



Welcome to the Third RegHealth-RI Newsletter

The European Regions' Network for Health Research and Innovation (RegHealth-RI) is a two-year European project currently in its final months of implementation, reaching an end in November 2016.

RegHealth-RI aims to bridge the gap in Research and Innovation (R&I) across European regions, focusing on the health area, by analysing the present situation, identifying common patterns and drivers of differences, proposing new initiatives to reduce differences in R&I performance, and building synergies between Structural Funds and Horizon 2020.

PROJECT NEWS

RegHealth-RI Final Conference, Brussels 20 October

On 20 October 2016, the Final Conference of the RegHealth-RI project, “Bridging the Divide in European Health R&I”, will be held. After two years of implementation, the conference will be the final event of the RegHealth-RI project.

The conference will gather high-level representatives and key stakeholders working in the fields of health, research, innovation, and regional development to discuss gaps in health research and innovation across Europe. Moreover, the Final Conference will present the Policy Recommendations that were developed on the basis of the project results.

The following questions will be addressed:

- Which factors influence health R&I in European regions, and especially in the less performing regions?
- Which new approaches can be recommended in order to bridge the gaps in health R&I across European regions?
- What synergies exist between Horizon 2020 and the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), and how can they be maximized to widen the participation of regions in Horizon 2020?

***Remember to save the date – 20 October 2016 – in your calendars.
The RegHealth-RI Team looks forward to welcoming you to Brussels!***



Third RegHealth-RI Workshop Organised in Zagreb

The third and final Workshop of the RegHealth-RI project was held in Zagreb on 30-31 May 2016. With six months left of the project duration, the aim of this final workshop was to discuss and build upon the evidence produced by the project activities to date to feed into the messages, conclusions and recommendations which will be conveyed during the Final Conference in Brussels on 20 October.

Topics explored in detail included how to improve health research and innovation in less-performing regions and countries, and more concretely, the available means to support their participation in Horizon 2020. Finally, approaches to facilitate and promote synergies between Horizon 2020 and ESIF were also discussed.

The workshop was attended by the Project Partners, Associated Partners, Advisory Board Members and external invited experts from, in total, 16 EU Member States.

More precisely, the aims of the workshop were to:

- Identify successful cases of synergies between Horizon 2020 and the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) to further provide new approaches to facilitate and promote synergies between both funding instruments.
- Provide well-based actions aimed at improving health R&I in less-performing EU regions and countries.
- Analyse and discuss on the design and organisation of the Final Conference of the RegHealth-RI project in Brussels, with a main focus on conclusions and policy recommendations arising from the project implementation.

The presentations from the workshop are available at: <http://rhing-net.eu/reghealth-ri/outputs.html>.



RegHealth-RI Participates in Wire 2016

The RegHealth-RI project was selected through a video competition to present during the "Week of Innovative Regions in Europe 2016" ([WIRE 2016](#)).

The project was represented by Freja Hagsund from the consortium partner European Regional and Local Health Authorities (EUREGHA). The

presentation included an overview of the project, its main objectives, foreseen outcomes and the ongoing networking activities. The RegHealth-RI representation in WIRE 2016 also gave an opportunity to promote the project's Final Conference in Brussels to interested stakeholders from regions across Europe.



RHInG-Net is an informal network which gathers over 100 (up to present) European stakeholders active in the fields of health, research and innovation. RHInG-Net is an official deliverable of the RegHealth-RI project and aims at engaging the members of the Project Consortium, Advisory Board, Associated Partners and other external experts and stakeholders.

The RHInG-Net collaboration will be sustained even after the end of the project duration to continue to provide a forum for dialogue and exchange of experiences among its members.

Are you interested in health, research and innovation and want to connect with peers and European experts and stakeholders in this field? Then you should join RHInG-Net at <http://rhing-net.eu/membership/>.

You can find more information about the network, its blog and online library at <http://rhing-net.eu/>.

RELATED NEWS

Report by Horizon 2020 Advisory Group on 2018-2020 Work Programme

With the view of setting the priorities for the Work Programme 2018-2020 for Societal Challenge 1 (SC1), "Health, Demographic Change & Wellbeing", the SC1 Advisory Group was tasked by DG Research and Innovation to produce and propose its recommendations. The report was recently published and can be accessed [here](#).

In parallel, the European Commission (DG CONNECT) is consulting with the SC1 Programme Committee, SC1 National Contact Points and other stakeholders to receive input on the areas of the 2018-2020 Work Programme covering eHealth, mHealth and ICT for Active and Healthy Ageing. Stakeholders had the possibility of providing their individual input through an online form until 11 July.

InfoDay, Horizon 2020 SC1 "Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing"

An information day on Societal Challenge 1 will be organised in Brussels on 8 July. The 2017 Work Programme suggests calls for proposals with an overall budget of €400 million, following the principle of research for *better health for all* at its core, and with a specific focus on personalised health and care. The InfoDay will be webstreamed through this [webpage](#).

Research and Innovation in the field of ICT for Health and Wellbeing

In June, the European Commission published an overview report on on-going or recently finished projects in the field of ICT for health and wellbeing (eHealth). The featured projects are divided into three types: (1) Managing your health and care projects, (2) Projects that innovate the healthcare systems and the way we work and (3) International eHealth and mHealth projects that are active in low and middle income countries. The report also includes an overview of the funding programmes enabling their implementation. The report may be accessed [here](#).

Report on EU Performance in Research and Innovation

Earlier this year, DG Research and Innovation published the report "Science, Research and Innovation Performance of the EU 2016". The report analyses the EU's performance in science, research and innovation in relation to three main challenges: converting research results and new technologies into innovations on the market; improving the EU's share of the very best scientific output in the world; and helping Europe to improve its standing in international research cooperation and science diplomacy.

The report finds that the EU's productivity gap with the United States is continuously widening, with a 15% lower labour productivity in the EU, a gap that is widening due to the economic and financial crisis. This can be linked to a relative underinvestment in research and an inability to re-orient the economy towards knowledge-intensive activities. To access the full report, please click [here](#).



Upcoming Events

Project Events

20 October, RegHealth-Ri Final Conference

"Bridging the Divide in European Health Research and Innovation"

The 20 October will mark the celebration of the RegHealth-RI Final Conference in Brussels. The conference will gather high-level representatives and key stakeholders working in the fields of health, research, innovation and regional development to discuss gaps in health research and innovation across Europe.

Related Events

24-27 July, EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF), Manchester

The [EuroScience Open Forum](#) is the largest general science meeting in Europe and is organised in a major European city every two years. The 2016 edition of ESOF brings together over 4,500 leading thinkers, innovators, policy makers, journalists and educators from more than 90 countries, to discuss current and future breakthroughs in contemporary science.

12-15 October, Open Days

During the [13th European Week of Regions and Cities \(Open Days\)](#), stakeholders working on regional development will gather in Brussels for workshops focusing on modernising Europe, regions open for business and places and spaces.



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