

Scientific stakeholders' dialogues

Feb 18 2022

[PHIRI](#), the **Population Health Information Research Infrastructure**, aims to bring together and interact with relevant national and international stakeholders in population health including, but not limited to, European research networks and projects, data owners/curators, health coordination entities, European and international data collectors and registries relevant for COVID-19 and future epidemics.

On the 18th of February, PHIRI will organize a series of **stakeholder dialogues** on topics that are at the core of PHIRI's activities:

- 1) Building **FAIR catalogues** to describe population health data sources in EU countries and the international level; the [Health Information Portal](#);
- 2) Creating and validating a **federated research infrastructure** that overcomes data reuse and data sharing hindrances for rapid, policy relevant, research response to the evolving pandemic;
- 3) Building a sustainable infrastructure to support **rapid exchange** between actors from competent authorities, their advisors, researchers and stakeholders in the joint efforts to handle the COVID-19 pandemic and to better prepared for future crises.

FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) catalogues describing (population) health data

The fragmented population health data space in Europe inhabits a variety of data sources of uneven quality, variety and velocity. The data is collected in multiple data hubs with different data definitions, coding or storing solutions. It is managed with different governance models and access policies for reuse and sharing. As a result, it is hard to provide research evidence that is relevant, accurate and timely for rapid policy responses. If we want to reap the value of data, it needs to become both more visible, findable, and far more accessible. Metadata of (population) health data should be easy to find for both researchers and machines.

Federated architecture

Population and patient health data should be made available at individual and aggregated level from many sources such as disease registries, administrative health and non-health databases, surveys and health examinations, and cohorts of populations and patients. However, there are many data reuse and data sharing hindrances that need to be overcome when analyzing data in a Pan-European manner. In order to be able to respond to the questions we have today and tomorrow, advanced distributed analysis techniques are of eminent importance. These techniques allow federated analysis and queries searches ensuring FAIRness of data and taking into consideration the sensitivity of the data and the GDPR.

Crisis preparedness & rapid policy and research responses

The COVID-19 crisis had a huge impact on the daily lives of citizens. The pandemic has proven to be more than a health crisis; it is a human, economic and social crisis, impacting people, societies and economies at their core. To fight the current pandemic and future ones, a solid network of countries and their health institutes

is of eminent importance for collecting and disseminating information and generate new (evidence-based) information is needed. This needs to be done with a sustainable infrastructure to support rapid exchange between actors from policy, researchers and other stakeholders in the joint efforts to handle the pandemic and to be better prepared for future crises.

| Date: February 18 10:00-12:00 CET Location: via Webex (online). Length (eventually): 120 minutes | | |
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| Aim of the meeting: <i>Bring together, interact or exchange with relevant national and international stakeholders while promoting active discussions around three themes that are at the core of the PHIRI project</i> | | Time |
| Speaker | | |
| 1 | Welcome | Petronille Bogaert <i>Sciensano Belgium / PHIRI coordination</i> 10:00 |
| 2 | FAIR catalogues on (population) health data | PHIRI representative: Hanna Tolonen, THL Finland 1. Henning Hermjakob, BY-COVID 2. Anastassja Sialm, SYNCHROS 3. Truls Korsgaard, Norwegian Directorate for e-Health 10:10 |
| 3 | Building a federated infrastructure | PHIRI representative: Enrique Bernal-Delgado, IACS Spain 1. Ernestina Menasalvas, UnCOVer 2. Gergely Sipos, EGI-ACE 3. Salvador Capella-Gutierrez, Barcelona Supercomputing Center 10:45 |
| 4 | Crisis preparedness: round table with the PREPARE cluster | PHIRI representative: Claudia Habi, GÖG Austria 1. Chaim Rafalowski, NO FEAR 2. Sofia Tsekeridou, STAMINA 3. Claudia Houareau, PANDEM-2 4. Anikó Balogh, CO-VERSATILE 5. Luis Rodríguez, COVID-X 11:20 |
| 5 | Closing | Petronille Bogaert <i>Sciensano Belgium / PHIRI coordination</i> 11:55 |
| END | | 12:00 |