



April 2015

CEO Update

Dear EIT Health members,

It is my pleasure to write to you today to update you on the current process of building the EIT Health organisation. Many of you are contributing very actively in multiple ways. This is and will remain key to our success.

The interim management team, your CLCs and our interim directors for Innovation, Education and Business Creation are working hard to build the structures of EIT Health as well as to facilitate the development of our activities for 2016. They deserve our compliments, appreciation and support.

I would like to update you today on the following key points:

Addressing EIT budget cuts

As many of you will already have heard in the community as well as seen in the press, the European Commission plans to reduce the budget for the EIT in 2016 and 2017 in order to shift resources to the investment plan driven by Jean-Claude Juncker. This plan is not finalized and currently subject to debate between the European Parliament and the European Commission. We may expect a final decision only late this year and this decision will have an impact on the budget we will receive from the EIT. I have therefore had intense discussions with the EIT, with many knowledgeable partners in our community, the interim management team and the Executive Committee (ExCo).

At the ExCo meeting on Wednesday, the 8th of April, we concluded the following: firstly, we will build a business plan with strong projects in the field of innovation, education and business creation with a request for 22 million euros. This is less than originally envisaged. However, the amount will enable us to create impact through good projects in 2016 and to further develop our organisation.

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Dr. Ursula Redeker

Roche Diagnostics GmbH
ad interim CEO EIT Health



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Secondly, we will continue using communication channels to the European Parliament to support all efforts to safeguard the EIT budget and I would like to thank Balázs Fürjes for coordinating our efforts in this area.

Furthermore, the ExCo took the decision that all CLCs and the KIC central office will save 33% of their 2016 budget for administrative costs and move it to activities. This will allow us to make sure that your financial contributions will be channeled to support activities directly and we will scale-back the overhead of 2016.

I will keep you posted on all developments in this matter.

Visit our website:
www.eit-health.eu

Selecting the future CEO

The recruitment advertisement for our CEO has been published. I would be grateful if you would encourage any qualified person you have in your network to apply. The period for applications closes soon (<http://www.exec-appointments.com/job/1398674/chief-executive-officer/>).

Building our projects for 2016

In her capacity as interim Director for Innovation, Nora Bernhabiles is preparing the first call for innovation project proposals. An initial information package outlining the high level process to collect project proposals in 2015 will be provided in April with further details following in May to support the submission of proposals. There will also be a brokerage event taking place in Munich on the 8th/9th of May. This will enable you all to learn about evolving project ideas and put strong multidisciplinary and cross-sector teams together to further develop project ideas which we need to contribute to our strategy. An invitation will go out in the next few days.

Kicking off EIT Health activity in 2015

I would like to thank Ulla Wewer for the initiative to organize an innovation bootcamp for students under the EIT Health brand in the summer of 2015. It will take place at two different partner institutions and will bring students from all over Europe together to work on concrete needs-based project ideas. Ulla and her team will approach you on the details and I would be grateful if you would give her all the support needed to recruit the best participants for the event.

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Start-up grant agreement with EIT signed

The start-up grant agreement has been signed by Roche Diagnostics as the coordinator and all required documents have been submitted to the EIT. This will unlock 3.3 million euros of funding to establish the legal and operational readiness of EIT Health. The funds will be used by the CLCs and those partners who are committing resources to this effort.

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Your contributions are essential –a word on membership fees

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to an extremely important topic: our financial capabilities in 2015.

The fact that EIT Health has a strong base of members and that all of you have declared your readiness to contribute financially to EIT Health has been a decisive factor in the evaluation of our bid. In order to ensure the cash flow needed to set up EIT Health successfully, Roche will follow the decisions of the Executive Committee and the interim management team and ask a trustee to collect your membership contributions for 2015 in the coming months. This will be a transparent and efficient way to ensure the necessary cash flow during the set-up phase of EIT Health. You may expect more information on this from your CLCs and Koen Debackere in his capacity as our interim Head of Legal and Finance.

Let me conclude by drawing your attention to the key milestones of the next three months: the official establishment of the legal entity, the final negotiation of the framework partnership agreement with the EIT, the selection of the future CEO and of course the further definition of the activities to be included in the 2016 EIT Health business plan. I will continue to keep you updated about key achievements and important news.

On behalf of the entire interim management team of EIT Health, I would like to encourage you to get actively involved through your CLCs to shape our community. We can assure you that we will do our best to steer EIT Health successfully through this set-up phase.

Best wishes,
Dr. Ursula Redeker