

Evidence-Based Research Network.  
Steering Group Meeting  
Wednesday 24 June 19:00 – 20:00 (CEST)

**Members present:** Hans Lund, Hanna Nykvist, Matt Westmore, Mona Nasser, Peg Ford

**Agenda:**

- 1. Status for Road Map of Publications** – Paper 1 need final approval from the authors and Steering Group members and then we can put the search in PROSPERO. Hans & Klara are in the middle of adjusting the Bergen statement about evidence-based research (Paper 2). Members of the Steering Group will have a version in August.  
Matt is working on the implication for funders' paper (Paper 4), but it has raised questions about the types of research to include and international scope of funders. We do not need to be representative everywhere but the author group must be aware of the importance of the issue. EBR will be a priority for the Norwegian Research Council so we might consider involving someone there. Hanna will look into this. Matt will share the names of the people he has been working with to be approved by the Steering Group. Mona will send a list of potential co-authors to Matt. It is not clear at this stage if we could simply write the paper with statements and/or suggestions or if we need to use a specific method. If the type of research is broad, we have to be a bit broader and discuss principals rather than specific methods. It is important to discuss this with a broad range of funders to reach a consensus about the best approach.
- 2. Flyer for the EBRNetwork** – It needs to be short and make people want to visit the website. Hanna and Hans will send a new version in August. We might consider using infographics because it breaks down language barriers and can be used in different countries. We also need to reach a consensus about our tagline.
- 3. The economy of the EBRNetwork** – Hanna has prepared a budget for the network. Currently, Hanna, Hans and Birgitte Espehaug are working on a COST Action proposal. Hanna will write it and Hans (DK) and Birgitte (N) will provide input. We will also invite Matt (UK), Marlies (NL) and Nino Cartabellotta (I) to act as co-authors. The Steering Group will approve the final version. Hanna will email the relevant documents to all involved. Hans and his colleagues in Denmark are also applying for funding.
- 4. Low and middle-income countries** – We want to include more people from low and middle-income countries. Systematic reviews in LMICs might be part of the road map. We might also consider approaching journals in LMICs. Mona is part of a Cochrane initiative in building capacity in LMICs. Mona will look into how we can collaborate with that network.
- 5. Question from GIMBE** – We will encourage partnerships rather than organisational membership. We are partners with Evidence Live. We need a well thought through policy with inclusion/exclusion criteria. Hanna and Hans will formulate a short policy for partnerships and then we will approach Nino.
- 6. Editor for a blog on the website** – We are contemplating starting a blog on the website where we invite people to write blog posts. Suggested name "Systematic Sundays". Matt offered to be editor/coordinator.
- 7. Other** – Our next meeting will be on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> of August 7.00 pm. DIGEST will have a meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October in Vienna. Over the summer, we should all think about how we could approach existing networks and organisations dealing with the same and/or similar issues.

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Collaboration is important and we will discuss this in more detail in more in Vienna.