

REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Ms Ülla-Karin Nurm NDPHS Secretariat ulla-karin.nurm@ndphs.org

Our ref. 14.02.2024 No 1.4-2/409-1

Partner letter

Dear Ms Nurm

Please find following the partner letter for the project Effectively Prepared In Crisis (EPIC).

1. Title of the project application to the Swedish Institute (SI)

Title of project OR acronym (same as in application to SI) EPIC Name of main applicant organisation, based in Sweden. NDPHS Secretariat

2. Details of the partner organisation and contact person

Name of organisation: Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia Department/unit/section: European Union Affairs and International Co-operation Country: Estonia Contact person, Name: Triin Uusberg Contact person, Title: Head of Department Contact person, E-mail: triin.uusberg@sm.ee

3. Relevance

Briefly describe the activities, objectives and competencies of your organisation and how they are relevant to the project. Please also reflect on how the project is in line with national, regional, and local strategies.

The mission of the Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia is to develop a living environment, where everyone has equal chances to live in dignity. Among the tasks of the Ministry is to organise the protection of public health, as well as medical care - including, together with the Estonian Health Board, in times of crisis and emergencies. The project is in line with the national emergency preparedness and crisis response strategies, the International Health Regulations (2005), as well as the relevant EU initiatives, such as the Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 November 2022 on serious cross-border threats to health.

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4. Contribution of your organisation

Briefly summarize your organisation's expected contribution to the project.

As the Estonian partner of the project, we will contribute with expertise and knowledge that other Partners of the project and NDPHS may find useful when designing their own emergency preparedness plans.

We will contribute with expertise and input at all stages of the project as described in the application. More specifically, the Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia will host a workshop within the project, either on needs assessment, or on exchange of experiences and best practices, to be decided jointly with the project partners.

5. Benefit for your organisation

Briefly summarize the benefit for your organisation to participate in this project.

As the Minister of Health Ms. Riina Sikkut underlined when addressing the NDPHS Partnership Annual Conference on 17 January 2024 in Stockholm, if we were to choose just one topic to focus on for collaboration under the NDPHS platform, it would be emergency preparedness and crisis response. Should risks materialize, they will affect all the countries in the region due to our geographical proximity.

Collaboration on emergency preparedness and crisis response is also a meaningful way to include Ukraine in the NDPHS collaboration, because their experience is unique and very valuable.

Yours sincerely,

/digitally signed/

Maarjo Mändmaa Secretary General

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