A COMPARISON OF 45 LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL HIA GUIDELINES

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ARTICLE INFORMATION

- Hebert, K.A., Wendel, A.M., Kennedy, S.K., & Dannenberg, A.L. (2012). Health impact assessment: A comparison of 45 local, national, and international guidelines. *Environmental Impact Assessment Review,* 34, 74-82.

- Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education & Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Healthy Community Design Initiative

PURPOSE

- Identify:
  - Common characteristics shaping current HIA practice
  - Unique attributes that could contribute to field's advancement
- Discuss:
  - Advantages and Disadvantages of Universal Guidelines
  - Next Steps

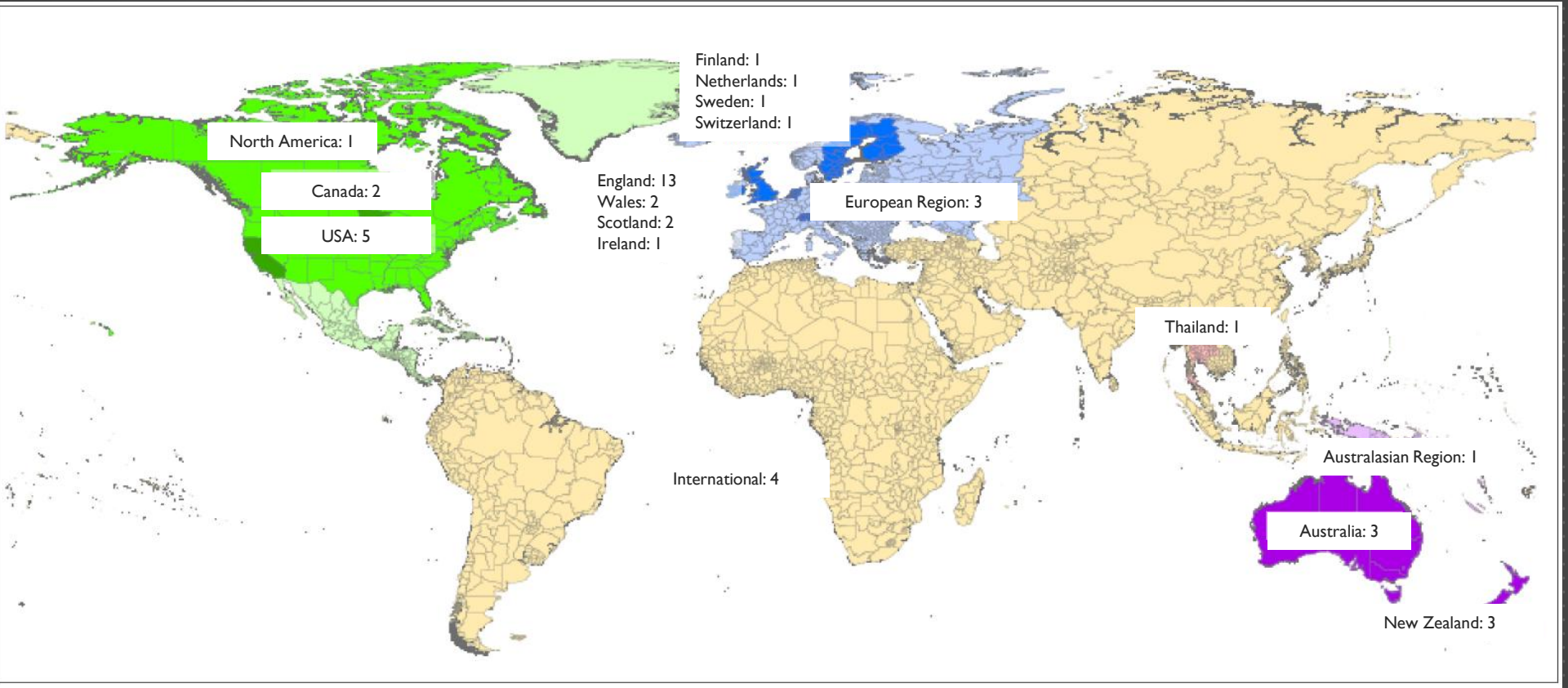
METHODOLOGY- SEARCH

- Websites:
  - HIA Gateway
  - International Health Impact Assessment Consortium
  - HIA Connect
  - UCLA HIA Clearinghouse Learning and Information Center
  - World Health Organization
  - San Francisco Bay HIA Collaborative
- Literature Review:
  - PubMed
  - CAB Direct
  - Web of Knowledge
- April 2010 to October 2011

METHODOLOGY- SELECT

- Inclusion Criteria:
  - Sufficient Information on HIA Process
  - Focused on HIA or HIA as Part of Environmental Impact Assessment
  - Most Recent Version
- Exclusion Criteria:
  - Tool or Solely One Part of HIA Process
  - Sector Specific
  - Technical or Academic Article More than Guide for Practitioners

MAP OF GUIDES SELECTED



METHODOLOGY- ANALYSIS

- General Information
  - Title, Location, Publisher, Publication Date, Length
- Primary Characteristics
  - Focus
  - Type
  - Level
  - Integrated Approach with Other Assessments
  - Supported by Policy

METHODOLOGY- ANALYSIS

- Specific Features
  - List of Principles or Values
  - Importance of Social Equity and Reducing Inequalities
  - Stress the Participatory Process
  - Definition of Health, Social Determinants of Health, and HIA
  - Tools and Examples
- Process Followed
  - Screening, Scoping, Assessment, Recommendations, Reporting, Evaluation/ Monitoring

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS- FEATURES

- 98% Encourages Community Engagement
- 96% Stress Equity and Reducing Health Inequities
- 89% Have a List or Diagram of Social Determinants of Health
- 88% Suggest Forming a Steering Committee
- 87% Includes Examples, Tools, Case Studies etc.
- 80% Discuss Multiple Levels of HIA
- 76% Recommend Creating a Community Profile
- 76% Mention Prospective HIAs Only
- 73% Applicable to Policies, Projects, and Programs
- 67% Include List of Principles or Values
- 64% Discuss Integration with Other Assessments
- 58% Supported by Policy

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS- PROCESS

- Screening, Scoping, Assessment-
  - Consistent Definition
  - 100% Have Three Steps
- Recommendations and Reporting
  - Commonly Joined Together Into 1 Step
  - Commonly Joined with Assessment
  - 3 Guides Did Not Include a Reporting Step
- Evaluation/ Monitoring
  - 91% Suggest Evaluation or Monitoring Outcomes
  - 67% Identified Evaluation as Being Important to Advance the Field of HIA

DISCUSSION

- HIA Should be Participatory and Democratic Process
- Promoting Equity and Reducing Health Inequalities is a Major Tenet of HIA
- Integration with Other Assessments and Policies Supporting HIA Need to be Discussed Further
- Should we have Universal Guidelines?
  - Pros- Standardization and Easier Entrance, Evaluation, and Provision of Information for the HIA Field
  - Cons- Local Guides May Serve Local Needs Better (fit local policies, culturally appropriate, site-specific, foster ownership)

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