

2007 ANNUAL REPORT PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA (PHASA)

Public Health Association of South Africa
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President: Prof. Shan Naidoo

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Membership: 336 from 2003, 41 in 2007

Publications:

- Published two newsletters of the Public Health Association of South Africa. Have stopped distributing hard copies of the newsletters. These are now sent out to 1 172 people as an e-newsletter.
- The newsletters are also available online at <http://www.phasa.za.org/newsletter/newsletter.htm>. A number of notices are sent out more frequently by email.
- The Southern African Journal of Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases is the official journal of PHASA and other members of the Federation of Infectious Diseases Societies of Southern Africa (FIDSSA). The Proceedings of the Third Public Health conference was published as a special edition at the end of 2006.

List of conferences and meetings:

- David Pienaar, an Executive Member of PHASA attended the Eastern Central and Southern African Public Health Association (ECSAPHA) Workshop in Uganda from the 26th-28th April 2007. This was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The aim of the workshop was to revitalize ECSAPHA, which was originally created to assist member states in developing and sustaining their own national public health associations. Seventeen delegates attended the meeting.
- Dehran Swart and Flavia Senkubuge, two members of PHASA attended the first Public Health Association Leadership in Tobacco Control in East and Southern Africa Workshop in Mozambique from the 29th – 31st May 2007.

- Shan Naidoo, chairperson of PHASA attended a workshop hosted by CORED on the 10th November 2007 in Arusha, Tanzania. The purpose was to establish a network of African School's of Public Health. These are often aligned with public health associations internationally and hence PHASA's participation. It was agreed to develop regional networks before work on an Africa-wide network be developed.

List of ongoing Research & Development projects:

- PHASA accredited a National Handwashing Campaign which was conducted from the 18th September – 26th October 2007 to ensure maximum reach, also allowing for the communication of hand-washing / hygiene education to families in townships & consumers nationally. Education was provided to 35,109 pre-and primary schools, hand-washing educational materials was distributed to 145,864 pre- and primary schools via classroom kits and 48 608 people were reached with the pro-mobiles.

List of activities prepared/planned for the next reporting period:

- The next PHASA Conference is planned for 8th - 11th June 2008. The theme of the conference is "Realizing the Alma Ata vision in the 21st Century. What will it take?" Further information can be obtained at: <http://phasa2008.mrc.ac.za/>
- Improve membership payments by incorporating fees into conference fees or giving discounts to members
- Improve international collaboration and use international experts to strengthen the association