

PHIRI National Node meeting - Minutes

23rd of June, 9.00-11.00 CEST, Webex (online)

Attendees:

Andrea Faragalli (Italy), Ashley Akbari (UK), Asunción Diaz (Spain), Barthélémy Moreau de Lizoreux (Belgium), Brigid Unim (Italy), Claudia Dima (Romania), Lacramioara Brinduse (Romania), Claudia Habl (Austria), Elena Petelos (Greece), Hanna Tolonen (Finland), Henk Hilderink (Netherlands), Herman Van Oyen (Belgium), Michael Courtney (Ireland), Istvan Csizmadia (Hungary), Ivan Eržen (Slovenia), Jan Cap (Slovak Republic), Janis. Misins (Latvia), João Forjaz (Spain), Linda Abboud (Belgium), Lovisa Syden (Sweden), Luís Lapão (Portugal), Mariana dos Santos (Portugal), Marie Delnord (Belgium), Marilia Silva Paulo (Portugal), Martin Thißen (Germany), Metka Zaletel (Slovenia), Miriam Saso (Belgium), Nienke Schutte (Belgium), Petronille Bogaert (Belgium), Małgorzata Stróżyk-Kaczyńska (Poland), Robert Lang (Hungary), Ronan Lyons (UK – Wales), Rosita Claesson Wigand (Sweden), Sarah Aldridge (UK), Sarah Craig (Ireland), Sarka Dankova (Czech Republic), Shona Cosgrove (Belgium) Simon Thompson (UK), Verónica Gómez (Portugal).

- Number of countries participating: 20
- Number of attendees: 39

Mentimeter: Which country do you represent?



Figure 1: Results first Mentimeter question

Aim of the meeting – Petronille Bogaert

Every end is a new beginning.

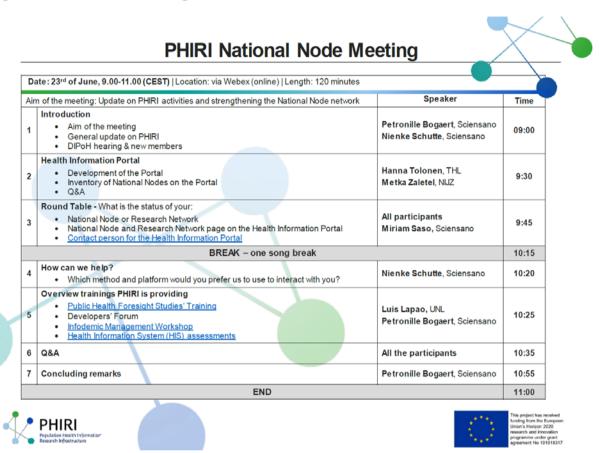
The Joint Action on Health Information (InfAct) has come to an end with the beautiful launch of the European Health Information Portal for population health. The torch is now passed to PHIRI to further build and extend the enormous work done within InfAct.

For this reason, the coordination team in collaboration with the members of T4.2 have organized the first **PHIRI National Node Meeting**. The aim of the meeting is to update each other on the status of the



National Nodes and Research Networks in the different partner countries and facilitate their continuation in PHIRI, especially regarding the **Health Information Portal**.

Agenda of the meeting



Mentimeter: Do you already have a National Node?

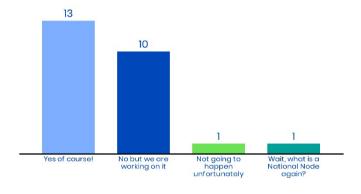


Figure 2: Results second Mentimeter question



Introduction – Petronille Bogaert

See presentation slides here.

A. PHIRI

PHIRI (the Population Health Information Research Infrastructure for COVID-19) facilitates research and supports policy making across Europe through the building of the **Distributed Infrastructure on Population Health (DIPoH)** to be used to overcome future crisis and ensuring the sustainability of the project.

This will be achieved through a close collaboration with 41 partners across 30 countries over a period of 36 months starting in November 2020. The project is divided in 9 ambitious work packages with three transversal topics. PHIRI builds on the achievements of the <u>BRIDGE Health</u> and the <u>Joint Action on Health Information (InfAct)</u> projects.

The intent is to support research across Europe through the identification, access, assessment and reuse of population health and non-health data to underpin public health policy decisions. Within this framework, PHIRI launched the <u>Health Information Portal</u>, a one-stop shop that facilitates access to population health and health care data, information and expertise across Europe.

The objectives of PHIRI are:

- 1. To provide a Health Information Portal for COVID-19 with FAIR catalogues on health and healthcare data for structured information exchange across European countries. To link different data sources and to use Pan-European data in a GDPR compliant, federated way.
- 2. To provide structured exchange between countries on COVID-19 best practices and expertise. It allows researchers to provide relevant and evidence based information ready for use in research, and decision-making processes.
- 3. To promote interoperability and tackle health information inequalities. PHIRI supports researchers and public health bodies to research queries related to COVID-19 and provides capacity building for management of COVID-19 relevant population health and healthcare data.

B. Definitions

What is a National Node?

- A National Node (NN) is an organisational entity, often linked to a national institution or governmental unit that functions as a national liaison and brings together relevant national stakeholders in the country in a systematic way.
- In addition, the NN may function as a discussion and advisory forum in matters of health data and information both for national or international matters.
- One Pager available here on the PHIRI website

C. Distributed Infrastructure on Population Health (DIPoH)

DIPoH has applied to become part of the <u>European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures</u> (<u>ESFRI</u>) roadmap as a Research Infrastructure. Part of the evaluation was a hearing where additional questions are asked about the RI. The questions were answered by Petronille Bogaert, Herman Van Oyen and Enrique Bernal-Delgado. The hearing was challenging however, we hope we were able to properly address the asked questions.

New/upcoming members that have signed, or are planning to sign the Memorandum of Understanding:



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- French Health Data Hub France
- Santé Publique France France
- Ministry of Health Greece
- Portuguese National Health Institute Portugal

The Health Information Portal

See presentation slides here.

D. Where are we now and where are we going next – Hanna Tolonen

<u>The Health Information Portal</u> brings together information that is now scattered across multiple websites in Europe. It serves as a one stop shop for policy makers and researchers to find the information they need on population health.



Figure 3: Homepage of the Health Information Portal

Upcoming new modules:

- The COVID-19 page
- Training and capacity building in all areas of population health
- Toolbox for legal and ethical guidelines
- Extension of the number of publication, reports, guidelines and articles

We are looking forward to your feedback! Please contact us at:

- phiri.coordination@sciensano.be
- Contact form on the Health Information Portal

E. Inventory of National Nodes at the Health Information Portal – Metka Zaletel

See presentation slides here.



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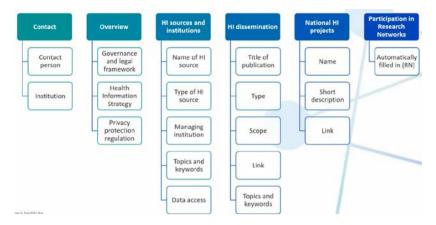


Figure 4: Structure of each National Node page on the Health Information Portal

Inventory of National Nodes data:

- 20 countries filled at least part of the requested information on the Portal
- 13 countries still need to start

To all participants: Please invest some more time to fill in the missing information in your National Node.

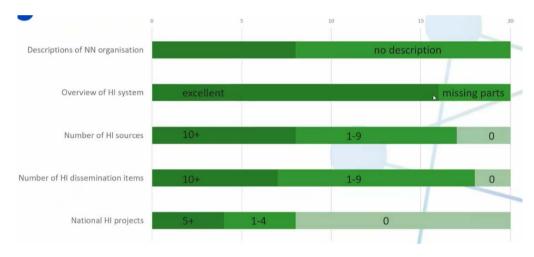


Figure 5: Overview of the completeness of the different tabs in the National Nodes on the Health Information Portal

Next steps for the National Node contact persons

- Have a look at the countries that filled in a lot of information e.g. Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium and Slovenia
- Prepare a draft list of Health Information (HI) sources, dissemination documents and National Projects
- Communicate this list with other stakeholders and encourage them to add (many) items on the list

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- Fill in the National Node part of the Health Information Portal
- Pay attention to the key words already present on the Portal and do not duplicate them!

Tour de table

What is the status of your:

a) Contact person for the National Node or Research Network



- b) National Node
- c) National Node Page on the Health Information Portal
- d) Research Network

<u>Austria</u>: Claudia Habl as contact person. Based on the definition shown, GÖG can be considerate the National Node for Austria. Debate whether the Statistics Office of Austria should cover this role. The page for the Health Information Portal was filled in correctly.

<u>Belgium</u>: Brecht Devleesschauwer as contact person. At the moment, in Belgium the discussion is focusing on setting up a Belgian Data Permit Health Authority. PHIRI as well as the activities it is performing and the Health Information Portal was presented in several national meetings.

<u>Check Republic</u>: Sarka Dankova as contact person. Her institute is the main health coordinator in the country but they collaborate with other organizations. More detailed description available on the National Node. Planning to add more data sources by contacting other institutes.

<u>Finland</u>: Hanna Tolonen as contact person. In Finland the National Node is the informal gathering of organizations: Statistics Finland, the Finnish institute for health and welfare, and the social insurance institute. They meet on a regular basis. On top of that, Finland has established the national research infrastructure for the Population Health surveys which incorporates the universities into the network. The National Node page has a lot of information but it will be expanded as well as for the EHES Research Network.

<u>Germany</u>: Stefanie Seeling as contact person. The Germany National Node Page has been filled in with a lot of details but not a the land level (it would require too much effort to always keep the information up to date). The members of the commission for health reporting and health monitoring – last meeting one month ago - confirmed that they want to continue to be the nucleus of the National Node. One small note: they advise to not duplicate work and become more aware of other RI in the country.

Greece: Planning to communicate the contact person by the 5th of July and to fill in the National node page over summer.

<u>Hungary</u>: Robert Lang as contact person. Multiple sources of information were added into the Portal and three national meetings were organized to present PHIRI and the Health Information Portal. Planning to involve more stakeholders in the near future.

<u>Ireland</u>: New member of PHIRI: Michael Courtney! Happy to contribute and to add the Ireland National Node page. They are developing their health strategy.

<u>Latvia:</u> Janis Misins will be the contact person for Latvia. The National Node in Latvia is not officially established. The main information on the Portal should be completed. Doubts on how to proceed with specific parts of it.

Netherlands: A lot of ideas but not a lot of man capacity to work on expanding the node (https://www.rivm.nl/en/onderwerpen/national-node-health-information). They see that the concept of the node and the need for it is getting a foothold in the MoH. Mariken presented the node a few weeks ago to our contact person from the MoH that is responsible for information systems and now – also because of TEHDAS – he is ready to take action. Both horizontally within the MoH and vertically to reach the persons who can actually make a change.

<u>Poland</u>: Malgorzata Strozyk will be the contact person for the Health Information Portal. Poland does not have an official National Node established however, they have set up a network of stakeholders and institutions, universities that cooperate in the project. The contact point is within the Ministry of Health. More information will be added into the Portal as soon as possible.



<u>Portugal</u>: the Ministry of health will be the contact person for the Portal. They are using the use case of PHIRI to show the future partners of the National Node the advantages of sharing data across countries.

<u>Romania</u>: Alexandra Cucu as the National Node contact person however, there is no official National Node in the country. The national institute of Public Health brings together in a systematic manner, different stakeholders only for specific topics and data. Working on filling the Health Information Portal soon. Part of several Research Network.

<u>Slovenia</u>: Metka Zaletel is the contact person. The National Node in the country is still informal but they are doing their best to make it more established. Currently coordinated by Metka (the National Public Health institute).

Spain: No formal National Node and it might be hard to establish one. Joao will be the contact person for the Portal and together with her colleague Asun (and two more colleagues that might be joining soon) they will add more information into the Portal.

Sweden: Lovisa Syden she will be the contact person. Sweden has an official National Node working. No information into the Portal yet. Quite extensive health information infrastructure with a lot of data sources national health registries. As different organizations are responsible for different data sources they have one "National Node" that aims to coordinate the different organisations and data sources. As all surveys and registry have pin numbers for the individuals, it is possible to link the different data sources.

<u>UK</u>: Ashley Akbhari as the contact person for UK. Quite complex situation due to the need to coordinate efforts between Wales, North Ireland, England and Scotland. See presentation slides <u>here</u>.

Petronille: We are happy to help and support you in setting up a National Node in your country and to come and present PHIRI in different meetings.

Mentimeter: How can we help you?





Figure 6: Results third Mentimeter question on how to disseminate information on PHIRI within the participating countries



Overview trainings PHIRI is providing – Luis Lapao

See presentation slides here.

F. Public Health Foresight Studies' Training

The course entitled "PHIRI Foresight capacity building" has the following objectives:

- To build capacity in Public Health Foresight across EU Member States by providing the necessary knowledge and tools.
- To provide a solid basis for interested participants to plan and carry out their own foresight study in their country.
- At the end of the course, participants should be able to:
 - o Understand the different methods used in foresight studies
 - o Understand what Public Health Foresight entails and how can it be applied
 - Recognize the data, resources, and other considerations necessary to carry out foresight studies
 - o Have more in-depth understanding of selected facets of doing a foresight study, such involving stakeholders, as knowledge translation and data & analysis.
 - o Prepare and take the first steps towards planning scenarios in their countries.

Timetable with overview of the modules:

General module	Advanced modules			
Module 1: General module	Module 2 (Advanced)		Module 4 (Advanced)	Module 5: Closing module
 March 25th April 15th April 22nd 	 May 20th May 25th 	 June 25th June 29th 	September (date tbd)	October (date tbd)

G. Developers' Forum

Training on development of data hubs to support the PHIRI use cases. More information is available here on SharePoint.

H. Infodemic Management Workshop

The aims of the PHIRI Infodemic Management workshop are to:

- Gather **European experiences**, lessons learned and good practices in infodemic management during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provide tips, practical tools and exercises.

Two days of workshop:

- **9 June** from 9.30 13.30 CEST
- 16 June from 9.30 13.30 CEST

Material

- https://www.phiri.eu/infodemic-workshop
- Digital Goody bag on its way



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I. Health Information System (HIS) assessments

Task 3.1 aims to map the health information systems (HIS) that monitor the effects of COVID-19 on population health

- Through virtual country visits
- Using the WHO tool for health information systems assessments
- Resulting in SWOT analysis and SMART recommendations...
- ...and a one pager describing the COVID-19 HIS for population health in the country

WHEN? Thursday 24th of June, 9.00-12.00 CEST

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Slides of the presentations

