January 2022

EPHA wishes you a happy New Year and that 2022 brings us one step closer to healthy food system!

But first, let’s recall the last two months of 2021. We hope you find it useful.

We are interested in your comments & feedback, feel free to send them to tifenn.piolot-doco@epha.org.

Don’t hesitate to share this issue with your colleagues and friends, as well as on social media!

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Food Systems & People's Health


By the Global Nutrition Report. This report discusses progress made towards the global nutrition targets, and evaluates the impacts of poor diets on people's and the planet’s health.
2021 WHO Health and Climate Change Survey Report - Tracking Global Progress

By World Health Organization (WHO).

This report presents progress made by governments in the area of health and climate change. Among others, it shows that few countries have climate-informed health surveillance systems in place for malnutrition and foodborne diseases.

The State of Food and Agriculture – Making agrifood systems more resilient to shocks and stresses

By Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

This report examines the challenge of building more resilient agrifood systems that ensure food security and nutrition for all.

Public Food Procurement for Sustainable Food Systems and Healthy Diets – Volume 1

By Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

This first volume of the report presents public food procurement as a development tool and highlights its benefits and beneficiaries.

Public Food Procurement for Sustainable Food Systems and Healthy Diets – Volume 2

By Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The second volume of the report is dedicated to instruments, enablers and barriers for food procurement, illustrated by case studies.

Serving Better: every meal counts in a climate and nature emergency

By Eating Better Alliance.

This report offers guidance for local authorities on how to source and serve healthier and more sustainable meals in public settings.

Commercial determinants
WHO Factsheet on the commercial determinants of health
By World Health Organization (WHO).

Commercial determinants of health are “the private sector activities that affect people’s health positively or negatively.” This factsheet details the different possibilities government have to address them.

READ MORE

Kicking Out Junk Food: sports sponsorship and a better deal for health
By Sustain, Children’s Food Campaign and Food Active.

This report documents how food and drink industries undermine children’s health and rights through the promotion of unhealthy products during the 2021 ‘Summer of Sport’ in the UK.

READ MORE

Maximising the wealth of few at the expense of the health of many: a public health analysis of market power and corporate wealth and income distribution in the global soft drink market
By Wood et al. (2021) Globalization and Health.

This paper analyses the extent to which market power, corporate wealth and income distribution in the global soft drink market negatively impact public health and health equity.

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The Network of Powerful Agribusiness Groups Lobbying to Water Down the EU’s Sustainable Farming Targets
By DeSmog.

This article maps out how agrochemical and pesticide giants are pushing for weaker action on harmful chemicals and climate goals.

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The 7 myths of big meat’s marketing

By Greenpeace Denmark.

In this report, Greenpeace dives into the culture of meat marketing in 6 European countries and looks at the advertisement, promotion strategies and symbols adopted by 51 brands.

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Emission impossible Europe - How Europe’s Big Meat and Dairy are heating up the planet

By the Institute for Agriculture & Trade Policies (IATP).

For this report, IATP calculated the emissions of the 35 largest European meat and dairy firms. The results reveal an increase in emissions due to production and exports, with negative impact on air pollution and further on public health.

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EU Food & Drink Policy

Towards a childhood free from unhealthy food marketing

Call by 20 European CSOs.

On 9 November 2021, 20 European organisations launched a Blueprint Directive to indicate how the EU can protect children by regulating cross-border marketing of unhealthy food.

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To stand up for Europe’s future means to legislate against health-harmful food marketing

By Nikolai Pushkarev (EPHA).

This opinion piece presents the relationships between two key threats to young people’s health, well-being and rights: climate change and predatory commercial practices.

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EU must legislate on unhealthy marketing for kids: Industry self-regulation is not working
By Food Navigator.

The evidence is clear: food marketing affects children’s eating habits, health and well-being. European NGOs call on the EU to take actions that go beyond industry self-regulation.

What next for European action on childhood obesity? Key reflections from an expert debate.
By STOP Childhood Obesity Project.

Ahead of the evaluation of the expired EU Action Plan on Childhood Obesity, a debate of key experts identified next steps for EU action on childhood obesity.

MEPs adopt report with calls for stronger EU action against cancer.
By European Parliament.

On 9 December, MEPs voted in favor of the draft Own Initiative Report “Strengthening Europe in the fight against cancer - towards a comprehensive and coordinated strategy”.

Research Highlights

Exposure of French Children and Adolescents to Advertising for Foods High in Fat, Sugar or Salt
By Escalon et al. (2021), Nutrients.

The global and regional costs of healthy and sustainable dietary patterns: a modelling study
By Springmann et al. (2021), The Lancet Planetary Health.

The EASL–Lancet Liver Commission: protecting the next generation of Europeans against liver disease complications and premature mortality
By Karlsen et al. (2022), The Lancet.

Global red and processed meat trade and non-communicable diseases
By Chung et al. (2021), BMJ Global Health.
Trust and responsibility in food systems transformation. Engaging with Big Food: marriage or mirage?

By Yates et al. (2021), BMJ Global Health.

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The role of plant-based alternative foods in sustainable and healthy food systems: Consumption trends in the UK

By Alae-Carew et al. (2021), Science of the Total Environment.

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The Political Economy of Healthy and Sustainable Food Systems: An Introduction to a Special Issue

By Baker et al. (2021), International Journal of Health Policy and Management.

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Sustainable food profiling models to inform the development of food labels that account for nutrition and the environment: a systematic review

By Bunge et al. (2021), The Lancet Planetary Health.

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