



# Adaptation of HTA Reports from Different Contexts: Identification of the Need for a Toolkit to aid the Process

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# European Network for Health Technology Assessment (EUnetHTA)

## An Overview

- ▶ Funded jointly by European Commission & member states
- ▶ Aims to establish an effective and sustainable European Network for Health Technology Assessment
- ▶ To devise practical tools to fit into this framework to ensure timely and effective production, dissemination and transfer of HTA results into useful policy advice to the member states and EU
- ▶ By end 2008, included 64 organisations. 33 countries (Europe: 25 EU and 2 EEA countries (Norway, Iceland), Switzerland and Serbia; outside Europe: Australia, Canada, Israel, USA).





# EUnetHTA Work Packages (WPs)

- ▶ **WP1** – Coordination (DACEHTA, Main Partner)
- ▶ **WP2** – Communications (SBU, DAHTA)
- ▶ **WP3** – Evaluation (NOKC)
- ▶ **WP4** – Common Core HTA (FinOHTA)
- ▶ **WP5** – Applying common core information and adapting HTAs into local/national settings (NCCHTA)
- ▶ **WP6** – Transferability to policy (DACEHTA)
- ▶ **WP7** – Monitoring emerging technologies and HTA prioritisation (HAS)
- ▶ **WP8** – HTA support system in MS without institutional HTA (CAHTA)





## Work Package 5

Applying common core information and  
adapting existing HTAs into local/national  
settings



## So what is adaptation?

- ▶ Preparation of HTA reports requires much time and effort.
- ▶ Process of adaptation: maximise value by using parts of existing reports, adapt for different countries or contexts.



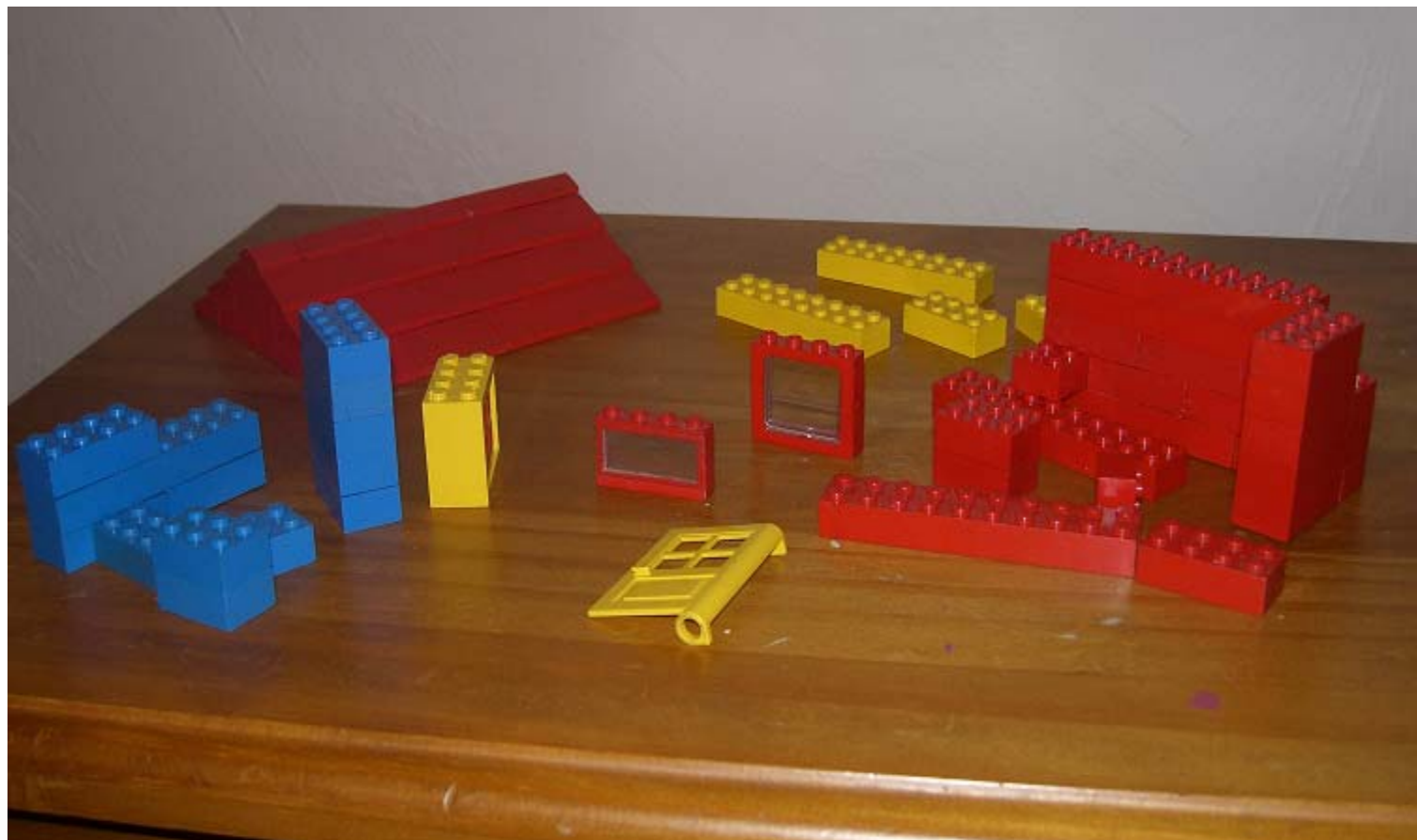




NIHR Health Technology Assessment programme



National Institute for  
Health Research





NIHR Health Technology Assessment programme



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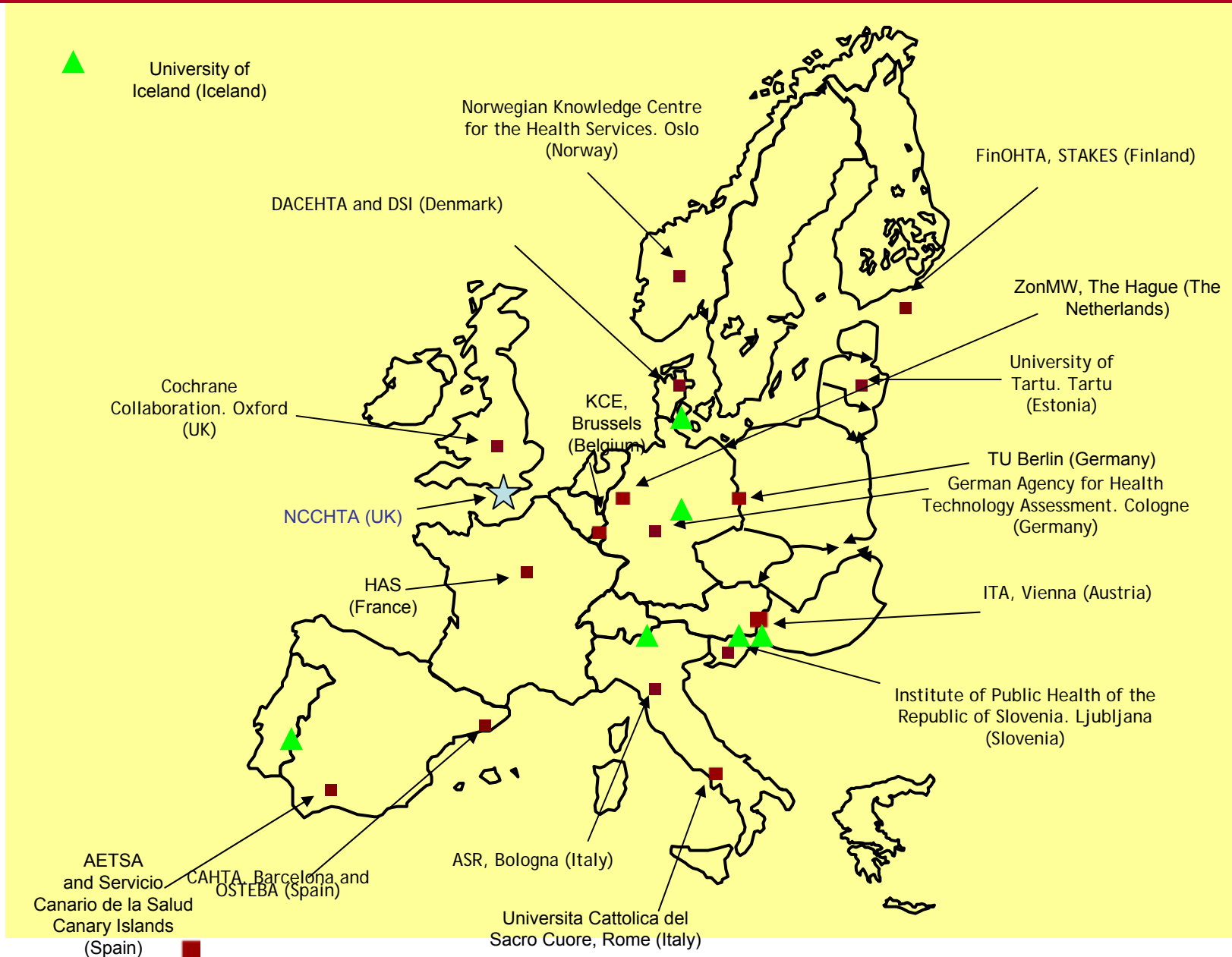


# Partners involved in WP5

- **Lead Partner:** NCCHTA, England
- **19 Associated Partners:** AETSA, Agenzia Sanitaria Regionale (Bologna), Cochrane Collaboration, DACEHTA, DAHTA@DIMDI, DSI, FinOHTA, HAS, LBI@HTA, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, KCE, NOKC, Servicio Canario de la Salud, OSTEBA, Public Health Institute Slovenia, Region Veneto, Technische Universitet Berlin, University of Tartu, ZonMW
- **7 Collaborating Partners:** Institute of Molecular Medicine, SNHTA, University of Iceland, Austrian Health Institute, PHGEN HdO Austria, HTA agency of Poland



# WP5 19 ASSOCIATED & 7 COLLABORATING PARTNERS





# Adaptation – what do we know?

- ▶ **Review of existing literature**
  - ▶ **Published papers on adaptation – no published accounts**
  - ▶ **One paper on generalisability of economic evaluations**
  - ▶ **Grey literature -1 German language paper**





# Preliminary Survey

- ▶ **Q1. Describe the work of your HTA agency, for the benefit of people outside of your own country.**
- ▶ **Q2. How much priority does your agency give to each of these groups as a target audience – clinical staff, policymakers, healthcare providers, healthcare funders, and others?**
- ▶ **Q3. Have you ever adapted an HTA report from another country?**
- ▶ **Q4. Do you know if any of your HTA reports have been used in other countries?**
- ▶ **Q5. How useful is it for your HTA agency to make use of reports from other countries?**





## Results of survey

- ▶ Q1 all aimed to do or to commission research in HTA
- ▶ Q2 target audience, mainly policy makers
- ▶ Q3 58% had adapted a report from another country
- ▶ Q4 44% knew of 1 or more of their reports used by other countries
- ▶ Q5 **82%** said it would be useful to make use of reports from other countries





## Why would it be useful?

- ▶ **Help with development of own HTA program: - “It is very important for our country to have the ability to access other HTA reports, so that it can orient itself on which way to go.”**
- ▶ **Helps identify the different methods used in different agencies.**
- ▶ **A useful aid in the comparisons of results.**
- ▶ **There is a general consensus that systematic reviews are of particular importance. - “Especially the systematic review part.” - “Because the most important chapter of a report is the systematic review.” - “It is possible to utilize the international systematic reviews and their structure, references and search strategies.”**





## Speed and output

- ▶ **Increases the volume of output:** - “Given the heavy workload associated with preparing HTA reports, it is crucial to be able either to adapt HTA reports which have been prepared abroad or to share the development of HTA reports between HTA agencies.”
- ▶ **Aids in the speed of provision of information to customers:** - “it provides an easy and quick source.” - “to get the report done more quickly with less resources.” - “It is essential... when we are asked to give quick answers” - “adaptation should concern aspects which are specific to each country.”
- ▶ **“Small countries can not be as productive as those with big HTA-programs.”** - “We do not have enough resources to produce many reports.” - “It helps to ensure the completeness of information.”





# Duplication /adaptation

- ▶ **Helps avoid duplication:** - “We consider it unnecessary to duplicate work done by other agencies.” - “There is not need for duplicating.”
- ▶ **Provides data/information which can be adapted:** - “We often take the HTA-evidence/reports and put it in our national context.” - “Surely adapting and evolving from what has been done already is a feature of producing HTAs relevant to the healthcare system in which you operate.





# Need for a toolkit

- ▶ Analysis of survey results indicated that agencies had the ability to benefit from a toolkit to aid in adaptation.
- ▶ Enable agencies to more easily make use of reports from other countries by guiding users through process of adaptation
  - ▶ **Benefits:**
    - ▶ Facilitate sharing of knowledge and information
    - ▶ Save time, conserve resource
    - ▶ Increase output
    - ▶ Avoid duplication of effort





# Spectrum of Adaptation





## In summary

- ▶ **Established what was meant by adaptation**
- ▶ **Established that adaptation of HTA reports was desirable**
- ▶ **Established that there was a need for a tool to facilitate the process of adaptation**

