

WP7 PANDEM-2 | High-Level Messaging

Overall message: The ultimate goal of the PANDEM-2 Project is to develop an IT system to improve the European Union's preparedness and response to future pandemics.

The emergence of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in late 2019 has underlined the threat posed by pandemics to the health, safety and economic wellbeing of mankind. In order for the European Union to safeguard the health of its citizens, it is prioritising investment in preparing for future pandemics.

The EU-funded PANDEM-2 project will develop new solutions for efficient, EU-wide pandemic planning and response. The goal of PANDEM-2 is to enable EU countries to better prepare for future pandemics and to improve response when pandemics occur, through innovations in technology, training and cross-border collaboration.

PANDEM-2's core objectives are:

- To bring together pandemic-related data from multiple sources (global, EU, national, regional, local and online) into a coherent pandemic-management database.
- To provide a single dashboard using a state-of-the-art visual analytics tool where this data can be queried, analysed and interpreted to support decision-making by planners and policy-makers.
- To develop new modelling tools to better manage pandemic-related resources, such as hospital beds, ventilators, PPE and vaccines, both nationally and across borders.
- To further develop new tools for simulating and predicting the impact of different interventions to control pandemic events.
- To gather, process and analyse data at community level through social media, allowing vital lead-in time in event detection and the capacity to measure and track the societal and economic impacts of pandemic events.
- To ensure rapid detection and confirmation of pandemic prone diseases by supporting the development of next generation sequencing, point of care testing, rapid diagnostic kits, safe transport of specimens and integration of laboratory data with public health and clinical data.
- To develop risk communication tools and strategies to support real-time exchange of information, opinion and advice between public health agencies, health care providers, first responders and communities affected by a pandemic.
- To develop a training and simulation component that will be used by agencies for tabletop exercises to strengthen preparedness capacity for cross-border pandemic response, through large-scale demonstrations.

These objectives will be achieved by the PANDEM-2 Project Team through the creation of innovative technology solutions and processes for Europe's pandemic managers. These include pandemic simulation, resource allocation and predictive modelling tools which will allow pandemic managers to improve situational awareness and train for potential outbreaks.

In addition, a PANDEM-2 database and new pandemic communications tools will be created, sourcing information from national pandemic management systems, international health agencies and the latest social media and community-based data collection techniques to improve inter-agency and cross-border planning for future pandemics.

Finally, large-scale demonstrations and simulations will be conducted with the PANDEM-2 technologies, training pandemic managers on the use of the PANDEM-2 tools, field-testing

and exploring how the project's outputs can be used by national and regional agencies to support effective pandemic planning and response.

From start to finish, the PANDEM-2 project will engage with key stakeholders at national and European level, including the European Commission and relevant agencies, national Governments, politicians and policymakers, pandemic managers and health agencies, regulatory bodies, experts in pandemic response, healthcare researchers and the broader European citizenry.

PANDEM-2 builds upon the key insights and lessons learned in several previous EU-funded projects including the original PANDEM, beAWARE, CARISMAND, DARWIN, SAYSO and IN-PREP.

The PANDEM-2 consortium consists of 19 organisations from 13 countries across Europe. Their expertise spans technology development, research, healthcare, public health and pandemic management. The two-year project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No. 883285

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