Building healthy and resilient schools: a global perspective

Goof Buijs UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education 10 December 2024



Focus on health promotion - health education - prevention



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• A set of coordinated intersectoral actions that aims to orient and support social change in order to improve health for all and reduce health inequalities

Action on life ecosystems

• Life Long Learning



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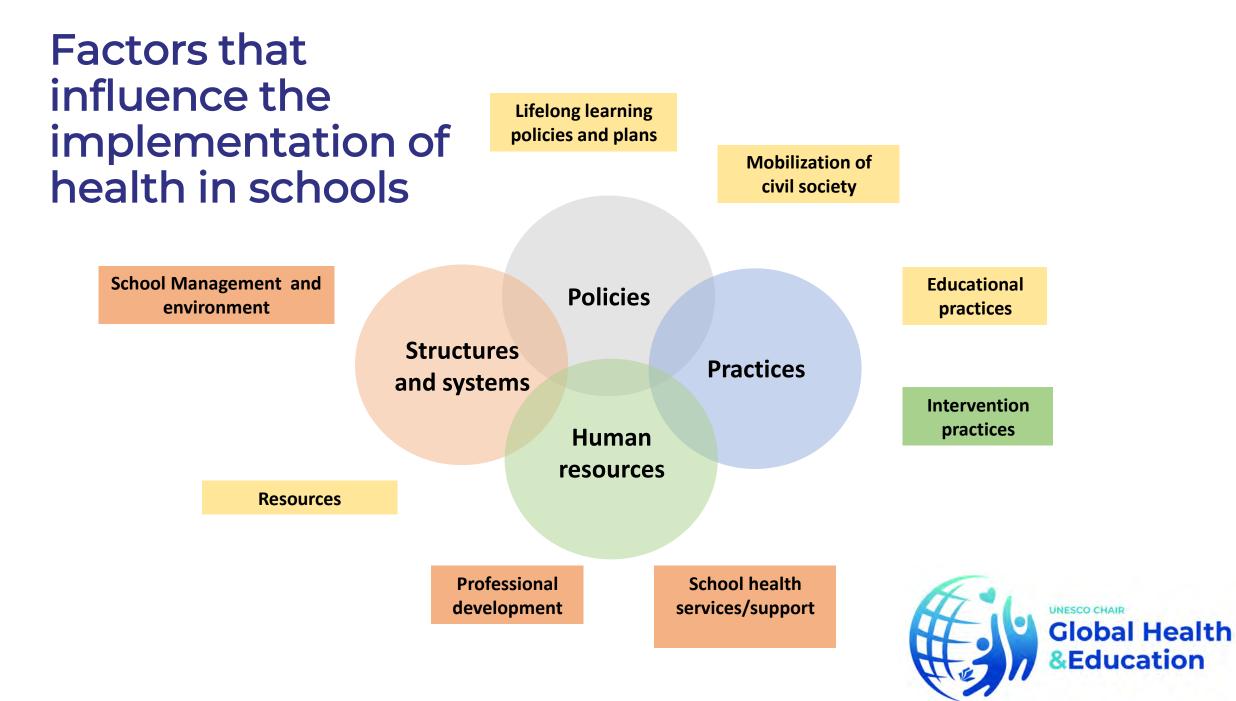


The art of implementation

Schools develop a structured and systematic plan to act on health determinants in two ways:

- Action on the living conditions that influence health: the physical and social environment, the access to appropriate services (health, social, educational);
- Education of students in order to give everyone the means (knowledge, attitudes, behaviours, and skills) to take care of their own health in an autonomous and responsible way.





Global mapping of school health promotion



- > Research literature on school health promotion
- Metadata from 4.328 publications
- Indexed in the Scopus database over the past 35 years
- > Period of study: 1986 2021



Study objectives



Trends in publication and citation data to track the growth trajectory of research

Leading countries and journals contributing to the development of the field

Existing patterns in research collaboration in knowledge production

(Inter)disciplinarity of the field

Research topics that comprise the knowledge base of research on health promotion in school contexts



Main authors

Table 1. Leading authors in health promotion research in the school context based on the number of publications 1986 - 2021

#	Authors	Institution	Country	Publications
1	Lee A	Chinese University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	35
2	Brener N.D	University of New South Wales	Australia	23
2	Jourdan D	Université Clermont Auvergne	France	23
3	Kann I	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention	USA	21
3	Rowling L	Faculty of Education and Social Work, University of Sydney	Australia	21
4	St Leger L	Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences, Deakin University, Melbourne	Australia	18
5	Campbell R	University of Bristol	UK	17
5	Simovka V	Aarhus University	Denmark	17
6	Kolbe I J	Indiana University	USA	14
6	Kutcher S	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Hong Kong	14
6	Samdal O	University of Bergen	Norway	14

Leading countries

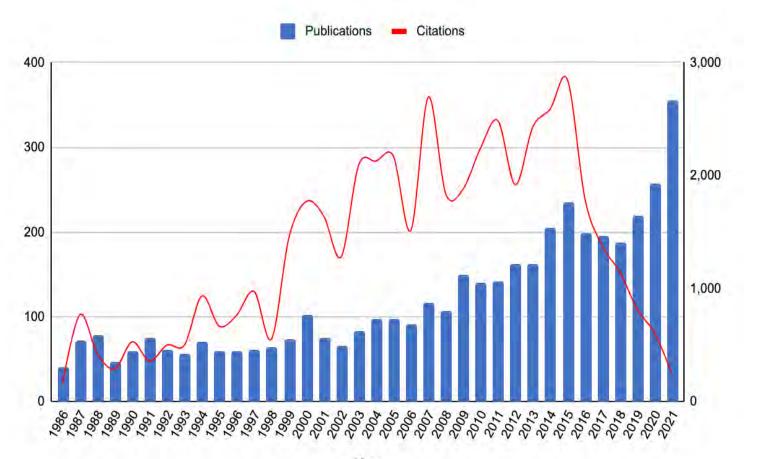
Table 2.

Leading countries/territories in health promotion research in the school context 1986-2021

# Country	Publications	Citations	AAC	CCA	SCP	MCP	MCP_Ratio
1 USA	3377	11667	17.18	679	636	43	0.06
2 United Kingdom	1186	5117	19.53	262	224	38	0.14
3 Australia	814	3776	20.86	181	154	27	0.15
4 Canada	722	3292	22.09	149	127	22	0.15
5 India	710	1291	10.41	124	120	4	0.03
6 Brazil	574	547	6.92	79	75	4	0.05
7 China	555	405	4.76	85	70	15	0.17
8 Germany	509	713	5.99	119	114	5	0.04
9 Italy	336	220	5.36	41	37	4	0.10
10 Japan	307	485	7.95	61	38	23	0.38
11 Spain	284	366	8.13	45	36	9	0.20
12 Iran	280	405	6.98	58	51	7	0.12
13 Finland	271	854	15.22	55	44	11	0.20
14 Netherlands	257	928	19.33	48	37	11	0.23
15 Sweden	250	1062	17.12	62	55	7	0.11

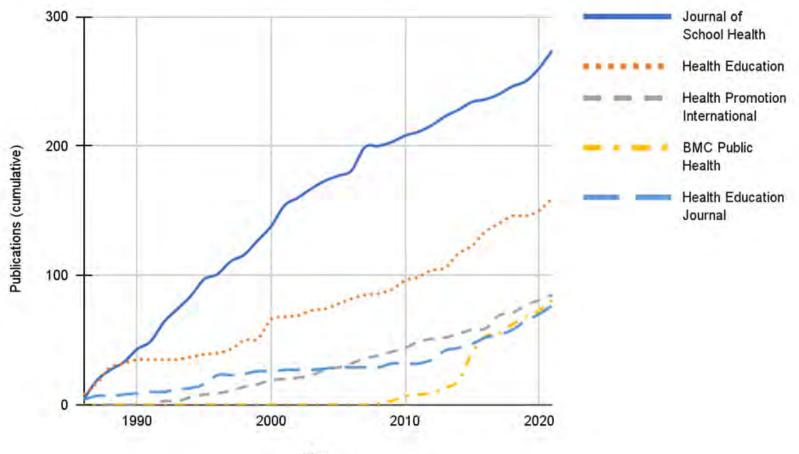
Note. AAC = Average Article Citations; CCA = Correspondence Country Authorship; SCP = Single Country Publication; MCP = Multiple Country Publication

Development of annual publications and citations



Year

Yearly growth of top-5 journals in HPS research



Year

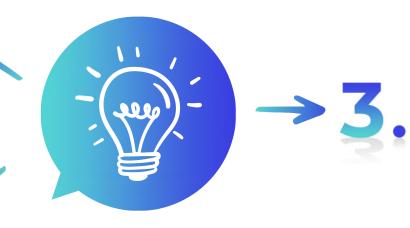
Findings mapping study

- 1. Trend towards more international collaboration: collaborative by nature
- 2. Truly global research field, but dominated by US and other English-speaking countries
- 3. Disparities in levels of international collaboration: US rather isolated, European countries well connected
- 4. Research field highly interdisciplinary
- 5. Main research themes
 - Mental health
 - Sexual health
 - General health promotion and education in schools



Three ideas to be shared

Research field for HPS need to be more interdisciplinary and more global



Align Good Healthy School with global HPS strategy: building healthy and resilient schools Bring health and education sectors closer together speak more same language



Recommended reading

- Health Education: Health promotion in the school context: a scientific mapping of the literature (2024)
- Lancet CAH feature: A renewed commitment to intersectoral action for child and adolescent health (2024)
- Lancet viewpoint: Supporting every school to become a foundation for healthy lives (2021)
- WHO & UNESCO (2021) Making every school a health-promoting school: global standards and indicators for health-promoting schools and systems

