

HEALTH WORKING GROUP

ANNUAL PLAN 2022

WORKING GROUP LEADERS

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OBJECTIVES

ERRIN's Health Working Group (WG) supports members with early intelligence and regular updates about EU-level health policy-related issues, regulations, EU programmes and their funding opportunities. Creating opportunities for interregional cooperation in the Health area is one of the WG's main objectives. The WG is also a vehicle for networking, profile raising and promotion of good practices and projects among health stakeholders in the ERRIN regions.

CONTEXT

The key EU level priorities, strategies and events that the Working Group aims to follow up in 2022 are:

- Digital health and data - forthcoming Health Data Act
- Innovative Health Initiative (IHI)
- Incentives for prevention
- EU Care strategy
- Health and the environment
- Biomanufacturing and strategic autonomy of the EU health sector
- Forthcoming partnerships on Health under Horizon Europe
- EU Mission: Cancer and the Cancer Action Plan

The following funding programmes are important in the area of health in 2022:

- Horizon Europe
- EU4Health
- Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL)

Facilitation of project development:

The WG follows the Work Programmes closely and organises workshops and information seminars based on calls of specific, strategic interest to our members.

The WG regularly invites other European organisations/networks to contribute to and collaborate on joint initiatives and meetings.

As a measure to include less active member regions in the field of health, we will aim to actively engage with and invite stakeholders from those regions to present their work or specific project within the context of one of our workshops planned for 2022.

ACTIVITIES

Innovative Health Initiative & innovative therapies

17 March | Online

The Innovative Health Initiative (IHI) is a public-private partnership (PPP) between the European Union and the European life science industries, with the goal of translating health research and innovation into tangible benefits for patients and society. We would like to invite someone from IHI to give a presentation on the current state, and on the challenge of bringing diverse sectors together to transform European healthcare. This meeting for regional stakeholders and Brussels representatives aims to gather the latest information on IHI and understand the challenges ahead in order for our stakeholders to best target them.

Health data - unlocking the potential

April/May - co-organised with the WG on ICT | Online

The legislative proposal for EHDS is expected to be adopted in 2022. A development is expected in April. The Commission will be invited to present the proposal after adoption, with a Q&A session. Followed by a best practice session with regional case(s). This meeting will also consider the upcoming Health Data Regulation. With the ICT WG, this activity aims to create awareness of the issues at stake, increase the understanding of the opportunities and challenges ahead of us and identify project opportunities. The meeting is for regional stakeholders wanting to stay alert on the forthcoming regulation, and the Brussels audience preparing to support stakeholders back home.

Potential regional examples: Stockholm Region EU Office

Environmental Health: It's in the air!

June - Physical

This meeting will explore the impacts of climate change on human health and possibly also cover impacts of medical/hospital waste on the environment. In this workshop we aim to invite a

representative from the European Human Exposome network, to give us an insight on their projects and priorities. We will further highlight some relevant calls that address the challenges explored in the presentation. The meeting will address the public health threats caused by hazardous chemicals and materials in our built environment. Identify some calls that are relevant within this topic. The target audience is regional stakeholders within the health and industry sectors and Brussels regional offices.

Healthy lifestyles: Innovative strategies to incentivise prevention

September – Physical

Promoting health and preventing illness is extremely important both to keep down health care costs and to ensure a happy and prosperous society, but it is difficult as there is not one answer to how to do it and current systems to finance health care do not offer sufficient incentives. Many innovative projects are happening in the regions, but it is difficult to get an overview and a lot of good experiences may get lost. The meeting will be an opportunity to share examples (this can include incentivising prevention and digital tools (Stavanger, Skåne), citizen engagement, preventing obesity-related diseases, etc). There are different initiatives at the EU level that can be relevant in this area: the coming EU Care Strategy, the HealthyLifestyles4All campaign, possibly the Partnership on transforming health and care systems. The Commission could be invited to talk about where to find funding for prevention and promotion projects in Horizon Europe and/or EU4Health but also to take note of regional best practices.

Biomanufacturing and re-industrialisation/strategic autonomy of the EU health sector

Q4 - Online

The challenge of biomanufacturing can be considered as a central element of the roadmap for reindustrialisation in the field of health. European regions have a strong role to play through their regional strategies and through their clusters supporting health innovation entrepreneurs.

This meeting will discuss issues such as anticipating the technologies of the future, challenges to ensure that we improve the production of biomedicines (to manage to produce at cheaper/more affordable price for example) and to link this with EU industrial policy and strategic autonomy. This meeting will explore any link with the Made in Europe partnership, which attempts to transform the manufacturing sector through climate-neutral processes, adopting circular economy approaches and prompting a digital transformation.