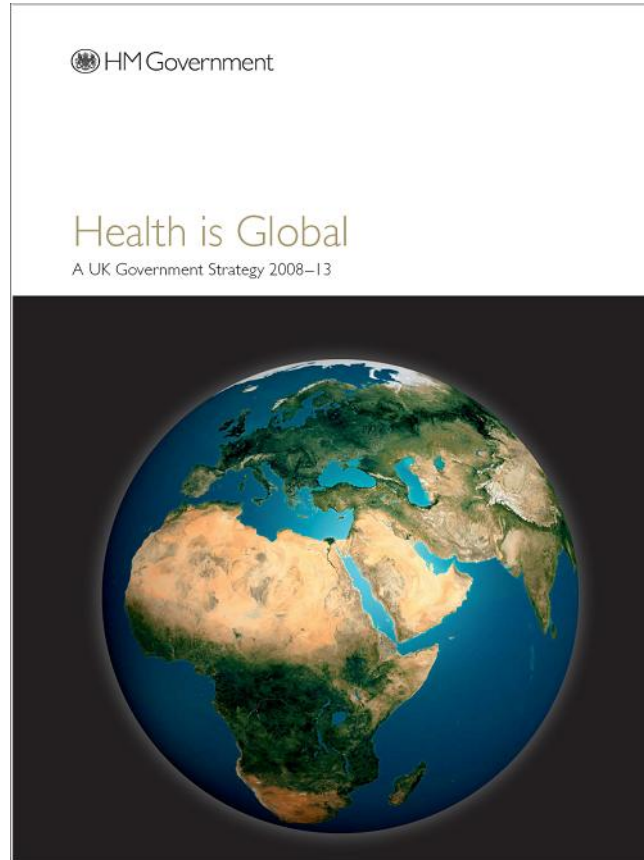


The background of the slide is a stylized world map. The map is rendered in shades of blue and teal, with the continents appearing as lighter, almost white areas against the darker blue oceans. The map is slightly tilted and has a soft, ethereal quality, blending into the overall blue and teal color scheme of the slide.

**Social determinants of health in the  
context of health cooperation –  
Addressing social determinants of health  
through "Health is Global"**

**Nicola Watt, Department of Health UK  
May 2010**

# *Health is Global* is the UK strategy to enable health cooperation



*“If the UK is to protect the health of its population, harness the benefits of globalisation, and make the most of its contribution to health and development across the world, it needs a clear, coherent and co-ordinated approach to the many issues that influence global health.”*

- multilateral, bilateral, and cross Government cooperation

# There are 10 principles. We will....

1. set out to do no harm ....;
2. base....policies and practice on sound evidence....;
3. use health as an agent for good in foreign policy....
4. support the achievement of the MDGs ....
5. **promote health equity within and between countries through our foreign and domestic policies;**
6. ensure...the effects of foreign and domestic policies on global health are much more explicit;
7. work for strengthened and reformed international institutions
8. learn from other countries' policies and experience ...
9. protect the health of the UK proactively....
10. work in partnership with other governments, multilateral agencies, civil society and business.

# **We work across five closely related areas for action**

1. Better global health security
2. Stronger, fairer and safer systems to deliver health
3. More effective international health organisations
4. Stronger, freer and fairer trade for better health
5. Strengthening the way we develop and use evidence to improve policy and practice

**We work across government to maximise both “breadth” and “depth”, especially through the Department of Health, the Department for International Development, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.**

# Better global health security: Combating global poverty and health inequalities

*“We will work with WHO, the EU and others to take forward key recommendations from the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health and ensure that action to address these issues remains high on the international agenda.”*



**Also have related commitment to tackle non-communicable disease, including mental health and injury prevention**

## **We've seen a real increase in awareness; the challenges to progress remain significant**

- Importance of underlying poverty reduction work
- Work to date:
  - Awareness raising
  - financial and people resource for WHO and EU
  - bilateral work (Brazil, Chile, Kenya)
- EU Joint action – particularly how different countries use HIAs or equivalent to improve decision-making
- Launch of Health Action Partnership International
- Challenges – resource, metrics, the size of the gap



For more details please write to [globalhealthteam@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:globalhealthteam@dh.gsi.gov.uk)

images courtesy of Panos Pictures, World of Stock, Department of Health, Getty Images, Thomas Imo and Dr Mahmood Bhutta