links between health and key policies / issues

- **Health Impact Assessment**
 - HIA: health, equity, participation
 - Show links with key policy issues
 - Step up the economic analysis of benefits

3. Strengthen the knowledge base

We need more on ...

- Economic pact of health
- Impact of interventions on determinants
- Economics of prevention
 - Economic evaluation complexities
- Process / politics of implementation

Marc Suhrök
Lorenzo Roc
Martin McKe

The Effectiveness of
Health Impact Assessment

Scope and limitations of supporting
decision-making in Europe

Edited by
Marianne Wismar
Julia Blau
Kelly Ernst
Josep Figueras



3. Strengthen the knowledge base



Table 4.2 Selected aspects of health intelligence for HIA

	Austria	Belgium	Denmark	England	Finland	Germany	Hungary	Ireland	Italy	Lithuania	Malta	Netherlands	Northern Ireland	Poland	Portugal	Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden	Switzerland	Wales	
HIA web site			✓	✓				✓			✓	✓	✓						✓		✓	
HIA database				✓	✓							✓										✓
HIA review/overview	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓										✓

Wismar et al The Effectiveness of Health Impact Assessment

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in the



3. Strengthen the knowledge base

Implications for HIA...

- Key to gather evidence on determinants
- Step up the evidence base
- Increased data / rigour on impact
- Political / stakeholder analysis

Marc Suhrck
Lorenzo Roc
Martin McKe

Eero Lahtinen & Kimi

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4. Intersectoral mechanisms

- Horizontal public health committees
 - *Sweden, national committee for public health*
 - *England, cross government Ministerial PH committee*
 - *Finland, an advisory board for public health*

4. Intersectoral mechanisms

- Horizontal public health committees
- Ad hoc committees on specific initiatives
- Intersectoral policies and programmes
- Formal consultations
 - *the Welsh assembly government*
- Public health reporting with other sectors
 - *the Finnish public health report*
 - *The Dutch national report: Health on course*
- Formal communication between sectors
 - *e.g. bilateral meetings of permanent secretaries in Finland*
- EU co-ordination

4. Intersectoral mechanisms: targets

France

“To reduce cancer related mortality by 20% by 2010.”



L48-324764 - © - Soren Breiting

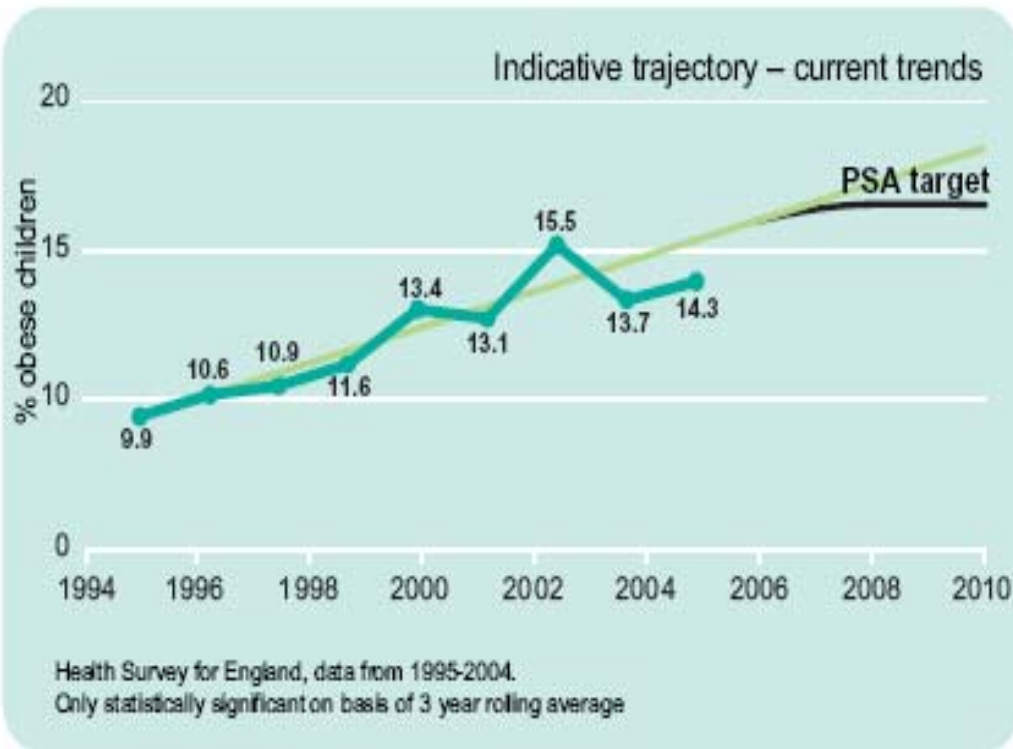
“The government has increased the price of cigarettes by 45% in the first two years – and we have 1.8 million fewer smokers as a result”

*David Khayat,
the National Cancer Institute*

4. Intersectoral mechanisms: targets

UK

“Halt the year on year rise in obesity among children aged under 11 by 2010”



Healthy Start initiative

- **£235m** invested to transform school lunches
- **£1.5bn** invested in school sport

4. Intersectoral mechanisms: HIA

No legal mandate in many countries

Table 12.1 Policy, regulation or other means of endorsement to provide a framework and basis for action for health impact assessment

	Austria	Belgium	Denmark	England	Finland	Germany	Hungary	Ireland	Italy	Lithuania	Malta	Netherlands	Northern Ireland	Poland	Portugal	Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden	Switzerland	Wales
National	O	O		P	P	O	P	O		O	R	O	P	R	O	P	R		P		P
Reference region		R	O	O		R								R		R			P	R	
Reference locality		P	P			R			O	O		R	O	R		P			P		O

P, policy; R, regulation; O, other means of endorsement.

4. Intersectoral mechanisms: HIA

And funding is scarce

Table 40.2 *Prerequisites for health impact assessment at national level*

"If the HIA is not embedded in the organizational structure of decision-making bodies, benefits to intersectoral working may be lost"

M Gabrijelcic and N Scagnetti

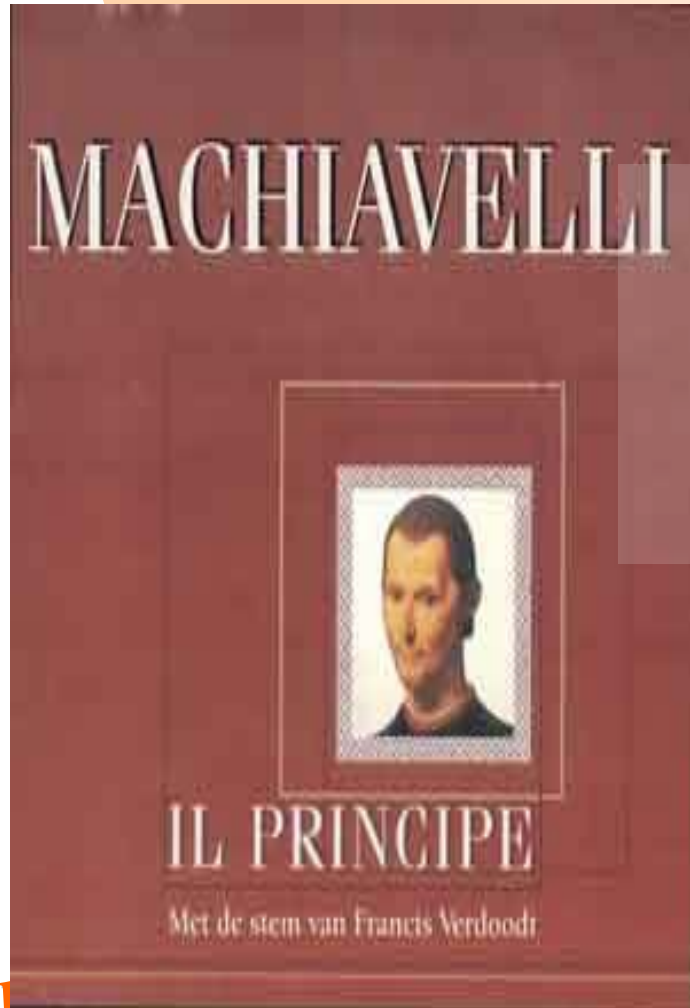
Nation

Wismar et al The Effectiveness of Health Impact Assessment

4. Intersectoral mechanisms: HIA

- Moving from ad hoc HIA
- To institutionalisation of HIA
- Integrated into intersectoral structures
- Linked to governance mechanisms
 - Targets, incentives,...
- Across levels: local, national, supranational
- Proactive / strategic HIA
- Timing / windows of opportunity

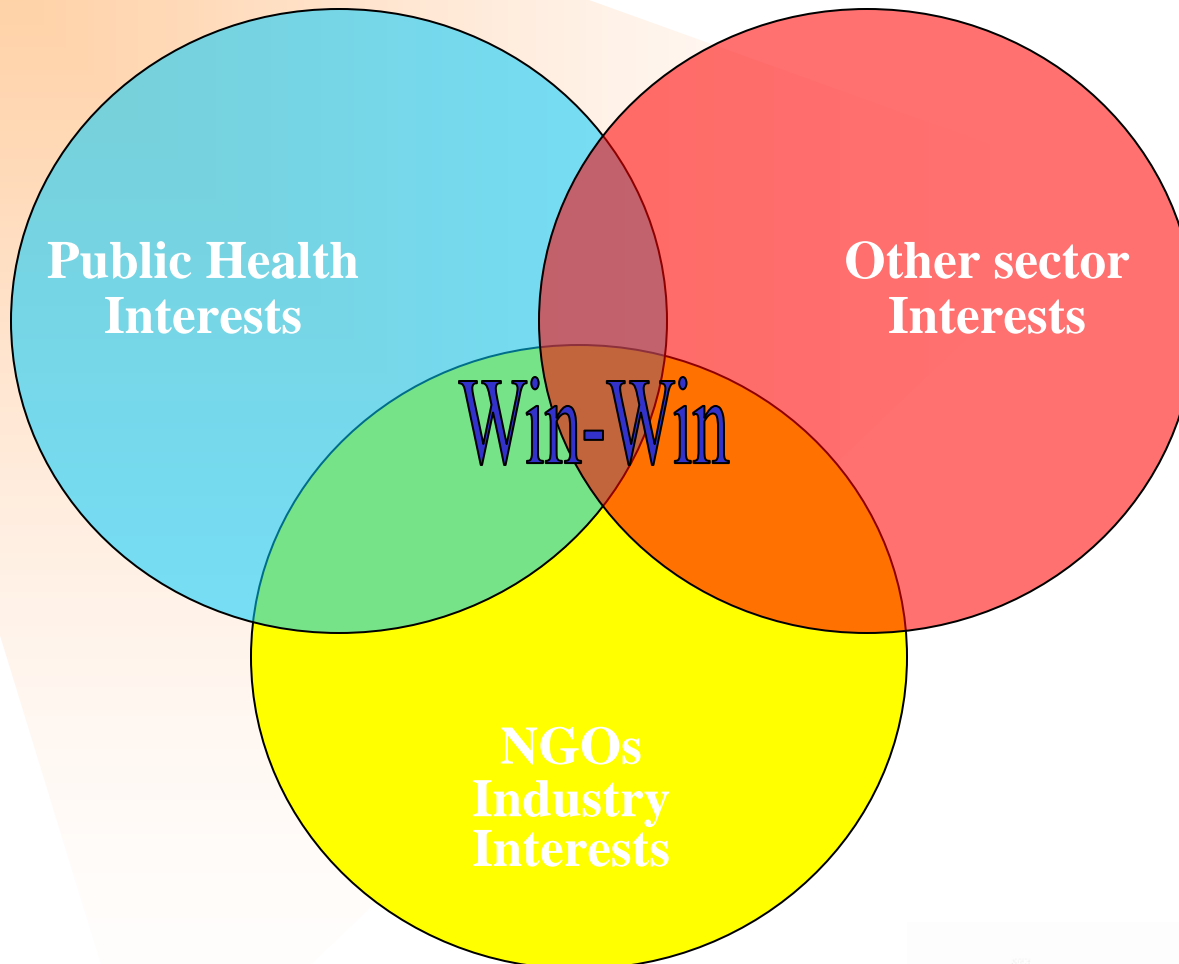
4. Intersectoral mechanisms



“The character of governance is determined by the personal qualities and traits of the ruler”

5. Setting effective partnerships

Creating 'win-win' situations

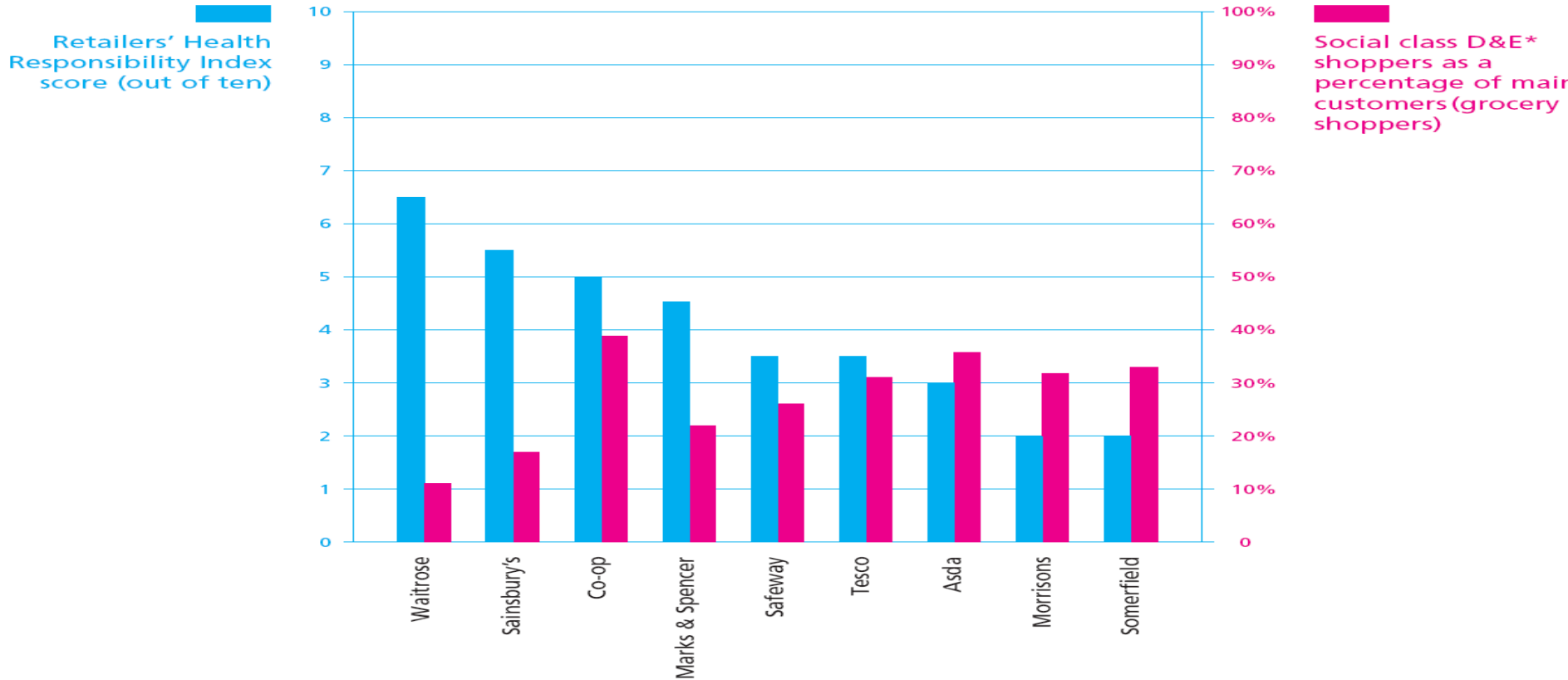


6. Raise public & policy makers awareness

- Communication and social marketing
 - *“The understanding of health arguments by other sectors is a challenge to us and not to them!”*
- It breeds political will
- It supports (tough) regulatory action
- It enables advocacy

6. Raise public & policy makers awareness

Benchmarking 'Naming and Shaming'



Retailers' NCC Health Responsibility Index score
ographic profile of core customers

rating retailers
for health

how supermarkets can affect your
chances of a healthy diet

by Sue Dibb

6. Raise public & policy makers awareness

Implications for HIA

- HIA: key in communication
- HIA as a decision support tool
- Or HIA as an advocacy tool

Addressing the implementation gap

1. Political (MoH) leadership
2. Demonstrate the links between health and key policies / issues
3. Strengthen the knowledge base
4. Intersectoral governance
5. Setting effective partnerships
6. Raise public & policy makers awareness
7. Strengthen the role of supranational agencies
8. Building capacity