

Working group mandate:

Swiss Federated Genomics Network: concept for governance, processes and infrastructures

Proposed mandate:

The Working Group shall develop a “**Swiss Federated Genomics Network**”. The concept should be based on a federated system and should be compatible with SPHN’s environment, principles, and efforts in GA4GH.

Deliverables:

A detailed concept should be provided including:

- Mapping of current genomics landscape in Switzerland;
- Simple use case descriptions for researcher (access to platforms, quality control, bioinformatics services, return of results etc.);
- An overall concept of a federated genomics network enabling sharing and processing genomic data for research;
- Definition of the interface with the clinical environment (technical and processes);
- Description on the proposed strategy to achieve national harmonisation (considering international standards)
- A concept for biospecimens and data storage and transfer processes;
- Data and sample security with a specific focus on genetic data;
- Definition of roles and responsibility (DCC/BioMedIT network, genome centers, hospitals);
- Definition of processes for returnable actions in the clinical world and patient healthcare.

To achieve these goals a startup proposal with:

- A work plan (scope and focus, feasibility, timeline, work packages, milestones);
- Resource requirements;
- A list of experts that should be consulted from the Swiss and international community.

Timeline: 6 months.

Proposed work plan:

A series of 3-4 meetings is arranged with the Working Group with 3 weeks between each meeting. During the meetings, the draft concept is discussed and further developed. The meeting documentation should be sent at least 1 week prior to the meeting.

Financial needs for the working group:

Reimbursement of travel expenses for Swiss participants
Reimbursement of travel expenses for international experts
Refreshments

Total

CHF 20'000.-

Working Group composition (approved by the NSB on 21 NOV 2019)

- 1 member representing SPHN at GA4GH (G. Rättsch) - confirmed;
- 1 member from Geneva (M. Abramovicz) - confirmed;
- 1 member from PHRT/Lausanne (J. Fellay) - confirmed;
- 1 member from Basel (S. Cichon) - confirmed;
- 1 member from Bern (M. Rubin) - confirmed;
- 1 member from Zurich (R. Schlapbach) - confirmed;
- 1 member from medical genetics (A. Rauch) - confirmed;
- 1 member from Health2030 (E. Dermitzakis) - confirmed.

- Chairperson: M. Rubin, Bern
- Vice-Chairperson: E. Dermitzakis, Health2030
- Coordination: PHI (+ M. Friedli) - confirmed.

Other points to consider:

International or national experts should be invited, however, they should be aligned with GA4GH's position.