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PARTNERSHIP FOR EUROPEAN RESEARCH IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

# Annex 2 Project outline for a new joint research project

Please use the following questions to describe briefly (max. 2 A-4) an outline of the joint research project you foresee. With this outline you can approach possible partners and inform PEROSH about your initiative.

1. Project title: **PEROSH network for intervention research**

2. Project aims and objectives:

The PEROSH Network for Intervention Research aims to strengthen and advance occupational safety and health (OSH) intervention research across European research institutions including within-PEROSH partners and additional similar research institutions (E.g.: Institute for Work and health (CA), IRSST (CA), Institut for Stressmedicin (SWE)). Despite a growing body of intervention studies, persistent challenges remain regarding knowledge exchange, methodological comparability, and the translation of research findings into sustainable workplace improvements. This network addresses these gaps by fostering structured collaboration among PEROSH partners and external institutions with shared interests in intervention research.

**Objective 1:** The network will facilitate continuous exchange of knowledge, experiences, and methodological approaches through recurring meetings, thematic discussions, and shared presentations of ongoing and completed projects. By creating a platform for dialogue on both successes and challenges in intervention research, the initiative seeks to enhance research quality, support capacity building among researchers, and promote innovation in study design and implementation strategies.

**Objective 2:** Furthermore, the network aims to stimulate joint funding applications and collaborative research projects, thereby strengthening the European research agenda within OSH interventions and Knowledge Transfer and Exchange (KTE). Joint projects will strengthen the possibilities of bridging the gap between research and practice by implementation and scaling of evidence-based interventions across different national and sectoral contexts.

Ultimately, the PEROSH Network for Intervention Research is expected to contribute to more robust, comparable, and impactful intervention research, enhancing its real-world relevance and supporting healthier and safer workplaces across Europe.

3. Brief outline of project idea

Background:

- Organisational interventions and interventions placed in the top of the hierarchy of controls are recommended to address occupational risks. (Schulte et al., 2024; Kjærgaard et al., 2025; Dyreborg et al., 2022; ILO, 2026).
- These interventions are increasingly complex to conduct and evaluate (Skivington et al. 2021).
- Existing mainstream methods within the OSH field are showing substantial shortcomings in translating the results of intervention research into impactful, scalable solutions) (von Thiele Schwarz et al., 2020; Schelvis et al., 2015; Jaspers & Aust, 2025).
- A considerable research-practice gap exists in OSH, as workplaces – especially smaller workplaces – often are unsure about what exactly is expected of them and how to address shortcomings in the e.g., psychosocial work environment (Belli and De Keulenae, 2025).
- This calls for cross country innovations and development on intervention approaches and related KTE perspectives, beyond the local research environments that are often too small to drive this.

Based on this, the aims and objectives are formulated as follows in pt. 2 (above).

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4. Why is PEROSH important for the delivery of this project?

Intervention research is resource-intensive, requiring long-term data collection and sustained stakeholder engagement. As a result, it is often conducted within specialized research groups focused on specific occupational risks. However, organizational-level workplace interventions share many common prevention principles and implementation mechanisms across different risk areas, whether addressing biological, chemical, ergonomic, or psychosocial hazards. Greater collaboration across research institutions and occupational risk disciplines would therefore enable the exchange of methods, experiences, and expertise, advancing intervention research while making more efficient use of PEROSH institutions' resources.

5. Who are possible partners in this project?

PEROSH partners and similar research institutions with an interest in prevention principles, workplace interventions, evaluation methods, implementation science, Knowledge Transfer and Exchange and interactions between organizational level interventions and policy. (The following institutions have already expressed their interest in participating in the network and/or have attended an initial start-up meeting in May 2026: BAuA, FIOH, STAMI, IWH, IRSST, KI, Institut for Stressmedicin.)

6. What could the output be?

Deliverables: PEROSH-network (recurring and thematic meetings), research consortium, joint research proposals, joint research papers, presentations at conferences, practical and regulatory guidelines.

Target audience: Research scientists, OSH professionals, work places and practitioners.

7. What type of project is being initiated?

A research network with physical and online meetings, discussing and performing research on the topics described above, and towards the described aims and objectives.

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