

**Sentell T, Pirkle C, Camara SA, Ylli, Nett B.** Applying a Life-course Perspective to the Social Ecological Model: Identifying Needs, Gaps, Successes, and Goals in Public Health Practice, Research, and Policy. International Union for Health Promotion and Education World Conference. Rotorua New Zealand. April 2019.

The Social Ecological Model (SEM) and Life-Course Perspective (L-CP) are critically important to public health practice, research, and policy. The SEM contextualizes individual health outcomes, knowledge, and behaviors within interpersonal, organizational, community, and policy factors. The L-CP considers human health across the lifespan, from the prenatal period through senescence, accounting for interrelationships in biological, psychological, and social factors. Both frameworks are influential, but not typically considered together. The workshop will identify insights and opportunities gained from merging the SEM with the L-CP for public health practice, research, and policy.

**Specific objectives:**

1. Provide background on the SEM and L-CP.
2. Introduce the rationale for merging and the resulting model.
3. Consider specific examples from research, policy, and practice with this model.

Research: The Adolescence and Motherhood Research project considers the effect of adolescent pregnancy on later life outcomes. (Brazil)

Policy: The Si Je? (How are you?) program allowed Albanians aged 40-65 to receive a free, yearly basic health examination at their local health center. (Albania)

Practice: Hawai'i is expanding Diabetes Self-Management and Support programs while seeking to improve reach and cultural appropriateness, and adapting to the changing disease epidemiology. (USA)

4. Provide a hands-on activity for participants to consider these topics in their communities.
5. Discuss insights from this exercise.

**Learning goals.**

From this workshop, participants will:

1. Identify the value of the SEM and the L-CP
2. See examples from 3 distinct settings in research, policy, and practice.
3. Articulate how merging these perspectives provides insights into their own research, policy, and/or practice.
4. Share experiences and insights to support health promotion and ensure health equity throughout the life course.