European Regulatory Science on Tobacco-
Policy implementation to reduce lung disease

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- European Regulatory Science on Tobacco: Policy implementation to reduce lung diseases (EUREST-PLUS)
- Funded by H2020-HCO-2015-681109
- Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) call
- Duration of 36 months,
- Budget approx. 2.7M
- 13 partners
- Coordinated by ENSP

✓ Network of regional NGOs and stakeholders with representation in almost all EU MS.
✓ FCTC observer status
Aim: To monitor and evaluate the impact of the TPD within the context of FCTC ratification at a European level.

WP5
Assess support for TPD implementation through secondary dataset analyses of the Eurobarometer on Tobacco Survey

WP6
Document changes in e-cigarette product parameters following implementation of Article 20 of the TPD

WP4
Enhance joint research collaborations on NCDs in LMICs and in vulnerable populations in high-income countries

WP2-3
Evaluate the psychosocial and behavioral impact of TPD implementation and FCTC implementation

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 681109
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How to make a successful application
Tip 1: The window of opportunity

- As tobacco control policies are formulated and implemented, it is important that policies undergo rigorous evaluation.
- The Tobacco Products Directive (TPD), and the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).
- These two instruments provide the EU Member States with the framework of actions.
- Unique window of opportunity to be able to evaluate this large natural experiment.
Birth of the idea

Hypothesis
Opportunity
Framework
Why European Funding?

☑ Impossible to do with any other funding mechanism
☑ European focused project
☑ Large amount of funding was needed
☑ Prestige / scientific trust
☑ Career development path

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Tip 2: Selection of partners

- Research is a “team sport”
- Choose partners with whom you have collaborated
  - Extensively
  - Cooperatively
  - Had a “good time”
  - It’s a looooooooong process
  - Do NOT randomly select your partners
- The aim of the H2020 is to enhance European wide collaborations
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participating MS</th>
<th>GINI</th>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>134%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
<td>82%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>27%</td>
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</tbody>
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Institutions:

- European Network on Smoking and Tobacco Prevention (ENSP)
- Institut Català d’Oncologia (ICO)
- Kings College London (KCL)
- Smoking or Health Hungarian Foundation (SHHF)
- German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ)
- Health Promotion Foundation (HPF)
- University of Maastricht (UniMaas)
- University of Crete (UoC)
- University of Athens (UoA)
- TNS Opinion Europe (TNS)
- Aer Pur Romania (APR)
- European Respiratory Society (ERS)
- University of Waterloo (UW)
Engagement of Civil Society

“To achieve political progress in a modern and democratic society, it is vital to have the support of active and committed citizens and their organisations” European Economic and Social Committee

- European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention
- European Respiratory Society
- Polish Health Promotion Foundation
- Smoking or Health Hungarian Foundation
- European Lung Foundation
- International Society for the Prevention of Tobacco Induced Diseases
- European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations
- Engagement with the Framework Convention Alliance (FCA)
Tip 3: Patience & understanding

• Project management is people management
  – Cultural aspects
  – Personality aspects
  – Win/win situation
  – Team spirit
Tip 4: Engagement of researchers

- Gender Balance
- Researcher capacity/expertise balance
- Each researcher must fit into the “machine”
- Researcher experience balance
  - Junior/senior
- Engagement of junior researchers
Tip 5: Grant writing (1)

- Start early, plan ahead
- Delegate tasks
- Ask partners to contribute based on their expertise
- **DO NOT OVERPROMISE.**
- Grant agreement is the “holy text”
- Special hint:
  - Get help of an experienced budget manager
  - Care with ethics and the necessary supporting documents

“Even if you are on the right track” you will get run over if you just sit there”

Will rogers
Tip 5: Grant writing (2)

**Context**
- Attention to the scope of call
- Peer reviewers may not be exact topics

**Budget**
- Negotiate early on budget
- Allocate according to tasks

**Rules**
- Organise internal agreements early on
- Make sure everyone agrees early on
Tip 6: During the project

- Consult your project officer!!
- Build in the learning curve
- Continuous monitoring and updating against milestones
- Ensure quality vs. time (don’t cut corners)
- Have a structured decision process
- Remember it is a “team sport”
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