

ERDERA – One Year of achievements and forthcoming years

Xavier Mérit

ERDERA, Coordination, Strategy, Project Management



Funded by
the European Union



30M

European touched

Representing around
around 6% of
european population
population

Diagnostic

Patients usually have to wait 5
years to get a precise diagnostic.

7K+

Identified diseases

With regular new
discoveries.

Inequalities of access

Important disparities between european
countriesfor healthcare and treatments

80%

Genetic origins

Majority of rare
diseases are genetic -
based

Therapeutical developpement

High costs .or small populations.
Only 5% have a treatment.

A disease is considered rare when it affects less than 5 persons out of 10 000

ERDERA: Our Objectives

**Improving the health and well-being
of 30 million people living with a rare disease
by making Europe a world-leader in RD research and innovation.**



Diagnosis established or
enrolment in systematic
research in average
within 6 months after
coming to medical
attention



New **effective therapies**
approved in Europe and
beyond, the majority of
which addressing
diseases without
approved options



**Better understanding of
the impact** of rare
diseases on patients,
families and society to
improve quality of life



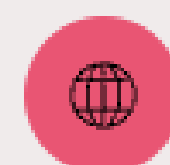
ERDERA: Our Global Scale & Investment



Diverse Partnership Network

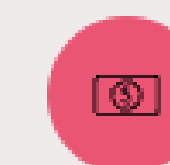
Our mission is powered by a broad network of nearly **180 organizations** from **37 countries**, including:

- Funders
- Research Institutions
- Hospitals
- Research Infrastructures
- Patient Organizations
- Industry Partners



Extensive Global Reach

ERDERA spans **25 European Union countries** (except Croatia and Malta) and **numerous associated and non-EU countries**, fostering international cooperation (Australia, Canada, Iceland, Israel, Georgia, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Türkiye, United Kingdom)



Substantial Financial Commitment

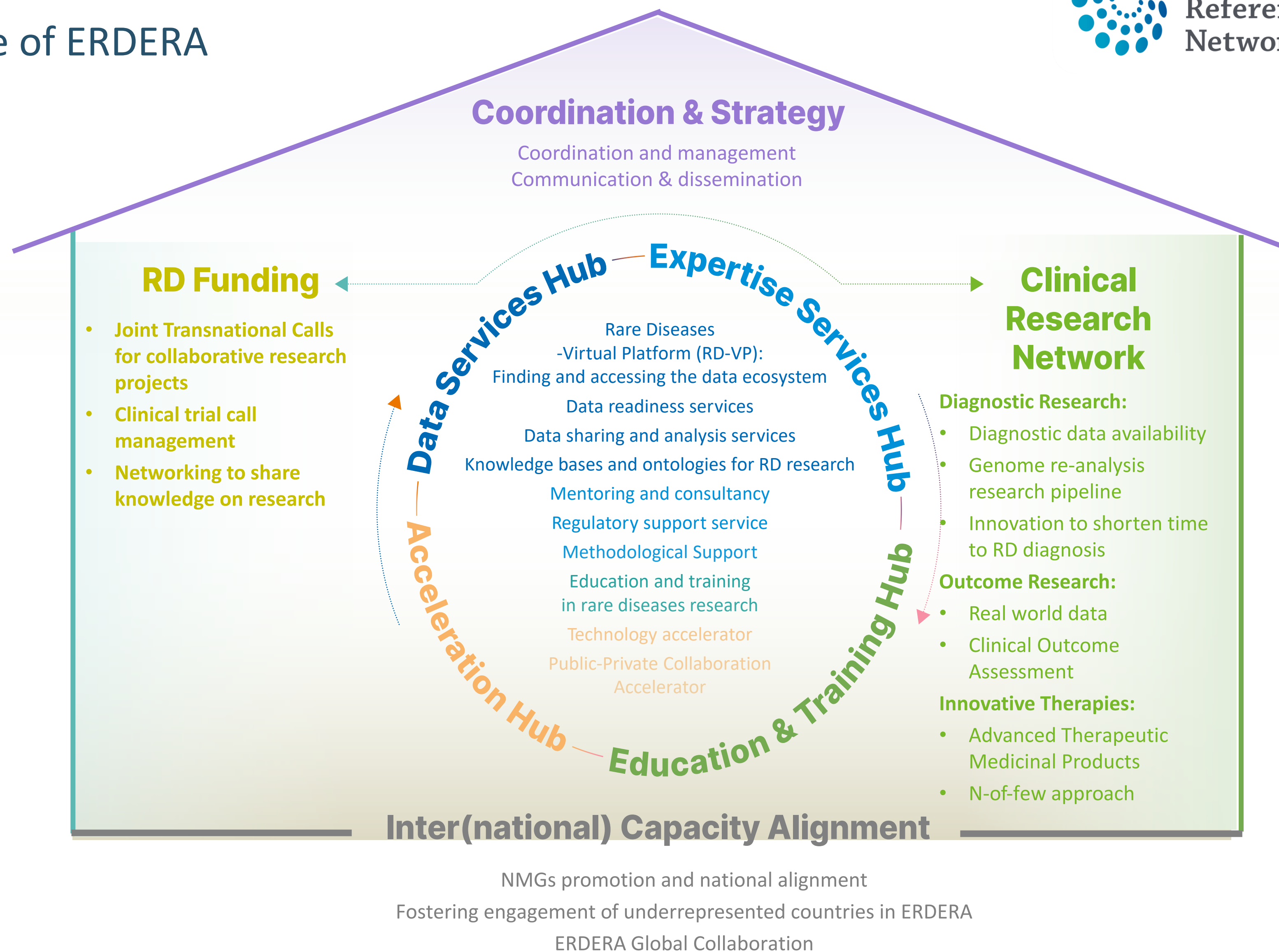
A significant financial commitment underpins our ambitious goals, with a total budget of approximately **€380 million**:

- **€150 million** investment from the European Commission
- Over €230 million contributed by participating countries and institutions
- **Every partner contributes** to our collective actions

ERDERA brings together diverse expertise and significant resources to advance its mission, demonstrating a strong commitment to global collaboration.



The house of ERDERA



ERDERA in Action

- Joint Transnational Calls
- Networking Support Scheme
- Clinical Trials Call
- Data Hub
- Expertise Service Hub
- Public-Private Collaboration Accelerator (PPCA)
- TRAINING & EDUCATION
- Clinical Research Network
 - Diagnostics,
 - Outcome Research,
 - Therapies
- Inter(national) Alignment

Joint Transnational Calls



MAIN GOAL: enable scientists in different countries to build an effective collaboration on a common interdisciplinary research project based on complementarities and sharing of expertise, with a clear future benefit for patients

<https://erdera.org/funding/#joint-transnational-call>

Launched every year in December with pre-announcement the latest in November

2-stage evaluation process. 3-years projects

A minimum of 3/4 eligible partners and a max. of 6 per project (can be extended to 8 according to specific conditions)
PAOs participation is financed



Call for Proposals 2026

Resolving unsolved cases in rare genetic and non-genetic diseases through variant validation and new technological approaches

➡ Launch 10 December

✍ Pre-announcement now available

📅 Webinar:
16 December,
15:00–17:00 CET

Networking Support Scheme

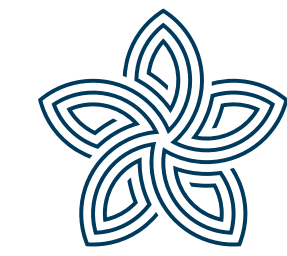


- Provides financial support for organizing workshops or conferences, fostering new or expanding research networks.
- Aims to strengthen collaborations and enable the exchange of knowledge.
- Build new or expand existing European and global research networks focusing on Rare Diseases (RDs) and rare cancers.

Funding: 30 000 € per event

**Application: Continuously open
(eligibility check every 6 months)**

**Eligibility: Collaborative (minimum 3
(minimum 3 applicants from 3 ERDERA
ERDERA countries)**



Clinical Trials Call

Clinical Trials Call funds controlled clinical research studies undertaken in humans to establish or confirm the safety and effectiveness of therapeutic interventions. These will benefit from ERDERA support for regulatory and methodological aspects.



Clinical Trials Call

30 million € budget from the European Commission + possible additional funds from national funding bodies

Definition of call topic and rules in 2025. Opening of the call in 2026. Final decision by end of 2027 and funding of clinical trials between 2028-2031 with possible extension to 2034.

Driven by patients' needs from inception

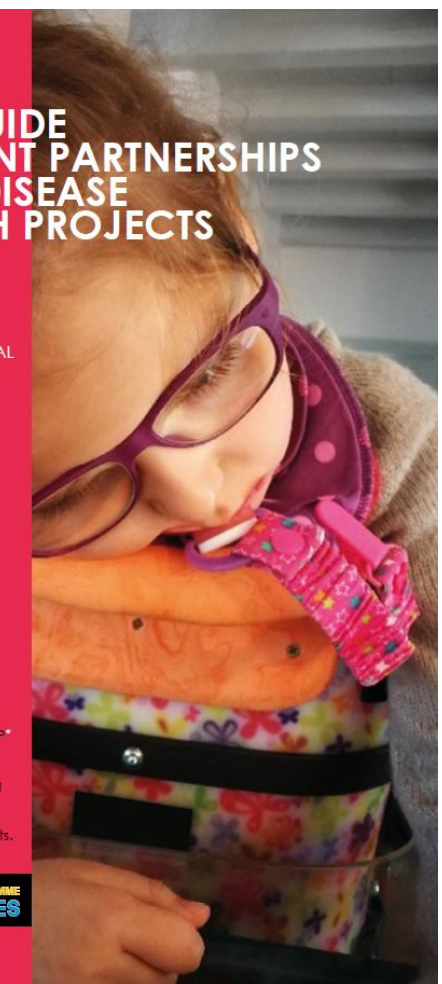
**SHORT GUIDE
ON PATIENT PARTNERSHIPS
IN RARE DISEASE
RESEARCH PROJECTS**

BASIC
PRE-CLINICAL
TRANSLATIONAL & SOCIAL

Written by the members
of the working group PENREP.
Guide first
published in July 2020
on www.eurardiseases.org

* Patient Engagement in
Biomedical Research Projects.

EUROPEAN JOINT PROGRAMME
ON RARE DISEASES





The Virtual Platform (VP) is a growing **network of Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR) resources, ready to serve the rare disease (RD) research community**. It includes catalogues of over 45 resources, registries, biobanks, knowledge bases and tools compliant with agreed standards. The VP Portal allows you to search the VP network resources at once in real time to find those of interest to your research.

Discover rare diseases resources and data:



Search for a disease name (e.g. ADPKD), gene (e.g. PKD1), or Orph...



Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs)

1

PROMs repository has been updated within **PROQOLID**, and a **user-friendly QALY interface** is under development. Currently, **1,200 rare disease-specific PROMs** are included.

Early Detection and Prenatal Screening

2

An **ontology of prenatal echography signs** is being developed to improve the **early detection of rare diseases** and harmonize data interpretation across clinical settings.

Functional Impact and Disease Burden

3

An **ontology describing the functional impact of rare diseases** has been developed and is being prepared for **public release**, supporting research, clinical assessment, and policy design.



MENTORING & CONSULTANCY

Mentoring Programme:

32 projects accompanied with over 30 mentors, handbook & tracking platform

Consultancy service: encompassing overall expertise available in ERDERA tailored to users needs

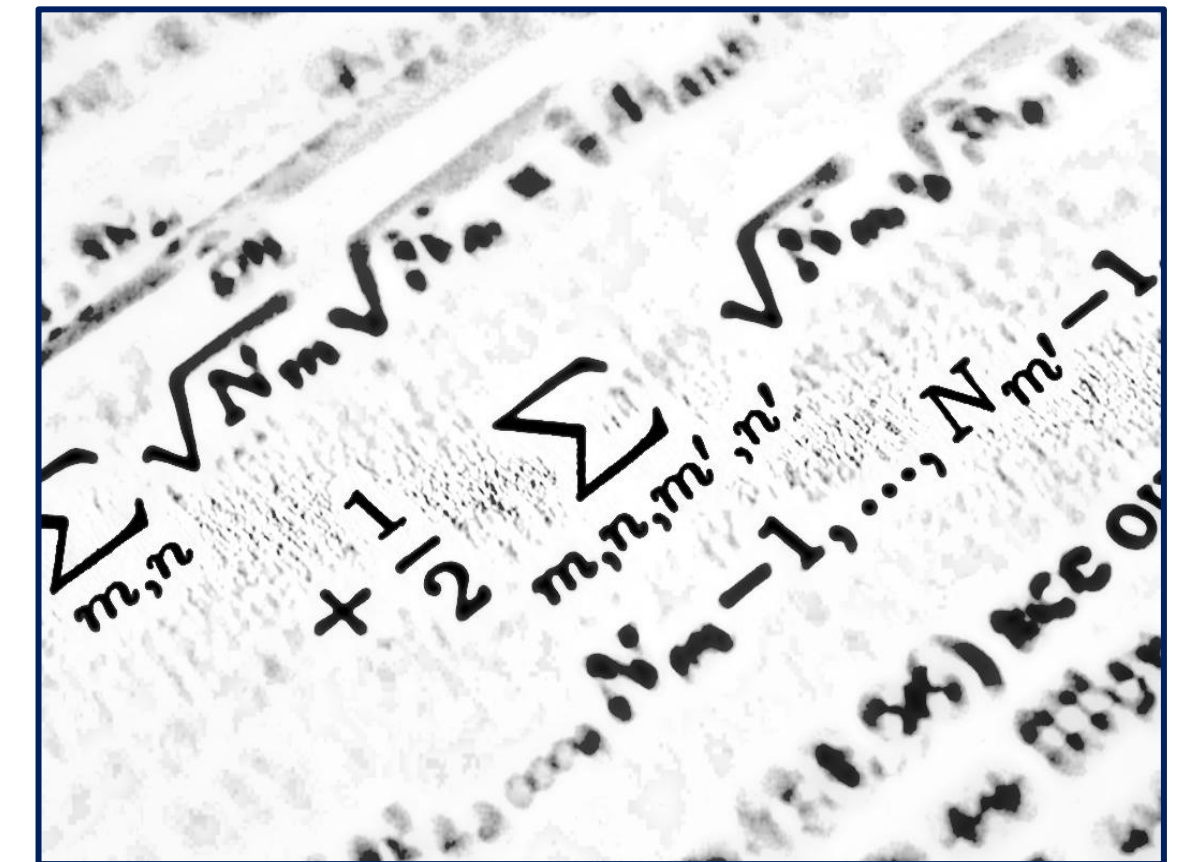


REGULATORY

Regulatory Support Group:

20 members, representing regulators, academia, industry, patients, non-for profit

Guidance on: regulatory requirement for pre-clinical & clinical research, data use, privacy, samples, etc.



METHODOLOGY

Clinical studies support: Methodologies for multivariate, hierarchical, incomplete data and federated data analysis

RD trial methodology with initiation of surrogate endpoints evaluation

Handling missing data



The **ERDERA Public-Private Collaboration Accelerator (PPCA)** empowers researchers to turn promising translational ideas into investor-ready projects able to improve the lives of people living with rare diseases. By combining tailored scientific guidance with access to a unique European ecosystem of public and private partners, we help you de-risk and advance your work at the discovery and pre-clinical stages.

**Official Opening
for submissions
was in January 2026**

Training & Education

2400 stakeholders trained



European
Reference
Network



Endo-ERN



Diagnosing & Treating Rare Diseases

Diagnosing Rare
Diseases: from the Clinic
to Research and back –
1,021 participants

Innovative Therapies and
Personalised Medicine
for Rare Diseases – **289
participants**

From Lab to Clinic:
Translational Research
for Rare Diseases – **190
participants**

Health Data, Ethics &
Regulatory Frameworks
– **111 participants**



FAIR Data Training

Understanding & value
of FAIR

FAIR Guiding principles

Advanced concepts &
Tools

300 participants, XX
countries



Paediatric Training

27 young participants
(ages 12–18)

From 7 Young Persons'
Advisory Groups
(YPAGs): Portugal, UK,
Albania, Italy, Greece,
Ireland



EURORDIS Open Academy

4-day international training with
two tracks: *Medicines R&D*
*Scientific Innovation & Translational
Research*

70 participants (60 patient
advocates, 10 researchers)

31 countries, >52 rare diseases

15 expert faculty members
delivering interactive sessions



Diagnostic Research

3 focused training
sessions – **~400
participants** total

Submitting genomic and
clinical data for re-
analysis – **133
participants, 26
countries**

Clinical annotation using
HPOs – **114 participants**

Advancing diagnostics in
underrepresented
countries – **150
participants, 30
countries**



Accelerating Rare Disease Diagnosis & Therapies Across Europe



EU diagnostic pipeline

Robust Governance Framework to ensure high data high data quality and **coordinated access** (aligned (aligned with EHDS)

10 000 genomic data sets from patients across across Europe with undiagnosed rare diseases diseases

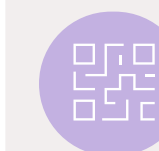
Leveraged **Long-Read Sequencing and RNA-seq to seq to empower underrepresented countries** with with advanced diagnostic capabilities



Electronic Health Records & Regulatory-grade Modelling

Practical **EHR→research workflow** defined and piloted (governance, queries, validation path).

First **regulatory-grade modelling result**: in genetic ataxias, adding digital motor measures to clinician scales yielded **~49–61% trial sample-size reduction** in simulations.



RD Therapies Pipeline

Developed a **transparent, evidence-based prioritisation framework** to guide ATMPs therapy development

Creation of a **matching tool** linking **rare disease categories** with **ATMP technology platforms**



Inter(national) Alignment

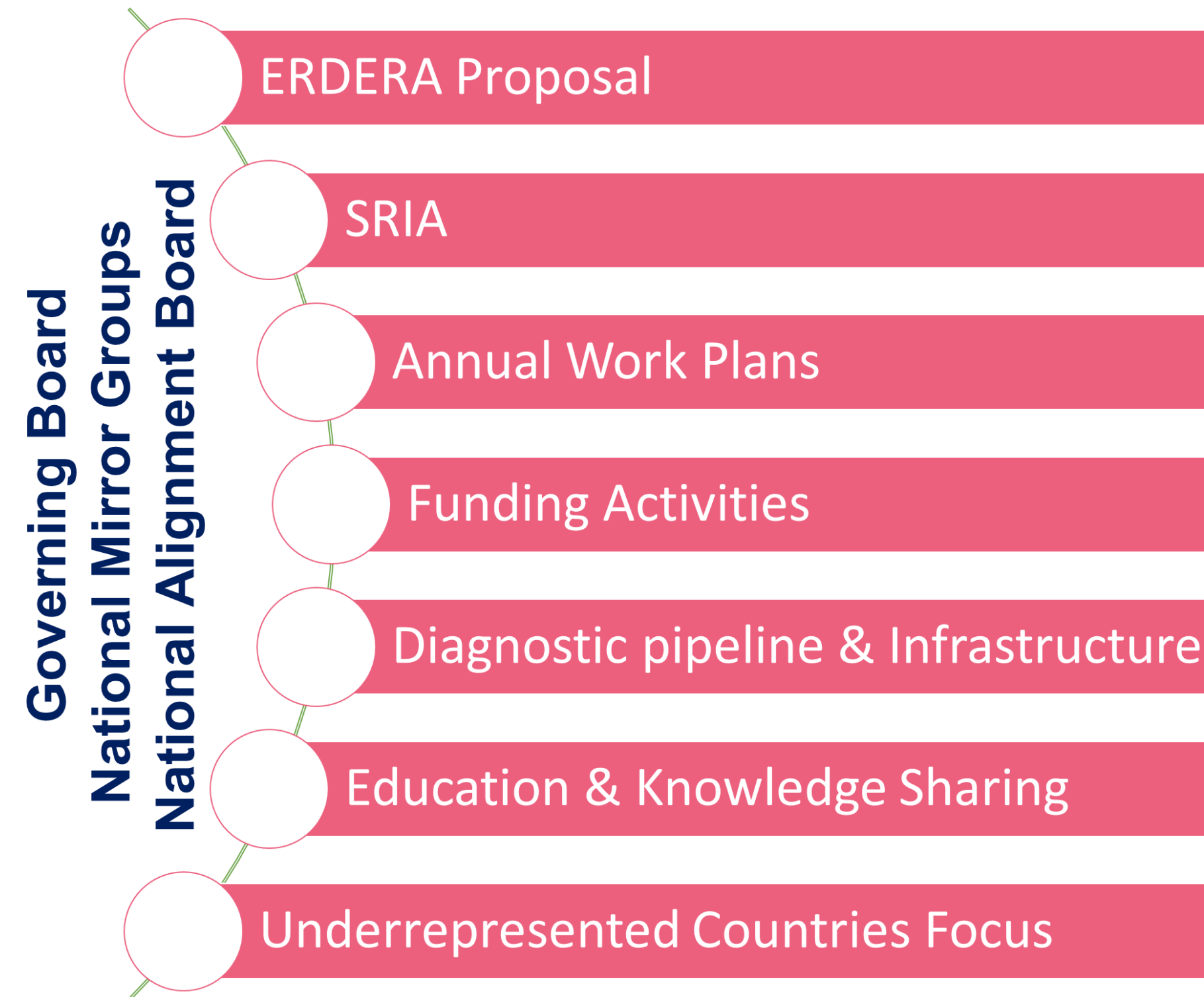


European
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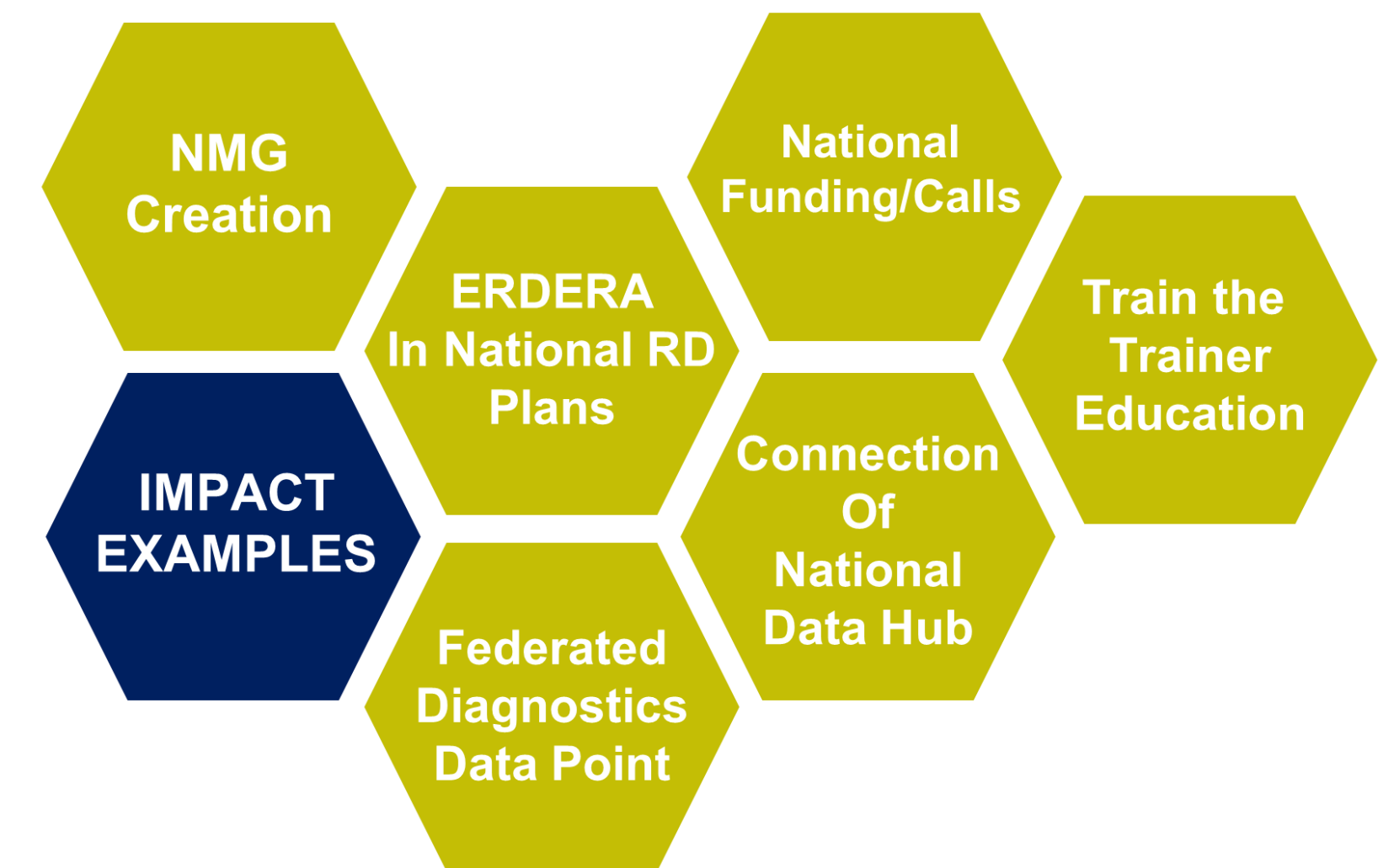
National Alignment



**18 NMGs established – 13 ongoing
37 as target for end of year 2**

NMGs COMPOSITION:

ERDERA GB Representative, National Competent Authority, National Funding Body, Academia, Hospitals, National RD Patients Alliance, Industry, HTA/Payers, ERNs



Strategic Alliances



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**Joint Action on Integration
of ERNs into National
Healthcare Systems**



**European
Genomic Data
Infrastructure**

**Enabling access to genomic
and related phenotypic and
clinical data across Europe**



Global Alliance
for Genomics & Health
Collaborate. Innovate. Accelerate.

**Technical standards, policy
frameworks and tools that
expand responsible,
voluntary, and secure use
of genomic and other
related health data**



**Shortening the path to rare
disease diagnosis by using
newborn genetic screening
and digital technologies**

To the Brilliant Minds and Big Hearts Behind ERDERA CoO



Inserm

La science pour la santé
From science to health



Daria Julkowska
Coordinator



Anissa Bounabi
Assistant Coordinator



Baptiste Eluard
Project Manager
RD fundings—
Expertise Services
Hub



Pauline Adam
Project Manager
Global collaborations



Clément Moreau
Project Manager
National
Alignment



Başak Uysal
Project Manager
Data Hub



Xavier Merit
Project Manager
Clinical Research
Network



Helin Ruf-Ucar
Project Manager
Education



Raísa Simões
Policy Officer



Gustavo Insaurrealde
Financial &
Administrative Manager



Odile Heitz
Office Manager



Maica Llaveró
Co-head of EU-Funded
Projects



Anna Llobet
Project Manager



Marina Derch
Project
Manager



Gisela Pairo
Communication
Lead



Freya Sentimarti
Junior Communication
Officer

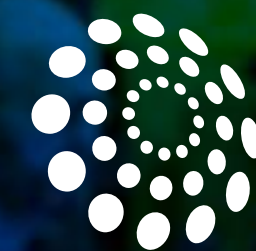


Jordi Vaqué
Communication
Officer

teamit.

<https://erdera.org/>





European
Reference
Network



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