



2020 activity report

## 2020 activity report UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education

This report covers the period January – December 2020

### UNESCO Chair description

On 10 October 2018 a consortium of 60 universities led by University of Clermont Auvergne launched the UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education. Our vision is to create the conditions for children and young people to take charge of their lives and develop as individuals, as members of their community and as global citizens for all matters related to health.

Health and education are inalienable rights for children. Improving their health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities are a joint responsibility. Education has a key role, since people's health depends for 80% on environmental factors and lifestyle. Now is the time to create new synergies in order to improve children and young people's health. The UNESCO Chair and WHO Collaborating Centre "Global Health & Education" aim to promote intersectoral policies and practices.

The Chair encourages a strategy of social change by introducing an innovative way of practicing health promotion, prevention and health education. It combines the knowledge of health determinants with social-cultural practices. This leads to a balanced approach between environmental changes and capacity building.

The UNESCO Chair operates as an open community. Organizations and people from different backgrounds, countries, cultures with a common interest in health & education, are actively involved in different activities at a global level. Community members range from individuals (academics, students, administrators, practitioners, consultants and others) to universities and organisations (cities, regions, NGO's, unions, public and private companies and networks).

This report describes the main activities of the UNESCO Chair located at University Clermont Auvergne for 2020.

Obviously the COVID pandemic had an impact on the 2020 workplan of the UNESCO Chair. This resulted in a reduction of attending conferences and organizing 'live' events, and to the creation of the Global Health & Education webinar series, a survey on COVID-19 and the reopening of schools and the research initiative of school preparedness on future outbreaks and disasters, in cooperation with WHO/Europe.

### Management and governance of the UNESCO Chair community

#### UNESCO Chair Secretariat

The UNESCO Chair receives core funding from MGEN and Groupe VYV. The UNESCO Chair Secretariat (Chair manager, Chair holder, project officers) together with the operational team located at University Clermont Auvergne (academics involved in the chair management), is responsible for carrying out the 4-year workplan (2018-2022). MGEN Foundation is hosting the UNESCO Chair Secretariat and is providing office space in Paris which is also available for UNESCO Chair partners. By the end of 2020



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the Secretariat team consisted of 4 staff members: Didier Jourdan (Chair holder), Goof Buijs (Chair manager), Valerie Ivassenko and Silvia de Ruiter (project officers) and 2 free-lance staff members (Nicola Gray and Cecile Martinez).

## Meetings

7-10 January 2020	UNESCO Chair secretariat, Paris
8 January 2020	Steering Committee, Paris
5 February 2020	Operational Team, Clermont Ferrand
6 February 2020	Core group Scientific & Ethical Committee, online
30 March 2020	Steering Committee, online
12 May 2020	Core group Scientific & Ethical Committee, online
15 April 2020	Operational Team, online
5 June 2020	Operational Team, online
8 July 2020	Steering Committee, online
24-27 August 2020	UNESCO Chair secretariat, Broek in Waterland, the Netherlands
22 October 2020	Steering Committee, online
1 December 2020	Operational Team, online

The UNESCO Chair secretariat had monthly live and online meetings.

Regular meetings with the staff of the MGEN Foundation and UCA foundation took place about administrative and financial issues.

In 2020 three updates were sent to all members of the Steering Committee and the Scientific & Ethical Committee.

## Core activities

### 1. Building the global UNITWIN community

#### Global mapping

In March 2020 the Working Group on Global Mapping had its first meeting. The working group is led by UNESCO Chair secretariat with a team of international partners, including Daniel Torrano (Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan), Carole Faucher (Edinburgh University, Scotland), Bill-Potts Datema (national representative USA), Marie-Claude Lamarre (consultant, France), Marie-Pierre Sauvant-Rochat (Université Clermont Auvergne, France) and Kathelijne Bessems (Maastricht University, Netherlands). The workplan 2020-2022 has the following objectives:

- a. Identify researchers/academics, universities and institutes working in the field of school health promotion around the world. They will act as entry point to identify all local and national actors that produce knowledge in the field.
- b. Carry out a state of the art on health promoting practices for children and adolescents in countries and regions among researchers that are identified in the mapping process.



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- c. Redefine health determinants with a stronger focus on sustainable development and how to put these into practice.

In 2020 a bibliometric review on school health was carried out by Camille Lasalle (intern Maastricht University, supported by Nazarbayev University and UCA), which will be the basis for a scientific article in a peer-reviewed journal in 2021. The bibliometric review was the first step in identifying researchers/academics, universities and institutes working in the field of school health promotion around the world.

#### National representatives

By the end of 2020 the UNESCO Chair has national representatives/contact persons in 30 countries, representing 5 continents. In November a meeting was held with all of them to identify their needs and how they see their role in the UNESCO Chair and UNITWIN network in the future. The outcome is a strategic plan for national representatives and community building, early 2021. Three national representatives and members of the Chair community made a video to explain what being a community member means to them and what their expectations are, available on the Chair's website.

#### UNITWIN network application

In April 2020 we submitted the UNITWIN network application 'Health and Education: Innovating for Sustainable Development; Human rights, citizenship and the common good'. The thematic area of this UNITWIN network is innovation for sustainable development and the common good in the health and education sectors. Its emancipatory and ethical aim constitutes its unity. The application was submitted together with the UNESCO Chair in Sexual Health and Human Rights, University of Paris, France. In total 8 other UNESCO Chairs with related areas of work and 37 partners from all continents formally support the application. Acceptance of the application by UNESCO Head Quarters is expected early 2021. From 2021 the community building activities of the UNESCO Chair will focus on the UNITWIN network.

## 2. Producing knowledge

#### Global handbook on health promotion research

The aim of the global handbook for health promotion research is to contribute to structuring the field of health promotion research. Based on original contributions from researchers in the field, it explores the major theoretical, methodological, empirical and political challenges and pressing social questions facing health promotion research. A call for contributions was sent in April 2020. The number of contributions (almost 80 from researchers from all over the world) is way beyond our expectations. A contract has been signed with Springer for the publication of the book. It will be launched at the 2022 IUHPE world conference.

#### French handbook on health promotion, health education and prevention

The French handbook aims to bring together the perspectives of different practitioners in health promotion intervention, research, training and strategy. Contributions for the handbook (work title 'Réinterroger et approfondir les fondements épistémologiques et éthiques de la promotion de la santé') that will be published in 2021, are now in the process of reviewing.



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### Survey COVID and reopening of schools

The COVID-19 situation impacted the activities of the UNESCO Chair. In May 2020 we initiated a global survey on COVID-19 and the reopening of schools, in collaboration with key partners, including the SHE Network Foundation. An article for Health Education Journal is being reviewed and will be published early 2021. Preliminary results can be accessed on the UNESCO Chair website: <https://unescochair-ghe.org/resources/themes-covid-19/preview-survey-school-reopening/>. The second phase of the survey has been launched in December 2020.

### French book on COVID and reopening of schools

During the second half of 2020 the French book 'Ecoles et crises sanitaires relecture' on COVID and reopening of schools was written and will be published in January 2021. An English version of the book is in preparation for 2021.

### Research initiative on helping schools to prepare for future epidemics and health crises

In collaboration with WHO/Europe a research initiative was developed on 'school preparedness for future epidemics and health crises'. Together with WHO and key partners we are looking for funding to start the initiative in 2021 that will result in a concept note for future research and 2 policy briefs.

## 3. Building capacity

### Chair Academy 2020

The Chair Academy was scheduled 7-8 April 2020, but had to be cancelled. In collaboration with the EUPHA Health Promotion section a new Chair Academy is planned for September 2021.

### Summer school 2020

The UNESCO Chair Summer school was postponed to 2021 and will be organised with the EHESP School of Public Health, University of Rennes, France (Eric Breton).

### Capacity Development Programme for Actors in West Africa

The UNESCO Chair initiated this capacity building programme to meet the need for trained and skilled professionals in prevention and health promotion in West Africa, especially in rural areas. In collaboration with Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, Senegal. The degree "licence professionnelle en promotion de la santé" will be launched in autumn 2021.

### MOOC

In 2020 the UNESCO Chair contributed to the French MOOC on Rights, Sex & Education ('Lier la santé sexuelle aux droits humains') from the UNESCO Chair on Sexual Education and Human Rights.

Preparations started for developing an international MOOC in 2021, in collaboration with the UNESCO Chair on Sexual Education and Human Rights.

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#### 4. Communicating and sharing knowledge

Global Health & Education webinar series



The UNESCO Chair and WHO Collaborating Centre Global Health & Education have taken the initiative for the *Global Health & Education webinar series*, in close cooperation with key partners. It will help knowledge sharing and capacity building on health promotion for children and young people. In 2020 in total 12 GHE webinars were organised: 7 French webinars, 3 English webinars, 1 Spanish webinar and 1 Farsi webinar.

- 14 May 2020: (French) Pandémie de COVID-19 : les réponses de la promotion de la santé, with IUPHE
- 3 June 2020: (French) Éducation et santé : faire de la recherche au plus près des gens, with Université Sorbonne Paris Nord, France
- 16 June 2020: (English) Health Promotion Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic, with IUPHE
- 13 July 2020: (English) The COVID-19 pandemic: better aligning education and health” with ASCD and Education International
- 10 November 2020: (French) Un cadre opérationnel pour l'éducation à la santé : les apports du paradigme de la complexité, with Saint Joseph University Beirouth, Lebanon
- 18 November 2020: (Spanish) Neoliberal globalization and migrant children's right to health in Latin America, with University of Puerto Rico.
- 24 November 2020: (French) L'environnement : un déterminant de la santé qui compte , with Université de Lorraine, France
- 3 December 2020: (Farsi) Health, literacy and education in Persian speaking countries, with Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Iran
- 3 December 2020 (French) La santé des enseignants aujourd'hui et demain, with MGEN Foundation, France
- 9 December 2020: (French) L'éthique professionnelle au quotidien : prévention et soin au temps du Covid-19, with Paris University
- 10 December 2020: (English) Education as a “social vaccine” against COVID-19, with CHAIN and EuroHealthNet
- 15 December 2020: (French) Les politiques européennes de santé publique, with Université d'Éducation de Fribourg, Germany



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### Newsletters

In 2020, three newsletters were produced and are available on the UNESCO Chair website, both in English and in French. At the end of 2020 there were 923 subscribers to the newsletter.

### Website

Both the English and French website were regularly updated, including dedicated webpages for each webinar and a webpages containing links to relevant resources about COVID-19. The English website, [unescochair-ghe.org](http://unescochair-ghe.org), had 37.262 unique visitors in 2020 and 209.533 visits.

### LinkedIn

The LinkedIn group 'UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education' has 125 members. News items and announcements of events are also shared through the private accounts of Didier Jourdan, Goof Buijs, Valerie Ivassenko and Silvia de Ruiten.

### Twitter

The twitter account [@UNESCOchairGHE](https://twitter.com/UNESCOchairGHE) has 555 followers.

### Youtube channel

The [Youtube channel](#) of the UNESCO Chair gathers all the videos of the webinars and events (seminars, conferences, workshops) organised or co-organised by the UNESCO Chair. It has a growing audience and currently has 172 subscribers. Some videos are widely watched and downloaded: the video of the 3 December 2020 webinar has 1100 views.

### Project in New Caledonia

The programme "Réussir, être bien, être ensemble" (Succeed, be well, be together) was launched in New Caledonia: a two years co-design process including a professional development program, involving 40 schools from 3 provinces. In order to support teachers and families during the COVID period, when children learn differently, resources developed in 2019 are now made available in French on its website.

### Work for CRES PACA

A process of knowledge transfer has been launched with the CRES PACA. It aims at producing a report on the way in which schools can influence health inequalities and factsheets for different stakeholders.

### Work for the canton de Vaud et Lausanne

The Chair is involved in a research and development process at the community level. This project is lead by AVASAD (Association vaudoise d'aide et de soins à domicile).

### Work with the city of Moulins and Ville-Santé-hôpital project

The city of Moulins (France) is a partner of the Chair. The work is linked to their local health contract and their town-hospital-health project (projet Ville-Santé-Hôpital). This partnership enables the Chair to contribute to the implementation of health promotion projects at a community level.



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### Work with URPS AURA dentists

This project with URPS AURA (regional union for private practitioners health professionals in Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes region) consists of the co-creation, development and deployment of health education tools targeting oral health in schools in the city of Clermont-Ferrand. This project implements intersectoral work between oral health professionals and school nurses at the local level.

### Scientific events 2020

- 20 May 2020, Developing the capacity of ALL schools to promote the current and future health of students, Geneva: cancelled due to COVID
- 31 August 2020: during the WHO/Europe high-level virtual meeting for Ministers of Health on schooling during the COVID-19 pandemic, Didier Jourdan took part to the expert's round table and presented the WHO Collaborating Centre and UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education perspective on this issue.
- 12 October 2020: preconference held at the online World Conference on Public Health 2020: Helping people to help themselves to better health - From theory to practice
- 5-6 November 2020: Online workshop "Combining a diversity of knowledge to meet the challenges of tomorrow" by UNESCO Chair, Brazilian and International Partners
- IAAH International Conference "Protection of the adolescent health and development in context of COVID-19 crisis"
- NCD child conference "Strategies for educational continuity and management of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) during the COVID-19 pandemic"

### Partnership agreements

In 2020 partnership agreements and letters of intent were signed with:

- Emerald Publishing
- Arab Coalition for Adolescent Health & Medicine (ACAHM)
- Health Promotion South Africa Trust
- International Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Dance and Sport (IAHPEDS)
- Society of State Leaders of Health and Physical Education (SSHPE)
- Fondation SANOFI Espoir

### Publications

- Building new evidence to help schools prepare for future epidemics and health crises- Working towards a comprehensive research plan, based on an innovative research strategy - An initiative of WHO EURO and WHO Collaborating Center and UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education, September 2020
- Jourdan D., Gray N.J., Barry M., Caffè S., Cornu C., Diagne F., El Hage F., Farmer M.Y., Slade S., Marmot M., Sawyer S.M. (2020) Supporting every school to become a foundation for healthy lives, accepted for publication in *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*
- Gray, N. J., Jourdan, D., & McDonagh, J. E. (2020). Returning to school: Children and young people living with chronic illness. *Journal of Children's Services*. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JCS-06-2020-0019>

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- Viner, R. M., Bonell, C., Drake, L., Jourdan, D., Davies, N., Baltag, V., Jerrim, J., Proimos, J., & Darzi, A. (2020). Reopening schools during the COVID-19 pandemic: Governments must balance the uncertainty and risks of reopening schools against the clear harms associated with prolonged closure. Archives of Disease in Childhood. <https://doi.org/10.1136/archdischild-2020-319963>
- Gray, N.J., Jourdan, D. (2020). From COVID-19 pandemic politics to the playground: What have we learned from professionals in the field about reopening schools? Accepted for publication in Health Education Journal.
- Jourdan, D., Gray, N., Slade, S. & Marmot, M. (2020). Reopening schools: What knowledge can we rely upon? *UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education*.  
English version: <https://inservice.ascd.org/reopening-schools-what-knowledge-can-we-rely-upon/> *As the Director General of WHO indicated on March 12, the management of the Covid-19 pandemic is a question of “finding a delicate balance between health protection, the prevention of economic and social risks and respect for human rights.” As such, the reopening of schools can be seen both as a symbolic and practical herald of recovery. There are, however, obvious health risks, and these important decisions must be based on robust evidence.*  
French version: <https://chaireunesco-es.org/2020/04/22/reouverture-des-ecoles-sur-quels-savoirs-sappuyer/>  
Dutch version: <https://unescochair-ghe.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/De-heropening-van-scholen-op-basis-van-welke-kennis-1.pdf>
- Jourdan, D. (29 April 2020) [Rouvrir les écoles : premiers retours d’expérience \(theconversation.com\)](#) *La réouverture des écoles en France est planifiée à partir du 11 mai. Certains pays n’ont pas fermé leurs écoles, d’autres les ont déjà rouvertes, quelques-uns ont décidé d’attendre la rentrée de septembre et pour certains le débat est encore en cours.*
- Jourdan, D. (26 May 2020) [Comment organiser le retour des élèves atteints de maladies chroniques ? \(theconversation.com\)](#) *À mesure que les établissements scolaires rouvrent leurs portes émerge la question de l’accueil réservé aux enfants les plus vulnérables. L’utilisation généralisée de ce terme « vulnérable » pour décrire un groupe très diversifié d’enfants et de jeunes traduit l’attention particulière qu’il convient de prêter à ceux qui ont le plus besoin de l’école pour réussir. Néanmoins, il n’est pas sans poser de problème, du fait de la variété des sources de cette vulnérabilité.*
- Jourdan, D. (1 July 2020) [Pourquoi il faut éduquer les jeunes face au marketing du tabac \(theconversation.com\)](#) *33 % des jeunes de 15 ans ont déjà fumé des cigarettes. Si les niveaux de consommation des adolescents français sont en baisse ces dernières années, ils restent au-dessus de la moyenne des autres pays européens.*
- Jourdan, D. (30 August 30, 2020) [Toutes les questions que vous vous posez sur la rentrée scolaire au temps de la Covid-19 \(theconversation.com\)](#) *A rentrée scolaire est là, chacun se prépare, le cadre du retour à l’école a été défini mais les questions restent nombreuses tant la situation est inédite. La propagation des rumeurs, inquiétantes comme rassurantes, se poursuit et il n’est pas toujours facile de faire le tri. Mes enfants seront-ils protégés ? Est-il raisonnable de retourner à l’école alors que le virus est toujours là ? Le protocole sanitaire mis en place en France s’appuie-t-il sur des données solides ?*





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- Gray, N., Jourdan, D., Marmot, M (4 September 2020) [Coronavirus: what researchers know about the risk of reopening schools – and how best to limit it \(theconversation.com\)](#) *Across the world, over 1.5 billion children and young people were deprived of school during the first phase of the pandemic. We know this has had a negative effect on learning. And research carried out in England has shown that children in deprived areas have fallen furthest behind.*