



The RegHealth-RI project has received funding from the European Union Horizon 2020 Programme under the grant agreement No 643574.

LAUNCH OF THE FIRST EUROPEAN NETWORK TO BRIDGE GAPS IN HEALTH RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The European Regions' Network for Health Research and Innovation (RegHealth-RI), was launched in Brussels in November 2014. As of 1 November 2014, the two year project is being implemented with the objective to reduce gaps in health research and innovation across regions in the EU, widen the participation of regions in the EU Research and Innovation Framework Programme (Horizon 2020), and facilitate synergies between Horizon 2020 and Structural Funds.

RegHealth-RI is a European project funded by Horizon 2020, under the call "Health Co-ordination Activities" and the topic "Bridging the Divide in European Health Research and Innovation". The project is co-ordinated by [Innovatec](#), with European Regional and Local Health Authorities ([EUREGHA](#)) and [University of Trieste](#) as its consortium members.

Health is not just a value in itself, it is also a driver for growth and it is only with a healthy population that the EU can achieve its full economic potential. However, as is shown by the European Commission's [Regional Innovation Scoreboard](#), the performance of European regions in research and innovation varies greatly between regions. RegHealth-RI aims to bridge this gap in research and innovation across regions in the EU, focusing on the health area, by looking for new measures to reduce differences in research and innovation performance, and to identify the drivers between these differences.

In order to achieve this aim, RegHealth-RI will develop a multidisciplinary network formed by representatives of academic and R&D organisations, national and regional authorities, Horizon 2020 National Contact Points (NCPs) in health, and companies etc., to deal with the main problems affecting health research and innovation of EU regions.

The consortium members gathered for a kick-off meeting in Brussels in November 2014 to officially launch the project. The meeting also gathered representatives from the European Commission and members of RegHealth-RI's Advisory Board, such as Mr Jerzy Duszynski, former Deputy Minister of Science of Poland, Mrs. María José Muñoz Martínez from the Ministry of Finance and Public Administration in Spain, Mr Jonathan Watson, Executive Director Health ClusterNet, and Mrs Ana Stavljenic-Rukavina, former Minister of Health of Croatia.

The kick-off meeting officially launched the RegHealth-RI project, and the work with the project's first deliverable – an analysis of the state of the art of health research and innovation in EU regions, and an identification and analysis of determinants influencing its performance and progression. The report is to be published in the first RegHealth-RI workshop, to be organised in Madrid, in June 2015.



The RegHealth-RI project is coordinated by Innovatec, with EUREGHA and University of Trieste as consortium members. You can follow the developments of the RegHealth-RI project on the project [website](#)