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THE FIRST REGHEALTH-RI WORKSHOP ORGANISED IN MADRID

The European Regions' Network for Health Research and Innovation (RegHealth-RI), organised its first workshop in Madrid on 18-19 June 2015. The workshop, "Analysis of Health Research and Innovation (R&I) in Less Performing EU Regions: Present Situation, Possible Causes and Influencing Factors", gathered a large number of stakeholders to discuss the present situation in health R&I in Europe. During the workshop, a draft version of a state-of-the art report outlining regional disparities in health R&I and written by University of Trieste's team, was also presented.

[RegHealth-RI](#) is a European project funded by Horizon 2020, with the objectives to reduce gaps in health research and innovation across regions in the EU, widen the participation of regions in Horizon 2020, and facilitate synergies between Horizon 2020 and Structural Funds.

On 18-19 June, RegHealth-RI organised its first project workshop in Madrid. The workshop gathered stakeholders from 21 EU Member States representing research organisations, industry and business, regional and national authorities, European Commission and the World Health Organisation (WHO). The discussions of the workshop focused on the analysis of the present situation in health research and innovation in EU countries and regions, initial ideas on how to bridge the divide across countries/regions, and synergies between distinct funding instruments. The workshop also included presentations on these themes from the European Commission, WHO, European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), the Spanish H2020 National Contact Point for Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation, and COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

Claudio Cozza and Monica Plechero from University of Trieste further presented a draft of the state-of-the-art report they are preparing, with the purpose of outlining and analysing regional disparities in health research and innovation. A fruitful discussion followed on the best indicators for, and challenges with, measuring health research and innovation at the regional levels which will feed into the final report to be presented during the second RegHealth-RI workshop in autumn.

The workshop also meant the starting point of the network Regions for Health Innovation and Growth ([RHING-net](#)). The network is one of the main deliverables of the RegHealth-RI project, and has the objective of creating sustainability for the project, establishing a network of stakeholders and experts which will be work for improving EU regions' and countries' cohesion and competitiveness.

More information on this event, including the agenda and presentations from the workshop, can be found at the corresponding sections of the [project](#) and [network](#) websites. For more details and information on the RegHealth-RI project, please see the project website [<http://www.rhing-net.eu/reghealth-ri/>] or contact the co-ordinators on info@innovatec.es.



The RegHealth-RI project is coordinated by Innovatec, with EUREGHA and University of Trieste as consortium members.