The PET Working Group has had a successful year, meeting at the World Congress in Kolkata and beginning the development of a number of new projects. The group will be exploring and consulting on whether there is a need for a clearer definition of both ‘education’ and ‘training’ related to public health, as well as looking at benchmarks for core curriculum contents within public health masters degrees.

The group explored the use of massive open online courses (MOOCs) in delivering baseline public health education and training, and particularly whether such platforms offer the potential to develop cross-institutional courses on topics such as Biostatistics and Epidemiology. The PET Working Group plans to undertake a survey of universities already using MOOCs on Biostatistics and Epidemiology to identify in which public health courses they are already used, and how. Finally the PET will also explore what skills employers are looking for in public health graduates, and whether many current courses provide the training for their graduates to meet these expectations.