

REPORT ON PREPARATORY STUDY

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‘PREPARATORY STUDY’

Challenge 4.1 - ‘Bridging the Gap’ aims at bringing together work floor needs with innovators and researcher to better fit practical realities and at the same time sensitise innovators and researcher to how materials (including hazardous chemicals) are used throughout the life cycle to promote their safe and sustainable design. To achieve these goals, health and safety as well as risk management experts need a very close connection and exchange with the science community. Strengthening a dialogue is of utmost importance in the next decade under Horizon Europe, including the Green Deal. Therefore, the milestones and activities of the challenge try to establish these connections, but the challenge is still in need for a leading partner to coordinate the action and progress. To help the Roadmap partners decide on whether they can step in more easily to become the challenge lead with support of the Finnish Roadmap team, the preparatory study was designed to lay the foundation and provide a solid starting point for the team. In parallel, the study was also designed to provide further background information for the base activities agreed on in the RoC2.0 strategy (like ‘Collaboration with and strengthen similar campaigns’, ‘Connect to research community to discuss common goals and activities’).

P1 Idea of the preparatory study

Aim of the project was identifying relevant programs and strategies at European and, if applicable, international level, that can be used as starting points for the strategic further development of the Roadmap on Carcinogens. For this purpose, an overview and one page documents ([OnePager](#)) of each respective relevant activity was to be compiled from the researched information.. In particular, the activities relevant to occupational safety and health were to be taken into account, which are related to the Chemicals Strategy on Sustainability, the Beating Cancer Plan, the action program on the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR), the future strategic framework for occupational safety and health and the new research framework program Horizon Europe.

The OnePagers were to have included the 'name of the activity and reference framework', 'lead DG or organisation', 'programme period', 'contact person (personal or functional)', 'objectives of the activity', 'assignment to pre-defined keywords', 'reference to the goals and projects of the RoC' and 'relevant links to accessible published documents'.

P2 Design of the preparatory study

- At the start, 49 databases and relevant websites were screened for activities and projects relating to 'cancer', 'prevention', 'exposure', 'hazardous chemicals' and 'occupational safety and health (OSH)'. The results, including title, website links and objectives were collected and resulted in **944 hits**.
- The subsequent filtering process included reading and screening the objectives and/or revisiting the websites to get a detailed overview of the respective activity. As soon as a result appeared to be of relevance for OSH and/or the goals and projects of the RoC, it was flagged as relevant. During this filtering process, possibly relevant entries for OnePager were also identified, leading to **157 relevant** results. During that assessment, a notable number of references and literature was additionally identified.
- In the final step, OnePagers were drafted for 13 programs and initiatives. Information on lead DG or organisation contact could not be identified in some cases (although attempting to find the contact by e-mail and phone). A considerable number of relevant results did not fit to generate a single OnePager, however, since they aimed at similar goals they were brought together in three additional Onepagers covering 'Awareness Raising', 'Education' and 'Campaigning'.

P3 Result of the preparatory study

This report was drafted to summarise the preparatory study and outline the possible ways forward for the project that aims at 'Bridging the Gap between Science and Workfloor practice'.

The resulting OnePagers are summarised below and clearly vary in their scope from framework program, campaigns and calls that yet have to result in a project. The OnePagers are also published on the RoC website in the subsection for Challenge 4.1

#	Name of initiative	Time period	Responsible DG or Institution
1	Horizon 2020: RISKHUNT3R	2021-2026	DG RTD
2	Horizon 2020: HBM4EU	2017-2022	Umweltbundesamt
3	Horizon Europe Call: PARC	to be launched 2022	DG RTD
4	Horizon Europe Call: Indoor air quality and health	2022-?	DG RTD
5	Horizon Europe Call: Health impacts of climate change, costs and benefits of action and inaction	2022-?	DG RTD
6	Horizon Europe: BCP	2021-2030	DG RTD, DG SANTE
7	Horizon Europe: #MissionCancer	2021-2030	DG RTD, DG SANTE
8	European Green Deal: CSS	2020-2024	DG ENV, DG GROW
9	European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR)	2017-2030	DG EMPL
10	EPSR: EU OSH SF	2021-2027	DG EMPL
11	European Health Union: EU4Health	2021-2027	DG SANTE, HaDEA
12	DEMETER: ERKEP	2017-date	EFSA
13	No Time to Lose	2014-date	IOSH
14	Awareness Raising	different	different
15	Education	different	different
16	Campaigning	different	different

‘SUPPORT FOR CHALLENGE 4.1 - BRIDGING THE GAP’

As for the first milestones and activities planned for Challenge 4.1, the results from the preparatory study offer the (potential) leading partner an overview of European initiatives and programs that are of high relevance for the research and innovation targets and actors. The OnePagers will allow risk and prevention experts to get familiar with the European scale of (research) frameworks, programs and initiatives at one glance.

A1 Mission Area: Cancer

The first milestone of Challenge 4.1 was to identify contact points and comparable objectives of the Roadmap on Carcinogens with the activities planned under Horizon Europe for the European Green Deal. The activities foreseen within the challenge are establishing contacts to relevant actors and exploring possibilities for joint activities. With the results of the preparatory study, the possible contacts were assessed; the challenge team can use the information included in the [European Green Deal: CSS](#) as a starting point. Furthermore, also other programs and activities can be more easily screened for relevance.

A2 PARC

The 2nd milestone of challenge 4.1 aims at cooperation of the RoC with relevant actors under Horizon Europe with for example joint events to sensitise for synergies. The activity planned to reach that aim is focussed on the European Partnership on the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC). Together with the actors of PARC (national hubs), commonalities and transfer possibilities of the results through RoC will be identified and implemented in practice (for this, the EU Commission needs to decide to proceed with PARC). [Horizon Europe Call: PARC](#) closely relates to [Horizon 2020: HBM4EU](#), it is important, that OnePagers have been compiled for both initiatives and clearly summarise and identify the synergies. For PARC, no contact point could be identified for the time being, however, it is expected that contact details will become public after decision on this initiative.

‘SUPPORT FOR ROADMAP MANAGEMENT AND PARTNERS’

As mentioned above, beside the direct support for Challenge 4.1, this study also aimed at supporting the base activities of the Roadmap. These activities are the core engine of the RoC that will ensure the constant progression of its four pillars. Next to the planned outcomes of the study, secondary information was also gathered that will support all challenges and the executing teams and the RoC management to boost the efforts in the base activities.

Partners

During the search for programs, initiatives, etc., a significant amount of reference literature and reports was identified (317 individual references). These might be of value for all challenge teams. Although not in scope of the preparatory study, the contractor has started to correlate each reference to a challenge; in a subsequent step the management team will complete this task. The resulting collection will be made available for the respective challenge team and also be publically available at the website in a general challenge update planned for 2022.

Management

Certain base activities for the RoC management were defined in the strategy drafting process in 2020. Each pillar has different activities and the two novel pillars in the second Roadmap phase need special attention and further exploration. To mobilise stakeholders, the RoC aims at identifying stakeholders that have not been activated for Roadmap goals in the past. Finding synergies to other EU and international initiatives and programmes can support to identify these actors. Results from the preparatory study indicate that there has been no concerted EU action so far to reach out to relevant actors. Especially for challenges under pillar three, these relations are negligible and clearly show that the Roadmap has to invest more Identifying actions and topics of so far not addressed stakeholders in order to advance prevention of cancer at the workplace. In conclusion, assessing the results of the study in more detail, will enable the RoC Management to specifically targeting areas of future action.