

D6.4 Project website

WP6: Dissemination, Knowledge Transfer & Good practice exchange

Author(s): Antonia Hafner



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Other authors	Karin Rainer			
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The HERA2 website supports the introduction of the project to a broader audience. It ensures transparent, structured, and high-quality knowledge management and informs about important project milestones and results. The coordinator AGES regularly updates the website with current topics and events such as workshops throughout the progression through the project run time.

2. SETUP OF THE WEBSITE

The HERA 2 project website is hosted by the coordinators (AGES) website and is located at this address: <https://www.ages.at/hera2>. We provide a German and an English version (option to choose in top right corner, see Figure 1). In summary, the website contains a project description, the project goals, current news, and links to the websites of all consortium partners.

3. TARGET AUDIENCE

The HERA 2 project website is openly accessible, therefore targeting the general public as well as experts and specialists in the field.

4. CONCLUSION AND FURTHER STEPS

In the digital age, the website presence of the international HERA 2-project is essential for the visibility of the progress of the project as well as for further networking activities.

The website will be updated in a timely manner, with new important information and events that are taking place. The updates are a fixed point on the agenda of the regular Jour Fixes and thus including all HERA 2-partners for input.

5. WEBSITE OVERVIEW

The screenshot shows the HERA2 website interface. At the top right, there are links for 'Quicklinks', 'Federal Offices', and a language selector set to 'EN'. The main navigation menu includes 'AGES', 'Human', 'Animal', 'Plant', 'Environment', 'Research', and a search icon. A large yellow banner at the top left displays 'HERA2'. Below the banner, a sidebar on the left contains a home icon and a list of menu items: 'Project description', 'Goals', 'Current', 'Partners', and 'News'. The main content area features a title 'Consolidation of WGS and infrastructure processes in surveillance and outbreak investigation activities' followed by a short summary paragraph. Below this, there are three sections: 'Project description' with two paragraphs of text, and 'Goals' with a bulleted list of three objectives.

Project description

Goals

Current

Partners

News

Consolidation of WGS and infrastructure processes in surveillance and outbreak investigation activities

Consolidation of WGS and RT-PCR activities in countries that received support in 2021 aiming to ensure the sustainable use and integration of enhanced infrastructure into routine surveillance and outbreak investigation activities, in synergy with relevant on-going work at international level.

Project description

In this follow up project, the consolidation of WGS and RT-PCR activities aiming to ensure the sustainable use and integration of enhanced infrastructure into routine surveillance and outbreak investigation activities, in synergy with relevant ongoing work at international level, is key priority. Identified challenges and mid-term aims were identified and will contribute together with the involvement of relevant and high-level stakeholders to a better workflow, enhanced capacity and sustainable and manageable use of the provided infrastructure on the long run. Key agencies in the countries Austria, Croatia, Greece and Hungary are working together to achieve these common goals. The partners are AGES (AUT), CIPH (HR), EODY (GR) and NNK (HU).

In the course of the previous project round, the focus on national infrastructure and capacity up-scaling enhancing whole genome sequencing (WGS) and/or reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and future health threats (HERA) set a solid but challenging basis for the enhancement of processes in national Health Agencies and public analytic facilities.

Now, the focus will lie on the joint continuation of automation/optimization/validation of WGS/RT-PCR capacities (laboratory, bioinformatics, IT) and establishment and validation of new genome sequencing methods (laboratory and bioinformatics) and on the distribution of knowledge among the consortium members and other relevant stakeholders.

Goals

- Establishing a sustainable, efficient and high-performing WGS and/or RT-PCR infrastructure for the expansion of microbiology in the national health care system
- Improved routine genome-based surveillance of infectious diseases at regional, national and EU/EEA levels in accordance with strategic frameworks
- Increased genome-based investigations of infectious disease outbreaks and build infrastructure capacity at regional, national and/or EU/EEA levels

Figure 1. Contents of the HERA 2 website on 17.08.2023

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The screenshot displays the AGES website interface. At the top, the AGES logo is on the left, and navigation links for AGES, Human, Animal, Plant, Environment, and Research are on the right, along with a search icon. A left sidebar contains a menu with 'Project description', 'Goals', 'Current' (highlighted), 'Partners', and 'News'. The main content area is titled 'Current' and contains a paragraph about the project's funding and budget. Below this is a 'Project details' table with the following information:

Project Acronym:	HERA2
Project Management:	AGES
Project partners:	CIPH (HR), EODY (GR), NNK(HU).
Funding:	European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA) under the EU4Health Program
Project duration	10.2022 until 03.2026

Below the table are logos for HERA2 and HaDEA. The 'Partners' section features logos for HZJZ, the National Public Health Organization, and NNK. A funding statement includes the European Union flag and text: 'This project was funded by the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA) of the European Union under Grand Agreement no.' The 'News' section has a dark green icon of a lightbulb with a bar chart and a magnifying glass, followed by the headline 'AGES coordinates international outbreak surveillance project' and a short paragraph about the project's goals.

Figure 2. Contents of the HERA 2 website – details on 17.08.2023

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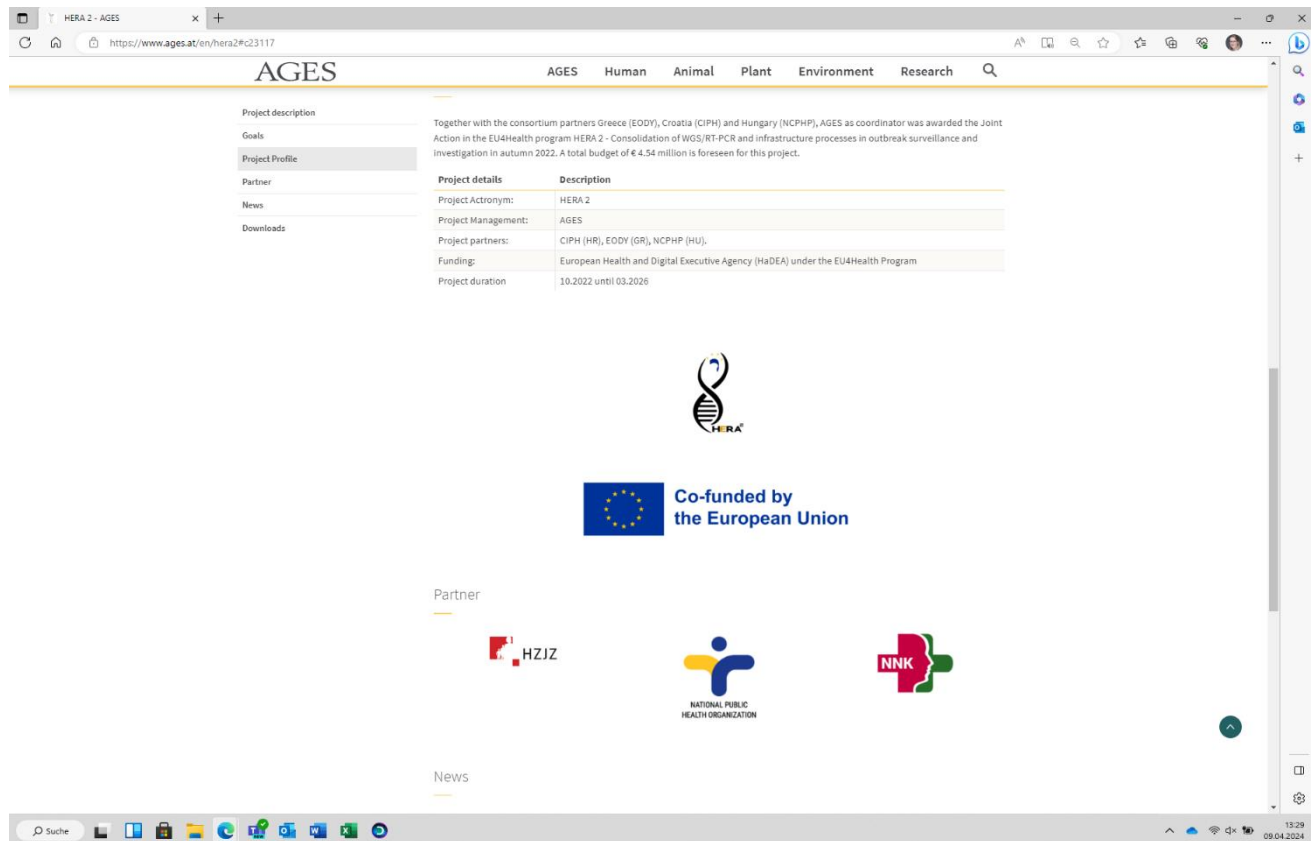


Figure 3. Contents of the HERA 2 website – details on 09.04.2024

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