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Firth, Jan and Adams, Karen

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Public Health Nurse Education in Albania – a partnership approach

Karen Adams University of Huddersfield





Joint European Project 2002-2005



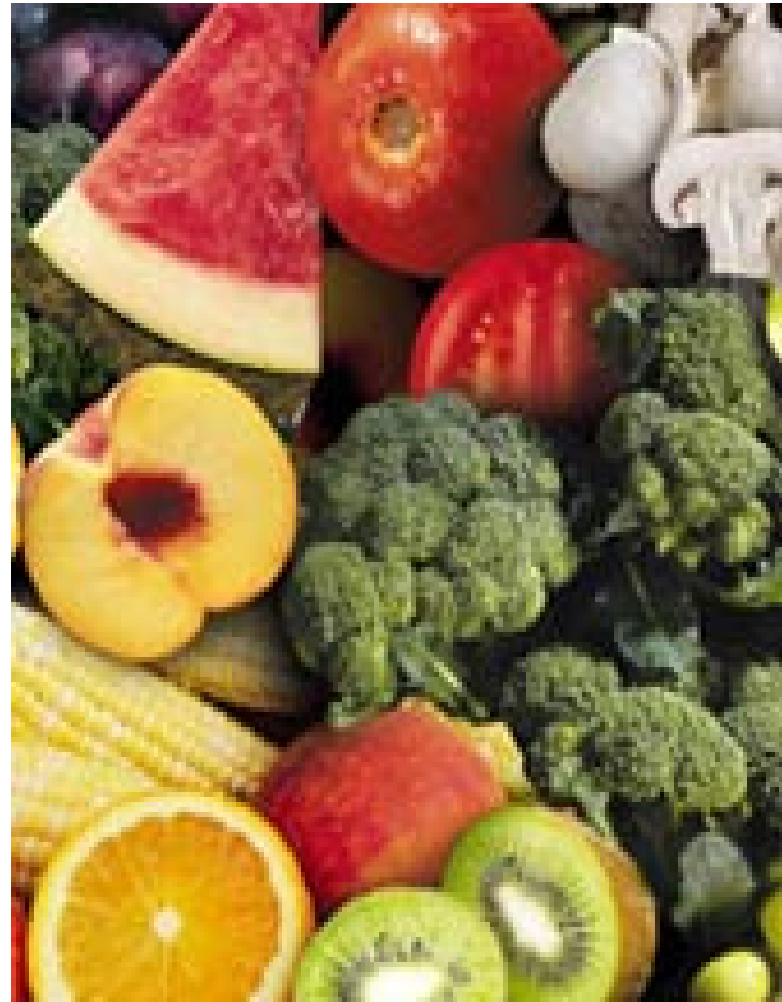
- **Albania**
- **Finland**
- **UK**

Our aim

- To develop a Public Health Nurse educational programme for qualified nurses in Albania

Objectives

- Curriculum development and production of course material for Public Health Nursing studies in Albania
- Delivery of a pilot Public Health Nursing course in English at Vlora University to a cohort of 15 students



Needs analysis

- Albania has the lowest per capita income in Europe (World Bank Development Report 1999-2000)



Aspects of Public Health

- Transport
- Education
- Sanitation
- Health & safety
- Health care



Current problems

- Maternal mortality 57 per 1000 (10 times that of Western Europe)
- Limited access to contraception
- STD's, HIV & AIDS
- Prostitution
- Crime
- Human trafficking
- Drug & alcohol abuse
- Smoking
- Eating habits
- Domestic violence
- 25% unemployment
- Poor primary Health Care infrastructure



Curriculum development

- Health needs assessment
- Public Health practice
- Child and maternal health and welfare
- Sexual health
- Mental health
- Occupational health
- Management, leadership & professional development
- Evidence based practice

Challenges

- Traditional teaching methods
- Language barriers (Finnish & English)
- Library – obsolete/donated text books
- Lack of resources - IT equipment / internet
- Limited availability of epidemiological data
- Often no water supply

Electricity



Implementation

- Finnish & UK teaching staff taught pilot course in Albania
- Albanian students visited UK or Finland to gain an insight into Public Health Practice

References

- Albanian Ministry of Health (2001) Position Paper
- European Commission (2001) TEMPUS project
- Hagelund B (2001) Higher Education in Albania
- World Health Organisation (1978) Alma Ata Declaration