

# PHIRI

Population Health Information  
Research Infrastructure



PHIRI WP8 Rapid Exchange Forum 2<sup>nd</sup> Webinar

# What next for pandemic preparedness in Europe?

20 May 2022



# Agenda

Date: 20/05/2022   11:30-13:00 (CET)   Length: 90 minutes   Location: via WebEx (online)			
PHIRI Webinar – Moderation: <b>Cara Pries</b> (GÖG)		Speaker	Time
1	<b>Welcome by Project Coordination:</b> Introduction to PHIRI, COVID-19 Health Information System assessments and resilience of European health information systems	<b>Nienke Schutte</b> , Sciensano	<b>20 min</b>
2	<b>Facing current and upcoming threats:</b> Supporting pan-European preparedness and planning for future challenges	<b>Marie Heloury</b> and <b>Jonathan Suk</b> , ECDC	<b>20 min</b>
4	<b>Predicting the future:</b> COVID-19 models and forecasting at the transition out of the acute phase of the pandemic, and an outlook on medium-term COVID-19 measures and recommendations from Portugal	<b>Marília Silva Paulo</b> , UNL	<b>25 min</b>
5	<b>Discussion</b>		<b>25 min</b>
<b>END</b>			<b>13:00</b>

# Speakers



**Nienke Schutte**  
Sciensano



**Marie Heloury**  
ECDC



**Jonathan Suk**  
ECDC



**Marília Silva Paulo**  
NOVA University Lisbon

# 1. Welcome by Project Coordination

Introduction to PHIRI, COVID-19 Health Information System assessments and resilience of European health information systems



**Nienke Schutte**

Sciensano

# Population Health Information Research Infrastructure

*What next for pandemic preparedness in Europe?  
Adapting to the COVID-19 hyperendemic and  
beyond*

May 20, 2022

Nienke Schutte



# About PHIRI

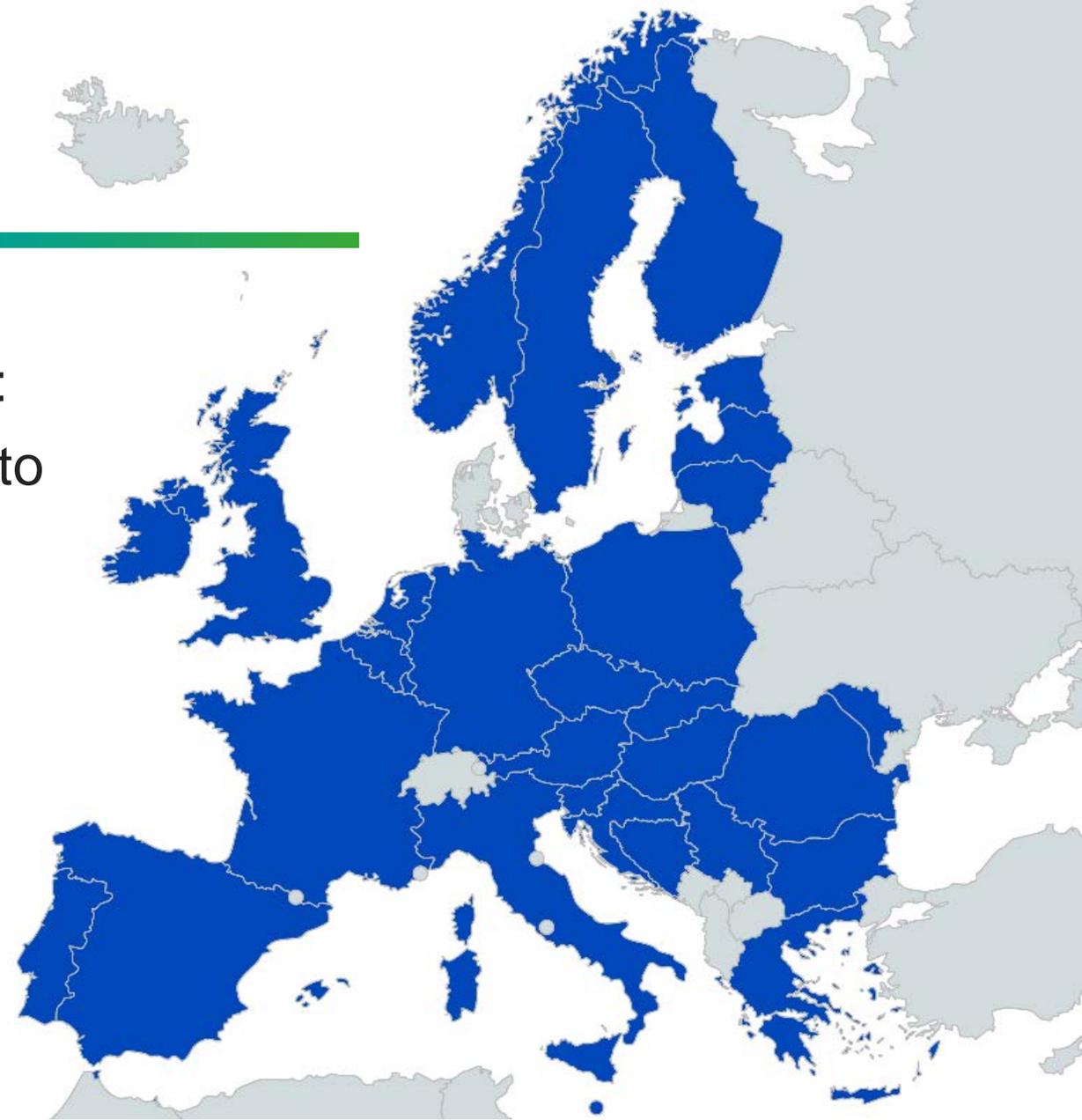
The Population Health Information Research Infrastructure for COVID-19:

- a **European mechanism**, that aims to
- facilitate and support **data-driven population health research**
- and **exchange of best practices**
- to support **decision making**

DG RTD  
€5m

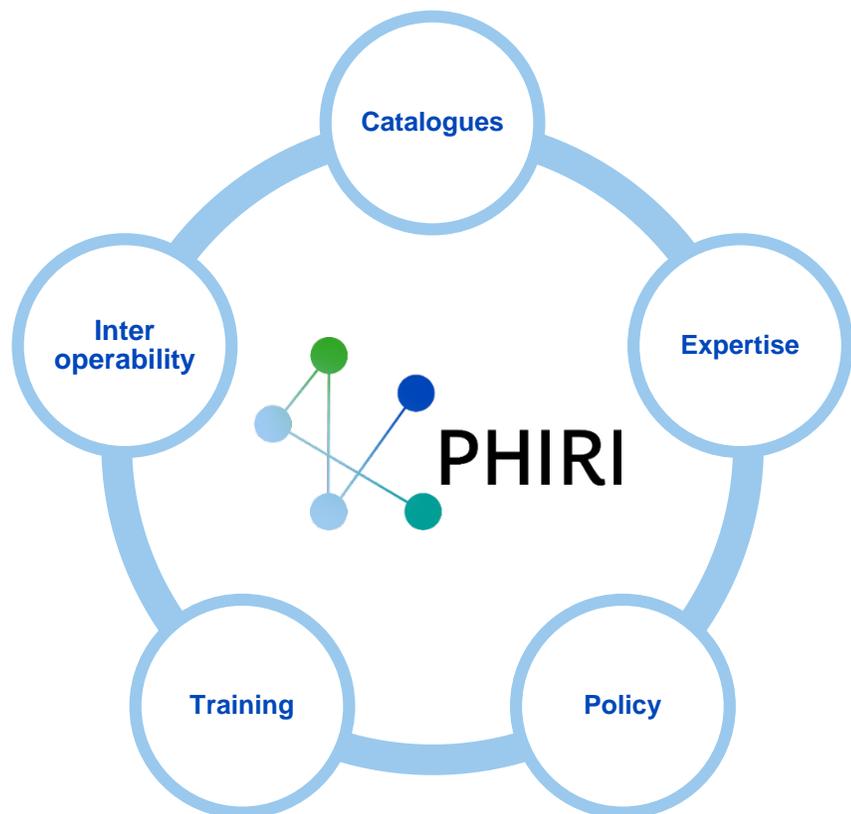
3 years  
Nov 20-  
Oct 23

Coordinator  
Sciensano



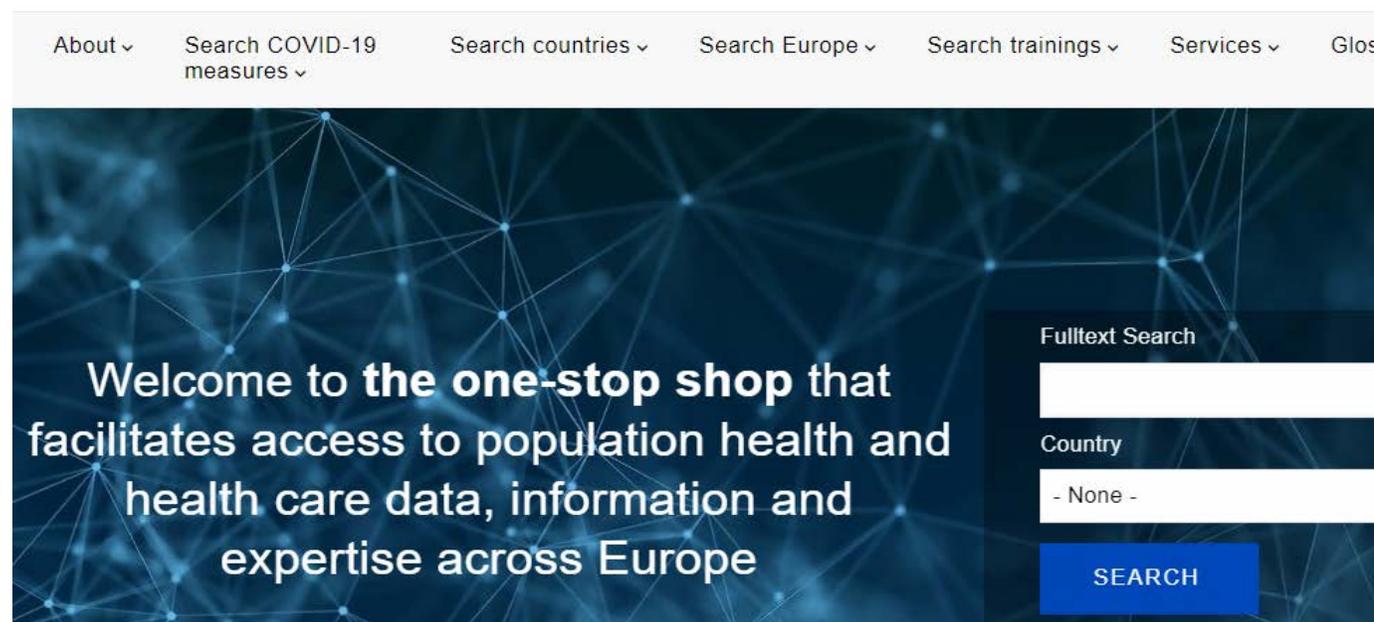
Map of PHIRI Partners

# About PHIRI



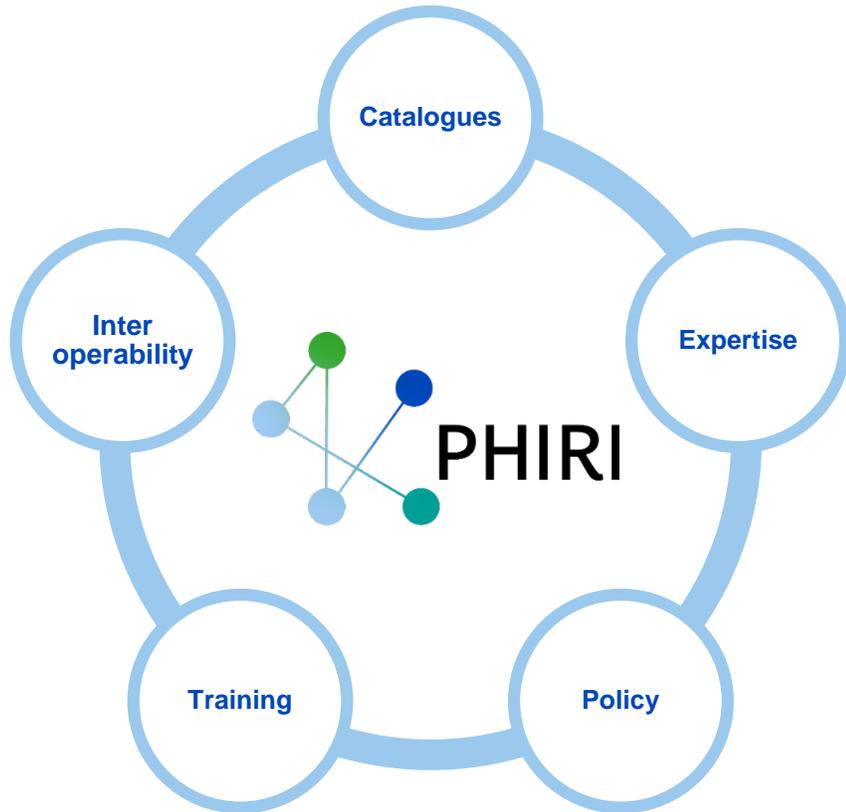
## Objectives:

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.



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the European Health Information Portal. It includes a search bar and several dropdown menus: **About**, **Search COVID-19 measures**, **Search countries**, **Search Europe**, **Search trainings**, **Services**, and **Glos**. The main content area features a dark blue background with a network pattern and the text: **Welcome to the one-stop shop that facilitates access to population health and health care data, information and expertise across Europe**. On the right side, there is a search interface with a **Fulltext Search** input field, a **Country** dropdown menu (currently showing **- None -**), and a blue **SEARCH** button.

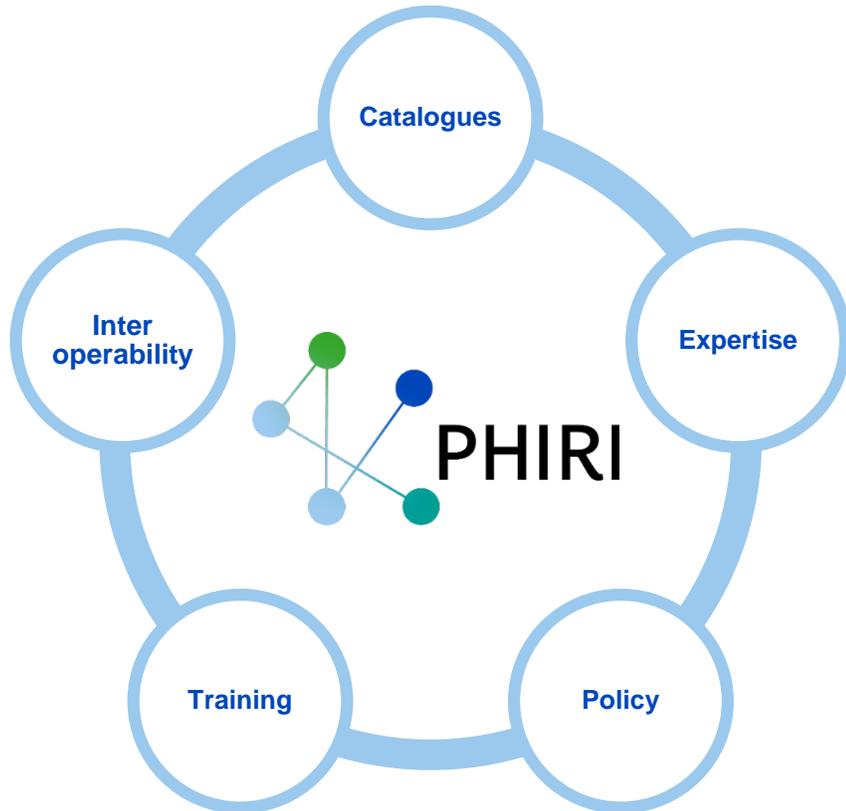
# About PHIRI



## Objectives:

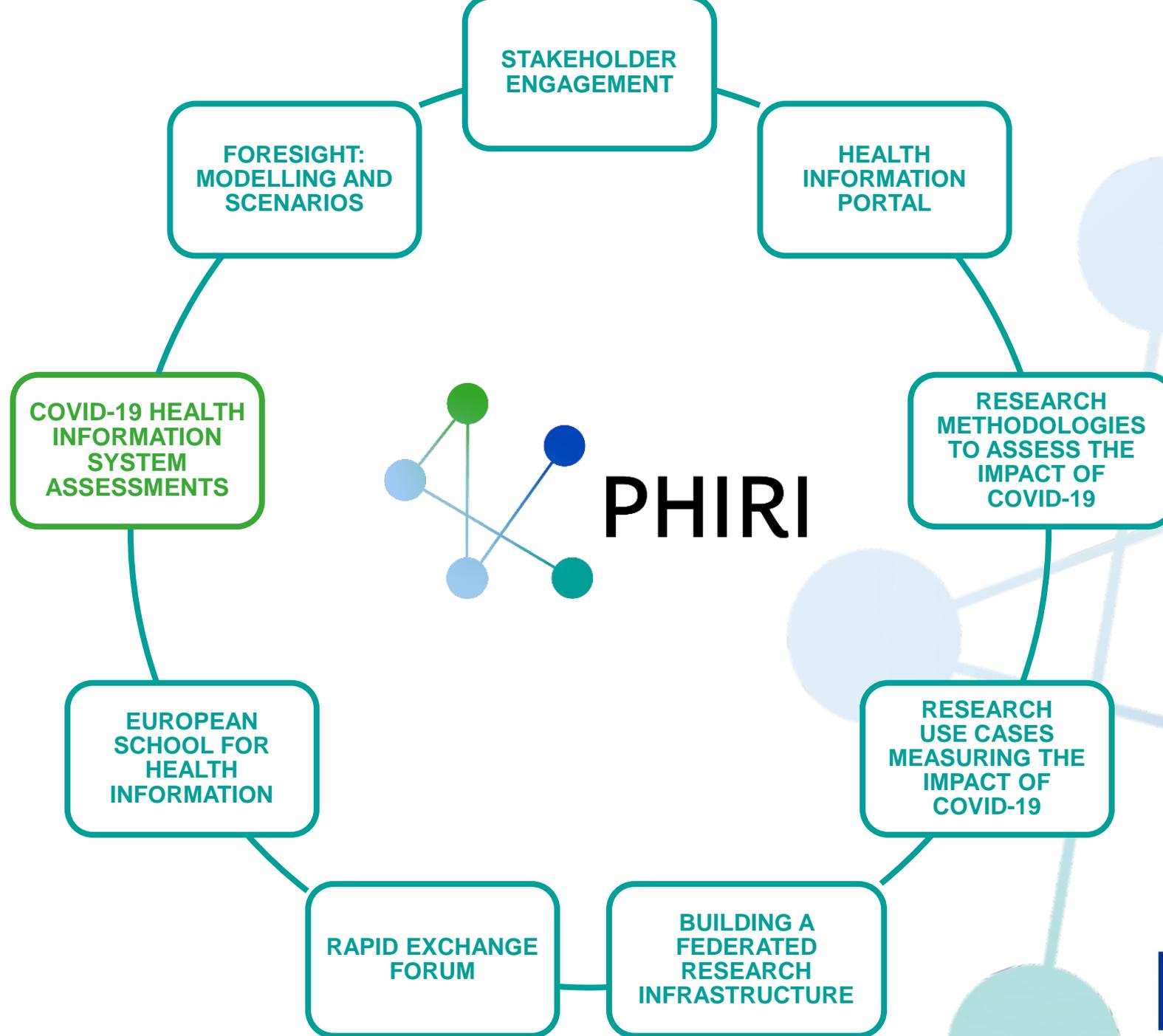
1. To provide a **Health Information portal** for COVID-19 with FAIR catalogues on health and healthcare data for structured information exchange across European countries. To link different data sources and to use Pan-European data in a GDPR compliant, federated way.
2. To provide structured exchange 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.

# About PHIRI



## Objectives:

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.



# Health Systems

- Built to improve the health of the population
- Resilience: the ability to absorb, adapt, and transform to cope with shocks (Observatory 2021)
- When COVID hit: differences in resilience between national health systems

→ What are the lessons learned and best practices of the national health system responses to the COVID-19 pandemic?

# Health Information Systems

- Health Information: the data and information that is needed to monitor the health of patients as well as the general population.
- Especially in times of crisis:
  - Data should be available in a **timely** manner and should be **trustworthy**
  - Data and information should be **shared** across European borders
  - Data and indicators should be **interoperable**

→ In many European countries: health information systems were not always equipped to accommodate the data and information flows that were needed in order for researchers to provide the best available evidence to underpin health policy decisions.

# European health information landscape

- ECDC – TESSy and EWRS reporting systems (grown since 2020)
- EU – EUROSTAT
  - Developed European legislation in 2008 defining areas of public health statistics it would like every EU MS to submit; implementing regulations
  - Provided grants for capacity building in the five chosen areas:
    - EHIS, mortality, non/expenditure hospital statistics, accidents at work, occupational diseases
- EU – DG SANTE
  - Provided public health programme funding for development of various aspects of health information
  - Coordinating with OECD and WHO
  - European Health Data Space
- WHO – European Health Information Initiative
- OECD – State of health initiative (funded by DG SANTE; used by other EU services)
- HERA – Epidemic intelligens

# National health information systems

PHIRI aims to map the **health information systems** that monitor the effects of COVID-19 on population health

- Through virtual country visits in 10 different countries
- 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

# Scope of the assessments

1. Identification of **strengths and weaknesses** of the different data flows monitoring the wider effects of COVID-19
2. Provide opportunities for other countries to **learn from the experiences and thereby contributing to capacity building**, leading to the reduction of health information inequalities between countries
3. Potentially **identify data sources** that may not have been used or fully exploited yet
4. Create opportunities **to engage and exchange** with national health information stakeholders and authorities
5. Identify key recommendations for **resilient health information systems**; better preparedness for future crises

# Tool

Adapted from WHO's support tool to strengthen health information systems



## Support tool to strengthen health information systems

Guidance for health information system assessment and strategy development

Core	Sub category	Items
Data collection	<i>Data sources</i>	7
	<i>Data infrastructure</i>	3
	<i>Data management</i>	4
	<i>Resources for data collection</i>	2
Analysis	-	6
Reporting	-	4
Knowledge translation	-	3
Governance and resources	<i>Legislation</i>	2
	<i>Policies, planning and evaluation</i>	6
	<i>Infrastructure</i>	2

# Preliminary findings

4/10 country visits performed: Italy, Portugal, Ireland, Malta

- Difficulties with linking data/following a person/patient when a unique person identifier is not collected in the health system
- Weak data collection at the community level (heterogeneous systems)
- Developments in automatized processes for data collection processes and validation needed (including skilled personnel)
- Need of including health information system elements in the pandemic preparedness strategy
- Significance of having infodemic management in an overarching strategy for the health information system

# More about these country visits?

**Today 13:00 (CET):** All preliminary findings will be presented at the EUPHW event  
**HW154 - Country visits: interviewing health information system stakeholders**

Scan the QR code to receive the meeting link!



Meeting password: EUPHA

**June 23 10:00 (CET):** General presentation of all lessons learned, best practices and recommendations: more info  
[PHIRI.coordination@sciensano.be](mailto:PHIRI.coordination@sciensano.be)

## BUILDING RESILIENT HEALTH SYSTEMS

### LECTURE



**COUNTRY VISITS: INTERVIEWING HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS**

★ Friday 20 May 2022  
13:00 - 14:00 CET

#### PROGRAMME

Two European projects TEHDAS (Towards the European Health Data Space) and PHIRI (Population Health Information Research Infrastructure) are zooming in on Health Information Systems, by conducting semi-structured interviews with stakeholders through country visits. TEHDAS focuses on the readiness to join the European Health Data Space, whereas PHIRI maps Health Information Systems accommodating COVID-19. The event will present findings from both projects.

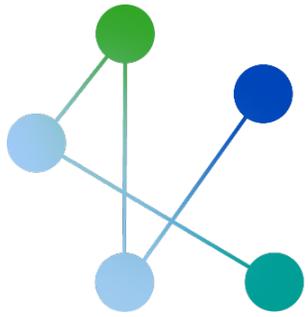


#EUPHW  
[eupha.org/EUPHW](http://eupha.org/EUPHW)

Free attendance  
please register [here](#) or contact [PHIRI.coordination@sciensano.be](mailto:PHIRI.coordination@sciensano.be)



The European Public Health Week (EUPHW) is an initiative by the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) supported by the WHO Regional Office for Europe.



# PHIRI

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# Thank you!

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[www.phiri.eu](http://www.phiri.eu)



This project has received  
funding from the European  
Union's Horizon 2020  
research and innovation  
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## 2. Facing current and upcoming threats

Supporting pan-European preparedness and planning for future challenges



**Marie Heloury**  
**Jonathan Suk**

European Centre for  
Disease Prevention  
and Control (ECDC)

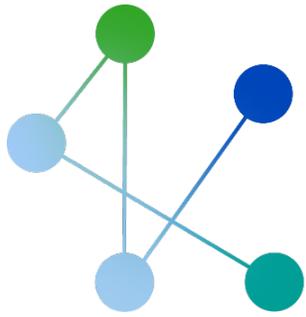
## 4. Predicting the future

COVID-19 models and forecasting at the transition from pandemic to (hyper-)endemic



**Marília Silva Paulo**

NOVA University Lisbon  
(UNL)



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# Thank you for your participation!

Stay tuned for upcoming  
webinars and follow us  
on Twitter:

 @PHIRI4EU

[www.phiri.eu](http://www.phiri.eu)



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