

WHO Global Evidence-to-Policy (E2P) Summit 2023

Evidence as a catalyst for policy and societal change: building trust and bridging the E2P gap
29–31 August 2023

Scope and purpose

Background

Evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM) is essential to accelerate the achievement of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Triple Billion targets, as outlined in WHO's [Thirteenth General Programme of Work 2019–2023](#) (GPW 13) (1).

The [Evidence-informed Policy Network \(EVIPNet\)](#)¹ (2) is a global network that shares a vision to work towards a world in which high-quality, context-sensitive evidence routinely informs health decision-making processes and makes these decisions more transparent and accountable to patients and citizens. EVIPNet pursues this goal by fostering the implementation and institutionalization of evidence-informed policy activities in over 50 Member States.

In 2021, EVIPNet organized the first-of-its-kind global summit on evidence to policy (E2P), the [WHO E2P Summit 2021](#) (4). The summit brought together high-level policy-makers, researchers and E2P pioneers during a 3-day event. As a main outcome of the summit, a [Call for Action](#) (5) was formulated that called upon EVIPNet Member States to institutionalize EIDM, promote EIDM norms and tools, build knowledge-translation capacity, and improve access to timely and relevant evidence within their health systems.

A follow-up meeting to the WHO E2P Summit 2021 is being planned for August 2023. This virtual meeting will bring together a variety of E2P stakeholders and provide an unparalleled opportunity to explore recent developments in the E2P community, as well as to assess Member States' progress towards meeting the commitments of EVIPNet's Call for Action.

Goal

The Global E2P Summit 2023 will bring together researchers and policy-makers from various WHO regions and international institutions, Member States, universities, research institutes, and partners to take stock of the progress on the Call for Action from the WHO E2P Summit 2021, identify common challenges, share innovations and lessons learned, and provide recommendations for supporting EIDM to spur progress towards the SDGs and Triple Billion targets.

¹ This includes NEDtP, the [Network of Institutions for Evidence and Data to Policy](#) (3).

Objectives

The objectives of the Global E2P Summit include:

- (1) identifying country needs and areas of support required by Network members from WHO and partners;
- (2) taking stock of recent global, regional and country-level activities towards implementing the EVIPNet Call for Action;
- (3) providing the space for exchange and deliberations on good practices and gaining new technical insights, thereby strengthening network cohesion; and
- (4) launching a Coalition of Partners.

Outputs

Outputs of the Summit include devising:

- (1) a map of global, regional and country-level activities towards implementing the EVIPNet Call for Action;
- (2) a list of E2P country needs and next steps; and
- (3) a call to join the Coalition of Partners.

Outcomes

The Global E2P Summit will:

- (1) increase participants' access to and uptake of the resources offered by EVIPNet and its partners;
- (2) provide targeted technical support in the form of regional meetings and subject-relevant workshops that will follow the event;
- (3) promote learning and cohesion among Network members; and
- (4) enhance EVIPNet's visibility and profile to attract potential partners and stakeholders for the Network and the Coalition.

Audience

- The primary target audience of this Summit is EVIPNet members.
- The secondary target audience includes policy-makers, researchers, international organizations, NGOs, civil society representatives, press/media and other stakeholders interested in promoting the research–policy–society interface.

Approach

Participation in the Summit will be available through:

- plenary sessions, panels, and interactive working group sessions to provide attendees with an opportunity to engage with each other, share experiences, and collaborate on solutions to key challenges;
- the availability of simultaneous interpretation (in other official United Nations languages); and
- web streaming – freely accessible for anyone registered in advance to attend and participate.

References

1. Thirteenth General Programme of Work 2019–2023. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2019 (<https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do/thirteenth-general-programme-of-work-2019---2023>).
2. Driving evidence to impact: resources. Knowledge translation at a fingertip. The EVIPNet resource repository [website]. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2023 (<https://www.who.int/initiatives/evidence-informed-policy-network/driving-evidence-to-impact-resources>).
3. Network of institutions for evidence and data to policy (NEDtP) in the Eastern Mediterranean Region [website]. Cairo: WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean; 2019 (<https://www.emro.who.int/evidence-data-to-policy/network-of-institutions/index.html>).
4. WHO EVIPNet. WHO Global Evidence-to-Policy Summit 2021 [website]. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2021 (<https://www.e2psummit2021.org/>).
5. Together on the road to evidence-informed decision-making for health in the post-pandemic era: publication of a new all for action. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2021 (<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/350883>).