

# SHARP

Strengthened International **He**ALTH  
Regulations & **P**reparedness in the EU

## **SHARP Joint Action:**

To strengthen preparedness in the  
EU against serious cross-border  
threats to health and support the  
implementation of IHR

15th European Public Health Conference 2022

Berlin, Germany, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

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# SHARP



Co-funded by the  
Health Programme of  
the European Union

## SHARP Joint Action (JA)

- **Strengthened International HeAlth Regulations and Preparedness in the EU**

Aims of the JA:

- To strengthen implementation of **Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health** and
- To support the EU level preparedness and responses to health threats and the implementation of the **International Health Regulations (2005)**
- Strengthened ability to prevent, detect and respond to biological outbreaks, chemical contamination and environmental and unknown threats to human health (SHARP partners, MS and the EU)

# SHARP

30 participating countries, covering  
ca 95 % of the EU population



- 26 associated partners
- 35 affiliated entities
- 10 collaborating partners

## 4-year Joint Action

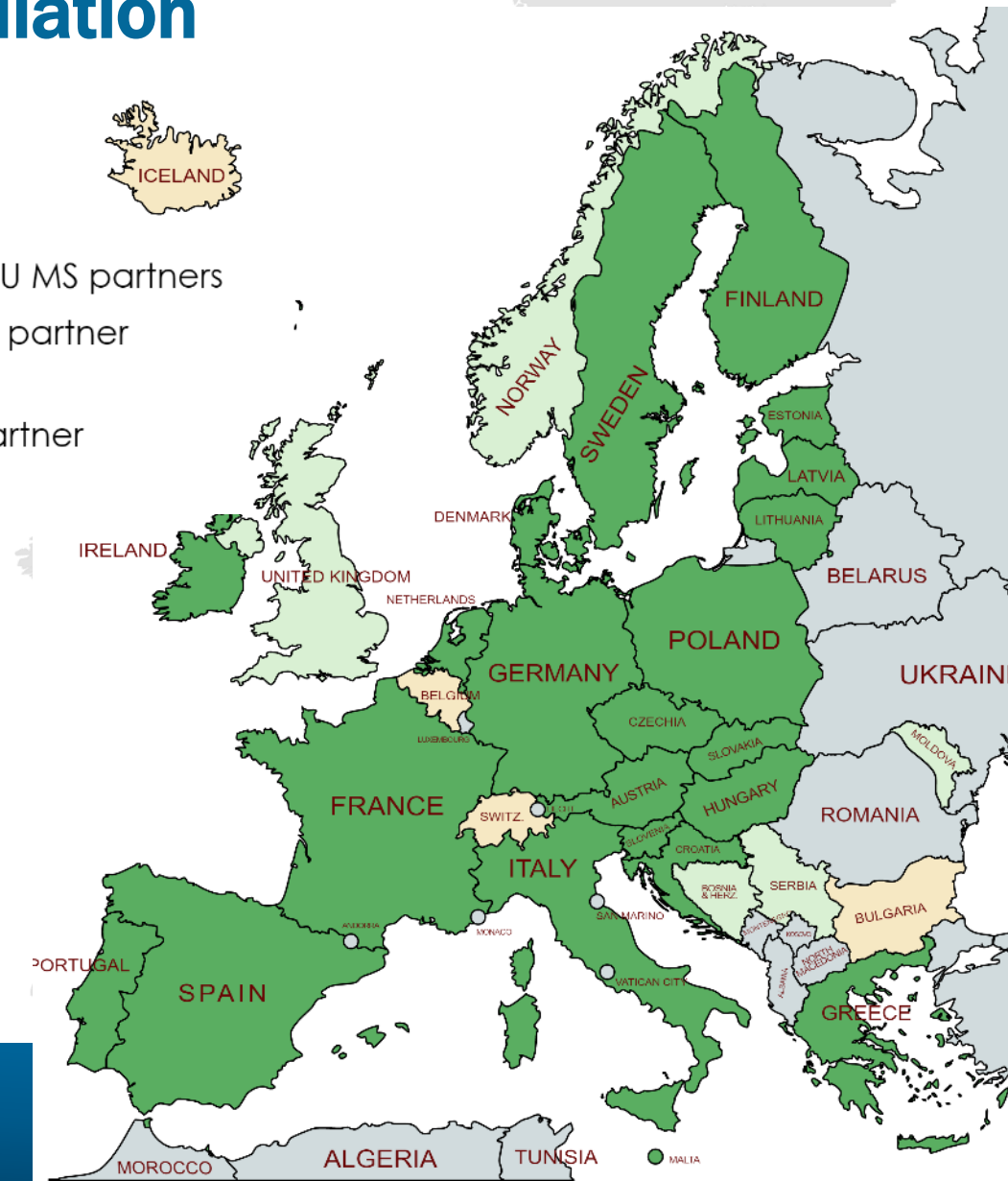
April 2019 – March 2023

(including 12 months non-cost extension)

-> 6 months more to finalize, ad Sept 2023

12/33 deliverables achieved

- 21 Associated EU MS partners
- 5 Collaborating partner countries
- 4 Associated partner countries



WP	WP title	Lead	Co-lead
WP1	Coordination	THL, Finland	RKI, Germany and INMI, Italy
WP2	Communication and dissemination	Public Health Wales, UK	THL, Finland
WP3	Evaluation of the action	NPHO/EODY, Greece	-
WP4	Integration in national policies and sustainability	MOH-FR, France	RIVM, The Netherlands
WP5	IHR core capacity strengthening and assessment	FOHM, Sweden	HD, Norway
WP6	Preparedness and Response planning	RIVM, The Netherlands	ISCIII, Spain
WP7	Laboratory preparedness and responsiveness	RKI, Germany	INMI, Italy
WP8	Training and local exercises, exchange of working practices	IPHS, Serbia	RKI, Germany
WP9	Chemical safety and chemical threats	UKHSA, UK	NIJZ, Slovenia
WP10	Case management and infection prevention and control preparedness	INMI, Italy	-

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## WP7 – Laboratory preparedness and responsiveness

Lead: RKI, Germany; Co-lead: INMI, Italy

### 7.1 External Quality Assurance Exercise (EQAE)

- ✓ Three EQAEs conducted (2020, 2021, 2022)
- ✓ WP7 partner meetings (Dec 2020, Nov 2021, Sept 2022)

### 7.2 Diagnostic approaches

- ✓ Assessment of diagnostic capabilities performed
- ✓ Continuous SARS-CoV-2 whole-genome sequencing, Working Groups on Next Generation Sequencing (NGS), Basic diagnostics and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST)
- ✓ Training in laboratories – booklet updated at the internal website
- ✓ Workshop AST of highly pathogenic bacteria, Workshop on Detection of pathogens of risk group 4 without BSL-4 laboratory facilities

### 7.3 Laboratory biorisk management

- ✓ Development of a tool with recommendations for enhancing laboratory biorisk management



## WP9 – Chemical safety and chemical threats

Lead: UKHSA, UK; Co-lead: NIJZ, Slovenia

### ***9.1 Fact-finding report (Gap analysis)***

✓ completed in June 2021

### ***9.2 Chemical laboratory response network in Europe – scoping report***

- Desirability and feasibility of establishing a Chemical laboratory response network in Europe

### ***Advanced WP9 Workshops (with WP8) 2022***

- Chemical workshop 6-7 June
- Advanced Workshop on Chemicals 12-13 October (online)

### ***Final report and Report on SOPs developed (Tasks 9.3 and 9.4)***



## WP10 – Case management and infection prevention and control preparedness Lead: INMI, Italy

*10.1 Mapping of existing facilities – stopped by Covid-19*

*10.2 Assessment of country hospital preparedness and capacity for HCID, including high isolation clinical centers – planning meeting in Frankfurt (Feb 2020)*

*10.3 Feasibility study for an expert clinical support service for HCID*

*10.4 Application of a “syndrome based” approach for prompt and early clinical management of HCID – delayed*

*Extra: Covid-19 survey for hospitals in March 2020*

## Events November 2022 – February 2023

WP 1/5/6/8	9-12 Nov	5th European Public Health Conference, Berlin SHARP lunch symposium Friday, 11 November 2022
WP8	23-25 Nov	ESCAIDE 2022 hybrid event in Stockholm – poster
WP8	24 Nov	National congress of physicians, SHARP session, Belgrade, Serbia
WP8	8-9 Dec	International simulation table-top exercise on Points of Entry, Athens, Greece
WP6	Jan 2023 (TBC)	Workshop on Vector-Borne Diseases (hybrid meeting)
WP5	Feb 2023 (TBC)	Workshop on International collaboration between authorities during crisis (hybrid meeting)

## Outcomes and way forward

- Lesson learned from covid-19
- Continuation of SHARP JA work in some form
- Future and sustainability of the laboratory network
- ECDC's new mandate, HERA, EU health programme, revision of the Decision 1082/2013 EU, other aims and future prospects etc.
- Recommendations from advisors and other stakeholders (including the EC, ECDC, WHO and MS)

### SHARP deliverables and milestones

- Reports, trainings, workshops – how to sustain the results and outcomes?



## WP4: Integration in national policies and sustainability

Lead: MoH-France; Co-lead: RIVM

**Objective: Ensuring sustainability of SHARP priority outcomes**

- Drawing lessons from Covid-19: new EU Health Security framework: ECDC regulation, EMA regulation, Decision 1082 (Serious Cross Border Threats to Health Regulation), HERA
- SHARP outcomes will fit into and contribute to implementation (mainly ECDC and SCBTH)
- Some examples:
  - ✓ EU reference laboratory network (WP7)
  - ✓ Strengthening national plans for serious cross-border health threats with an integrated all hazards approach (WP6)
  - ✓ Assessments of national plans-building on IHR assessment (WP5)
  - ✓ Cross-border collaboration (WP5)
  - ✓ Training (WP8)



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[Work packages](#) ▼

[Deliverables](#)

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[Front page](#) / [Deliverables](#)

Päivitet

## Deliverables

Here you will find externally available deliverables from SHARP Joint Action.

- [D2.1 Leaflet – a four page overview of the SHARP Joint Action \(PDF 324 KB\)](#)
- [D3.4 Midterm external evaluation report \(PDF 638 KB\)](#)
- [D6.1 Multisectoral collaboration during public health emergencies: an integrative review \(PDF 1,023 KB\)](#)
- [D8.1 Report on training needs \(PDF 2,000 KB\)](#)
- [D9.1 Fact-finding report \(PDF 1,000 KB\)](#)



# SHARP

## Thank you!



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More questions?

- Contact the SHARP coordination team at THL: [sharp@thl.fi](mailto:sharp@thl.fi)
- Visit the website: <https://sharpja.eu/>
- Keep informed: [SHARP Joint Action @SHARP\\_EU](#)

