...WORKING TOWARDS SAFER DAILY LIVING FOR CHILDREN THROUGHOUT EUROPE

Child Safety Action Plan
Phase II
The aim of the Child Safety Action-Plan (CSAP) is to develop action plans to enhance child safety in 33 countries in the European Union and European Economic Region.

This large-scale initiative uses standardised tools and processes and builds on the work of many previous projects from the European Commission, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), European Child Safety Alliance, EuroSafe and partnering countries.

It is important for the following reasons:

1. Injury is the leading cause of death for children in Europe and is responsible for more deaths than all other childhood diseases combined. Further, it is the largest environmental burden for children compared to outdoor/indoor contaminants, water, sanitation and hygienic issues, or lead contaminants.

2. The preparation of action plans for child safety provides Member States’ governments with an opportunity to make a stronger commitment to the injury issue.

3. Standardised reporting of child injury indicators using Child Safety Report Cards and Profiles provides a consistent way to assess the state of child safety in individual countries. This approach also facilitates inter-country comparisons and benchmarking to allow target setting for future improvements.

4. The CSAP initiative contributes directly to several commitments made by Member States including the 2004 Declaration on Child Health and Environment Plan for Europe (CEHAPE), the 2005 WHO Regional Committee Resolutions on Injury Prevention and Child and Adolescent Health Strategies and the 2007 European Committee Ministers of Health. The initiative provides direct deliverables to these commitments and will provide a vital contribution towards promoting a coordinated and consistent approach to action to reduce child injury across Europe.

The second phase of the initiative (CSAP II) runs from October 2007 to December 2009. Funding comes from the European Commission, EuroSafe, the expert group organisations, and participating countries.
country partners

* new partner for CSAP II

Austria
Gudula Brandmayr
Grosse schützen Kleine/ Safe Kids Austria
gudula.brandmayr@klinikum-graz.at

Belgium
Carine Renard
CRIOC-OIVO
carine.renard@oivo-crioc.org

Cyprus*
Olga Kalakouta
Ministry of Health
ykalak@spidernet.com.cy

Czech Republic
Veronika Benesova
Charles University
veronika.benesova@lfmotol.cuni.cz

Estonia
Sirje Bunder
Department of Public Health,
Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia
sirje.bunder@sm.ee

Finland*
Jaana Markkula
National Institute of Public Health
jaana.markkula@ktl.fi

France

Germany
Thomas Altgeld,
Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Mehr
Sicherheit für Kinder e.V. (Safe Kids Germany)
koordination@kindersicherheit.de

Greece
Aghis Terzidis
Center for Research and Prevention of Injuries among the young (CEREPRl)
agterz@med.uoa.gr

Hungary
Gabriella Páll
National Institute of Child Health
gabipall@ogyei.hu

Iceland*
Herdis Storgaard
The Icelandic Safety House
herdis.storgaard@sjova.is

Ireland*
Mary Roche
Population Health:
Children & Young Peoples Team, HSE
maryveronica.roche@mailb.hse.ie

Israel*
Liri Endy-Findling
Beterem – The National Center for Children’s Safety & Health, Safe Kids Israel
liri@beterem.org

Italy
Giuseppina Lecce
Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Policies
mlecce@sanita.it

Latvia*
Jana Feldmane
Ministry of Health
jana.feldmane@vm.gov.lv

Lithuania*
Aida Laukaietiene
State Environmental Health Centre
aida.laukaietiene@gmail.com

Luxembourg*
Yolande Wagener
Minister of Health
yolande.wagener@ms.etat.lu
**new partner for CSAP II**

**confirmation pending**

**Malta**

Pierre Gatt  
*Health and Safety Unit, Department of Planning and Development, Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport*  
Pierre.MGatt@gov.mt

**Netherlands**

Margein Veling  
*Consumer Safety Institute*  
m.veling@veiligheid.nl

**Northern Ireland**

Ita McErlean  
*Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA)*  
imcerlean@rospa.com

**Portugal**

Helena Menenzes  
*APSI (Portuguese Association for Child Safety Promotion)*  
hmenezes@apsi.org.pt

Ana Cristina Bastos  
*Office for the High Commissioner for Health*  
cristinabastos@acs.min-saude.pt

**Scotland**

Elizabeth Lumsden  
*Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA)*  
elumsden@rospa.com

**Slovenia**

Mateja Rok-Simon  
*Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia*  
Mateja.Rok@ivz-rs.si

**Spain**

Jorge Parise  
*Sociedad Española de Cirugia Infantil*  
jjparise@yahoo.com

**Sweden**

Marianne Stålheim  
*Swedish Rescue Services Agency/Räddningsverket*  
Marianne.stalheim@srv.se

**Switzerland**

Ester Walter  
*Swiss Council for Accident Prevention (bfu)*  
e.walter@bfu.ch

**Wales**

Karen McFarlane  
*Children in Wales*  
Karen.McFarlane@childreninwales.org.uk
observer countries

* new partner for CSAP II
^ confirmation pending

Croatia^P

Denmark^P
Hanna Moller
National Institute of Public Health
ham@niph.dk

England^P

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia^P

Norway
Johan Lund
Norwegian Safety Forum
johan.lund@fnh.no

Poland
Marta Malinowska-Cieslik
Institute of Public Health,
Jagiellonian University, Medical College
mxciesli@cyf-kr.edu.pl

Slovakia^P
project secretariat

Joanne Vincenten  
CSAP Project Leader  
*European Child Safety Alliance*  
j.vincenten@childsafetyeurope.org

Inge Ronde  
Administrative Assistant  
*European Child Safety Alliance*  
secretariat@childsafetyeurope.org

Morag MacKay  
CSAP Programme Manager  
*European Child Safety Alliance*  
m.mackay@childsafetyeurope.org

Robert Bauer  
Data Support  
*EuroSafe Injury Data Programme*  
Austrian Road Safety Board (KfV)  
robert.bauer@kfv.at

expert group

Genon Jenson  
*Health Environment Alliance*  
genon@env-health.org

Michael Rigby  
*University of Keele*  
m.j.rigby@hpm.keele.ac.uk

Elizabeth Towner  
*University of the West of England*  
elizabeth.towner@uwe.ac.uk

Dinesh Sethi  
WHO Regional Office for Europe  
*European Centre for Environment and Health*  
din@ecr.euro.who.int

additional technical advisers

Francesca Racioppi  
WHO Regional Office for Europe,  
*European Centre for Environment and Health*  
frr@ecr.euro.who.int

Leda Nemer  
WHO Regional Office for Europe,  
*European Centre for Environment and Health*  
len@ecr.euro.who.int
The lead partner for the initiative is the European Child Safety Alliance, an initiative of EuroSafe - European Association for Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion. The Alliance focuses on strategies aimed at bringing about reductions in injury related deaths and disability amongst children from 0 to 18 years of age in the European Union. It works with a network of expert partners and stakeholders from various disciplines involved in child injury prevention. An Expert Group provides advice and guidance. Its membership is made up of representatives of the Health Environment Alliance (HEAL), UNICEF and the WHO – Regional Office for Europe together with experts in best practice and health indicators from two universities, the University of the West of England and University of Keele. Additional expertise is consulted as required. The participating countries are:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Northern Ireland
- Poland
- Portugal
- Scotland
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Wales
project process

The project is divided into three interrelated parts that together assist countries in developing child safety action plans.

1. Standardised indicators, data collection and benchmarking tools focussing on child injury and actions to address the issue

A set of standardised indicators covering injury determinants, outcomes, and actions has been assembled and standardised data collection (Leadership, Infrastructure and Capacity Assessment and National Policy Assessment) and Child Safety Report Cards and Profiles have been developed as benchmarking tools. These tools provide a baseline level of child injury burden and action and a means of evaluating progress in reducing injury as the individual countries plan and implement action. In CSAP II new countries will collect a baseline and the original 18 countries will assess progress through the production of Report Cards and Profiles in 2009.
2. Identifying, distributing and encouraging uptake of evidenced good practice in child injury prevention

The Child Safety Good Practice Guide developed during the first phase of CSAP encourages and supports evidence-based action as part of national action planning. The Guide includes an analysis of key factors in successful transfer and implementation of strategies and provides 17 examples of evidenced good practice in action in Europe. During CSAP II the evidence will be updated, additional case studies will be developed and the CSAP Secretariat will continue work to promote evidence-based action in participating countries.
3. Child Safety Action Plan Development

Although the Project Secretariat and Expert Group work hard to support Member States’ activities, the most important efforts take place at the country level. To support countries in this huge task an action plan development and mentoring process has been developed to help countries work through three broad planning phases:

Assessment Phase:
Countries conduct a country-level situational analysis including collecting a baseline of the child injury indicators using standardised collection tools to form the Child Safety Report Cards and Profiles prepared by the Secretariat.

Strategic Planning Phase:
Countries use the results of their Report Card, Profile and situational analysis, together with the Good Practice Guide, to further engage partners and develop a longer-term vision, national goals, and priorities for action with measurable objectives.

Action Planning Phase:
Countries do concrete task planning for their priority objectives looking at a shorter time frame and work toward government endorsement of their CSAP and communicating the plan to those who need to know to facilitate successful implementation.

The process is intended to lead to government endorsed national Child Safety Action Plans. CSAP Coordinators are encouraged to engage government departments and a wide range of partners throughout to ensure the resulting plan will be truly national and multi-disciplinary. In CSAP II new country partners will begin their plan development following this process while continuing country partners will continue to work through the CSAP development process and/or begin implementation. The European Child Safety Alliance will be supporting countries at whichever step they are at in the process and examining national plans as they are completed to assess how the national plans can best be supported at the European level. This in turn will provide direction for a European Child Safety Action Plan.

For more information on the CSAP process or to download copies of resources and reports from the first phase of the CSAP initiative please go to www.childsafetyeurope.org.
During the course of the project, updates and deliverables will be posted on the European Child Safety Alliance website at www.childsafetyeurope.org as they become available.

By the end of CSAP II, the following deliverables will be available.

- A baseline of national child injury indicators in participating countries and an update for the original 18 Member States in the form of country specific Child Safety Report Cards and Profiles and a European Summary Report Card.


- Updated version of the on-line directory of child safety practitioners, researchers and policy makers in Europe.

- A summary of progress in the Child Safety Action Plan development in the participating countries

- National Child Safety Action Plans in the participating countries that complete CSAP development during the project.


For more information on the Child Safety Action Plan project, contact the Project Secretariat at:

European Child Safety Alliance
PO Box 75169
1070 AD Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Phone +31 20 511 4513
Fax +31 20 511 4510
www.childsafetyeurope.org
secretariat@childsafetyeurope.org
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