INFACT
Joint Action on Health Information

Update activities InfAct

Assembly of Members 25/06/2020

Name: Petronille Bogaert, Linda Abboud and Herman Van Oyen
Email: infact.coordination@sciensano.be

This project is funded by the Health Programme of the European Union

InfAct and COVID-19

- Partners at the core of the Covid-19 response teams have indicated a strong need to structurally exchange between countries.
- InfAct facilitates exchanges between partners and with international organizations
- How?
  - Rapid exchange with InfAct connecting experts and expertise
  - Two weekly meetings with specific questions
  - Storage of relevant information

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InfAct and COVID-19

- What?
  - Exchange and provide overview of ongoing or planned Covid-19 studies
    - What data should be collected to analysis impact COVID-19 on with NCDs?
  - Exchange relevant regional, national and international data sources
    - Which data sources are available at sub-regional level?
  - Discuss and exchange on latest developments, recently validated tools, approaches, standard operating procedures, protocols and guidelines
    - How are you counting COVID-19 deaths in your country and who is being tested?
    - How are you carrying out contact tracing in your country?
  - Exchange policy and impact measures
    - Measure/guidelines about re-opening of schools and data indicating the consequences of the re-opening?
    - How are hospital visits and visits to LTCF organized in your country?
    - Impact on mental health through health surveys.

Conclusions

1. Many questions remain unanswered by existing institutions. Data gaps are persistent.
2. Partners are looking for mechanisms for structured exchange.
3. InfAct build up trust between the partners to share and exchange. InfAct provided a safe space.

➔ The need for a Research Infrastructure on population health is also reflected during the COVID-19 crisis for which DIPoH can provide the basis.

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Distributed Infrastructure on Population Health (DIPoH)

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History and composition

Bottom up approach building on 2 consortiums:

1. BRIDGE Health (2015-2017)

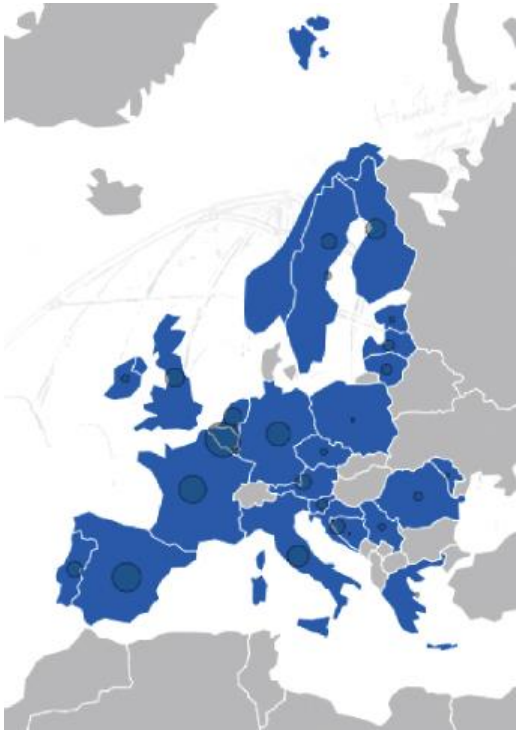
   31 partners in 16 countries representing 14 population health research networks in 9 population health research domains.

   ➔ Concluded there is need for a Research Infrastructure (RI) on population health research

2. InfAct Joint Action (2018-2021)

   40 partners from 28 EU countries: 20 public health or research institutes, 13 ministries, 3 universities and 4 others

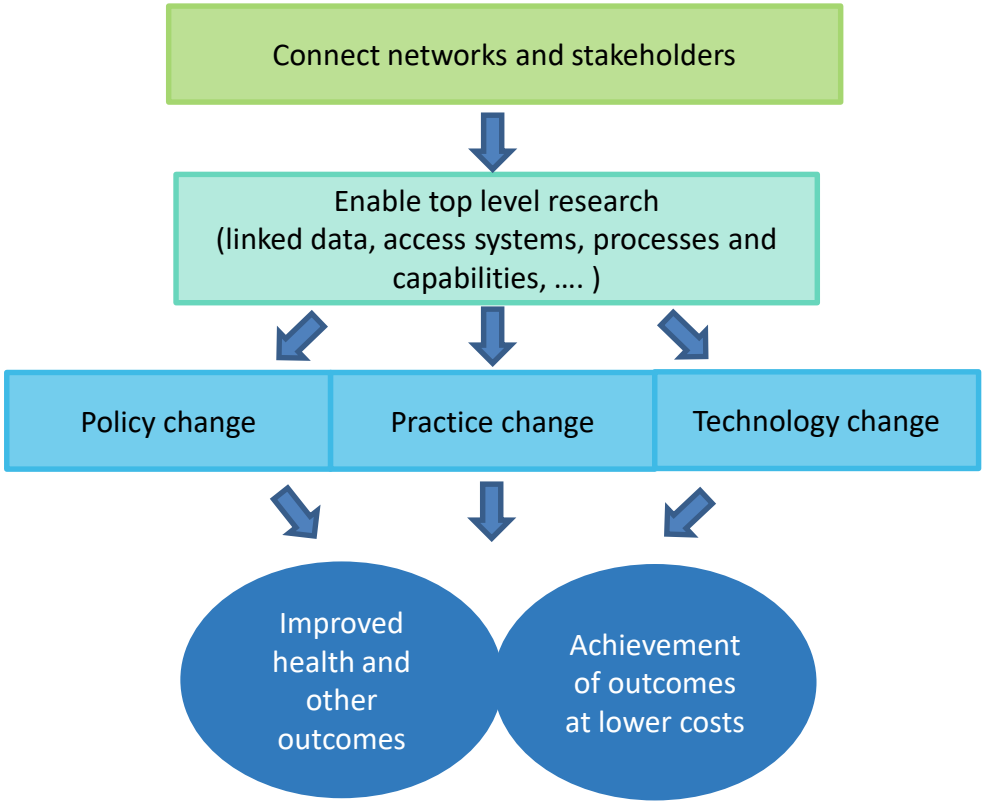
   ➔ Providing proof of concept by piloting RI elements



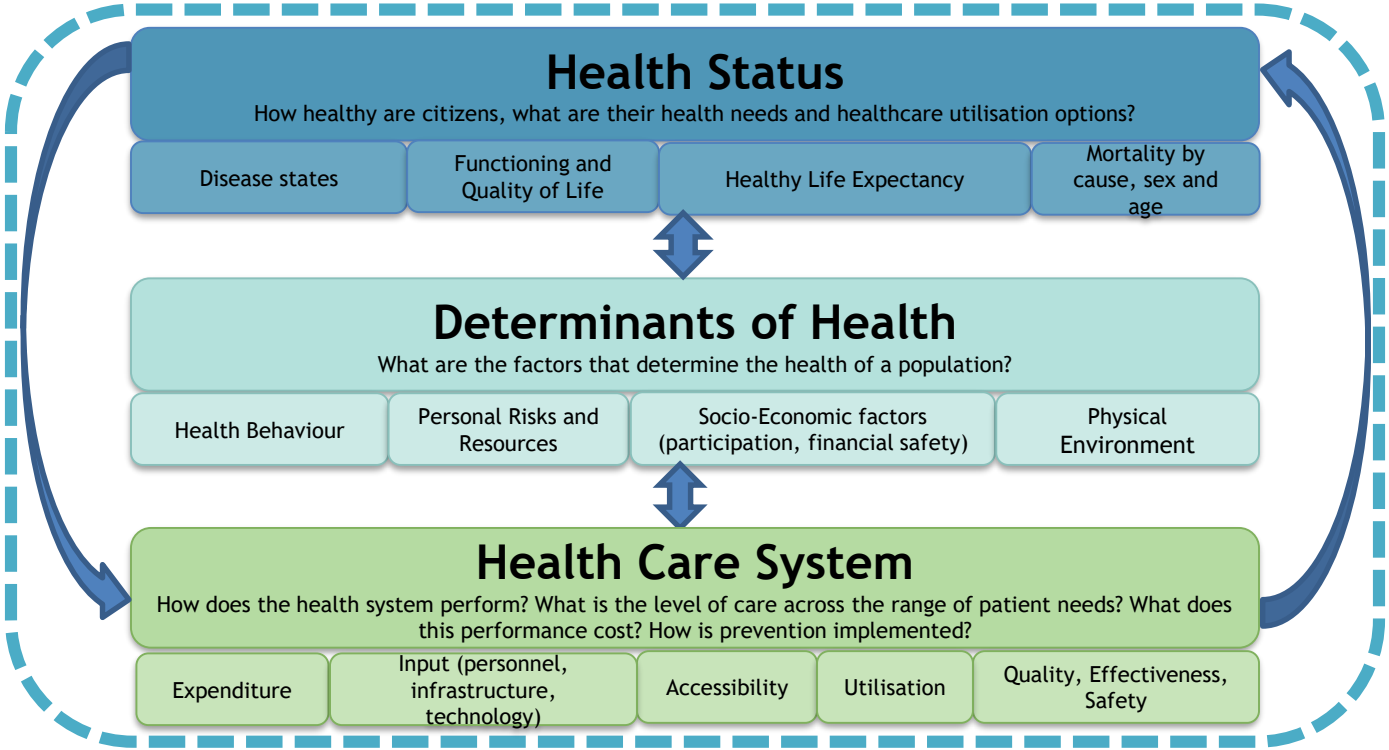
Map with InfAct Partners

The concept of DIPoH

Aim: facilitate the identification, access, assessment, and reuse of population health and information data across Europe



Framework of Population Health Information



Uniqueness

- Covers the population as a whole (healthy and non healthy)
- Focus on non communicable chronic diseases
- Comprehensive view on health data: population health (administrative data, vital statistics, health surveys, longitudinal studies) and health care (e-health records, hospitalisations)
- Facilitate secondary use of routine data sources
- Include individual and aggregated level data
- Does not include experimental research
- Boost national population health research

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Services

1

One-stop shop for EU health information research

Find the data, expert, network, guidelines or tool you are looking for

Innovative research in health information

Be the first to know and use the latest developments and methodologies

2

3

Capacity building in health information

Get expert support and training on collection, analysis, reporting and transformation

Knowledge translation research for evidence based decision-making

Know your (health) policies are based on proper evidence

4

Population Health Information Research Infrastructure (PHIRI) for COVID-19

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PHIRI for Covid-19

- Population Health Information Research Infrastructure (PHIRI) which facilitates
  - the identification, access, assessment and reuse for research,
  - population health and non-health data in MSs and across MSs
  - that can underpin public health policy decisions relevant to Covid-19.
- What?
  1. A one-stop shop platform with FAIR catalogues
  2. Provide tools for population health research for Covid-19
  3. Providing overview of capacity building and training
  4. Assisting the health research community in knowledge translation

Main focus: platform with FAIR catalogues

- Build FAIR catalogue with metadata repository on population health information with information on their accessibility
- Facilitate real-time data exchange and data requests: securely make available federated data sets and variables in countries to monitor population health with controlled access policies
- Allow tools for analysis and queries searches
- Provide overview of studies and trainings in population health and contact points in countries
- Provide overview of policy and impact measures

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Added value for MS

- Easily findable data and information needed for research and to underpin policy decisions
- Facilitate exchange and access data
- Helping to cope with multitude of research and evidence
- Rapid response to research and policy questions
- Access to a network of Covid-19 health information experts to retrieve information from and feed international agreed standards to
- Quick wins by identifying good practices in countries and exchanging approaches between countries such as sharing key indicators, protocols and tools to monitor the wider effects of Covid-19 pandemic
- Overview of available training materials and training staff
- Pragmatic support to countries in preparing for potential upcoming Covid-19 waves or other epidemics

Interaction with existing organisations, platforms and initiatives

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Interactions

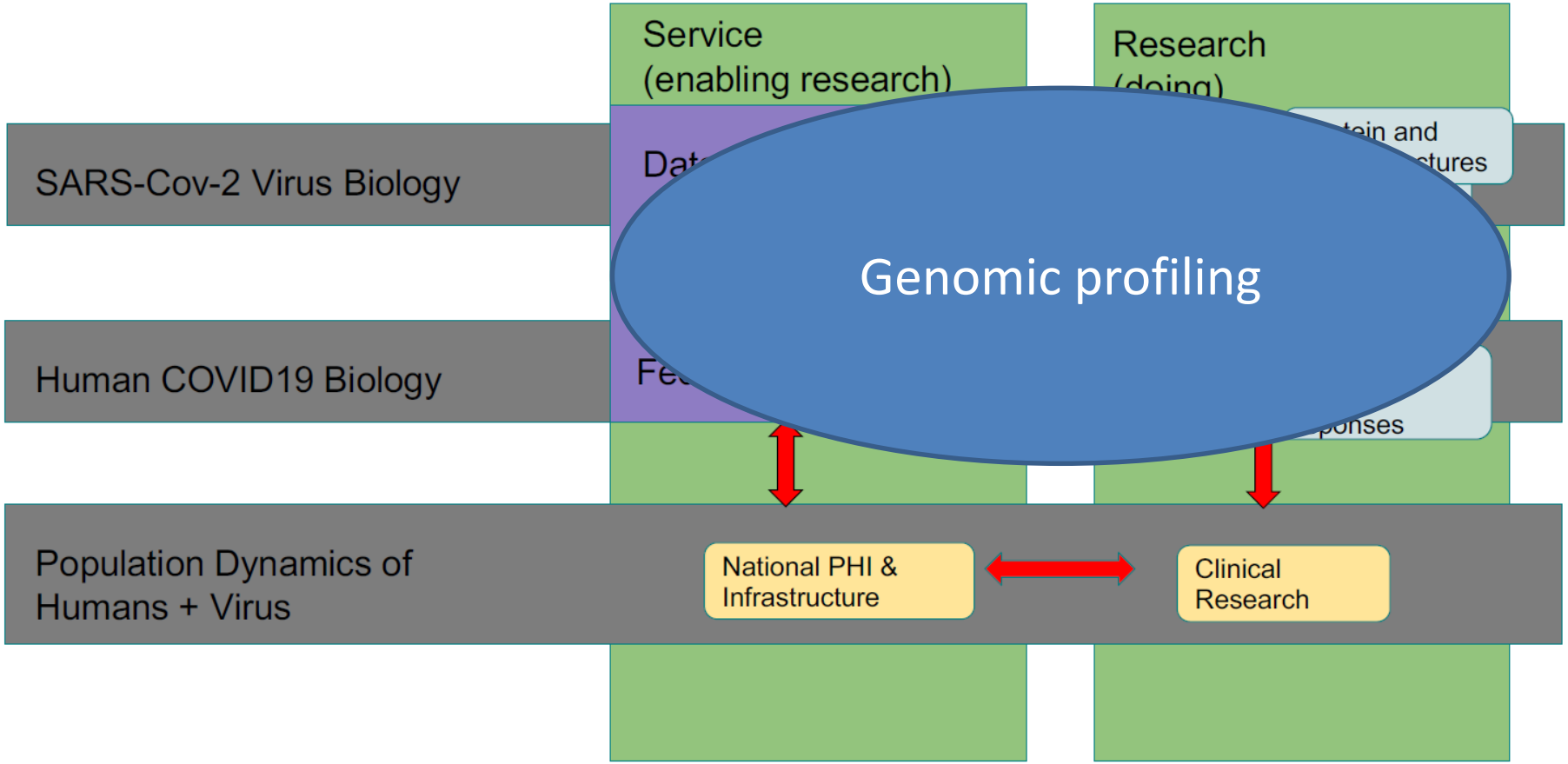
- InfAct

- HealthyCloud: Health Research and Innovation Cloud

- EGI-ACE

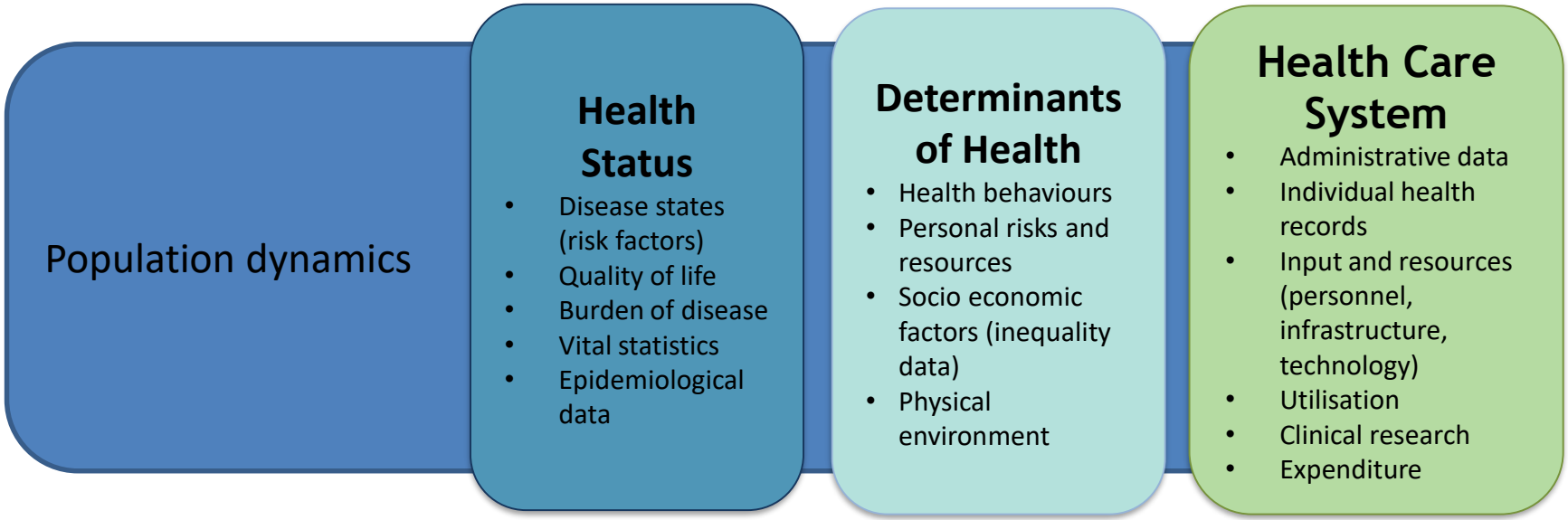
- TEHDAS: European Health Data Space

COVID-19 data platform



Added value PHIRI

➔ Population dynamics of human and virus: public health and societal impact



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@JA_InfAct

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