

“The greatest wealth is health.” Virgil

# Health in Times of Transition

www.hitt-cis.net

**HITT CIS**

## Trends in Population Health and Health Policies in CIS Countries



### What is HITT-CIS?

“Health in Times of Transition: Trends in Population Health and Health Policies in CIS Countries” (HITT-CIS) is an international research project that will study, in detail, trends in population health and health policies in 10 countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan).

This is an expanded follow-up of an earlier project “Living Conditions, Lifestyles and Health” (www.lh.at) implemented in 2000-2003 by the same core consortium.

#### PROJECT FACTS

- Primarily funded by EU - FP7, 2009-2013
- HITT-CIS is an interdisciplinary effort by public health researchers supported by social and political scientists
- Empirical element includes a large-scale sociological survey in 10 CIS countries and a series of focused qualitative surveys
- Additional components include analysis of economic determinants of behaviour and policy analysis
- HITT-CIS cooperates closely with the WHO (World Health Organization) and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, as well as with the World Bank

#### WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS PROJECT AND HOW?

HITT-CIS will bring concrete benefits by providing recommendations to improve public health policies and interacting with national and international stake-holders by:

- disseminating findings within each country and to EU policymakers and international researchers
- capacity building through training of researchers
- identifying policy implications based upon research evidence

### Geographical and empirical scope

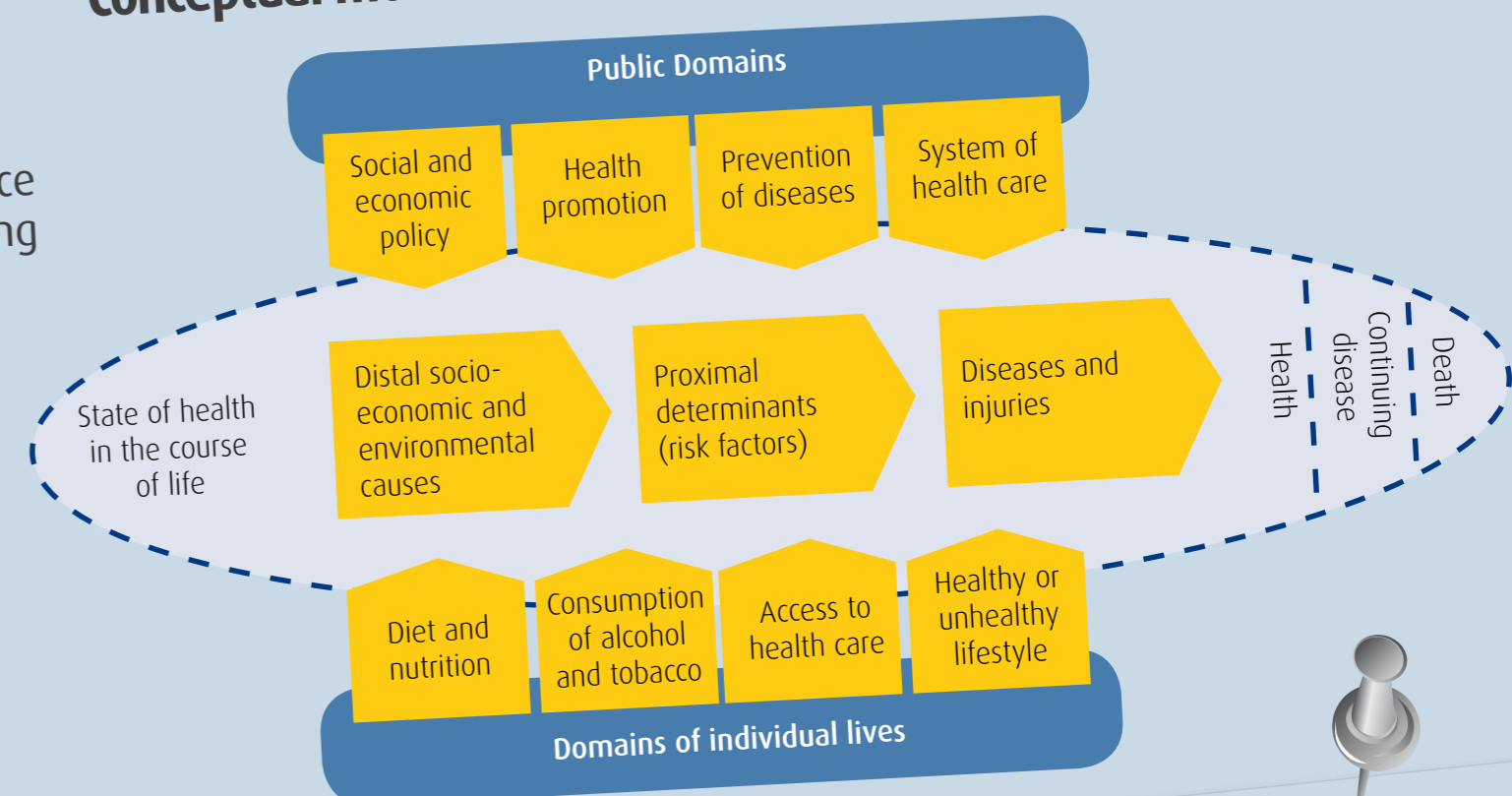
- Large scale survey in 10 countries (approximately 20.000 respondents, up to 100 formalized questions)
- Community profiles in survey regions
- Expert interviews, media analysis, focus groups, etc.

### What are the main research themes of the project?

HITT-CIS focuses on eight core research themes and will produce a series of detailed research reports and policy briefs addressing each of them.

- Long-term trends in population health in CIS countries
- Diet and nutrition patterns in CIS countries
- Consumption of alcohol and tobacco in CIS countries and related public policies
- Access to health care
- Social and economic burden of disease
- Identification of strategies to improve population health
- Living conditions, lifestyles and health in CIS countries
- Public health policies in CIS countries

### Conceptual model of the determinants of health and disease



### Project coordination



University of Aberdeen



London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine



Institute for Advanced Studies in Austria



f.l.t.r.: Prof. Christian Haerpfner, Prof. Martin McKee, Dr. Alexander Chvorostov

### Funding



The project is primarily funded by the European Commission through an FP7 - HEALTH (SICA) Grant #223344.

Co-funding for possible project extensions is sought from various national, international and private sponsors.

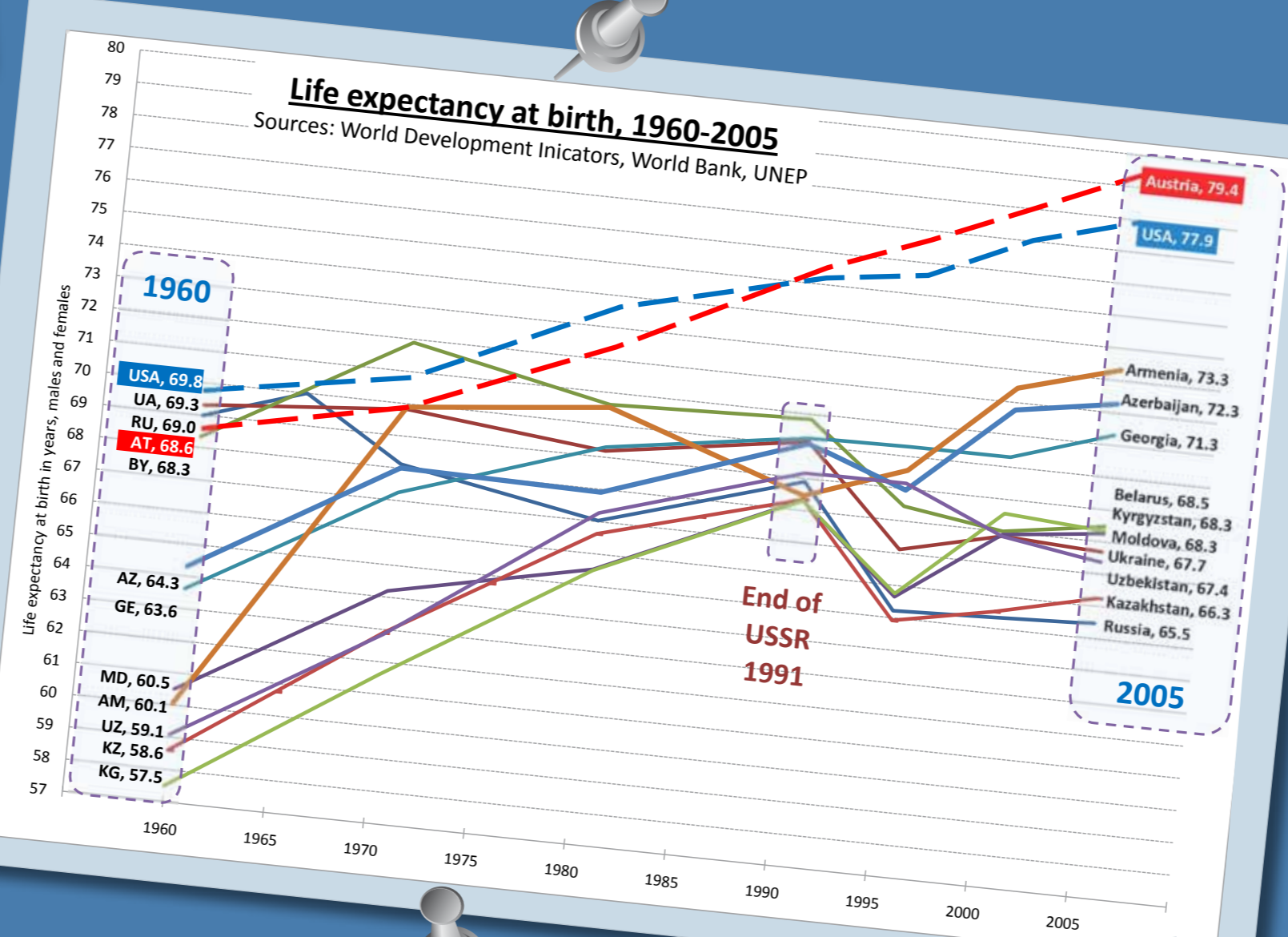
PROJECT IS ALSO SUPPORTED BY



Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research



The Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)



### What is the methodology of the study?

#### OVERALL STRATEGY

The study combines specialist expertise in public health with epidemiological and social science methods. Public health experts identify key areas relevant to policy and define areas for research, while the social scientists develop and refine a wide range of sociological measurement tools and techniques. This combination will provide new insights into an under-researched but extremely important issue.

#### RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- Measure and explain the prevalence and distribution of risk factors, health outcomes, and their social, cultural, and economic determinants
- Develop and implement validated community profiles to capture the opportunities and obstacles to leading a healthy lifestyle (in relation to diet, alcohol, smoking)
- Assess health system performance, focusing on accessibility and quality of health services
- Quantify the cost of ill health through reduced labour supply and productivity
- Identify opportunities for and obstacles to policy change (alcohol and tobacco) in Russia
- Market analysis (alcohol and tobacco)
- Regional analysis in Ukraine

### HITT-CIS research consortium

#### COORDINATION TEAMS

- Institute for Advanced Studies**, Austria  
Dr. Alexander Chvorostov
- University of Aberdeen**, UK  
Univ.-Doz. Dr. Christian W. Haerpfner
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine**, UK  
Prof. Martin McKee

#### EXPERT TEAMS

- Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation**, Canada  
Dr. Phil. Salim Yusuf
- Open Health Institute**, Moscow, Russia  
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- Curatio International Foundation**, Georgia  
Dr. Ivdity Chikovani
- Center for Survey Methodology "Concluzia Prim"**  
Moldova, Dr. Victoria Guzun

#### CIS SURVEY TEAMS

- Center for Sociological Studies MGU**, Russia  
Prof. Sergey Tumanov
- State Institute of Management and Social Technologies of Belarusian State University**, Belarus  
Prof. David Rotman
- East-Ukrainian Foundation for Social Research**, Ukraine, Prof. Vil Bakirov
- Opinia - Independent Sociological and Information Service**, Moldova, Dr. Olga Danii
- Center for Study of Public Opinion**, Kazakhstan  
Dr. Gulzhan Alimbekova
- GORBI Gallup International**, Georgia  
(also surveys in Armenia and Azerbaijan)  
Dr. Merab Pachulia

### CONTACT

Please visit [www.hitt-cis.net](http://www.hitt-cis.net) for most detailed information about the project

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