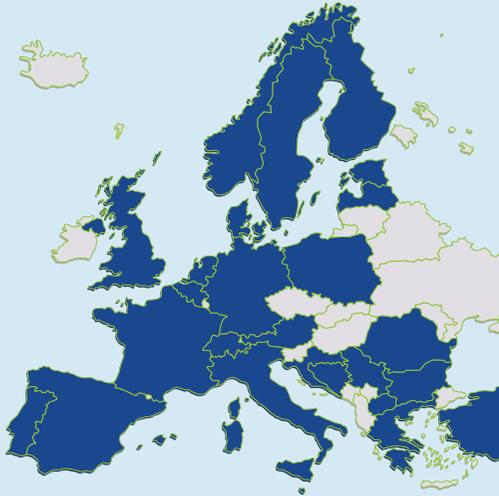


## What is OMEGA-NET?

OMEGA-NET is a European Commission-funded COST Action with **79 participants from 29 countries** to date.



Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYR Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom. International Partner Country: Australia.

## Why OMEGA-NET?

Occupation and paid employment are an essential component of adult life and a major determinant of health and healthy ageing. As such, occupational exposures remain important –and modifiable– risk factors of public health.

*“The work environment is a key factor in health inequalities. Understanding how to create a safe and healthy workplace will contribute immensely to better population health.”*

*–Cristiana Pereira (MC Member, Portugal).*

Europe has some of the most valuable cohorts for performing health research on occupation and employment. However, their lack of integration hampers the optimal exploitation of these resources, essential to underpin evidence-based interventions and policies.

## Contact

### Ingrid Sivesind Mehlum

*Chair of the Action*  
National Institute of Occupational Health (STAMI), Oslo, Norway  
[ingrid.s.mehlum@stami.no](mailto:ingrid.s.mehlum@stami.no)



### Michelle Turner

*Vice Chair of the Action*  
Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), Barcelona, Spain  
[michelle.turner@isglobal.org](mailto:michelle.turner@isglobal.org)



### Gemma Castaño-Vinyals

*Grant Holder Manager*  
Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), Barcelona, Spain  
[gemma.castano@isglobal.org](mailto:gemma.castano@isglobal.org)



### Damien McElvenny

*Science Communication Manager*  
Institute of Occupational Medicine, Edinburgh, UK  
[Damien.McElvenny@iom-world.org](mailto:Damien.McElvenny@iom-world.org)



COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union



# OMEGA-NET

Network on the Coordination  
and Harmonisation of European  
Occupational Cohorts

COST Action CA12216  
OMEGA-NET is supported by  
COST (European Cooperation  
in Science and Technology).

[www.cost.eu](http://www.cost.eu)

## OMEGA-NET Objectives



OMEGA-NET's overall goal is to optimise the use of occupational cohorts in Europe by

- 1 Creating an **inventory** of existing cohorts and propose how to harmonise the exposure and outcome information
- 2 Developing **training activities** and fostering engagement of and **communication** with different stakeholders in the field

### EXPECTED IMPACT

OMEGA-NET will facilitate an integrated research strategy for occupational health in Europe, provide an enhanced evidence base for the identification of health risks related to employment, and ultimately foster preventive strategies and policies.



## OMEGA-NET Work Plan



### ● INVENTORY OF COHORTS

We will make an inventory of existing European cohorts with occupational information and implement an online interactive tool with detailed information on these cohorts.

### ● HARMONISATION OF OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE AND HEALTH OUTCOME INFORMATION

Existing occupational exposure assessment methods will be evaluated in terms of availability, quality and potential use. Comparability of health outcome information between cohorts will be assessed.

### ● STANDARDISED PROTOCOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION

Protocols to ensure the harmonisation of information on occupational exposures, health outcomes and key confounding factors will be developed for future data collection with emphasis on:

- Healthy ageing and work participation
- Working hours
- Employment patterns in the young
- Occupational skin diseases
- Work-related mental health
- Precarious Work

### ● DATA MANAGEMENT AND ETHICS

We will provide data management and ethical guidance throughout the project, and create a statistical taskforce for associated investigators.

### ● STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Relevant stakeholders at the international/regional/national level will be engaged to contribute in the identification of cohorts, the design and dissemination of the online interactive tool and the development of joint research agendas.

### ● SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS AND TRAINING

We aim to provide networking, leadership and training opportunities particularly for early career investigators and researchers from COST Inclusiveness Target Countries.

### ● DISSEMINATION

Throughout the entire course of the project, we will disseminate relevant information using different formats and channels (including social media) tailored to the different target audiences.



Visit [www.omeganetcohorts.eu](http://www.omeganetcohorts.eu)

