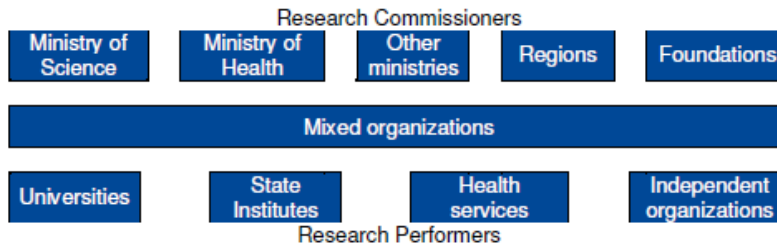


SLOVENIA

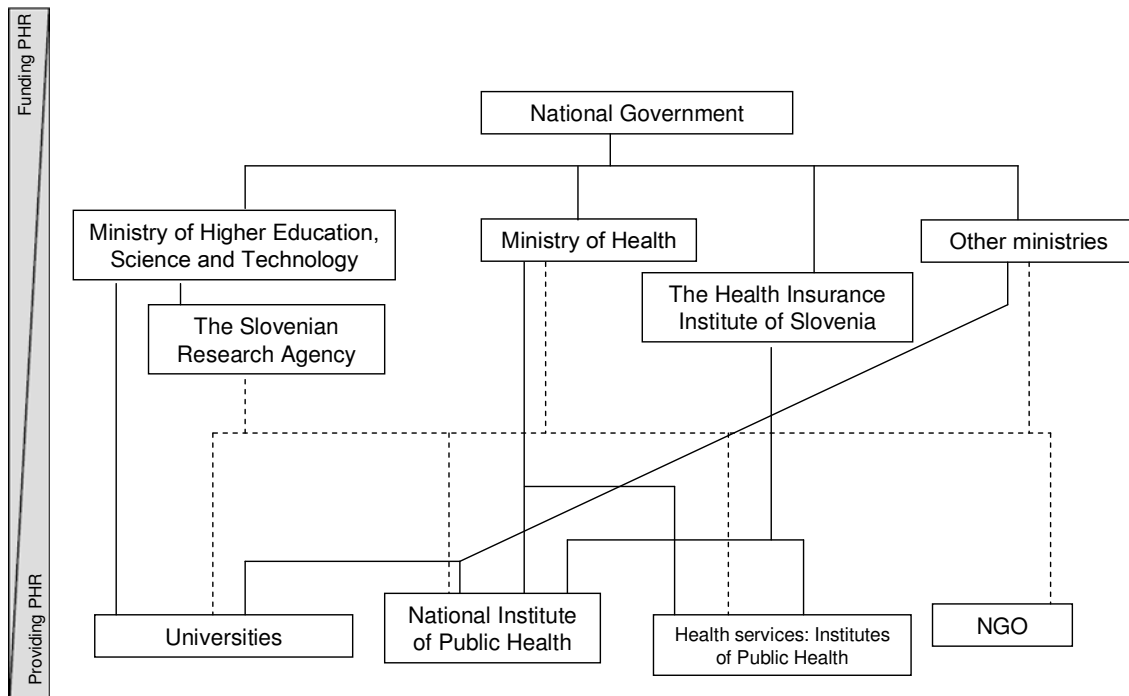
This information on national public-health research structures has been gained from country key informants and internet searches for STEPS (Strengthening Engagement in Public Health Research www.steps-ph.eu), a project funded by the European Commission Seventh Framework Research Programme. It builds on the country profiles and reports from Ministries of Health and Ministries of Science that were created previously for SPHERE (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/public-health/sphere/sphereprofiles.htm>).



The organogram shows the structure for managing and providing public-health research from the perspective of financial flows. The main organisations are also briefly described, with their URLs, and other relevant national documents and information on public-health research.

Note: 'Public-health research' includes all health research at population, organisation and system level broadly relevant to health and health-care policy and practice. It excludes clinical and laboratory (biomedical) research.

1. Organogram



PHR: Public Health research; funding negotiated between government and agency/organization; includes direct commissioning funding competitive process where rules are more or less explicit and known in advance

2. Research Commissioners

2.1 Ministry of Health

Ministry of Health (<http://www.mz.gov.si/en/>) is financing research carried out at the Institute of Public Health, Regional public health institutes and universities.

Funded research themes are: epidemiology, non-communicable diseases, nutrition, mental health, risk behaviours

2.2. Ministry of Science

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, <http://www.mvzt.gov.si/en/>

2.2.1. The Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS, <http://www.arrs.gov.si/>) is financed by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology and is working in line with the Slovenian National research and development programme.

It performs the following tasks, among others: selects and finances research and infrastructure programmes that provide a public service in the research field; manages young researcher projects and other projects assigned to the Agency as part of the National Research and Development Programme and the annual plan of the ministry responsible for science; performs other professional tasks consistent with its founding statute.

2.3. Other ministries

Ministry of Defence is collaborating with the National Institute of Public health, universities and other research institutions when doing research on safety and security.

Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food is collaborating with the National Institute of Public health, universities and other research institutions on public health research on food and safety.

2.3.1. The Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia (<http://www.zzs.si/indexeng.html>) is a public institute. In the field of compulsory health insurance its principal task is to provide effective collection (mobilisation) and distribution (allocation) of public funds.

The Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia is financing the National Institute for Public Health to do research in the area of public health. National Institute for Public Health annually defines research priorities.

2.4. Regions

2.5. Foundations

3. Research Performers

3.1. State Institutes

3.1.1. National Institute of Public Health (IVZ, <http://www.ivz.si/>) is an institute of a national importance with the aim of improving health and well-being of Slovenes using raising awareness techniques and other promotion and prevention actions. IVZ is also very active in doing research in the area of public health. Slovenian research projects are financed through Ministry of Health, the Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia and The Slovenian Research Agency. The mostly financed themes are: epidemiology, non-communicable diseases, nutrition, mental health, risk behaviours, e-health ...

IVZ is also actively involved EU projects (as a partner and also as a leading organization), covering different fields of public health (e.g. alcohol, cancer and health determinants).

3.2. Mixed organizations

3.3. Universities

Universities are also doing some research in the area of public health.

3.4. Health Services

3.4.1. Slovenia has 9 Regional Institutes of Public Health, covering all regions of Slovenia and they are covering areas of public health research such as social medicine, hygiene, health promotion, epidemiology, microbiology, and environment.

3.5. Independent organizations

4. Research Strategies

National research and development programme for the years 2006 to 2010 is defining health research among five priority areas for Slovenia. At the moment Slovenian board for science and technology of the Republic of Slovenia is preparing a National research and development programme for the years 2011 to 2015.

We do not have a special national public-health research strategy. Research themes and priorities in the area of public health are separately defined in each call for proposal.

5. Programmes and calls

Some research providers are funded directly, through regularly negotiation. However, research is increasingly funded in response to competitive calls.

A call made within programmes usually has a fixed time frame. Proposals are submitted by the researchers, and selection is through peer review.

5.1. Ministry of Health - public tender for health promotion and prevention (epidemiology, non-communicable diseases, nutrition, mental health, risk behaviours)

(http://www.mz.gov.si/si/javne_objave/javni_razpisi_s_podrocja_zdravja/)

5.2. The Slovenian Research Agency - ARRS

- calls for research projects – basic research projects and applicative projects

- calls for bilateral research projects

Research themes and priorities in the area of public health are separately defined in each call for proposal

(<http://www.arrs.gov.si/sl/progproj/crp/razpisi/10/razp-crp-konkur-10.asp>; together with Ministry of health and Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food;

<http://www.arrs.gov.si/sl/progproj/rprog/razpisi/08/razp-koncesija-rp-infstrp-08.asp>;

<http://www.arrs.gov.si/sl/progproj/crp/razpisi/07/razp-crp-varnost-mir-07.asp>; together with Ministry of defence)

6. European contacts

6.1. National FP7 Contact point (Health area)¹

6.1.1. Agata Zupancič, Ministry of Health, agata.zupancic@gov.si

¹ Source: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp_en.html, assessed in October 2010

6.2. National DGSANCO Contact point²

6.2.1. Nina Krtelj, Ministry of Health, nina.krtelj@gov.si

² Source: http://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/index_en.htm assessed in October 2010