

Global Challenges and Regional Responses
in a transition era

25 - 28 AUGUST
2026

ERSA
65th
CONGRESS

2026
Sofia, Bulgaria

Special Session Proposal

Regional Integrated Healthcare System Approaches on the Path to Sustainable Good Health and Well-Being

İsrafil BOYACI¹

¹ Assist. Prof. Dr., Faculty of Business, İstanbul Ticaret University, İstanbul, Türkiye.

Email: iboyaci@ticaret.edu.tr Orcid: 0000-0002-5327-0499

Date: 07.01.2026

Abstract

The special session aims to enhance discussions and policy actions in the implementation of a holistic regional integrated healthcare approach and, as a result, to guide implications for policymakers and the broader public to ensure the dominance of the conditions of sustainable 'well-being and good health' across the globe.

Beyond social health insurance and public healthcare delivery universally cover everyone, governments can strengthen sustainable universal health coverage (UHC) with a regional integrated healthcare approach to ensure a well-coordinated, coherent, and continuing integrated effective health system. A holistic 'whole person care' approach necessitates a collaborative, complementary, integrated relationship between health system components and across sectors as well.

The sustainable regional development approach focuses on wider determinants of health and wellbeing, including social, cultural, economic, and environmental factors. A shared sense of responsibility is essential for achieving 'SDG3: good health and wellbeing' that requires collaborative efforts of sectors including education, work life, housing, transportation, and environment.

The governments' health budgets are mostly spent on the treatment of illness, far more than on prevention and protecting public health. Rather than treatment, addressing the wider social and environmental determinants of health with preventive, protective, and promotive health policy actions can have a big advance on population health status, with lesser spendings and inequalities.

In this special session, country experiences on regional integrated health approaches, reflections, discussions, and insights will contribute to the health policy worldwide about the integrated healthcare from the regional sustainable development perspective, on the pathway to long-term health-for-everyone policies that 'leave no one behind'. □