

- 1. MOH Focal Point workshop on capacity building using TEACH-VIP Curriculum**
- 2. Joint WHO-ESCWA-GRSP workshop on UN Road Safety Week.**

1. A Regional Training course to train the National MoH injury prevention focal points in EMR was held from 17-19 December in the Regional Office Cairo. The objectives of this training course were:
  - a. To train the injury prevention focal points in Ministries of health for better planning and implementation of injury related initiatives at the national levels using WHO TEACH-VIP Curriculum.
  - b. To make use of the existing experiences in the Region and elsewhere for capacity building in injury prevention and control.
  - c. To guide the focal points how to use TEACH-VIP curriculum in different settings.

Dr David Medding, Medical Officer, WHO VIP/HQ facilitated the workshop along with Regional Advisor VIP/EMRO and two temporary advisors. The regional training course was attended by 16 of the regional focal points and an additional 5 technical advisors and was structured around the TEACH-VIP training curriculum. The agenda for the training was deliberately developed to be as interactive as possible. One of the ways this was accomplished by tasking a number of the focal points to provide presentations on various aspects of injury prevention and ensuring sufficient time for discussion. The meeting ran over 3 days and covered presentations of TEACH-VIP, WHO's capacity building approach including introduction to MENTOR-VIP, policy development, data collection, victim care, networking, advocacy, research priorities and an overview of WHO publications with special emphasis given to the upcoming WHO guidance on focal points. The meeting went well, with excellent interaction between the focal points. One observation to be made was that focal points were turning over rapidly, with only 3 present having also been at Durban. In the course of the discussion about the upcoming WHO guidance document for MOH focal points it was suggested WHO could also issue this guidance with a request to Ministries of Health to appoint focal points for a medium term, if at all possible 3-5 years. A further issue highlighted was that WHO could paraphrase the types of activities stressed in that document in order to avoid inappropriate people being asked to function as focal points. During the meeting there were a number of agreements reached including:

- focal points present indicated that they would seek to have TEACH-VIP formally integrated into curricula of schools of public health and other relevant academic curricula
- focal points agreed they could serve as dissemination conduits for information about MENTOR-VIP as well as feeding in commentary on the programme draft
- training of trainers was identified as a useful strategy to optimise use of resources available within EMRO for country level training. A training of trainers that could draw together prospective trainers from schools of public health in the region was seen as both an effective use of resources and also something that could make use of some of the participants at the regional training, a number of which had university affiliations.

- there was strong support for regular focal point meetings in order to strengthen the network as participants felt that this had proven to be an excellent forum for exchange and that to the extent possible it could be moved to member states. It was felt that this would keep the network alive and create pressure to keep the focal points appointed for longer. Another mechanism for this was to ask WRs in the country office to request updates and progress reports from focal points.
- another focal point meeting in Oman in February to help solidify planning for the UN Global Road Safety Week and update on what activities had been taken to increase dissemination of TEACH-VIP with the countries.

2. The joint workshop for the first UN Road Safety Week brought together approximately 45 participants, including 6 participants in the Ministry of Health focal points meeting (Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Oman and Yemen). The remainder of the participants were primarily coming from transport divisions, traffic police, NGO's and automobile clubs (including FIA, YASA, and GRSP). The main objective of this workshop was to enhance the knowledge and skills on the use and the adaptation of the tool kit, which was developed by the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration, and on the manual for the establishment of National Road Safety Councils. In addition, the focal points discussed coordination of their activities with a view to adopting at least one unified activity. The specific objectives of the joint workshops were:

- a. Raise awareness about the impact of road traffic injuries, particularly among young road users.
- b. Promote action around key factors, which have a major impact on preventing road traffic injuries: helmets, seat belts, drink driving, speeding and road design and infrastructure

The discussions provided an opportunity for a presentation of the WHO and ESCWA roles in the planning for the 1<sup>st</sup> Global Road Safety Week which included background around the GA resolution and the WHO toolkit for organizers. Other presentations included an excellent presentation given by Nelly Ghusseini on the Youth Assembly activities, as well as presentations given by FIA, and updates provided by 6 countries in the region on activities being undertaken for road safety in their settings. While the meeting was less interactive than the training provided to the Ministry of Health focal points, it still provided a good venue for exchange on a number of important issues.