

# Innovation ecosystems in healthcare

Anett Ruszanov



**ERRIN** European Regions  
Research and Innovation Network





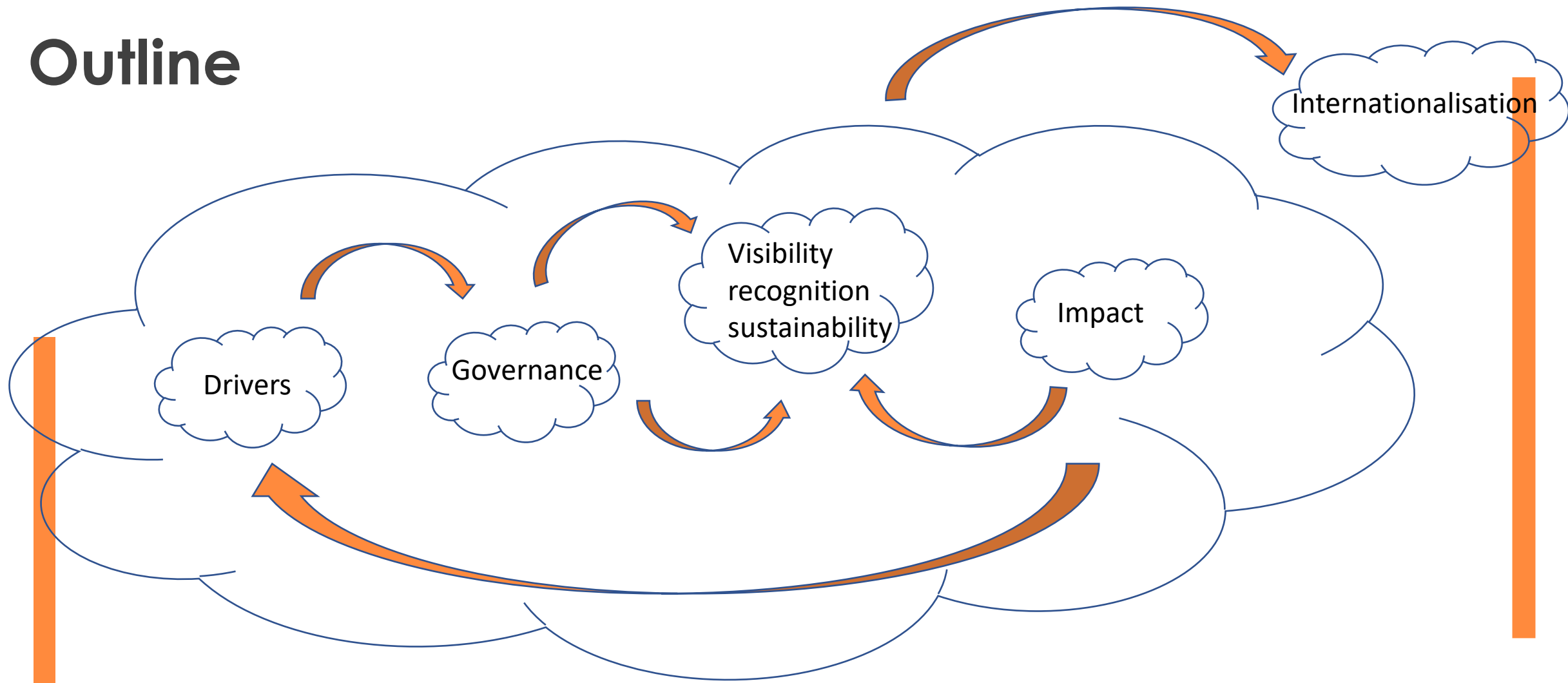
## What is ERRIN?

Brussels-based network  
of regional and local  
representations focusing  
on research and  
innovation policy and  
programmes

Support the  
development of regional  
and local innovation  
ecosystems and enhance  
research and innovation  
capacities

120+ members  
-  
20+ countries

# Outline



# Where does the experience come from?



- ERRIN's mission
- inDemand project
- EIPonAHA Reference Sites



## HORIZON EUROPE – PLACE-BASED INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

Building an effective European research and innovation policy post-2020 requires input from a range of stakeholders, including citizens. These stakeholders often work together in partnerships at the city or regional level combining proximity with critical mass. In this context, [ERRIN, the European Regions Research and Innovation Network](#), argues that effective research and innovation is increasingly dependent on strong interconnected research and innovation ecosystems embedded in regions and cities. A well-functioning quadruple helix (research, industry, public authorities, and citizens) is essential to increase the impact of research and innovation investment, and thus all its dimensions should be supported under Horizon Europe.

ERRIN's objective is not only to increase university-business collaboration, but to fundamentally change the way local and regional actors work together within a quadruple helix approach focusing on the wider regional development agenda and ecosystem thinking. By including place-based regional innovation ecosystems in the programme, the EU can better coordinate research and innovation priorities and practices at all governance levels - local, regional, national, and European. This will ensure increased impact of the research and innovation policy and programmes.

More added value can be generated by pooling knowledge, expertise, and resources, which is essential to tackle and overcome many of the broad societal challenges Europe's regions face. Europe needs **new partnerships for research and innovation excellence** in the whole of the Union based on enhanced multilevel governance, and a shared and open innovation culture. **Cooperation between innovation ecosystems** provides access to complementary skills, infrastructure, and markets. This helps to reshape EU value chains by promoting investment synergies between the private and public sector within different regional innovation ecosystems, which in turn contributes to the development of the EU economy as a whole.

Horizon Europe should provide support mechanisms to harvest the potential of interconnecting excellent regional innovation ecosystems and open new avenues for European collaborations. The **European Innovation Ecosystems action under Pillar III** provides one opportunity for this. Such **connected ecosystems** would allow for increasing European innovation excellence, as well as for strengthening and widening of the European research and innovation community. This action can:

- Implement synergies and demonstrate how co-funding mechanisms can work in practice (such as Interreg component 5, Digital Europe Programme, etc.)
- Draw on Smart Specialisation strategies as a driver for regional innovation to better coordinate top-down (European) and bottom-up (regional) research and innovation priorities and practices, thus creating a strong link between regional and EU strategies and objectives.

In addition, ERRIN argues that the territorial dimension should be an integral part in Pillar II as well as in the

# 1+1+1+1 > 4. What is an ecosystem?

Continuously  
evolving

Intensity of the links  
and collaboration

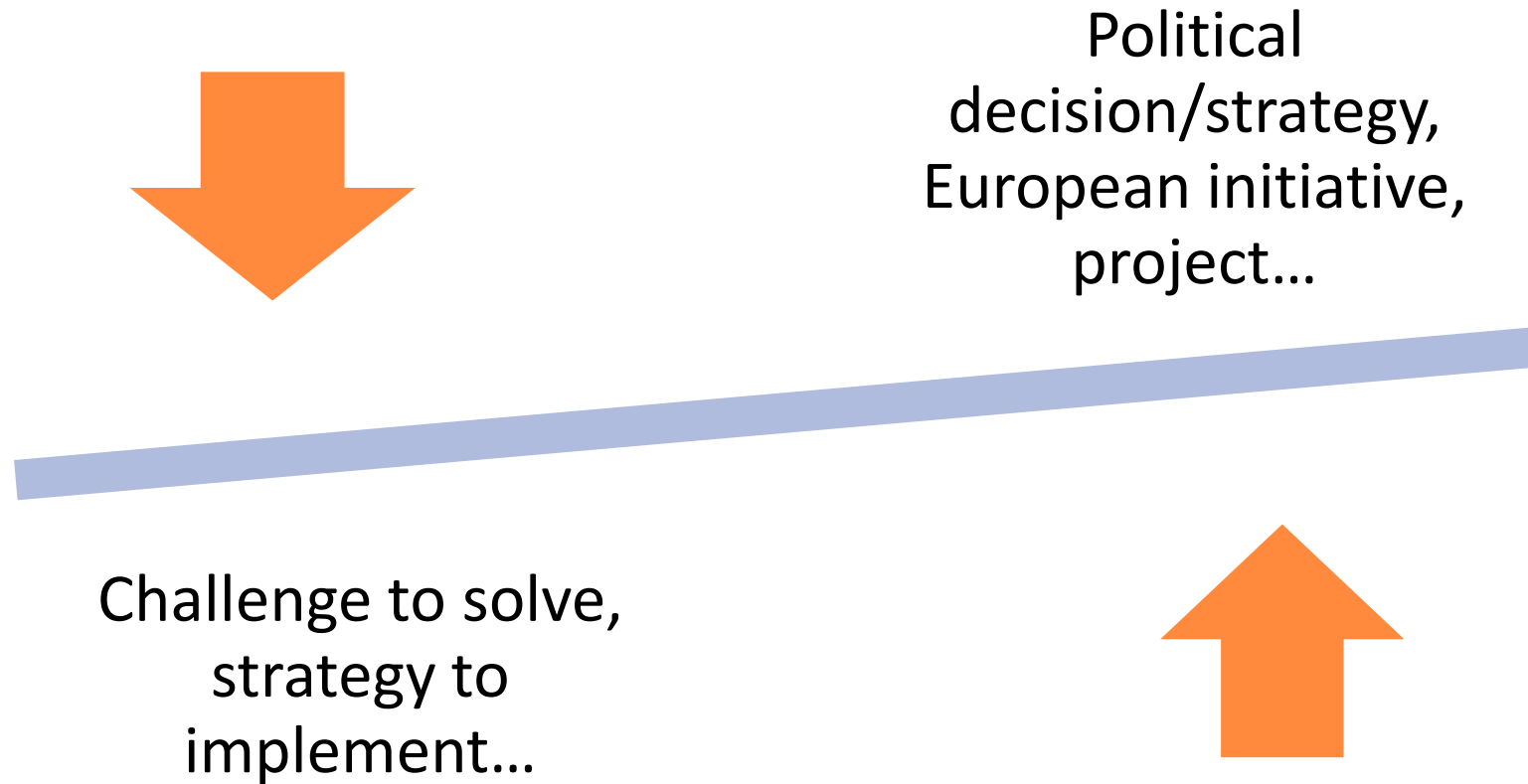
Very different  
models

A reason  
"why"

Motivation &  
quick wins



# Start of the journey: drivers



# Organisation of the stakeholders, governance

- Formalised agreements vs role-based silent agreements
- Communication, regular meetings – key
- Governance: regional government vs independent entities
- Becoming institutional vs remaining informal



Sustainability issues

Political support

# Recognition, visibility, sustainability

- Mid-level – not reaching to national level
- Is there a proper autonomous/administrative regional system in place?
- Is healthcare a regional competence?
- Not talking only about “regional ecosystems”
- Continuous fight to raise awareness
- Critical mass helps
- National/European network



Prove impact



# What is needed for impact?

- Societal, economic, well-being, policy...
- Needs scale
- Pilot -> market
- Needs investment (e.g *ESIF, S3*), **ecosystem**, PPI ← role of public authorities
- Role of HTA or other objective measurement tool
- Clear messages
- Networks, associations, dissemination
- Feed-back loop to sustainability, visibility, recognition

# Internationalisation

- Ecosystem and ecosystems in the territory
- European networks, exchange, project, partnership, sharing...
- International networks, exchange, project, sharing...
- Brussels office connection

Anett Ruszanov  
[anett.ruszanov@errin.eu](mailto:anett.ruszanov@errin.eu)

ERRIN  
3 rue du Luxembourg,  
B-1000 Brussels

