



Second meeting of the Partnership Knowledge Hub PKH-2

31 January 2022 (9.30h00-13h00)

Digital meeting over TEAMS

Minutes

Brussels, 1st March 2022

Nature of the meeting

This meeting was non-public.

List of points discussed

1. Welcome and Introduction

The G4 RTD Head of Unit, replacing the Director of EC DG R&I Common Policy Centre, Commission co-chair and the MS co-chair, welcomed the participants and outlined the main objectives of the meeting such as the discussion on the draft Work Plan and the preparation of the Biennial Monitor Report.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was approved as well as the minutes of the PKH-1 meeting

3. PKH Work Plan for 2022: analysis of proposal, discussion, and approval

The draft Work Plan for 2022 was shared with the MS/AC representatives on 14 of January 2022. The Work Plan, developed in line with the PKH Terms of Reference, identifies the priority activities of the group for 2022.

The MS representatives agreed on the main content of the Work Plan but have requested to revise the document in order to better clarify the timeline for each proposed action and activity.

Agreed Actions and deliverables:

- *To share the revised Work Plan with the MS representatives by the 14 of February 2022*

4. **First Biennial Monitoring Report (BMR): status, next steps and organisation for the preparation of draft PKH Opinion**

The informal expert group of the Commission informed MS/AC on the state of play of the BMR as well as on the launch of the consultation process. The structure of the BMR and the content of the chapters were presented. The experts explained where the MSs are expected give their inputs. It has been underlined that the BMR is a first attempt to give a comprehensive overview across partnerships, along a set of common indicators for all European Partnerships. It was stated that the Report itself will be factual and divided in two themes – one inward looking “synergies”, and the other outward-looking “contribution to the green and digital transitions and resilience”. The future themes will be decided case-by-case by involving also the PKH. The political recommendations/ conclusions will be prepared by MS/AC in the context of the PKH (MS opinion adoption planned for June 2022).

Agreed actions and deliverables

- *To launch the consultation on the 1st BMR (duration: 2 weeks); Deadline for written comments: 15 of February.*
- *To identify office-hours slots where the PKH members can ask questions from and provide feedback to the experts’ during the consultation.*
- *PKH opinion on the BMR to be adopted by June 2022; first draft opinion prepared by the co-chairs and shared with the PKH around the publication of the final report in April (tbc). Subsequently, a call for volunteers will be launched among PKH members in view of finalising it and adopting it at the meeting in June.*

5. **Task 2b of the expert group “Optimising monitoring and assessment efforts and gathering harmonized data” (Second Interim Report)**

The expert group has been tasked to identify the necessary requirements and processes for optimising monitoring and assessment efforts and gathering and harmonising related data from all parties involved (with focus on MS/AC). The aim is to optimise monitoring and reporting (data gathering) efforts of the different actors involved, ensuring a clearer division of task and roles on what is being done at EU, national and partnership level. The Biennial Monitoring Report is an important element in this effort, and also requires coordination, as some of the inputs are expected to come from partnerships (their KPIs, qualitative impacts, common indicators) and countries (qualitative impacts at national and local level). The outcome will be published in the Second Interim Report of the expert group in the form of guidance / recommendations (foreseen in April tbc).

Agreed actions and deliverables

- *To receive feedback to the guiding questions presented on slides by 7 of February 2022*
- *To send the draft guidance to the PKH for written feedback by end of February/ early March:*
- *To organize a technical workshop focusing, in particular, on data collection issues (possibly in March 2022 to feed the Second Interim Report of the expert group) (to be added in the Work Plan)*

6. **Discussion on modalities of dialogue with partnerships and their involvement**

The representatives of the European Partnerships are the observers of the PKH. A dialogue with them is envisaged to receive their inputs based on their specific needs and to assure the relevance of the work of PKH within the new strategic coordinating process.

Agreed actions

- *To organise a hearing with partnerships on the draft PKH opinion on BMR (to be added to the Work Plan)*
- *G4 to prepare a draft concept note on the organization of the First Partnership Stakeholder Forum for feedback to the PKH members in spring.*

7. **Topic Horzion-Widera-2021-ERA-01-09: Support for policy makers – Programme level collaboration R&I programmes**

The topics was presented to highlight the relevance of the actions promoted under this topic for the whole partnerships, characterized by a bottom-approach. The actions funded under this topic will coordinate national and regional R&I programmes by pooling national resources and contributing to the alignment of national R&I policies.

This topic is an integral part of new line to European Partnerships, which basically follows from the ‘old’ ERA-NET scheme. Being the actions under this topic precursors to future partnerships, the MS representatives are invited to promote and monitor the participation of national entities to this topic.

Agreed actions and deliverable

- *For PKH members to promote internally and to the potential interested national entities. The call deadline is 20 April 2022.*
- *PKH to take stock of national initiatives by June 2022.*

8. **Any other business**

None

9. **Conclusions, agreed actions and next meeting**

Proposed date for the next meeting: second week of June 2022

The preliminary list of topics for the next meeting are:

- *Finalisation and adoption of Opinion on BMR*
- *Input to the concept note for the Partnerships Annual Forum*
- *Overview of national aprticipation to Widera*

10. List of Participants

MS Representatives:

AT, BE, BG*, CY, CZ, DE DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO*, SK*, SE, SI

EC Expert Group:

Chair + Experts

EC RTD:

G4, (G2 observer)

* These countries were absent