



INFLUENCING PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY BY NATIONAL AND SUB- REGIONAL PHAs - EXAMPLES FROM UNACOH AND ECSAPHA

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WHY INFLUENCE PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

- Apart from Government and Governmental Agencies of Health , it only PHAs which look at the totality of Public Health on a continuous basis
- PHAs are multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary
- PHAs have an institutional memory which is specifically and eternally focused on Public Health
- People expect an independent authoritative voice on issues of Public Health



HOW DO PHAS INFLUENCE PHA POLICIES

- Acting out the Mission towards the Vision
- Membership - voluntary, multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary, passionate about PH
- Advocacy
- Information generation
- Information sharing
- Demonstrating good PH action and practice
- Creating bridges



EXAMPLES FROM UNACOH- ACTING OUT THE MISSION TOWARDS THE VISION

- Creating a brand
 - UNACOH – Health for All and By All
- Defining a niche
 - Community and Occupational Health
 - Working with communities- villages, workplaces, schools, markets, CBOs
- Continuous Engagement
 - Using every opportunity to talk about Public Health, especially PHC – highlight is UNACOH ASC
 - Using every chance possible to carry out a PH or PHC activity – SPIP, VHT, HIV/AIDS, TC, Nutrition



EXAMPLES FROM UNACOH- MEMBERSHIP

- Sectors – Health, Local Government, Labour, Academia, Research, NGOs, CBOs,
- Disciplines – Doctors, Nurses/Midwives, Engineers, Environmental Health Officers, Psychologists, Teachers, Lawyers, Politicians (Parliamentarians – past President and past Treasurer)
- Geographically across the country
- Number of registered members over 1000, with age range of young students to retired civil servants

UNACOH's voice is from all sectors, all disciplines, from all corners of the country, from the young and old alike



EXAMPLES FROM UNACOH- ADVOCACY

- Safety Promotion and Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Network (SPIP & SPN)
- Tobacco Control
- Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Health as a Human Right
- Health of Health care Workers
- Community Empowerment and Mobilisation for Health (Village Health Team Startegy)



EXAMPLES FROM UNACOH- INFORMATION GENERATION

- Reviews for Position Papers
- Research Projects
- Intervention Projects



EXAMPLES FROM UNACOH- INFORMATION SHARING

- Newsletter /Magazine – Health Dialogue
- Radio/TV programmes
- Newspaper articles
- Public Lectures
- Annual Scientific Conference (2011 had 300+ participants)
- Attending Ministry of Health and Stakeholder Meetings
- International Conferences and Congresses



EXAMPLES FROM UNACOH- DEMONSTRATING GOOD PH ACTION AND PRACTICE

- Kampala Markets Sanitation Project
- Nutrition and Early Childhood Development Project
- HIV/AIDS IEC and OVC Project
- Village Health Team Strategy – Projects
- Immunisation Project
- Tobacco Control Projects
- Alcohol Control Project
- Pesticides Safety Project
- Health as a Human Right Project
- Internships and Attachments



EXAMPLES FROM UNACOH- CREATING BRIDGES

- Multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary membership
- Joint programmes and projects – e.g ToH Forum, Centre for Tobacco Control in Africa
- UNACOH Joint ASCs – MakCHS, UNCST, WHO, also supported by many local and international partners
- Multi-country PHA projects – Tobacco, SPIP, CIII2
- Website- www.unacoh.org , linked to AFPHA and WFPHA websites
- Member of ECSAPHA, AFPHA, WFPHA
- Working closely with CPHA since 1993



EXAMPLES FROM ECSAPHA

- ECSAPHA has served as an example of a sub-regional PHA within WFPHA
- Existence of ECSAPHA stimulated formation of RASPAF
- ECSAPHA formed one of the two centres towards formation of AFPHA
- ECSA-Health Community is inviting ECSAPHA to spearhead formation of ECSA-College of Public Health as a constituent of ECSA-College of Health Sciences (on Resolution of all Ministers of Health of ECSA –HC)





**I THANK YOU FOR
YOUR KIND ATTENTION!**