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NEWSLETTER

eHAction
Joint Action supporting
the eHealth Network

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ehaction.eu

Disclaimer:

Foreword
by Beatrice Kluge
and Christof Gessner

Dear reader,

To transform healthcare in a digital world, beginning from scratch is not always an option. We start from where we currently are; each country, region or even one specific hospital will take the respective next steps towards our common goal of digital healthcare for everyone everywhere. Along this path, it is of tremendous value to think and act with a holistic mindset, taking into account for instance the following questions.

How to set up technical infrastructure that will evolve seamlessly in order to connect, securely and in a user-friendly way, all participants in the care process – patients, health professionals, researchers and others – at some future point in time? Moreover, how to scale up technical infrastructure, which will eventually grant access to and enable sharing of health data of different format, size and location with high quality and the required granularity? How to comply with legal demands by transferring them into organisational or even technical agreements and implementations, but without thereby restricting technical solutions and innovative potential in the future?

Different people, depending on their expertise, may answer these questions in different ways. eHAction Work Package 6 – Enhancing Continuity of Care – brings together expertise of Member States and stakeholders to foster and facilitate this kind of discussion and mindset for developing the eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure and beyond. eHAction succeeded in leveraging the expertise that is already available in the Member States. Connecting the National Competence Centres across borders, facilitating collaboration with and between stakeholders, establishing links to other projects in the field, the joint action became a central driver for co-creation and continuous adaptation of the infrastructure. The uptake and re-use of results from national and regional working solutions as well as the integration of expertise from previous and concurrent projects provides a solid foundation for the implementation of services that enable the exchange and use of healthcare information across borders.

We wish you pleasant reading and a wonderful year 2020!
Best regards

Beatrice Kluge and Christof Gessner

Beatrice Kluge

Christof Gessner

Beatrice Kluge holds a master's degree in medical information technology. She had contributed to the set-up of the Central Biomaterial Bank Charité (ZeBanC), which is one of the German Biobank Nodes. At gematik she works in the department of Innovation on a number of future applications in the context of the national healthcare IT infrastructure in Germany. In that capacity, she is frequently involved with various stakeholders of the German health system and the German Ministry of Health to reconcile their diverse interests and positions. On European level, she was in charge of eID, of health professional registries and of stakeholder liaison with European Commission's eHealth Stakeholder Group within the JAseHN joint action. Now she actively contributes as work package and task leader of eHAction WP6 – Enhancing Continuity of Care.

Christof Gessner, Dr. rer. nat. (PhD), graduated in Physics, PhD, post-graduate study in Medical Physics. He has 20 years of professional experience in Medical Informatics and healthcare IT, including experience as product manager, and as an independent consultant. Working at gematik since 2012 in the department of Innovation, he is responsible for healthcare IT standards and standardisation in the context of establishing the national healthcare IT infrastructure in Germany. Currently, he is past chair of HL7 Germany, the national Affiliate of Health Level Seven International (HL7). He actively contributes to European projects, acting as a task leader in eHAction, and as a leader of the Architecture Work Group of the eHMSEG Semantic Task Force.

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Intro
What are we working on?

The aim of eHAction is to support the eHealth Network in the priority areas defined in the Multiannual Work Programme 2018-2021.

To this end, strategic guidance and tools are under development by the Joint Action to foster political discussion and facilitate cooperation in the following areas:

• **Empowering people:**
Enabling patients' control over their own health, through informed and sustainable uptake of digital tools in healthcare;

• **Innovative use of health data:**
Developing methodologies to better handle big data in health;

• **Enhancing continuity of care:**
Supporting eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure uptake;

• **Overcoming implementation challenges:**
Developing guidelines for interoperability, data protection and systems security in healthcare;

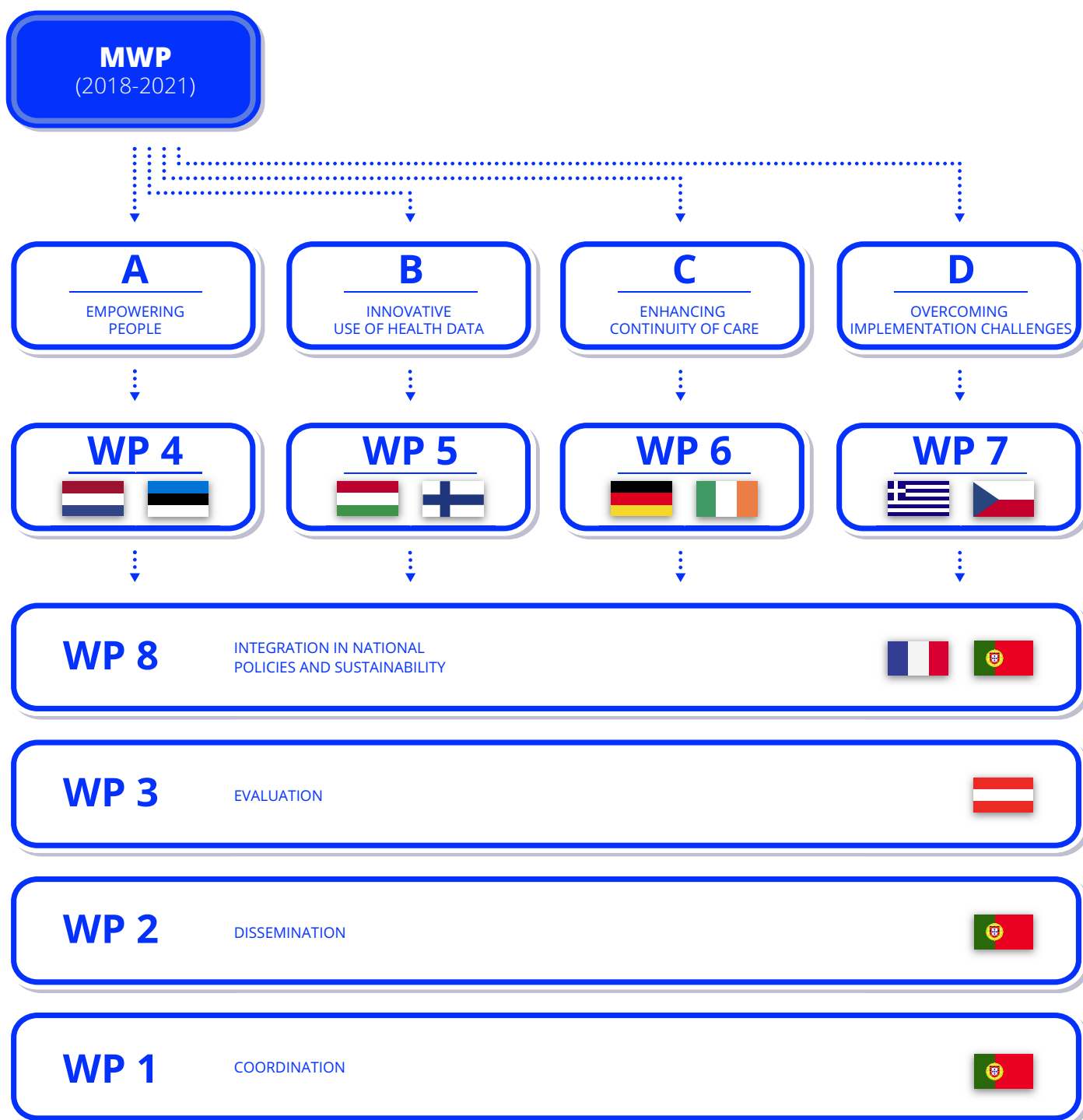• **Integration in national policies & sustainability:**
Preparing continuity post 2021 of cross-border policy cooperation and integration of its results in national policies.

eHAction's goals are:
· Enabling easier access to health and personalised care;
· Data access and sharing across borders;
· Increase interoperability and cybersecurity across countries;
· Meet information privacy and data protection requirements;
· Reach transferability of health data across borders;
· Increase health systems sustainability;
· Align eHealth investment with overall health systems requirements;
· Integrate eHealth into Member State/country health policies.

Therefore, the Joint Action's commitment is to deliver sustainable, economic and social benefits for European health systems and services.

MWP
(2018-2021)

A

EMPOWERING
PEOPLE

B

INNOVATIVE
USE OF HEALTH DATA

C

ENHANCING
CONTINUITY OF CARE

D

OVERCOMING
IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

WP 4

WP 5

WP 6

WP 7

WP 8   INTEGRATION IN NATIONAL
POLICIES AND SUSTAINABILITY

WP 3   EVALUATION

WP 2   DISSEMINATION

WP 1   COORDINATION

Top Stories

1st to 2nd October 2019, Lisbon
Cybersecurity in Health Workshop

9th October 2019, Brussels
COCIR Market Access Day for Digital Solutions

22nd October 2019, Sarajevo
Dissemination Event on the results of the EU Health Programme and other related EU initiatives

23rd October 2019, Brussels
eHAction Steering Council, Face-to-Face Meeting

4th to 7th November 2019, Lisbon
Web Summit 2019

7th November 2019, Luxembourg
Workshop on the sustainability & implementation of the JA results into national policies

14th November 2019, Brussels
COCIR 60th Anniversary

20th November 2019, Düsseldorf
MEDICA 2019

27th November 2019, The Hague
Patient Organizations Workshop

27th to 28th November 2019, Brussels
Joining the Dots Conference

28th to 29th November 2019, Brussels
eHealth Network Meeting

The Cybersecurity in Health Workshop took place at the INFARMED facilities, Lisbon, on 1st and 2nd October 2019.
Promoted by eHAction coordinating entity, SPMS, this two-day workshop aimed at tackling priority areas in the field of health information security and cybersecurity.

Focused on healthcare security expertise, the workshop brought together key experts dealing with security at national and regional level in eHealth Competence Centres and Ministries of Health. Representatives from DG CONNECT, DG SANTE, DG DIGIT and the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) joined representatives from 14 Member States to set up European eHealth priorities and initiatives for better EU cybersecurity.

▲ **Cibersecurity Workshop Parallel Sessions** | 1st October 2019, Lisbon

▲ **Marco Marsella presenting DG CONNECT view** | 1st October 2019, Lisbon

The Cybersecurity in Health Workshop adopted an interactive work format in order to better identify aspects of concern at national and European level, sharing best practices and know-how across Member States, raising awareness, training schemas and specifying national CSIRTs.

Moreover, this workshop was envisioned to increase the level of EU cooperation and co-creation, promoting joint efforts between Governments, healthcare organisations, national competent centres on eHealth and national computer security incident response teams (CSIRTs).

▲ **Cibersecurity Workshop Group |** 1st & 2nd October 2019, Lisbon

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for Digital Solutions**

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29th November 2019, Brussels
**Leadership Council Face-to-Face
Meeting**

COCIR Market Access Day is aimed to understand trends in the assessment and reimbursement of digital health solutions, and to exchange knowledge with external experts representing decision-making bodies and/or supporting decision-making regarding the reimbursement of digital health technologies.

On 9th October 2019, Henrique Martins – eHealth Network Co-Chair and eHAction Coordinator – joined the event to present "Current trends and priorities of the eHealth Network and initiatives in Portugal", focusing on the Multiannual Work Programme (2018-2021) Priority Areas: Empowering people; Innovative use of health data; Enhancing continuity of care; Overcoming implementation challenges.

22nd October 2019, Sarajevo
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This Dissemination Event on the results of the EU Health Programme and other related EU initiatives, with a focus on Digital Health, Chronic and Rare Diseases was held in Sarajevo, at the Building of Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 22nd October 2019.

In regard of digital health, the work developed and in progress by eHAction – Joint Action supporting the eHealth Network – was presented at the session "Presentation on the selected initiatives funded by EU Health Programme".

Later, an eHAction representative, Lília Marques, joined the panel of EU experts in the "Round Table on Digital Health as a tool for Empowering Patients and Enhancement of Disease Management".

Supported by the European Commission through the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFEA), this Dissemination Event brought together several representatives from European Joint Actions and other EU health-related initiatives, in order to present work developments, share knowledge and promote reflection on digital health and on chronic and rare diseases.

TOP STORIES

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29th November 2019, Brussels
Leadership Council Face-to-Face Meeting

The 5th Steering Council meeting of eHAction was held on 23rd October 2019, at the Permanent Representation of Romania to the European Union, in Brussels.

eHAction – the Joint Action Supporting the eHealth Network – has been working to find ways to empower people by giving them an active role in managing their health data and processes, to use health data in an innovative way and to enhance continuity of care using interoperable and cross-border solutions. In this regard, this Steering Council face-to-face meeting focussed on the discussion and approval of the documents to be delivered to the eHealth Network for its November meeting.

Romania has joined eHAction as a collaborating partner, therefore on behalf of the eHAction Consortium we are grateful to the Permanent Representation of Romania to the EU for having hosted this important meeting and continuing to support the Joint Action contributing to better health in Europe.

5th Steering Council face-to-face meeting | 23rd October, Lisbon

4th to 7th November 2019, Lisbon
Web Summit 2019

7th November 2019, Luxembourg
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Henrique Martins (eHAction coordinator), Diogo Gomes (Work Package 2 leader) and eHAction representatives Mariana Salema and Diogo Canudo attended the Web Summit 2019 edition, which took place in Lisbon from 4th to 7th November.

As an excellent opportunity for networking and dissemination, the eHAction team spread the word about the Joint Action's ongoing activities and delivered the printed version of the latest newsletter to stakeholders and visitors.

The eHAction team had a special visit from the European Commissioner Carlos Moedas, who also received a copy of the eHAction Newsletter #4 from Diogo Gomes.

▲ **eHAction Coordinator and Team at Web Summit 2019 |** 7th November 2019, Lisbon

▲ **WP2 Leader with the European Commissioner Carlos Moedas |** 7th November, Lisbon

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29th November 2019, Brussels
Leadership Council Face-to-Face Meeting

CHAFEA workshop on the sustainability and implementation of the joint action results into national policies took place on 7th November at DG SANTE, in Luxembourg.

12 Joint Actions presented the objectives, tasks, foreseen outputs, challenges and opportunities of the respective Work Package for integration in national policies and sustainability.

eHAction Coordination and the French Ministry of Health, leading eHAction Work Package 8 (eHealth National Policies and Sustainability), presented the eHealth perspective, highlighting the importance of the work in progress by WP8.

Following the Joint Actions' presentations, CHAFEA and DG SANTE formed working groups to discuss key issues identified by each Joint Action.

Closing the session, working group results were presented and discussed.

CHAFEA Workshop on Sustainability of Joint Actions | 7th November 2019, Brussels

14th November 2019, Brussels
COCIR 60th Anniversary

20th November 2019, Düsseldorf
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29th November 2019, Brussels
Leadership Council Face-to-Face Meeting

COCIR - European Trade Association representing the medical imaging, radiotherapy, health ICT and electromedical industries celebrated its 60 anniversary on 14th November, in Brussels.

Henrique Martins, eHAction Coordinator and eHealth Network Co-Chair, was invited to attend the event as a speaker for the session "Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence". Focusing on digital health, Henrique Martins presented the progress of the eHealth Network, its priorities for 2020, as well as key opportunities and challenges for cross-border cooperation.

The ongoing work by eHAction – Joint Action Supporting the eHealth Network – focuses on the eHealth Network's priorities: empowering citizens, innovating and improving interoperability of health systems in order to improve the quality and safety of health services provided to European citizens.

At the forefront of innovation, COCIR has promoted several events and publications in the field of digital health, interoperability, blockchain, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. Emphasising the importance of technological progress and the corresponding digital transformation in health, in this event COCIR brings different perspectives from the point of view of patients, health professionals, academics and industry.

eHAction at COCIR 60th Anniversary | 14th November 2019, Brussels

20th November 2019, Düsseldorf
MEDICA 2019

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29th November 2019, Brussels
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MEDICA 2019 session *Digitisation in Health without Borders* was held in Dusseldorf, on 20th November.

On behalf of the eHealth Network and eHAction, Diogo Martins presented "The future of the EU eHealth Network: Strategies for meaningful services", introducing the programme and focus areas for 2018-2021, as well as the Network's strategies to face potential challenges and future opportunities.

MEDICA World Forum for Medicine is one of the largest events of the health sector, focusing on current issues as the impact of eHealth, the processing of health and care in the Digital Single Market and how it can really benefit people, healthcare systems and the economy.

As in last year's edition, MEDICA 2019 brought together numerous international entities from the fields of business, research and politics, thus creating a great opportunity for dissemination of the eHAction's work.

27th November 2019, The Hague
Patient Organizations Workshop

27th to 28th November 2019, Brussels
Joining the Dots Conference

28th to 29th November 2019, Brussels
eHealth Network Meeting

29th November 2019, Brussels
Leadership Council Face-to-Face Meeting

The Patient Organizations Workshop, promoted by the Dutch Ministry of Health in partnership with NICTIZ, took place in The Hague on 27th November.

The eHealth Network Co-Chair and eHAction Coordinator, Henrique Martins, attended the event to present the eHealth Network's priorities and strategies for Europe concerning eHealth and sustainability.

Focusing on the access to high quality, patient-centred health and care, the event brought together representatives from several European patient organisations, who shared thoughts and discussed ideas on this matter.

Patients Organizations Workshop | 27th November 2019, The Hague

27th to 28th November 2019, Brussels
Joining the Dots Conference

28th to 29th November 2019, Brussels
eHealth Network Meeting

29th November 2019, Brussels
Leadership Council Face-to-Face Meeting

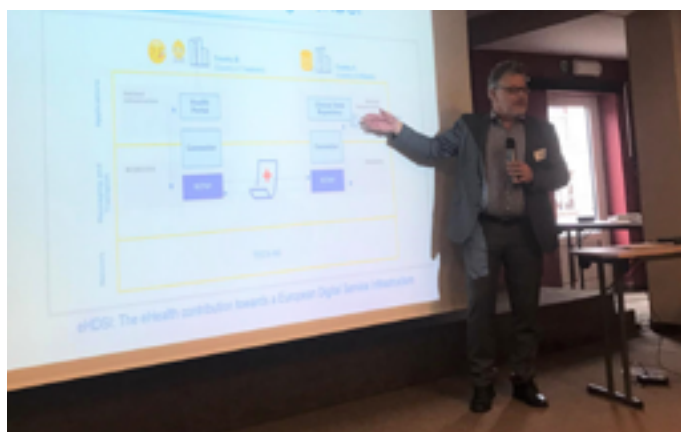Martin's Brussels EU Hotel hosted the Joining the Dots Conference from 27th to 28th November 2019.

Striving for ensuring better data for person-centred health and care, optimised research and Learning Health Systems, as the name suggests, this conference brought together seven leading European initiatives, contributing to key recommendations and future strategies for Europe: C3-Cloud; Trillium II; Digital Health Europe; eHAction; i~HD; EHR2EDC; EHDEN.

eHAction Coordination presented the overall work in progress by the Joint Action and Christof Gessner introduced WP6 work, focusing on interoperability challenges for cross border services. eHAction Coordination closed the 1st day as facilitator in the session "Finalising the calls to action for the eHealth Network".

The tangible goal of the Joining the Dots Conference, to be achieved through each participant's contribution, was to complete a list of calls to action for European Health Ministries to be presented at the eHealth Network meeting on 28th November.

▲ **Joining the Dots Conference |** 27th November 2019, Brussels

▲ **Christof Gessner presenting the work of eHAction WP6 |** 27th November 2019, Brussels

28th to 29th November 2019, Brussels
eHealth Network Meeting

29th November 2019, Brussels
Leadership Council Face-to-Face Meeting

The 16th eHealth Network meeting was held at the Albert Borschette Conference Centre in Brussels, on 28th and 29th November.

Starting with the topic "Priorities in digital health", the Commission presented its new priorities, followed by an overview of the eHealth Network's current plan and the discussion of the next multi-annual work plan as of 2021.

The Open eHealth Network session involved participants from WHO digital strategy, '1+ Million Genomes' initiative, MyHealthMyData, BigMedilytics, Smart4Health, Trillium II and Joining the Dots Conference to present and discuss their topics. Stakeholders such as the European University Hospital Alliance, BEUC, COCIR, Digital Europe, EFPIA, EPF, EURORDIS, Medtech Europe and UEMS shared their views as well.

▲ **eHealth stakeholders at eHealth Network Meeting** | 28th November 2019, Brussels

▲ **eHealth Network Meeting** | 28th-29th November 2019, Brussels

The 2nd day's agenda started with the eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure status, addressing topics such as the future of eHDSI and eHealth financing mechanisms, and Member State progress in eHDSI implementation and live operation.

According to the following agenda, this eHealth Network meeting was very fruitful for the eHealth Action, having achieved the approval of the following deliverables:

- Common Semantic Strategy – adopted;

- D7.2 Best practices report on data protection at national level - for information;

- D5.2 Report on identified cross-border use cases: sharing and learning from   best practices on European level - for information;

- D5.1 Report on policy actions on innovative use of big data in health level for discussion;

- D4.1 Policy framework on people empowerment - adopted;

- D4.2 Policy proposal on people empowerment (information note) – for information;

- D6.3 Report on e-skills for professionals – for information;

- D4.1 Policy framework on people empowerment – adopted;

- D4.2 Policy proposal on people empowerment (information note) – for information;

- D6.3 Report on e-skills for professionals – for information;

- D6.1 Roadmap on future eHDSI use cases and features – adopted;

- D6.2 eHDSI legal report – for information;

- D7.3 Common security framework for eHealth – adopted;

- D8.1 Integration in national policies and sustainability – National eHealth strategies – for information;

- D8.2 Policy document about technology report –for information.

29th November 2019, Brussels
**Leadership Council
Face-to-Face Meeting**

Following the eHealth Network meeting, the Leadership Council met to discuss the ongoing and future activities of eHAction.

This Leadership Council face-to-face meeting began with the state of play of each Work Package, followed by the presentation of the plan for 2020, including upcoming workshops and events.

The eHAction Coordinator, Henrique Martins, closed the meeting with a positive assessment of the eHealth Network Meeting and congratulated the members of the eHAction Work Packages for the good work, reflected in the approval of deliverables submitted to the eHealth Network.

Leadership Council face-to-face meeting | 29th November 2019, Brussels

Interview to Work Package 4
Elise Peters
& Priit Tohver

Elise and Priit within Work Package 4, you have developed a three-phase study on People Empowerment, reflected in the deliverable document D4.1 - Policy Framework on People Empowerment. How do you assess the contribution of this work to improve EU citizen empowerment?

In a way, the creation of this framework already will have had an effect on how Member States think about empowering people. By co-creating the framework with us, countries had to gaze inward and think hard about empowerment within their respective healthcare systems. In doing so they became aware of serious gaps that they can now begin to bridge, using some of the principles within the framework. While the framework itself does not provide policy recommendations, it does provide a systematic way of thinking about empowerment through the Ability – Motivation – Opportunity (AMO) framework, the use of personas and by breaking down issues into concrete barriers and enablers. This creates a common understanding among us all, which is really important considering the significant differences between Member States' national contexts. Realising that your patients need ability, motivation and opportunity to take control over their own health, and that all patients vary on this spectrum, is already a strong foundation for more comprehensive reform in empowerment. That being said, the framework still needs to be followed up with policy recommendations to provide a way forward and means to measure whether those policies have been impactfully implemented or not.

Elise Peters | WP4 Leader

Performing the three stages - desk research, Member State survey and analysis, what were the biggest challenges found?

We began with a pretty big challenge – what is empowerment, really? We were mandated to think about matters like digital health literacy or mHealth, but these are only a means to an end. So our first challenge was establishing the end goal, which is for people to be able to take control over their own health in areas they themselves consider important. That already meant that we could not simply talk about something like using mobile applications, but that we needed to think about how mobile applications can actually contribute to more control over one's health. Yet it was very hard at the same time to talk about empowerment through digital health without talking about the challenges related to implementing digital health. One could see that Member States had a real appetite to share the myriad problems they have encountered with some things like ensuring privacy, guaranteeing integration and interoperability or overcoming the mistrust of the healthcare system.

▲ **Priit Tohver** | eHAction WP4 Co-leader

And it is funny how technical implementation issues sometimes directly impact empowerment. For example, the lack of integration and curation among the 165,000 mobile applications currently available in Europe is unconducive to empowerment, because people need high digital health literacy to navigate this complicated space. Whereas we can increase digital health literacy, we are unlikely to be successful with everyone. For those with low digital health literacy, providing assistance with finding the right applications and integrating those with pre-existing tools could be a way forward. Another challenge we are likely to face moving forward is that there is no agreed way to measure empowerment; we can measure the process, but can we measure the outcome?

Using the AMO model, you show that mHealth, telehealth, patient access & use of data, and digital health literacy can contribute to people empowerment by increasing their ability, motivation and opportunity to participate in their health. On the other hand, you reveal that health professionals show the most resistance to eHealth uptake. Considering all the enablers and benefits why are health professionals (HPs) so reticent?

The point we were trying to make with the framework is that health professionals are an extremely important stakeholder to advance empowerment through digital health, but that indeed they have some concerns about the usage of digital technology. The question of why exactly health professionals have these concerns is one of the key questions we are trying to address with the upcoming policy proposal. We have a few assumptions. One is that health professionals may not be aware of all the benefits, as there has not been a lot of educational effort directed specifically at them in this area. Another reason is that health professionals are trained to be critical of new technologies, because they need to be sure new solutions are safe and effective. That is why the medical system is extremely rigorous when it comes to assessing new technologies. At the same time, a lot of digital health innovation nowadays is coming from small companies which cannot afford to go through the same level of testing as established pharmaceutical companies do, or are not aware of the requirements. So there is often a lack of evidence of effectiveness for new digital health solutions, at the level that health professionals need to feel comfortable. It is clear that a new approach is needed to safely test new digital health technologies if health professionals are to be brought on board. However, we of course know there are also health professionals in favour of eHealth uptake, as we know from the creation of the Chief Medical Information Officer (CMIO) position in many hospitals, for example.

One of the identified barriers is lack of cost-effectiveness evidence. What must be done to prove effectiveness and overcome resistance?

It is not necessarily just cost-effectiveness evidence; it is evidence. Cost-effectiveness is one of many categories important to consider when assessing digital health. Discussions at the Global Digital Health Partnership, for example, have concluded that there are about seven different categories that need to be taken into account. Two developments are critical for enhancing the level of evidence in digital health:

i. Assessment frameworks, either at the level of the EU, or Member States, or both, that provide a transparent means of testing new digital health technologies that developers can use in preparation for uptake. These frameworks likely need to be tiered to the solution being assessed: we should not demand randomised control trials for something as simple as a meal logger, whereas we might demand it for a decision-support tool.

ii. Assessment expertise at all levels. We have only had some preliminary discussions on this as a part of the Work Package so far, but the feeling among some Member States is that if we are to properly assess digital technologies and advise developers on what they should do differently, then health technology assessors need to upgrade their skillset to better account for new kinds of health technology.

Regarding implementation, Member States have different realities and priorities. Which do you consider the most challenging factors towards adoption?

The most challenging factors are likely to be the ones that are the most difficult to define. For example, most Member States point out that privacy and security concerns are key barriers, but this says nothing about what drives those concerns. So before we can actually overcome the barrier, we need to better understand it. In addition, we acknowledge that behavioural change is very important, for the citizens themselves, but also for their caregivers and health professionals as mentioned above. It is about informing, creating awareness, winning their trust and motivating people so that people gain control over their own health.

Focusing on the citizens, do you consider that the information they have access to is enough and easily accessible? If not, what can be done?

This differs per country and depends on a lot of factors, for example whether a Member State is centrally organised or not. Some Member States are offering a national system where people can access their data, while other countries are decentralised and are working on personal health environments for their citizens. In the Joint Action to support the eHealth Network (JAseHN), a state of play on patient access per Member State was provided, and in this policy framework we dug a little deeper to understand the barriers and enablers for people to access online health data. People are interested in accessing their online health data, for instance, to improve their self-management and to achieve a more active role in their health. It is therefore important for all Member States to provide easy and highly secure access to one's own health data, which should be accurate and of high quality.

Work Package 8
eHealth National Policies and Sustainability

Led by the French Ministry of Health (MoH-FR) and co-led by SPMS, Work Package 8 aims to propose elements for preparing the continuity post 2021 of the cross-border policy cooperation and integration of its results in national policies.

Work Package 8 Tasks are the following:

TASK 8.1: National and international eHealth strategies (MoH-FR)	TASK 8.2: Policy document about technology report (SPMS)

Objectives:

- Collect present and future eHealth strategies and propose a direction to support their alignment;

- Present mechanisms on how to follow the evolution of eHealth strategies;

- Analyse the collected data in order to propose ways to align strategies and projects in the future.

Objectives:

- Manage the Electronic Health Record Exchange Format (EHRxF) and Common Semantic Strategy (CSS) working groups;

- Set the topics the reports must cover and the key stakeholders to engage;

- Produce documents corresponding to each technology report;

- Promote two stakeholder meetings per year to coordinate the activities and keep stakeholders involved in the Action.

T8.2.1:
EHRxF – Electronic Health Record Exchange Format

Objectives:

- Adopt a governance framework on updating the format and maintaining national interoperable countries' architecture, assuring the fluidity of the cross-border information;

- Choose "healthcare information categories" (such as laboratory results, radiology images, discharge letter summaries, etc.);

- Converge Member State forces to support exchange formats (drivers);

- Leverage interoperability to improve eHealth sector.

T8.2.2:
Common Semantic Strategy

Objectives:

- Structure a common approach on health semantics in the EU;

- Develop common semantic assets for Patient Summary, ePrescription, laboratory results, medical imaging and reports, hospital discharge reports;

- Provide guidance for EU level decisions on health semantics;

- Ensure stability and continuity on health semantics in the EU.

T8.2.3:
Proposal on adopting a European eHealth Reference Architecture

Objectives:

- Address the importance of adopting an eHealth Reference Architecture based on the Enterprise Architecture framework;

- Explain how the adoption of an eHealth Reference Architecture can support interoperability;

- Describe the major developments of Enterprise Architecture initiatives that can serve as reference models for the eHealth community;

- Propose and conceptualise the pillars for a European eHealth Reference Architecture (based on the Enterprise Architecture) towards interoperability;

- Propose a macro-level working plan for the development and implementation of a European eHealth Reference Architecture.

T8.2.3:
Proposal on adopting a European eHealth Reference Architecture

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- Propose and conceptualise the pillars for a European eHealth Reference Architecture (based on the Enterprise Architecture) towards interoperability;

- Propose a macro-level working plan for the development and implementation of a European eHealth Reference Architecture.

T8.2.4:
Common Strategy for the use of Digital Identification in Health in the European Union
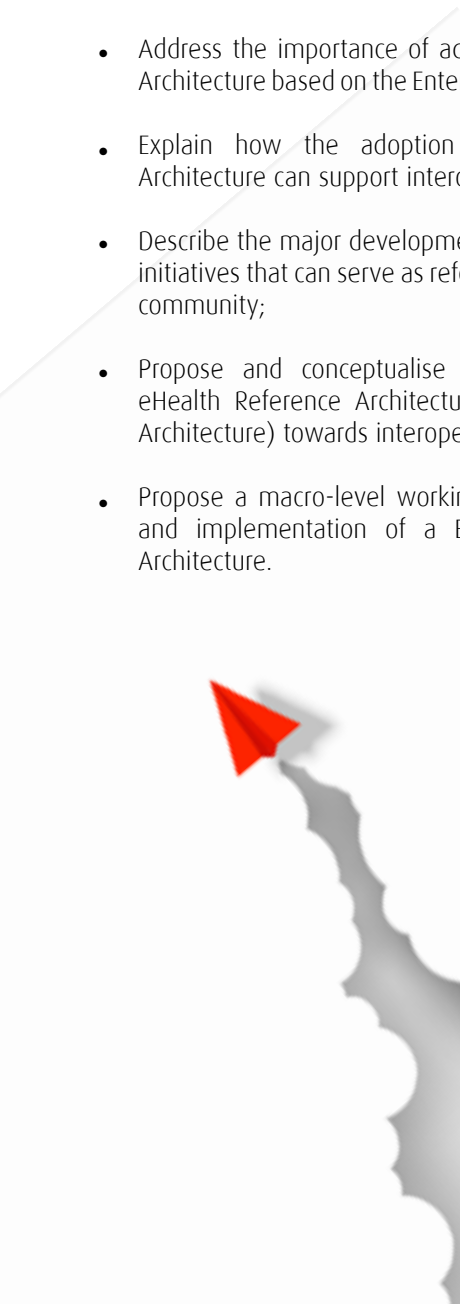
Objectives:

- Align current and future research projects/policy initiatives between different Directorates-General in the European Commission, as well as Member State/country efforts, in future definitions of solutions, architecture and assurance levels, amongst other common and transversal characteristics;

- Implement and deploy technology and digital solutions for Digital ID in health at the point-of-service/point-of-care in a timely manner and, especially in a coordinated manner, so different cross-border services can really benefit from its use;

- Converge development roadmaps for eHDSI services with adoption of eID cross-border services and ensure adoption in waves of novel requirements, progressively more demanding about digital identification.

T8.3:
Post 2021 scenarios for eHealth policy cooperation (MoH-FR)

Objectives:

- Identify potential requirements to support the implementation of policy recommendations in different MS;

- Describe post 2021 scenarios for cross-border eHealth policy cooperation and present these to help the eHealth Network to develop discussion on this matter.

Work Package 8
WP8 Challenges
& Opportunities

Challenges:

- High health/eHealth heterogeneity among Member States/countries;

- Divergence of priorities among Member States/countries;

- Proposal of sustainable scenarios according to a country's national health and eHealth strategy;

- Taking into account the European Commission's expectations while elaborating post 2021 scenarios for cross-border eHealth policy.

Opportunities:

- Understand deeply each Member State/country's reality;

- Align eHealth strategies and projects in the future;

- Facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge among countries;

- Maintain an active group of countries: a common ground and community;

- Suggest an integrated strategy in order to foster consensus among Member States/countries.

View of WP8 eHealth Strategies Platform

Work Package 8 participation in CHAFEA workshop on the sustainability and implementation of the joint action results into national policies (7th November, Luxembourg)

As previously mentioned in our "Top Stories", WP8 developments were recently presented at the CHAFEA workshop on the sustainability and implementation of the joint action results into national policies.

eHAction coordination and the French Ministry of Health introduced WP8 objectives, tasks and deliverables, highlighting expected outcomes such as eHAction results' integration in national eHealth policies, sustainability, potential challenges and opportunities.

To further illustrate the work in progress by WP8, the purpose and functionalities of the platform in development under Task 8.1 were clarified. This tool will be used in Task 8.3 for the exchange of health data and strategies among Member States.
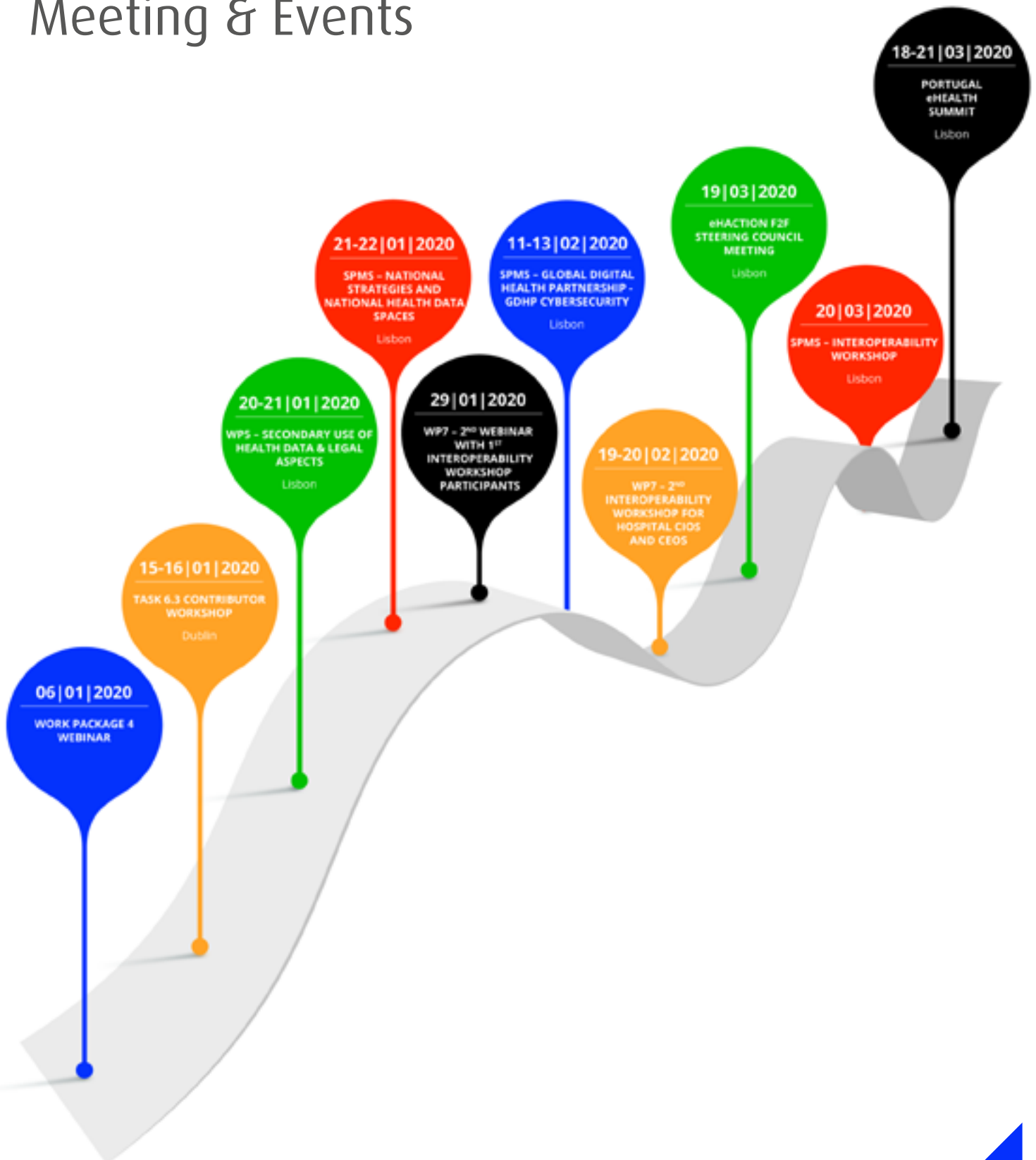
In parallel to Task 8.1, the work developed in Task 8.2 can be used as a basis to align WP8 tasks as an example of best practices and development of guidelines. In Deliverable 8.2.1, first draft of the Electronic Health Record Exchange Format (EHRxF) was developed and used as a basis for the European Commission's EHRxF recommendation on 6th Feb 2019. Deliverable 8.2.2 describes the Common Semantic Strategy for the Health on EU level, which aims to drive all semantic strategy in health at the EU level for the next 5 years. Deliverable 8.2.3 will describe the Enterprise Architecture for eHealth, which may be a relevant topic to include in the eHealth scenario.

At the end of this workshop, CHAFEA and DG SANTE challenged Joint Actions to work in groups to identify and discuss key issues; this translated into a productive exercise and added value for all the Joint Actions.

Upcoming
Meeting & Events

18-21|03|2020

PORTUGAL eHEALTH SUMMIT

Lisbon

21-22|01|2020

SPMS – NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND NATIONAL HEALTH DATA SPACES

Lisbon

11-13|02|2020

SPMS – GLOBAL DIGITAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP - GDHP CYBERSECURITY

Lisbon

19|03|2020

eHACTION F2F STEERING COUNCIL MEETING

Lisbon

20-21|01|2020

WP5 – SECONDARY USE OF HEALTH DATA & LEGAL ASPECTS

Lisbon

29|01|2020

WP7 – 2ND WEBINAR WITH 1ST INTEROPERABILITY WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

20|03|2020

SPMS – INTEROPERABILITY WORKSHOP

Lisbon

15-16|01|2020

TASK 6.3 CONTRIBUTOR WORKSHOP

Dublin

19-20|02|2020

WP7 – 2ND INTEROPERABILITY WORKSHOP FOR HOSPITAL CIOS AND CEOS

06|01|2020

WORK PACKAGE 4 WEBINAR

On behalf of the eHAction Consortium,
we are delighted to share our work with you.

Wishing you peace and joy this Christmas
and an outstanding 2020!

All the best,
eHAction Consortium

PRESS CONTACTS:
- **DIOGO MARTINS**, INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR AT SPMS, EPE. (+351 910 273 213), DIOGO.MARTINS@SPMS.MIN-SAUDE.PT
- **DIOGO GOMES**, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR AT SPMS, EPE., (+351 912 106 789), DIOGO.GOMES@SPMS.MIN-SAUDE.PT
- **LÍLIA MARQUES,** INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS MANAGER AT SPMS, EPE., (+351 939 006 022), LILIA.MARQUES@SPMS.MIN-SAUDE.PT
- **VANESSA VIANA**, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR AT SPMS, EPE., (+351 924 162 223), VANESSA.VIANA@SPMS.MIN-SAUDE.PT

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