

Socio-economic determinants and consequences of adult health in CIS countries

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WHO European Office
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and Development

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www.euro.who.int/observatory

Marc Suhrcke
Lorenzo Rocco
Martin McKee

The story in short (2007)

Achieving sustained economic growth and poverty reduction: the road ahead is long

There is substantial scope for improvement in both health and health policy

Current levels of poor health exact a large economic toll and there are substantial economic benefits to be reaped from improving health

There are evidence-based ways of improving health but action is needed in- and outside the health care system

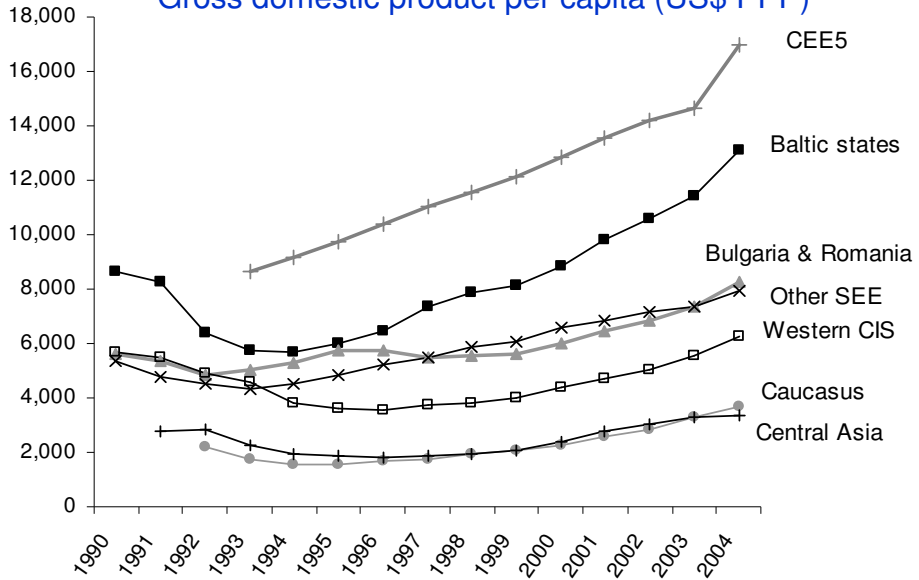
How does a limiting illness affect your chances of working? 8 CIS countries (2001)

	Marginal effects (%)
Armenia	-16.3
Belarus	-25.1
Georgia	-6.9
Kazakhstan	-30.4
Kyrgyzstan	-18.8
Moldova	-22.3
Russia	-23.0
Ukraine	-16.7

Note: coefficients significant at 5%-level; coefficients from 2nd stage regression
Source: Suhrcke/Rocco/McKee (2007)

Growing, from very low levels – sustained growth?

Gross domestic product per capita (US\$ PPP)



Is there a new story now?

...continuation of positive trends thereafter...

- 90 million (out of 480m) moved out of poverty since 1999!
(even if 40% of the 480m remain poor or vulnerable)

...until the financial crisis put these gains at risk:

- Poor & vulnerable expected to rise by ca. 5 million for every 1% decline in GDP
- Poor & vulnerable to increase by 35 million by end-2010
- *"Within 10 months of the crisis, countries have started to lose the poverty gains made over the last 10 years"* (World Bank)
- *"This is a **human crisis** that is going largely unnoticed in the talk of the 'global financial and economic crisis'"* (World Bank)

Research questions:

- Monitoring the truly “*human*” impact of the crisis, beyond monetary poverty indicators
- Assessing the socio-economic (and other) factors that determine health
- Assessing the impact of ill health on economic outcomes