

WP3: COVID-19 HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM ASSESSMENTS

Within PHIRI, *the Population Health Information Research Infrastructure*, Work Package 3 (WP), task 3.1 aims to map the health information systems (HIS) that monitor the effects of COVID-19 on population health. This assesses the COVID-19 health information flows in countries through virtual country visits.

The **virtual country visits** are carried out in selected European countries that are part of the PHIRI consortium. After attending a series of workshops, assessors from several countries will perform targeted interviews with key national players that process COVID-19 population health information. The following domains will be covered: resources, indicators, data sources, data management, national HISs data quality/information products, and dissemination and use.

WHY COVID-19 HIS ASSESSMENTS?

The assessments are expected to:

1. Result in the **identification of strengths and weaknesses** of the different data flows monitoring the wider effects of COVID-19 in the examined countries.
2. Provide opportunities for other countries to **learn from the experiences** that will be gained during the assessments, and build on these
3. Potentially **identify data sources** that may not have been used or fully exploited yet.
4. **Create opportunities** to engage and exchange with national HI stakeholders and authorities.
5. Contribute to **capacity building** in European countries, which in turn may lead to the reduction of health information inequalities between countries.

when assessing their own health information data flows.

HOW ARE THE COVID-19 HIS ASSESSMENTS ORGANIZED?

An adapted version of the *Health Information System assessment tool* developed by the WHO Regional Office for Europe and adapted by *InfAct* is used to perform the assessments. Each assessment includes a preparatory desk report, interviews with local stakeholders, a final report including a SWOT analysis and SMART recommendations, and a follow-up stakeholder meeting. After the country visits, a **one-pager** describing the COVID-19 HIS for population health in the country and a report will provide recommendations to support countries' health information systems' resilience.

WHICH COUNTRIES WILL BE PART OF THE COVID-19 HIS ASSESSMENTS?

The assessments will be performed in Austria, Belgium, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway and Portugal by the end of 2022. Italy was assessed by Belgium in January 2022.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT ROLES IN THE COVID-19 HIS ASSESSMENTS?

Assessor: act as independent, professional assessors, create engagement and carry out the assessment.

Observer: provide support during the assessment based on previous experience with the assessment methodology and map potential overarching outcomes across the assessments.

Contact person(s) in the assessed country: act as the national liaison during the assessment,

provide the assessors with relevant documentation, organize the peer assessment (planning the meetings with the stakeholders).

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