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Background

To make the most of health spending and investments at EU and Member State level, health policy and decision making must be based on robust evidence. This is achieved in the form of high quality and timely data on population health and health systems, and thorough research outcomes. To ensure better availability and use of health information (HI) for policy and research, three main challenges must be overcome: fragmentation of databases and registries, HI inequalities, and lack of sustainable HI research and activities (Figure 1).



FRAGMENTATION

Disperse knowledge
Incomplete data
Difficult access



INEQUALITIES

Disperse in quality
Diversity in
research capacity



PROJECT BASED

No long term
planning
Waste of resources
Not sustainable

Figure 1. Current challenges in EU Health Information

Aim

The Joint Action on Health Information **InfAct** aims to create a sustainable solid research infrastructure on EU health information by improving the availability of comparable, robust and policy-relevant population health data and health system performance information. InfAct brings together 40 partners from 28 countries across Europe for the duration of 36 months starting March 2018.

Activities

InfAct's activities focus on strengthening national and EU health information systems by:

- (1) Establishing a **sustainable EU research infrastructure** to support population health and health system performance assessment
- (2) Strengthening European **HI and knowledge bases** and **HI research capacities** to reduce HI inequalities
- (3) Supporting **HI interoperability** and innovative **HI tools and data sources**

InfAct carries out its activities through the following work packages:

Work Packages	Coordination, Dissemination and Evaluation	Integrating HI into National Policies	Mapping Status of HI Systems	Tools and Methods for HI Support
	Strengthening HI Capacity and Training	Proof of Concept for Sustainable Structure on HI	Innovation in HI for Public Health Policy Development	Piloting Interoperability for Public Health Policy

Outcomes



Outputs

InfAct will produce the following outputs:

1. **Memorandum of understanding** by EU Member States for a sustainable research infrastructure
2. **Business case** for an EU research infrastructure on HI
3. **ESFRI roadmap** application for an EU research infrastructure on HI
4. **A sustainability plan** and follow-up method supporting integration of HI in regional, national and international policies
5. **Roadmap** for a HI training programme
6. **Best practices** on HI tools and methods, innovative use of data sources, and interoperability
7. **HI system assessment** via peer-review in 9 countries