



EU AND SERBIA AT WORK

FACT SHEET

INTEGRATED HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Integrated Health Information System (EU-IHIS) is a three-year project funded through European Union (EU) Pre-accession assistance and it is intended to improve health services in the country, often burdened by large administrative paper procedures. It implements hospital information systems (HIS) in 19 selected hospitals throughout Serbia and develops an integrative electronic health record (EHR). It also provides elements of the national e-health system which support delivery of health care and use of health data.

EU-IHIS project started in February 2012; its budget amounts to €2.5 million (EU IPA). It is jointly implemented by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia and the European Union and implemented by the Regional Office of the World Health Organization for Europe (WHO) - Office in Serbia, with the administrative support of the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

Its direct beneficiaries are Ministry of Health, 19 selected beneficiary hospitals (8 in Belgrade and 11 throughout Serbia), their patients, medical staff and managements.

- The project assists Serbia in application of modern IT solutions in health, by complementing the EU donation of IT equipment with software and solutions that connect healthcare providers. These IT systems help to reduce the paperwork and make the collected health data readily available when needed. All beneficiary hospitals are using the new IT systems, from Vojvodina to south Serbia.

A WORD FROM USER: "It is easy to master the HIS programme, which is especially significant since it reduces the time needed for administration. For example, it takes 90 seconds for me to write the data from a Health Card to the administrative record of provided services, while this is done in ten seconds through the system. If the obligation to keep written records is to be abandoned, our job would be considerably easier," says Jelena Budimčić a nurse performing the administrative work in the orthopedic out-patient room, General hospital Sombor.

The project will be completed in 2015; one of its indirect results should be introduction of electronic health record at the national level and in all healthcare institutions, which will improve quality of patient care, but also use and security of health-related data and information.

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