

Impact case study (REF3)

Institution: Aberystwyth University		
Unit of Assessment: 19: Politics and International Studies		
Title of case study: Developing Wales' International Health Strategy		
Period when the underpinning research was undertaken: 2009-2015		
Details of staff conducting the underpinning research from the submitting unit:		
Name(s):	Role(s) (e.g. job title):	Period(s) employed by submitting HEI:
Professor Colin McInnes	UNESCO Professor; Professor	1 November 1999- present
Period when the claimed impact occurred: 2015-2017		
Is this case study continued from a case study submitted in 2014? Y/N		
1. Summary of the impact (indicative maximum 100 words)		
<p>McInnes' research in global health has had a direct and significant impact on public policy in Wales. Because of his research, during 2015-2016, McInnes was invited to work with Public Health Wales in drafting a 'Pathfinder for Global Health', with the encouragement of the Learned Society of Wales and the InterAction Council. The Pathfinder, and McInnes' research, contributed directly and substantially to the first international health strategy to be developed by the government of Wales: <i>Nationally Focused, Globally Responsible: Our International Health Strategy 2017-2027</i>.</p>		
2. Underpinning research (indicative maximum 500 words)		
<p>McInnes has been researching in the field of global health since 2003. During the period 2009 to 2015, he conducted research on the transformed nature of global health governance, focusing both on the relationship of global health with other policy sectors, and the manner in which health governance was characterised by multiple, intersecting levels of policy formulation – from the local through national to global.</p> <p>Much of McInnes' research in global health has been collaborative and inter-disciplinary, especially with Kelley Lee (formerly of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, now at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver). His research has been funded by UK and international research councils as well as charities. In particular, much of the underpinning research for this Impact Case Study [3.1; 3.2; 3.3] were funded by a European Research Council Advanced Investigator Grant into 'The Transformation of Global Health Governance' [3.5].</p> <p>Specifically, McInnes' research has focussed on a number of areas, including:</p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How globalisation has impacted upon health. McInnes' research discusses how phenomena such as the increased mobility of people and animals acting as vectors for the spread of disease, the dominant presence of multi-national companies in the pharmaceutical market, the increased mobility of health professionals, and the emergence of global funding bodies has transformed not only health determinants but responses to, and the politics of, health – that 'health is global.' McInnes' research suggests that a consequence of this is that health policy needs to be multi-level – community, national and global [3.1; 3.2]. 		

2. How new global threats are emerging for public health, including the effects of climate change and novel pathogens. The emergence and rapid spread of new infectious diseases in particular is a by-product of globalisation, leading to cross-border outbreaks and pandemics which require national responses to be sensitive to global systems and processes [3.1].
3. How, if health is global, then there is a requirement for improved global governance of health. However, existing governance mechanisms are stressed by globalisation, requiring a new commitment to the global good and new forms of engagement, including the use of global networks [3.2; 3.4].
4. How global health is multi-sectoral. Global health does not exist in a policy bubble, but interacts with a variety of other sectors. Health policy therefore needs to be not only multi-level, but multi-sectoral taking into account other sectors such as international development [3.1; 3.2; 3.3].

3. References to the research (indicative maximum of six references)

- 3.1** McInnes, Colin. (2012), *Global Health and International Relations*. (1st ed.). (Oxford: Polity). (With Kelley Lee).
- 3.2** McInnes, Colin. (2014), *The Transformation of Global Health Governance*. (1st ed.). (UK: Palgrave Macmillan). (Lead author, with Adam Kamradt-Scott, Kelley Lee, Ane Roemeer-Mahler, Simon Rushton, and Owain D. Williams).
- 3.3** McInnes, Colin. (2012), 'Framing and global health: key findings', *Global Public Health* 7 (sup2): pp. S191-S198. (With Kelley Lee). DOI: [10.1080/17441692.2012.733950](https://doi.org/10.1080/17441692.2012.733950)
- 3.4** McInnes, Colin. (2015), 'WHO's next: changing authority in global health governance', *International Affairs*, 91(6): pp.1299-1316. DOI: [10.1111/1468-2346.12454](https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-2346.12454)

Research Grants

- 3.5** 'The transformation of global health governance': European Research Council, Advanced Investigator Award 230489-GHG: (2009-2013): McInnes (PI).

4. Details of the impact (indicative maximum 750 words)

Health is a devolved responsibility to Wales. Public Health Wales (PHW) is the national public health agency charged with protecting and improving health and well-being in Wales. McInnes' research directly shaped the Wales' 'Pathfinder for Global Health' [5.1; 5.2], which led to Public Health Wales's international health strategy: *Nationally Focused, Globally Responsible: Our International Health Strategy 2017-27* [5.3].

Between the 2 and 5 of June 2015, the InterAction Council (IAC) - an international think tank consisting of 44 former heads of government from across the world – held its plenary in Wales. In the aftermath of the Ebola crisis, the meeting addressed 'Responding to Global Health Emergencies,' and McInnes was invited to join the High-Level Expert Group producing the report for the Plenary [5.4.a]. Leading the discussion on global health governance, McInnes articulated his research findings concerning global threats and the multi-level and multi-sectoral nature of global health policy [5.5]. The Group included representatives from Public Health Wales, while the Plenary was attended by the First Minister of Wales. The IAC Plenary encouraged Wales to develop a global health strategy and asked its global health adviser, the Secretary of the Learned Society of Wales and formerly Secretary of The Nuffield Trust, to facilitate this [5.4.b]. In an email on 29 November 2015, copied to the CEO and other senior figures in Public Health Wales, the Executive Director of Public Health Services, PHW, states that the work done by McInnes for the IAC provides an 'excellent' basis for developing the global health strategy for Wales led by Public Health Wales [5.4.b].

With the direct support of PHW's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the IAC's global health adviser convened a small meeting on 9 November 2015 to discuss drafting a 'Pathfinder for Global Health in Wales', which would inform a Wales global health strategy (this became the *International Health Strategy*). The meeting involved senior figures in Public Health Wales (including the Executive Director of Public Health Services, PHW, who had been on the InterAction Council High Level Group), officers from the Learned Society of Wales, and McInnes [5.4.b; 5.4.c].

Following this, McInnes began to draft the Pathfinder with the International Health Lead in Public Health Wales. A second meeting, this time including PHW's CEO, was held in Cardiff on 7 January 2016 [5.4.c] and a draft of the Pathfinder was presented to the InterAction Council's Plenary in Baku 8 to 10 March 2016 and published on the Learned Society of Wales' website [5.1]. The Pathfinder clearly reflects McInnes' research in its acknowledgment of:

- how new global threats to health were emerging (e.g., pp.9-10);
- how health is now both global and multi-level, and that national policies therefore need to have an international dimension (e.g., pp.5-8);
- the significance of governance for health and the importance of new forms of governance such as networks which can promote common values and establish best practice (e.g., pp.10-11); and
- of the multi-sectoral nature of global health, especially the links with sustainable development including the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (e.g., pp.6-7 and 11).

During 2016, McInnes and PHW's International Health Lead continued to work on the Pathfinder, incorporating comments from staff in Public Health Wales, NHS Wales, and the Welsh Government. This culminated in a 31 October 2016 meeting in Cardiff with Public Health Wales, the InterAction Council Secretariat and McInnes, when the final version of the Pathfinder was discussed and agreed [5.4.c]. In the document, McInnes is explicitly identified with the Executive Director of Public Health Services and International Health Lead, PHW, as the lead authors of the Pathfinder.

Attention then moved in Public Health Wales to using the Pathfinder as the basis for developing its global health strategy.

The *International Strategy* was published in 2017 [5.3; 5.6] and clearly reflects the Pathfinder in the following ways:

1. The Pathfinder is referenced and explicitly discussed in the *Strategy* (e.g., pp.33-4).
2. The underlying emphasis of the *Strategy* on 'global threats... which have major repercussions for public health' (p.iii), clearly reflects the origins and emphasis of the Pathfinder that 'local health threats can become global and global health threats have local effects. Further, text on the global nature of health is directly lifted from the Pathfinder (e.g., p.6).
3. Five of the six 'Strategic Objectives' outlined in the *Strategy* (e.g., pp. 2 and 5) first appear as 'areas where Wales can make a difference' in the Pathfinder:

	Pathfinder 'area where Wales can make a difference'.	<i>Strategy</i> Strategic Objective
Networking and partnerships	1	1
Research and innovation	2	2
Capacity and capability	3	5
Responsibility and sustainability	4	6

Governance and accountability	5	4
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Table 1: To show the five strategic objectives outlined in the *Strategy* that first appeared in the Pathfinder

4. The *Strategy's* understanding of the multi-sectoral and multi-level nature of health and health governance (e.g., 'Strategy Map' p.3), and especially the relationship with sustainable development and the SDGs, is clearly articulated in the Pathfinder.

As a result, McInnes' research on global health can be clearly seen to have had a direct and significant impact upon public policy in Wales. Specifically, his research identifying the global, multi-sectoral nature of health, the emergence of new threats, and the requirement for new governance mechanisms, including networks.

5. Sources to corroborate the impact (indicative maximum of 10 references)

- 5.1 *A Pathfinder for Global Health: Potential Approaches in Wales* (draft February 2016). Available at: www.learnedsociety.wales/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Session-II-Wales-GH-Pathfinder.pdf
- 5.2 *A Pathfinder for Global Health: Potential Approaches in Wales* unpublished paper, 31 October 2016.
- 5.3 Public Health Wales, *Nationally Focused, Globally Responsible: Our International Health Strategy 2017-27* (Cardiff: Public Health Wales NHS Trust, 2017). Available at: https://ihcc.publichealthnetwork.cymru/files/1815/1800/3955/PHW_International_Health_Strategy_English.pdf
- 5.4 Emails sent to McInnes, between April 2015 and June 2017, confirming the contribution to the Public Health Wales International Health Strategy.
- Emails, Secretary-General, Inter-Action Council, between 2 April and 25 May 2015.
 - Emails, Secretary Learned Society of Wales and Public Health Wales, between 9 September and 29 November 2015.
 - Emails, Public Health Wales, between 7 January 2016 and 24 October 2016.
 - Emails, Public Health Wales, between 5 May 2016 and 23 March 2017.
- 5.5 InterAction Council High-Level Group meeting, *New Realities for Global Health Security*, 15 to 16 February 2016. Available at: www.interactioncouncil.org/our-work/meetings/high-level-expert-group-meetings/new-realities-global-health-security
- 5.6 Dyakova, M., and Bellis, M., 'Public Health Wales International Health Strategy: nationally focused, globally responsible', *European Journal of Public Health*, 27 (suppl_3), (November 2017). DOI: [10.1093/eurpub/ckx189.220](https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckx189.220) (Note: this is the section in the journal which is used to highlight the emergence of new policy documents).