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Annex 3a: List of Nordic-Baltic national EHDS2-relevant authorities and bodies

National EHDS authorities – Key stakeholders in Nordic EHDS2 Competence Forum

Introduction

This document presents the public authorities in the Nordic countries as well as Lithuania and Estonia, which play a role in the national EHDS organisation, specifically related to secondary use of health data.

The organisations have primarily been identified based on their participation in the VALO project and presence at the Nordic Competence Forum meetings.

The document provides a brief general introduction to each organisation, as well as more specific information on their current role in secondary use of health data and in the implementation of the EHDS Regulation (secondary use), to the extent that has been determined.

Considering the upcoming VALO2 extension together with pending government decisions in several countries to designate various HDAB functions, this list should not be seen as exhaustive and definitive.

Denmark

Danish Health Data Authority

The Danish Health Data Authority provides high-quality health data and digital solutions to support patient care, research, and administration. It manages national health registers, develops medical classifications, and ensures secure data infrastructure. The authority plays a key role in Denmark's digital health strategy and international data cooperation.

Finland

Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

The Ministry of social affairs and health is responsible for planning, steering, and implementing Finland's health and social policy. Its mission is to ensure equal opportunities for well-being, promote healthy living and working environments, and secure access to social and healthcare services throughout life.

The Finnish Innovation Fund, Sitra

Sitra is an independent future fund operating under the Finnish Parliament. It anticipates societal changes and develops solutions to Finland's challenges through foresight, experimentation, and collaboration. Its mission is to promote Finland's well-being and accelerate sustainable economic growth within the limits of nature's carrying capacity. In addition to leading the VALO/VALO2 project, Sitra is also in parallel leading the TEHDAS2 Joint Action (and earlier the first TEHDAS project).

Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)

THL is an independent expert and research institute under the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. It promotes the welfare, health, and safety of the population by producing research, statistics, and policy recommendations. THL also serves as a statistical authority and holds national registers in its field. THL is legally mandated to steer national information management in social welfare and health care services, including the development of systems aimed at processing the health and welfare data of the Finnish citizens. (<https://thl.fi/en/about-us/what-we-do>)

Findata – Finnish Social and Health Data Permit Authority

Findata is the national data permit authority for the secondary use of health and social care data. It grants permits, compiles and processes data securely, and ensures privacy protection. Findata operates independently but in conjunction with THL, and is guided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

Iceland

Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health is responsible for shaping national health policy, overseeing healthcare services, and promoting public health and prevention. It also coordinates health-related legislation, bioethics, and international cooperation in the health sector.

Directorate of Health

The Directorate of Health supervises healthcare services in Iceland and promotes public health through prevention, licensing of professionals, and oversight of health data. It also manages health statistics and coordinates responses to communicable diseases. The Directorate recently applied for an EU direct grant, in collaboration with Digital Health to establish an HDAB in Iceland.

Digital Health

Digital Health is a centre for development and innovation in healthcare services, established on 1 January 2026. It is responsible for the development and governance of Iceland's national digital health infrastructure and services. The centre coordinates digital health initiatives, promotes interoperability, and enables secure exchange of health data across the healthcare systems. Digital Health is expected to play a central role in the implementation of the European

Health Data Space (EHDS) in Iceland, including the development of technical capabilities for cross-border health data exchange and cooperation with national authorities and European partners.

University of Iceland, Faculty of Law

Supporting other authorities in legal matters.

Norway

Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services

The Ministry of health and care services is responsible for ensuring good and equal health and care services for Norway's population. It directs healthcare policy through legislation, budgeting, and oversight of subordinate institutions like the Directorate of Health

Norwegian Directorate of Health

The Directorate of Health promotes public health and coordinates sustainable, equitable health and care services in Norway. It implements government policies, manages health registers, and guides digitalization efforts in the health sector.

Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH)

NIPH monitors population health and conducts research in areas such as infectious diseases, mental health, and epidemiology. It provides evidence-based advice for health promotion and prevention, and manages national health data registers.

Sweden

Swedish Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

The Ministry of Health and Social Affairs oversees Sweden's welfare policies, including public health, healthcare, social services, and social insurance. It coordinates national strategies, legislation, and funding to ensure equitable and effective care across the country.

Swedish eHealth Agency

The Swedish eHealth Agency (E-hälsomyndigheten) coordinates national e-health initiatives and develops digital solutions for healthcare, pharmacies, and social services. It manages key registers and IT services, including digital prescriptions and the Medicine Check service.

The National Board of Health and Welfare

Socialstyrelsen is Sweden's central authority for health and social care. It ensures equal access to high-quality services, maintains health data registers, and publishes official statistics. The agency also develops national guidelines and supports decision-makers across the healthcare and social sectors. Socialstyrelsen is an appointed candidate for having the role as coordinating HDAB.

The Health and Social Care Inspectorate (IVO)

The Health and Social Care Inspectorate (IVO) is a government agency responsible for supervising health care, social services and activities under the Act concerning Support and Service for Persons with Certain Functional Impairments (LSS). IVO is a formal candidate for having future HDAB responsibilities with regard to data use supervision.

Statistics Sweden

Statistics Sweden SCB is the national statistical agency responsible for producing official statistics to support decision-making, research, and public debate. It collects, analyses, and publishes data on areas such as population, labour market, economy, health, and education. SCB had the government assignment to investigate the prerequisites for how a system of secure processing environments should be organized and developed in Sweden within the framework of the EHDS.

The Swedish Ethical Review Authority

The remit of Etikprövningsmyndigheten is to protect participants involved in research. We do this by examining applications for ethical review.

Estonia

Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia

The Ministry of Social Affairs is responsible for shaping Estonia's policies in health, social protection, and employment. It promotes public health, ensures access to healthcare services, and supports vulnerable groups through welfare programs. The ministry also plays a key role in digital innovation and international cooperation in health and social systems.

Lithuania

Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania

The Ministry of Health formulates national health policy, oversees healthcare institutions, and promotes public health. It supports disease prevention, health education, and the development of health information systems.

State Data Agency

The State Data Agency (Valstybės duomenų agentūra)
Formally appointed HDAB.