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European Commission’s Scientific Advice Mechanism

Scientific advice on the topic:

**Cross sectoral evidence-based governance for One Health in the EU**

**Call for Nominations for a SAPEA Working Group**

December 2023

Dear Colleagues,

SAPEA invites nominations for a new Working Group, which will produce an Evidence Review Report on ***Cross-sectoral evidence-based governance for One Health in the EU***. SAPEA will set up an international and interdisciplinary Working Group of experts, covering relevant fields.

SAPEA offers the opportunity to raise the profile of your academy’s work and to provide expertise on a European level. We very much welcome, and rely on, your contribution and support through:

* Nomination of experts for the Working Group,
* Nomination of experts for an expert workshop or the peer review process,
* Submission of academy reports or other published material that is relevant to the topic and could be used as evidence.

You can nominate Fellows and Members of your academy as well as experts who are not Fellows or Members of your academy.

**Please address your response to Rafael Carrascosa Marzo (****CarrascosaMarzoR@cardiff.ac.uk****) by the deadline of** **Monday 22nd January**.

Nominations of experts should be accompanied by a detailed Curriculum Vitae, together with a short statement on how the nominee’s experience meets the areas of expertise needed. We would be grateful if you could inform us whether you have checked your experts’ availability before nominating them (it is not essential, but helpful to us).

Please see below for further information about the call.

Thank you very much in advance and we look forward to hearing from you,



Professor Stefan Constantinescu

Chair of the SAPEA Board, President of FEAM

**Expertise sought**

Non-exclusive examples of **areas of expertise** that may be of relevance are provided below. The composition of the Working Group for preparing the Evidence Review Report should represent the interdisciplinary expertise in the context of One Health required:

|  |
| --- |
| **Social sciences, humanities**• International (environmental and human rights) law,• Juridical aspects of risk and precautionary principle,• Political science and multi-sectoral global governance,• Health economics (cost-benefit analysis and multi-criteria assessment),**Health Science**• Environmental Health (e.g. exposures to and health impact of environmental stressors) and Occupational health,• Public health: including global health security; infectious disease ecology, surveillance and health risk assessments; management of global health crises,• Health promotion with a specific focus on vulnerable groups affected by changes in the human, environment, animal interface,• Food Safety and security,• Health‑related aspects of climate change (human, animal, plants). |

A SAPEA Selection Committee will be responsible for proposing the composition of the Working Group to the SAPEA Board. Criteria for the selection of members to the Working Group are detailed in Annex 3.

Experts selected for the Working Group will not receive any fee. Reasonable travel costs will be reimbursed by SAPEA for attendance at physical working group meetings. All selected experts will be required to complete a Declaration of Interests form that will be assessed by SAPEA before contributing to the Evidence Review Report.

If you have questions or would like further information, please email CarrascosaMarzoR@cardiff.ac.uk.

**Background**

SAPEA is part of the European Commission’s Scientific Advice Mechanism. Together with the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors, we provide independent scientific advice to European Commissioners to support their decision-making. We also work to raise awareness of scientific advice and evidence in policymaking, and to stimulate debate in Europe about these issues.

**Scope**

The College of Commissioners has asked the Advisors to deliver advice on the topic of *Cross sectoral evidence-based governance for One Health in the EU* by the third quarter of 2024. The main question to be answered is:

***Considering the complex policy area, i.e. One Health, what forms of management and cross sectoral collaborations are best suited to ensure that synergies, possible trade-offs, and unintended consequences are considered? In order to apply this overarching question to the example of One Health, a number of sub questions need to be addressed:***

* *How should One Health be defined in the EU context and what are the synergies with and demarcations to other approaches such as ‘sustainability’, ‘One Planet’ and ‘Healthy Planet’? Which EU policies could significantly benefit from the implementation One Health approach?*
* *Which tools and leverage points for building capacities, planning and implementing One Health are most suitable for the EU level to maximise synergies, consistency and coherence of interventions and avoid duplication of efforts?*
* *What are the criteria and the indicators that are most useful to assess the effectiveness of the tools and for monitoring the implementation of complex policies such as One Health? How can the progress in the EU policies which is due to the application of the One-Health approach be measured?*

The scoping question should be addressed by reviewing scientific evidence and considers the complexity of all aspects of the issue**.** The scientific advice will contribute to the definition of an EU position in discussions on One Health governance.

The **Scoping Paper,** which contains the details of the request, can be found here:

<https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-12/ec_rtd_sam-scoping-paper-one-health.pdf>

**Process and outputs**

To answer the question, the Advisors will draft a Scientific Opinion containing policy recommendations to the College of Commissioners. In order to inform this Opinion, SAPEA is requested to set up a Working Group to gather evidence relevant to the topic and to synthesise it in an Evidence Review Report containing conclusions and evidence-informed options for EU policy.

**Annex 1. Information about SAPEA**

SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies) comprises the five European Academy Networks: AE, ALLEA, Euro-CASE, FEAM and YASAS. It brings together outstanding expertise from natural sciences, engineering and technology, medical, health, agricultural and social sciences, and the humanities. We draw on over 120 academies, young academies and learned societies in more than 40 countries across Europe. SAPEA is part of the European Commission’s Scientific Advice Mechanism. Together with the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors, we provide independent scientific advice to European Commissioners to support their decision-making. We also work to raise awareness of scientific advice and evidence in policymaking, and to stimulate debate in Europe about these issues.

SAPEA is funded by the European Union.

**Annex 2. Expected workload, support and timeline**

Members of the Working Group are expected to:

* Meet approximately once a month, or as appropriate, between February, March, April and June 2024;
* Draft the Evidence Review Report by writing relevant sections/chapters of the report, based on published evidence; the first draft of the Evidence Review Report is expected in mid-May 2024;
* Comment and review the whole report as a group at meetings and between meetings;
* Consider the results of searches of the published literature and policy landscape, carried out in coordination with the Working Group, to inform their writing;
* Write up evidence-based conclusions and suggest policy options, presented in a balanced and non-biased way;
* Respond to comments on the draft Evidence Review Report made by external experts at an expert workshop, probably in May 2024. Attendance of some members of the Working Group will be required;
* Respond to the comments made by peer reviewers of the Evidence Review Report in June 2024;
* Be involved in stakeholder and public engagement work (such as meetings, conferences, events), as appropriate and upon request, following delivery of the report.

In support, SAPEA staff will:

* Administratively manage the project, organise the meetings, draft the meeting minutes and follow up with agreed actions;
* Coordinate the literature reviews that will be undertaken for the Working Group;
* Undertake editorial work on drafts of the Evidence Review Report, in liaison with the Chair(s) and Working Group members;
* Organise a workshop comprised of a wider group of experts, to consider the draft Evidence Review Report;
* Coordinate a formal peer review of the final draft of the Evidence Review Report;
* Coordinate appropriate stakeholder and public engagement work associated with the topic;
* Prepare and publish the final Evidence Review Report, by Autumn 2024.

An *indicative* timeline is as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| Action | Timing |
| Selection of Chair(s) | December 2023 |
| Literature searches | January 2023 and ongoing |
| Call for nominations for Working Group(s) | December 2023-January 2024 |
| Selection of members of Working Group(s) | January 2024 |
| First meeting of Working Group(s) | February 2024 |
| Subsequent meetings of Working Group(s) | April-June 2024 |
| First draft of Evidence Review Report | May 2024 |
| Expert workshop to consider first draft | May 2024 |
| Peer review | June 2024 |
| Final draft of Evidence Review Report | June 2024 |
| Publication of Evidence Review Report and Scientific Opinion | Autum 2024 (Q3) |
| Outreach and promotion | Autumn 2024 onwards |

**Annex 3. Criteria for selection of members to the international Working Group**

A SAPEA-appointed Selection Committee will select the experts according to demonstrated excellence in one or more of the fields listed in the Call, and other criteria such as:

* Interdisciplinarity, all relevant disciplines should be included (see indicative list of expertise)
* Wide geographical coverage of Europe including Widening Countries[[1]](#footnote-2)
* Gender balance
* Inclusion of early- and mid-career researchers
* Commitment and time-availability.

There should be a good diversity of expertise, ranging from highly focused specialists to generalists, from well-established to early-career stage, and as socially, culturally and gender balanced as possible.

Please note that nomination does not guarantee selection to the Working Group. The average success rate is around 20%.

SAPEA Working Group members will need to fill in the Standard Declaration of Interests form of the European Commission. Further information about these procedures can be found here: <https://scientificadvice.eu/how-we-work/how-we-gather-evidence/>

1. According to the Horizon Europe regulation the Widening Countries are: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and all associated countries with equivalent characteristics in terms of R&I performance and the Outermost Regions. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)