

PHIRI WP9 FORESIGHT: MODELLING & SCENARIOS

Insight in future trends and developments is essential for policy makers' everyday work. Foresight is a systematic, participatory, and vision-building process that explores the future to anticipate future trends and support present-day actions. The current crisis makes it clear that **Public Health Foresight Studies (PHFS)** may be more necessary than ever to gain insight in possible future health impacts of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, e.g. due to changes in regular healthcare delivery, lifestyle, and socio-economic developments.

The overall aim of this work package is to support Member States in developing future scenarios to gain insights in possible future health impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak

WP9 employs a stepwise approach:

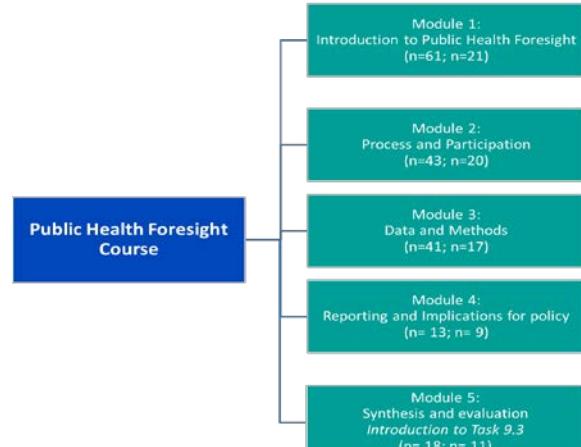
1. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT FORESIGHT ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE AND BEYOND

We reviewed the literature and conducted a survey to identify current activities on foresight in Europe and beyond, learn about current capacity and needs for applying foresight methodology, and create a foresight network. The inventory of foresight activities identified public health foresight projects from most MS, international organizations and research consortiums, and other non-European countries. This inventory also shows that only few MS have a more established capacity to do a foresight study and an expressed need to develop capacity across other MS.

2. CAPACITY BUILDING IN FORESIGHT

We developed a [Public Health Foresight Studies' Training](#), with the aim to support researchers in doing their own foresight studies. Its goal is to level EU MS/AC to a similar degree of knowledge and advance European collaboration, thereby also reducing information inequalities and strengthening European data uniformity.

The course consists of three parts: an introductory module (March and April 2021), a set 3 of advanced modules (May, June and September), and a final module (October) synthesizing the lessons learned and preparing for the next phase in our WP, i.e. supporting participants to plan/do a foresight study in their own country. Videos of the sessions are available [here](#) on the PHIRI website.



n: number of participants; n: number of different countries

3. USING THIS CAPACITY TO DEVELOP SCENARIOS

Elaborating on this capacity building, **scenarios will be developed**. We provide participants with a template and compact guide to accommodate the actual planning or doing of a PHF study. The study will provide insight in potential future (national and pan-European) challenges for public health and care, considering:

- Direct and indirect health impacts of COVID-19 pandemic
- Short term (0-5 years) and longer term (5-20 years)
- Countries' different resources and interests, translating into studies of different degrees of complexity

4. DEVELOPING GUIDANCE IN IDENTIFYING PROMISING POLICY STRATEGIES

Finally, this WP will guide the development of promising policy strategies to target the identified possible **future challenges** or to achieve a **more desirable future**, i.e. translating the knowledge and identifying gaps and needs to achieve better preparedness for future crises.

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