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# Interconnecting Innovation Ecosystems for Common European Data Space in Health



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D4.1 POLICY INPUT REPORT: CZECH PRESIDENCY OF THE EU  
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## History of Versions

Version	Date	Status	Page (if applicable)
V0	17-3-23	Draft circulated among partners	
V1	26-2-23	Advanced version for final revision	
V2	29-2-23	Fully revised version	
V3	30-2-23	Final version	

## Disclaimer

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## Executive Summary

The present Deliverable 4.1 “Policy input report 1: Czech Presidency of the EU” has been developed within the framework of WP4 “Fostering broad-scale dialogue linked with EU presidency agendas” of **EDAH**.

**EDAH** (Interconnecting innovation ecosystems for common European data space in Health) is a 2-year preparatory action funded by Horizon Europe that aims to contribute to the development of the European Health Data Space. The 4-partners-consortium seeks to establish close collaborations with the EU presidencies during the project’s lifetime, to help prioritise EHDA in their successive agendas. EDAH also seeks to engage a wide range of quadruple helix stakeholders from diverse innovation ecosystems across Europe in identifying barriers and enablers to EHDS, channelling the different Member States’ inputs into EU policy processes. By bridging the current digital health divide in Europe, EDAH contributes to the New European Innovation Agenda with more inclusive, dynamic, diverse and interconnected European innovation ecosystems.

**EDAH** aims to unlock the power of health data for innovative medicines and future healthcare by helping develop the European Health Data Space.

The project’s key milestones are:

1. Set an open dialogue to facilitate the agreement among Member States, Associated Countries and EU Regions about key aspects related to EHDS.
2. Advancing towards common legal, governance, data quality and interoperability framework to facilitate the advancement of EHDS.
3. Scaling up good practices and addressing important gaps in the regional and national innovation ecosystems, through a better understanding of the digital health innovation landscape.

The following report is the first of a series of four policy input reports in this project (including Policy input report 1: Czech Presidency of the EU, Policy input report 2: Swedish Presidency of the EU, Policy input 3: Spanish Presidency of the EU and Policy input 4: Belgian Presidency of the EU). The reports are connected to the EU presidencies happening during the timespan of this preparatory action, from September 2022 to August 2024, corresponding to the end of the Czech Republic’s, Swedish, Spanish and Belgian EU council presidencies.

Since the project started at a time when the Czech Presidency was already halfway through, and it was not possible to find a local partner to collaborate on the project. Therefore, the consortium needed to mitigate the risk of not having an event in the period through other less-impact actions. Nevertheless, despite the time constraints, the consortium was able to establish good communication with the Czech authorities.

The project partners took advantage of all available opportunities, both by participating in the panel discussions held within the framework of various events that took place in the framework of the Czech EU Council Presidency, and in personal conversations to highlight the subject of EHDS and bringing the EDAH project goals to the representatives of the Czech representatives at various levels – from the business community and regional authorities to the Minister of Health of the Czech Republic.

The positions and conclusions shared during various meetings and discussions in the frameworks of the Czech Presidency have been gathered in a Case Study on the digital health landscape of the Czech Republic. The outcome of the Case Study was shared with the authorities, and we are looking forward to continuous communication on the EHDS process.

The partners stressed the importance of the advancement of the development of EHDS and of addressing the secondary use of health data in a harmonised way across Europe to boost the competitiveness of healthcare Innovation and health systems transformation. The partners requested the Czech authorities for the available information on the EU presidency outcomes related to health.

## Introduction to this report

### Specific objectives of EDAH

The partnership implementing EDAH has five specific objectives:

- O1 – Ensuring a coherent overview of the (ongoing) strategic developments related to the European Health Data Space (EU level policy processes, important initiatives, and projects) and developing a deeper understanding of seven important EU ecosystems (innovation agendas and ecosystem stakeholders) represented by clusters/networks from Portugal, Czech Republic, Sweden, Spain, Belgium, Hungary and Bulgaria.
- O2 – Setting up a coordination mechanism to connect important stakeholders from innovation ecosystems all around Europe and engage them in focused dialogue around key challenges and opportunities related to advancing the EHDS.
- O3 – Scaling up the dialogue at the EU level via developing further collaboration pathways with EU presidencies.
- O4 – All of the above will be used for, step-by-step, developing, validating, and finalising the Joint Action Plan (JAP) for synergetic work in the interconnected ecosystems of EU health-related clusters/networks (facilitated by the dialogue mechanisms and collaboration frameworks developed in this project) to jointly advance the development of the EHDS.

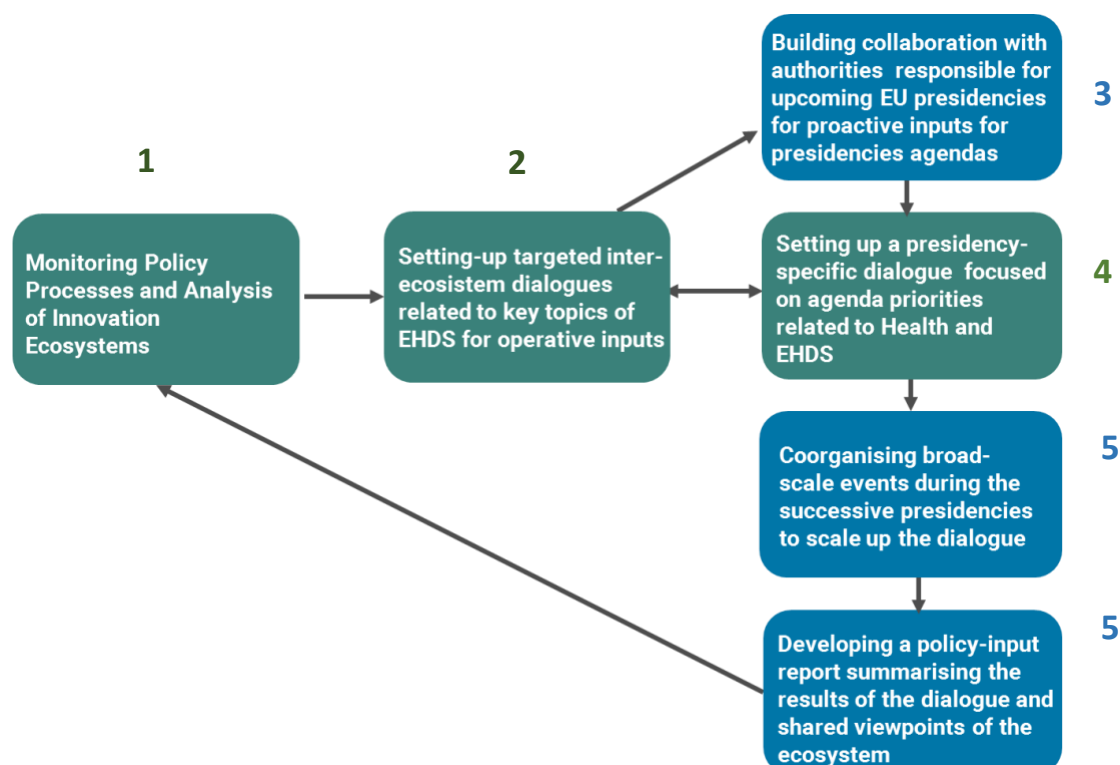


Figure 1: Workflow of the EDAH project: step 1 is the analysis of Innovation Ecosystems

## List of consortium partners and beneficiary numbers

Beneficiary #	Name	Acronym	Country
1	BIOCAT LA FUNDACIO BIOREGIO DE CATALUNYA	Biocat	ES
2	HEALTH CLUSTER PORTUGAL	HCP	PT
3	SCANBALT	ScanBalt	EE
4	COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN BIOREGIONS	CEBR	BE

### Work Package 4 – Fostering broad-scale dialogue linked with EU presidency agendas.

#### Objectives

- Scaling up the dialogue processes started in WP 4 both in terms of 1) the audience/participants in the dialogue process and 2) linkages with high level EU policymaking (via inputs to the EU presidency agendas).
- Providing proactive input to the agendas of the EU presidencies in the project period based on complementarities/synergies identified with the priorities of the specific presidency framework regarding topics relevant to advancing the EHDS.
- Co-organising four EU-wide events linked with the upcoming four presidencies to scale up the dialogue and gather further input relevant to the Joint Action Plan.

#### Task 4.1 Providing inputs to the EU presidency agenda and co-organising the presidency-related event in the Czech Republic.

The consortium will continuously track advancements in various important EU-level policy processes, and monitor progress related to initiatives such as TEHDAS and GAIA-X (e.g., key milestones achieved), relevant new studies and analyses, etc. This information will be processed and analysed to identify potential synergies, needs for action and inputs by EDAH to support important developments in line with the idea of more dynamic, inclusive, gender-diverse, and connected innovation ecosystems for the joint development of the European Health Data Space, fostering innovation in industry and the public sector.

The work under this task will materialise into monthly Strategic Progress Updates (SPUs) prepared for the monthly EDAH Coordination Working Group meetings. The SPUs will cover the key developments as well as suggestions for related responses and actions in the context of the EDAH project.

# 1 – Overview of the outreach to relevant stakeholders in the Czech Republic

## 1.1 Reaching out to the national authorities responsible for the presidency program.

During the preparatory process of the project, the consortium partners made several efforts to establish connections to the relevant stakeholders at the local level to be able to connect the project activities to the Czech EU Council Presidency.

Among the contacts initiated, it is worth mentioning the exchanges with DEX Innovation Centre, as representatives of EIT Health in the region. However, it was not possible to reach an agreement regarding their contribution to the case study and the organisation of an event linked to the Czech Republic EU Presidency as the EDAH project did not cover the budget requested by the partner.

Therefore, the consortium needed to mitigate the risk of not having an event in the period through other less-impact actions. Nevertheless, despite the time constraints, the consortium was able to establish good communication with the Czech authorities which is in more detail covered in sections 2.1 and 2.2 below.

## 1.2 Communication activities

- 1) LinkedIn post about the panel at SME Assembly 2022 in Prague ([Link to post](#))



Figure 1.- SME Assembly 2022 in Prague (Marek Prxeor – EC, Olga Trofymova – Ukrainian Cluster Alliance, Olga Shubina-Kurulenko – Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry)



- 2) Post about Clusters Meet Regions in Katowice on Cluster Collaboration Platform LinkedIn page ([Link to post](#))



Figure 2. - Clusters Meet Regions in Katowice (

- 3) Post about Clusters Meet Regions in Katowice on Biocat LinkedIn page ([Link to post](#))



Figure 3.- Montse Daban (Biocat) at Clusters Meet Regions in Katowice

- 4) Blogpost: “Data and health: an indissoluble binomial” on the Biocat website ([Link to post](#))
- 5) Introduction of the EDAH project on the Biocat website ([Link to post](#))
- 6) Introduction of the EDAH project on the ScanBalt website ([Link to post](#))

## 2 – Overview of the EU presidency-related events to scale up the dialogue

### 2.1 – Participation in the events related to the presidency

Date	Event	Dialogue
7-8/11/2022	Clusters Meet Regions (Katowice)	The EDAH project was presented in the Clusters Meet Regions, the aim of this event is to unite national and regional <u>clusters</u> and <u>policymakers</u> in order to share experiences, secure new <u>partnerships</u> and come up with solutions for clusters to strengthen the industrial ecosystems, address disruptions in the supply chains, drive the green and digital transition, and build resilience in the region of Upper Silesia.
8/12/2022	One Year of Hera	The Czech case study was explained to the Minister of Health of the Czech Republic at the Hera 1 year conference ( <a href="https://one-year-of-hera.eu/agenda/">https://one-year-of-hera.eu/agenda/</a> ) by Montse Daban.
28-30/11/2022	<u>SME assembly</u> under the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union in Prague.	The assembly featured high-level panels and interviews, expert round tables, interactive workshops, informative masterclasses, and numerous networking opportunities to stimulate Europe's enterprises and equip them with the right tools for the transition towards sustainability and digitalisation. An overview on EDAH project and on the European Health Data Space was communicated.
14-16/12/2022	Clusters Meet Regions (Barcelona)	Presentation of the EDAH project to the attendees of the event.

### 2.1 – Ecosystem involvement

Type of interaction	Person	Organisation/position
Presentation of EDAH project and discussion on the developments of the European Health Data Space	<a href="#">Dr. Vlastimil Válek</a>	Czech Minister of Health
Discussion on the work done on the proposal for a Regulation on the	<a href="#">Mr. Petr Čermák</a>	Health attaché at the Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the European Union



European Health Data Space.		
Discussion on the work done on the proposal for a Regulation on the European Health Data Space.	<a href="#">Mr. Dalibor Vojta</a>	Data Protection Coordinator, Member of the Better Regulation Team, European Commission, DG SANTE
Discussion on potential collaboration during Czech Presidency and introducing the EDAH project and the activities related to the EHDS	<a href="#">Mr. Viktor Holy</a>	DEX Innovation Centre
Discussion on potential collaboration during Czech Presidency and introducing the activities related to the EHDS	<a href="#">Doc.Ing Lenka Lhotska</a>	Czech Technical University in Prague
Feedback on the Case Study on Czech Republic	<a href="#">Mts. Renata Pfefferova</a>	National Cluster Association-CZ
Second meeting with this representative of the Czech Republic authorities to receive their feedback on the Czech Republic case study (D2.2).	Petr Čermák	Health attaché at the Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the European Union



## 3 – Summary of the collaboration process

### 3.1 – The collaboration process with the national authorities

The project partners reached out to representatives of the Ministry of Health and established contact with Minister Dr. Vlastimil Válek. The consortium reached out to their contacts in the Czech Republic to validate the findings resulting from their own research. The most fruitful exchanges corresponded to the regular communication with the Health Attaché at the Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the European Union. They sought feedback on the case studies and updates on the outcomes of the presidency in relation to the EHDS.

### 3.2 – The collaboration process with the national authorities

The positions and conclusions shared during various meetings and discussions in the frameworks of the Czech Presidency have been gathered in a Case Study on the digital health landscape of the Czech Republic. The outcome of the Case Study was shared with the authorities, and we are looking forward to continuous communication on the EHDS process.

### 3.3 – The collaboration process with the national authorities

The consortium provided the Czech Republic authorities and local partners with relevant and detailed information about EDHS and the EDAH project objectives including the EHDS debate on the EU Presidencies' agenda of priorities.

- The partners stressed the importance of the advancement of the development of EHDS and of addressing the secondary use of health data in a harmonized way across Europe to boost the competitiveness of healthcare Innovation and health systems transformation. The partners requested the Czech authorities' available information on the EU presidency outcomes related to health.
- The EDAH consortium generated a SWOT analysis on the Czech Republic Digital Health landscape that was shared with the authorities and stakeholders, with suggestion on the opportunities to advance on EHDS in the region.

### 3.4 – The results of the presidency related to the EHDS

The Czech Presidency worked on the proposal for a regulation on the European Health Data Space that ensures cross-border access to and exchange and use of health data. Czech Presidency completed the first reading of the whole proposal and prepared a compromise version of the proposal for Chapter II (Primary use of electronic health data) and Chapter III (Electronic health records). The progress report on that legislative proposal was presented at the EPSCO Council in December 2022<sup>1</sup>.

The document contained several changes to the Commission's proposal, for example, to align provisions with the GDPR, tackle possible interference with the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care, and make changes as regards implementing acts and delegated acts, including the substitution of an examination procedure for an advisory procedure for all implementing acts<sup>2</sup>.

In the aftermath of the presidency, the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic announced that this year the long-awaited uniform standards for electronic healthcare will be issued. They are supposed to be based on

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<sup>1</sup> [https://czech-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/media/a0gkuckk/naplnovani-priorit-cz-pres\\_en.pdf](https://czech-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/media/a0gkuckk/naplnovani-priorit-cz-pres_en.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-14768-2022-INIT/en/pdf>



the international set of HL7 standards, so the department does not count on the Czech DASTA standard in the future. A uniform standard is necessary for sharing medical records in the system. The patient will access his documentation via the Citizen Portal and in the future via the Tečka application<sup>3</sup>.

The complex discussion will continue, and the proposal will be further developed during the next presidencies.

March 2023

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.zdravotnickyydenik.cz/2023/01/namestek-pavlovic-standardy-elektronickeho-zdravotnictvi-vydame-letos-budou-vychazet-z-hl7/>.

