

The importance of cross-border healthcare

In 2020, the value of **cross-border** (**preventive**) **healthcare** was demonstrated even more than usual. In the fight against COVID-19, cooperation between different health organisations proved vital.

In addition, the pandemic once again made it clear that most decisions in the area of (preventive) healthcare are made at the national level and do not always take into account residents in border regions. For example, the closure of cafes in one country meant that border regions in another country were overrun by tourism. Or think of informal carers who were unable to provide care for their loved ones when the border between the Netherlands and Belgium was closed.

euPrevent's achievements in 2020

We are therefore proud that, in 2020, we have once again worked hard to strengthen our network and promote cooperation between health organisations in the border region.



38 new partners joined our network (total number of partners: 140), including Sciensano (Belgium), Kreis Viersen (Germany) and Veiligheidsregio Limburg-Noord (the Netherlands).



4 new projects started, of which 2 were related to the COVID-19 pandemic



9 times mentioned in newspapers, articles and other news items



4 international conferences where we were guest speakers, including at the WHO



302 followers on social media



almost 25000 citizens reached

Some projects in the spotlight



Sustainable Healthy ERMN (SHE)

this project aims to establish a structural network of cooperation between public health services in the Rhine-Meuse-North Euroregion (ERMN). The focus is on gathering knowledge about the health structure of the public health care systems in the Rhine-Meuse-North Euroregion and sharing this knowledge across



euPrevent COVID-19
this project aims to
assess the impact
of COVID-19 on the
Meuse-Rhine Euroregion
(EMR) in order to gain
insight into the effects
of COVID-19 in border
regions.



Social Norms Approach (SNA)

with this project, we want to strengthen existing preventive initiatives in the border region with the help of the Social Norms Approach, an approach that assumes that information about the health behaviour of people in our vicinity promotes making healthier choices.



Knowledge broker the Euroregional knowledge broker for health, vitality and participation contributes to social structural change in **Dutch Limburg through** research, meetings, structure building and advice. The goal of the knowledge broker is to catch up with the backlog in Limburg in the areas of health and labour participation.