



**Finnish Institute of
Occupational Health**

Need for Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Research Cooperation in Europe

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Increased need of occupational health and safety -research in Europe

- Prerequisites for boosting well-being and competitiveness of the EU in the globalized world:
 - a healthy and innovative workforce and -place
 - a strong industrial capacity, exploiting fully its technological capacity, and creating new job opportunities
 - better exploiting the innovation potential of small and medium size enterprises, universities and research institutes
 - improved collaboration and co-operation inside and between EU-countries

Priority topic areas for OSH research

- **Psychosocial issues**
 - organizational interventions (focus on stress and violence)
 - retention of ageing workers
 - integration of workers with disabilities
- **Ergonomic factors**
 - MSD
 - Cognitive ergonomics
- **Work environment, risk assessment, safety management**
 - exposure assessment models
 - ultrafine & nanoparticles
 - indoor air quality
 - biological agents
 - allergens, reproductive toxicants
- **Information intensive work**
 - vigilance, mental work load
- **Implementation research, interventions and surveys**

Topic Centre – Work environment Activity (funded by the Bilbao Agency)

- First generation TCs: foundation for building a network of OSH research and expert institutes within EU (1999-2001)
 - Good Practice - Dangerous Substances, Musculoskeletal Disorders, Stress at Work
 - Research
- Second generation TCs: widened OSH networking in Europe, active production and dissemination of good practice information (2002-2004)
 - Good Practice - Systems and Programs
 - Research

Topic Centre – Work Environment Activity

- Third generation TCs: further promotion of OSH research and general OSH impact in EU (2005 ->)
 - Work Environment
 - Risk Observatory
- TC Work Environment
 - coordinated by FIOH, partners from 13 countries
 - wide variety of activities: collecting, analyzing, digesting and disseminating good practice OSH information in EU and beyond

Foundation of PEROSH in 2003

Partnership for **E**uropean **R**esearch in
Occupational **S**afety and **H**ealth

PEROSH mission:

Research for a better and sustainable working life in changing societies and the changing world of work to strengthen well-being for the workforce and productivity of companies.



HSL



INRS



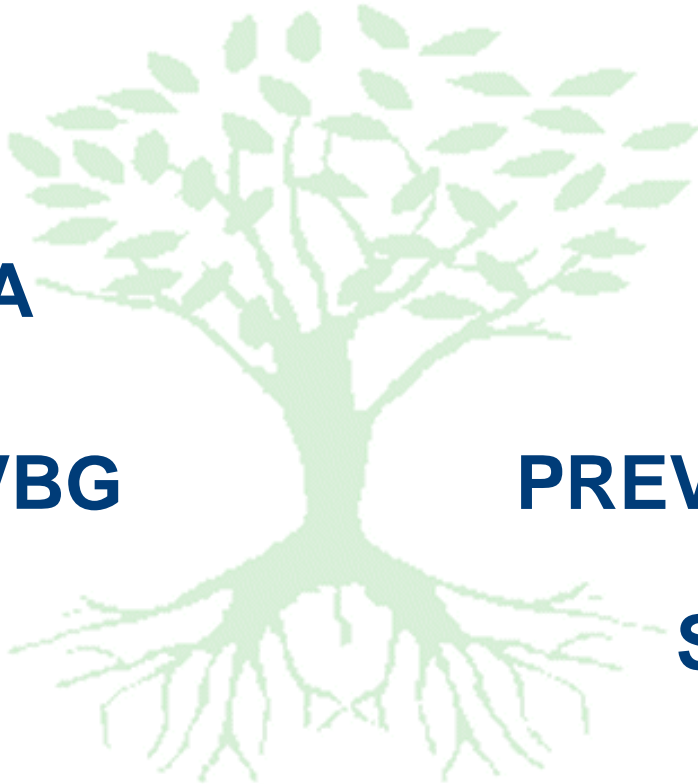
MTAS



ISPESL MKK



CIOP



FIOH



BAuA

TNO



HVBG

PREVENT



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STAMI



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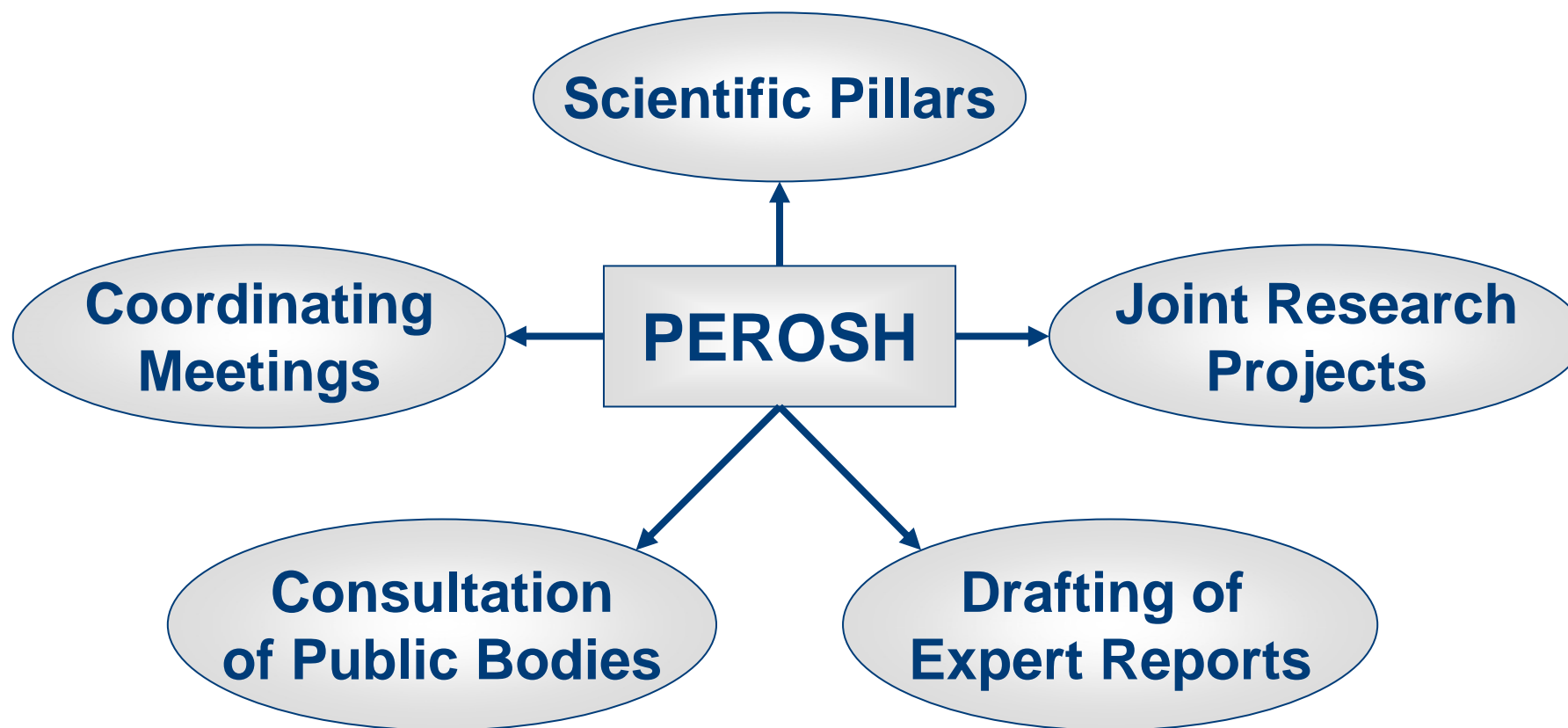
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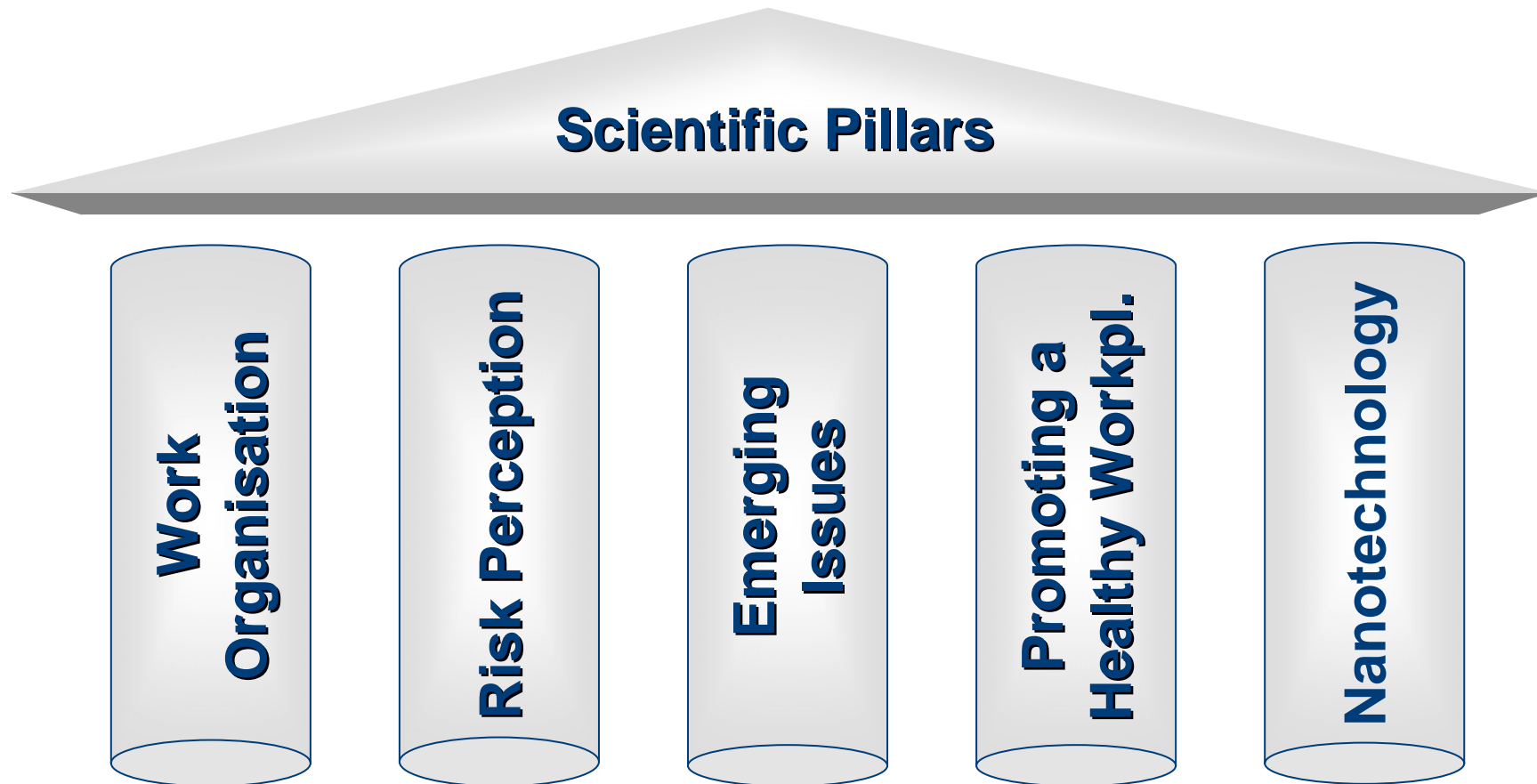
Objectives of PEROSH

- The members of PEROSH agree to cooperate in order to
 - create an appropriate EU network of OSH institutes to facilitate
 - collaboration on EU research and development projects and programs;
 - promotion of knowledge transfer between institutes
 - avoid inappropriate and expensive duplication of effort by the sharing of results
 - act as an expert forum in the development of ideas in support of EU and national policies

Activities of PEROSH



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Activities of PEROSH

Preparing of joint projects,

e. g. NEW OSH ERA



- The ERA NET Scheme is a new action under FP6
- It is the major tool to support the creation of the European Research Area (ERA)
- Creation of an "internal market" in research
- It is of high strategic importance for OSH to be present in the ERA NET scheme

NEW OSH ERA

Promoting OSH research in Europe through building alliances

- Coordinated by FIOH
- Partners from Finland, Poland, Germany, Denmark, Italy, Sweden, Hungary, Spain, Greece
- Starts at the beginning of 2006
- Provides a platform for
 - further strengthening of European OSH research and other activities
 - consideration of OSH issues in Community policies

Forms of European cooperation within OSH ERA NET

OSH ERA-NET	Coordination and cooperation of national and regional programmes
COST	Creates networks of nationally funded research projects on European level
FP6 and FP7	Financial instrument for implementing the European Research Area
EUREKA	Network for market oriented R&D by national funding
PEROSH	Helps in creating transnational research activities
Nat'l Offices in Brussels	Contacts and communication with EU R&D programmes

Objectives for OSH research activities in Europe

- Increase networking in EU
 - Get maximum benefits from possibilities of EU Framework Programme
 - Networking, international cooperation and researcher mobility funding in research projects
- Improve possibilities to international cooperation
 - Finance studies and encourage projects that aim for international cooperation
- Establish joint projects
 - Establish a true international joint company project (not just information exchange)

How will research collaboration look like in the future Europe?

- Need a 'Virtual European OSH Institute' through
 - better planning, cooperation and coordination
 - optimized collaborative work of scientific activity areas
 - preparation of joint projects, such safety and health on nanotechnology applications
- Be the 'Voice of European OSH Research' through
 - lobbying at European level
 - development of proposals for EU programmes
 - organization of innovative OSH events