



**D0.3.1: Scoping review of
European Union-supported
COVID-19 research activities
JIP COVRIN WP0**

Responsible Partner: UoS (23)

Contributing partners: All partners



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D0.3.1: SCOPING REVIEW OF EUROPEAN UNION-SUPPORTED COVID-19 RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

1. Introduction

COVRIN aims to integrate research by One Health EJP partner institutes on the topics of SARS-CoV-2 emergence, risk assessment and preparedness. The project has two main operational objectives: (i) to identify drivers for the emergence and spread of SARS-CoV-2, and (ii) to generate data and build models for risk assessment of SARS-CoV-2. To achieve these objectives, integrative research activities are focused on four topics: (i) research on detection of SARS-CoV-2 in animal species and the environment; (ii) research on SARS-CoV-2 molecular and biological characterization; (iii) SARS-CoV-2 surveillance and risk assessment, focussed on the animal human interface; and (iv) coronavirus preparedness. The overall aim of the COVRIN project is to generate and share data of these integrative research activities, in order to increase the preparedness for future coronavirus outbreaks.

Work package 0 (WP0) coordinates COVRIN, and is responsible for its communications and its connections with stakeholders. Since the start of the pandemic in early 2020, a huge number of research projects have been initiated on SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19; additionally, many pre-existing networks and infrastructures have turned their attention to the virus, setting up SARS-CoV-2-specific services. To avoid overlaps and ensure optimal use of resources, Subtask 0.3.1 within WP0 involves a scoping review of European Union (EU)-supported SARS-CoV-2 research activities that overlap with COVRIN in terms of focus. This Deliverable describes the methods and outcomes of the ST0.3.1 scoping review.

2. Methods

The focus of the scoping review was on EU-supported SARS-CoV-2 research activities that overlap in scope with COVRIN. Other multi-national (and some national) activities deemed to be of relevance have also been included.

Activities were initially identified through expert elicitation and review of several overview pages, detailed below. Information on the activities was extracted from these overview pages, from activity websites, and from factsheets (such as on Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS)).

- EU-funded **SARS-CoV-2 initiatives (consortia)** were identified from the [European Commission's \(EC\) page on Coronavirus research and innovation](#) (subpages on the areas of [Preparedness and response](#), [Diagnostics](#), [Treatments](#), [Vaccines](#)), the [Outcome of the HERA Incubator call on coronavirus variants](#), and the [Outcome of the 1st ICRAD Joint Cofund Call](#).

Information collected on these initiatives include: acronym, long name, URL, factsheet link (CORDIS or similar), description, funding source, coordinating institute, geographical scope, any COVRIN partners involved in the initiative.

The "Description" field contains text copied verbatim from the aforementioned sources (including initiative websites and factsheets).

- **Other relevant initiatives and networks with a focus on (emerging) infectious diseases, viruses, One Health, animal health or environmental health**, were identified from the [EC page](#)



on [Coronavirus research and innovation](#) ([Preparedness and response](#) and [Diagnostics](#) subpages), and from lists of stakeholders identified by partners at the COVRIN kick-off meeting.

Information collected on these initiatives include: acronym, long name, URL, factsheet link (CORDIS or similar), description, funding source, coordinating institute, geographical scope, any COVRIN partners involved in the initiative.

The “Description” field contains text copied verbatim from the aforementioned sources (including initiative websites and factsheets).

- **European and multi-national data- and laboratory-related efforts in the context of the COVID-19 crisis** were identified from the [Horizon 2020 COVID-19 projects' Guidelines for open access to publications, data and other research outputs](#) (data-related efforts) and the [European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control \(ECDC\)'s page on Laboratory capacity and capability](#) (laboratory-related efforts).

Information collected on these efforts include: name, URL, description, funding source, institutes/consortia involved.

The “Description” field contains text copied verbatim from the aforementioned sources (including effort websites).

- **Relevant European Research Infrastructures and their COVID-19 services** were identified from the [Horizon 2020 COVID-19 projects' Guidelines for open access to publications, data and other research outputs](#) and the [European Research Infrastructure Consortia \(ERIC\) forum's page on COVID-10 research](#).

Information collected on these Research Infrastructures include: acronym, long name, URL, description, COVID-19 activities, link(s) to description of their COVID-19 activities.

The “Description” and “COVID-19 activities” fields contain text copied verbatim from the aforementioned sources (including Research Infrastructure websites).

The resulting database was circulated among COVRIN partners for review and for any further additions, before publication.

3. Results

The resulting database includes 63 SARS-CoV-2 initiatives (consortia), 28 other relevant initiatives, 9 COVID-19 data- and laboratory-related efforts, and 17 Research Infrastructures (including 2 SARS-CoV-2 initiative duplicate entries).

The database has been published in Zenodo at <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5533808>

In general, most identified research activities focus on human SARS-CoV-2 infections or COVID-19 disease, with there being limited research activities specifically targeting SARS-CoV-2 in animals and the environment.

4. Summary and outlook

This scoping review of EU-supported SARS-CoV-2 research activities and other relevant multi-national research activities will facilitate the avoidance of overlaps and the identification of synergies with the COVRIN project. The COVRIN WP0 team will share the database with work package leaders and task leaders, with recommendations to reach out to the coordinators of these activities, as appropriate, to avoid such overlaps.