Health in All Policies in times of COVID-19

What role for the health sector moving forward?
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Economy of Wellbeing

• The mutually reinforcing connection of wellbeing and economic policies have been addressed on global fora (e.g. OECD, World Bank) for years – need for new discussion
• A policy orientation and governance approach which aims to put people and their wellbeing at the centre of policy and decision-making
• Horizontal & holistic approach
  • importance of cross-sectoral cooperation in all policy areas of the EU and Member States
• Balance between the three dimensions of sustainable development
  • social, economic and environmental sustainability
• Investing in people’s wellbeing needed for socially and ecologically sustainable economy
• Comprehensive tool for developing policy-making in the EU and its member states
  • Emphasis on education, social protection, equality, health care, and working conditions
Why Economy of Wellbeing?

• The Government has decided on the long-term measures for reducing inequalities in wellbeing, health and safety by 2030 (The Government resolution 19.6.2020)

• The pandemic has shaped our economy and our way of thinking thoroughly – there is no going back to the situation we were before pandemic

• Actions to increase economic growth must also increase the wellbeing of all people and the environment. Economic growth is never an end in itself and well-being is not just an item of expenditure for public finances

• Ecologically sustainable economy and wellbeing of the planet are an integral part of the Economy of Wellbeing

• Finland’s prior work in relation to Economy of Wellbeing:
  • Nordic Welfare model – Strong emphasis on building welfare state through fiscal policies, legislation and contract society
  • Health in All Policies approach - Considers impacts of policies on health, health determinants and their distribution
  • Global Health Security – OneHealth
Economy of Wellbeing
– way for inclusive, sustainable recovery

• The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the link between wellbeing, health and the economy
• Integration of the Economy of Wellbeing perspective horizontally into the recovery policies
• Implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights and the inclusion of the SDGs of the UN Agenda 2030 in the European Semester process
  • Economy of Wellbeing can lead the way to socially, economically and ecologically sustainable recovery
• Cross-sectoral assessment of impacts of legislative and major policy initiatives on wellbeing, including in the field of economic policy
Economy of Wellbeing
– way for inclusive, sustainable recovery

• Mental health issues call for special attention, now even more
  - EU mental health strategy needed
• High level of Occupational Safety and Health
• Actions against poverty and homelessness as well as protection of the most
  vulnerable groups, like the elderly, Roma and people with disabilities
• Gender equality of a high importance regarding inclusive and sustainable
  economic growth
• The resilience and availability of health and welfare systems in order to help
  us to recover from the crisis better also in the future
• Benefits of digitalization and the unprecedented digital leap,
  digital innovations that enhance health promotion, health care, social
  services and occupational health and safety, ensuring digital inclusion
Thank you!

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