

# “First Cluster Meeting & Capacity Building Workshop for EU Instruments”

TSI Horizontal Activity - Programme Outline

**29-30 January 2026 (in person, hybrid)**

Participating countries and organisations: Spain, Italy, Austria, Slovenia, Belgium, European Commission, WHO Regional Office for Europe, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

**Location: Ministerio de Sanidad, Paseo del Prado, 18, Centro, 28014 Madrid, Spain**

## Background and context

This capacity building workshop is part of the TSI 2025 flagship project ‘EU Health Hub –Investing in Resilient Health System’. It builds on the results of the 2022 TSI multi-country project with Austria, Belgium and Slovenia (EU Health Resources Hub). The EU Health Hub addresses three critical technical areas across three country clusters: strengthening healthcare workforce and EU fund governance (Italy and Spain), rethinking the role of hospitals in preventive healthcare delivery (Germany and Sweden) and the long-term care reform (Malta).

## Objectives

The first part of the workshop (Day 1 – **European support for health systems: Lessons across countries/TSI Cluster meeting**) is the first in a series of horizontal activities planned within the cluster of Italy and Spain of the TSI project. These activities aim to foster the exchange of evidence, learning and experiences and to create synergies with past and on-going TSI projects as well as other European and national initiatives. As both Italy and Spain start to explore how European funds could support the implementation of their projects, this

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workshop aims to provide an introduction to European Commission support for health systems and to illustrate how funds can be used, also featuring experiences from other countries. Day 1 will therefore involve different relevant stakeholders from Spain and Italy, to hear about their experiences and challenges to date, and from the previous TSI project, namely from Austria, Belgium and Slovenia, to foster learning and create synergies. The second part (Day 2 – Parallel Sessions with Spanish and Italian stakeholders) supports the Spanish and the Italian TSI projects. The aim of these parallel sessions is to provide learning and best practices using and blending funding from the EU and Spain/Italy for the specific needs of the TSI projects.

## Format

To develop a common understanding of the current challenges and funding mechanisms, ample time for structured discussion is included. The morning sessions will focus on evidence from previous research and/or experience from previous/ongoing TSI projects. The afternoon sessions are interactive and will enable mutual learning from challenges, practical examples and initiatives.

**Language:** English (simultaneous interpretation into Spanish and Italian provided)

**Number of participants:** approx. 80

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## Day 1, 29 January 2026

**First TSI Cluster meeting** - European Support for Health Systems: Lessons Across Countries

**Join online:** <https://sanidad.webex.com/sanidad/j.php?MTID=mc28231271746909f45a789f522ea798e>

**Password:** 968574

**09:00 - 09:30**

**Registration**

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**09:30 - 10:00**

## Welcome remarks

- **Mónica García**, Minister of Health, Spain

## Event presentations

Master of Ceremony: **Pedro Campuzano** (WHO)

- **Dimitra Panteli**, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (OBS)
- **Simone Boselli**, Task Force for Reform and Investment (SG REFORM), European Commission
- **Eloy Cuéllar**, Ministry of Health, Spain
- **Mariella Mainolfi**, Ministry of Health, Italy
- **Tomas Zapata**, WHO Regional Office for Europe

**10:00 - 10:45**

## Session 1: Introduction and presentation of the multi-country TSI project: Impetus, challenges and expectations of the Italian and Spanish TSI projects

Facilitator: **Dimitra Panteli** (OBS)

- **Pedro Campuzano** and **Cris Scotter**, WHO Regional Office for Europe
- **Daniel Rodríguez**, Ministry of Health, Spain
- **Mariella Mainolfi**, Ministry of Health, Italy

**10:45 - 11:30**

## Session 2: EU funding tools for health systems: state of play and future outlook

Facilitator: **Juliane Winkelmann** (OBS)

- **Nicole Mauer** and **Dimitra Panteli**, European Observatory
- **Simone Boselli**, Task Force for Reform and Investment (SG REFORM), European Commission

**11:30 - 11:45**

## Coffee break

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11:45 - 12:45

## Session 3: Case studies from previous TSI projects: Austria, Belgium, Slovenia

Facilitator: **Nicole Mauer** (OBS), and **Simone Boselli** (EC)

- **Klaus Kleiner**, Ministry of Health, Austria
- **Dušan Jošar**, Ministry of Health, Slovenia
- **Anne Swalué**, Federal Public Service for Public Health, Food Safety and Environment, Belgium (remote)

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12:45 - 13:15

## Session 4: Panel discussion: Lessons learned - Linking EU funding tools with national priorities

Facilitator: OBS

- Experiences from Estonia **Triin Habicht**, WHO Barcelona Office for Health Systems Financing
- Facilitated discussion with participants from Austria, Belgium, Estonia, and Slovenia

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13:15 - 14:30

## Lunch break

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14:30 - 15:30

## Session 5: Sharing experiences and challenges for optimizing EU support between Spain and Italy

Facilitator: OBS

- Italy's experience: coordination mechanisms and proposed plan for governance as part of TSI. **Lisa Leonardinini** (ProMIS, Italy).
- Spain's experience: Improved coordination mechanisms with regional governments and EU fund governance. **Eloy Cuéllar** (Ministry of Health, Spain).

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**15:30 - 15:45**

**Coffee break**

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**15:45 - 16:45**

**Open discussion: How to learn from the past for ongoing and future TSI projects and what comes next?**

Facilitators: **Tomas Zapata** (WHO), and **Dimitra Panteli** (OBS)

- Representatives from each country
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**16:45 - 17:00**

**Wrap up, takeaway messages and closing**

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**Day 2, 30 January 2026 - Room “Ernest Lluch”**

**Parallel Session A:** Workshop with Spanish stakeholders

**Join online:** <https://sanidad.webex.com/sanidad/j.php?MTID=m85446b5b995177ae0ceb79ddd9534149>

**Password:** 9685741

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**09:30 - 09:35**

**Opening and welcome**

Facilitator: OBS

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# First Cluster Meeting and Capacity Building Workshop for EU Instruments

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09:35 - 10:20

## Joint Session 1: Strengthening governance and coordination for improved access to support instruments

Facilitator: OBS

Improving the information flow and transparency.

Effective governance between Ministry, regions (and agencies).

Alignment of EU, national and regional priorities.

Mechanisms for multi-stakeholder initiatives.

- Country Experts from Day 1
- **Lisa Leonardini**, ProMIS, Italy
- **Eloy Cuéllar**, Ministry of Health, Spain

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10:20 - 10:30

## Wrap up and objectives for parallel session

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10:30 - 12:15

## Session 2: What does Spain need to strengthen EU investment management across regions?

Facilitator: **Eloy Cuéllar** (Ministry of Health)

- **Pedro Campuzano**, WHO Regional Officer for Europe
- Open debate with Ministry of Health and regional representatives

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12:15 - 12:30

## Coffee break

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# First Cluster Meeting and Capacity Building Workshop for EU Instruments

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**12:30 - 13:30**

## Session 3: Prioritization exercise for the development of the Spanish Hub

Facilitator: **Eloy Cuéllar** (Ministry of Health, Spain)

- **Pedro Campuzano**, WHO Regional Office for Europe
- Open debate with Ministry of Health and regional representatives

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**13:30 - 14:30**

**Lunch break**

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**14:30 - 15:00**

## Session 4: Management of health budget information at different levels

Facilitator: **Eloy Cuéllar** (Ministry of Health, Spain)

Improving flow of budget-related information on European funding in health care.  
Identification of EU funded projects in health care in Spain and scope of creating synergies/collaboration.

- **Enrique Terol**, Permanent Representative of Spain to the EU (remote)
- **Walter Bergamaschi**, DG Programming, Ministry of Health, Italy (remote)

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**15:00 - 15:30**

## Session 5: Human resources in EU-Funds management

Facilitator: **Eloy Cuéllar** (Ministry of Health, Spain)

Improvement of HR management for EU project acquisition.  
Needs assessment for leading project consortia.  
Consolidation of HR specialized in European funding.

- **Pasquale Orlando**, Regione Puglia, Italy (remote)
- **Klaus Kleiner**, Ministry of Health, Austria



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15:30 - 16:00

Joint wrap up on results and next steps with the Italian TSI project

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**Day 2, 30 January 2026 - International room**

**Parallel Session B:** Workshop with Italian stakeholders

**Join online:** <https://sanidad.webex.com/sanidad/j.php?MTID=m6893fc1572dee8b27687a52bc9cc3409>

**Password:** 968577

09:30 - 09:35

**Opening and welcome**

Facilitator: OBS

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09:35 - 10:20

**Joint Session 1: Strengthening governance and coordination for improved access to support instruments**

Facilitator: OBS

Improving the information flow and transparency.

Effective governance between Ministry, regions (and agencies).

Alignment of EU, national and regional priorities.

Mechanisms for multi-stakeholder initiatives.

- Country Experts from Day 1
- **Lisa Leonardini**, ProMIS, Italy
- **Eloy Cuéllar**, Ministry of Health, Spain

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10:20 - 10:30

**Wrap up and objectives for parallel session**

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# First Cluster Meeting and Capacity Building Workshop for EU Instruments

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**10:30 - 10:45**

## Welcome and table tour

Facilitors: **Paola Semisa** (ProMIS, Italy), **Mariella Mainolfi** (Ministry of Health, Italy), and **Claudio Costa** (Veneto Region)

Introduction by the facilitators and secretariat, followed by the participants.

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**10:45 - 11:00**

## TWG 4: collaboration rules and supporting tools

Facilitator: **Paolo Michelutti** (ProMIS, Italy)

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**11:00 - 11:15**

## Coffee break

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**11:15 - 11:45**

## Common reading and analysis of the concept paper

Facilitator: **Paola Semisa** (ProMIS, Italy)

- Input from Spanish and Slovenian colleagues
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**11:45 - 12:15**

## Reference documents

Facilitator: **Cris Scotter** (WHO)

Presentation of the National Plan for Italian Governance and Participation in European Initiatives for Global Health.

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**12:15 - 12:45**

## Feedback from participants

Facilitator: **Cris Scotter** (WHO)

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**12:45 - 13:30**

## Action Plan for the outputs

Facilitator: **Lisa Leonardini** (ProMIS, Italy)

Report on Good Practices: starting from the practices presented on Day 1, analysis of European experiences, in particular those applicable to the Italian context, with recommendations for implementation.

Roadmap for the financing and complementarity of funds in the workforce area: roadmap outlining the concrete actions to be taken to manage and optimize health funding, also in alignment with the new post-2027 European Programming.

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**13:30 - 14:30**

## Lunch break

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**14:30 - 15:30**

## Subgroup activities based on outputs

Facilitator: **Lisa Leonardini, Paola Semisa, and Paolo Michelutti** (ProMIS)

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**15:30 - 16:00**

## Joint wrap up on results and next steps with the Spanish TSI project

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