



European
Commission



“Health for Growth” programme

*The 3rd multi-annual
programme of EU action
in the field of health for
the period 2014-2020*

Health for Growth Programme

- One of the spending programme proposals within the **Multi-Annual Financial Framework 2014-2020**
- The only programme **exclusively dedicated to health**
- Seven years duration, **€ 446 million** in current prices
- A financial tool at the service of wider **EU health policy**

Key political messages

- High level of human health protection is at the heart of all Union policies (art. 168 TFEU). Health is also a powerful driver for inclusive and sustainable growth (Europe 2020)
- Sustainable and innovative health systems can guarantee high quality of care for patients in the EU – from exchange of best practices to reducing health inequalities
- Well targeted EU Health Programme, financially modest, supports Member States by contributing where they cannot act alone or where coordination is the best way forward

Road to the new Programme

- **Member States' unanimous wish** to have dedicated EU programme in the area of health (Gödöllő, April 2010)
- Health **stakeholders' support** for the strong EU Health policy and continuation of the Programme (May 2010)
- Commission's Communication on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 tables the programme (June 2010)
- Based on the **lessons learnt** and results of the **evaluations** the 3rd Programme should increase its performance
- The Impact Assessment while identifying main challenges guides towards the **current proposal** (November 2010)

Multi-annual Financial Framework

"Promoting good health is an integral part of the smart and inclusive growth objectives of Europe 2020"

- *"Keeping people healthy and active for longer has a positive impact on productivity and competitiveness"*
- *"Innovation in healthcare helps take up the challenge of sustainability in the sector in the context of demographic change"*
- *Action to reduce inequalities in health is important to achieve "inclusive growth".*

Why Health for Growth?

Health is **essential precondition** for **long-lasting growth**

The new EU Health Programme

- ...is **not questioning the value of health** in itself
- ...is **not undermining Member States competencies**, as defined in the EU Treaties
- It strengthens the **links between growth** and **healthy population** with an emphasis on cost-effectiveness of health systems
- It is geared towards **actions with clear EU added value**, in line with Europe 2020 objectives

Why an emphasis on innovative and sustainable health systems?

Challenges:

- An **ageing population** of the EU Member States,
- More effective but also more **expensive health technologies**,
- Lack of sustained progress in prevention of **chronic diseases**,
- Global and **cross border health threats**

Health system reforms, supported by the EU Programme, will guarantee high quality care for patients and improve efficiency and financial sustainability of the health systems

Innovative solutions should be shared through exchange of good practices and emphasis on human capital

Increasing the performance of the Programme - part 1

- The Programme should contribute only **where Member States cannot act alone...**
- ... or where **coordination is the best way forward**
- **Actions should have clear EU added value**
(supporting networks, fostering best practice etc.)

Increasing the performance of the Programme - part 2

As compared to the previous and current Programmes

- **Objectives** are much more focused and tangible (SMART)
- **Progress indicators** to measure and monitor the objectives and the impact
- Annual work plans to be based on **long-term policy planning**, synchronised with Member States' needs and demands
- **Better dissemination** and communication of results
- **Simplification** of the funding process

Design of the Programme

- General objectives (art. 2)
- Four specific objectives with progress indicators (art. 3)
- Eligible actions with clear EU added value under each specific objective (art. 4)
- More detailed types of actions to be determined within the annual work programmes (annex 1)

General objectives (art. 2)

To work with the Member States in order to:

- Encourage innovation in healthcare
- Increase the sustainability of health systems
- Improve the health of EU citizens
- Protect citizens from cross-border health threats

Specific objective I

*Developing common tools and mechanisms at EU level to address shortages of resources, both human and financial and facilitating up-take of innovation in healthcare in order to contribute to **innovative and sustainable health systems***

Actions under Objective I

Innovative and sustainable health systems

- EU cooperation on **Health Technology Assessment** in the context of Cross-Border Health Directive
- Exploring the potential of **e-Health** and ICT solutions increasing the interoperability of e-Health applications
- Addressing shortages in the **health workforce** promoting effective forecasting, planning, recruitment and retention

Actions under Objective I

Innovative and sustainable health systems

- Providing **expertise to Member States** undertaking health reforms - pooling expertise at EU level
- Support for the European Innovation Partnership on **Active and Healthy Ageing**
- Actions required by or contributing to the objectives of the EU legislation in the fields of **medical devices** and **cross border healthcare** (HTA, e-Health)

Specific objective II

*Increasing access to medical expertise and information for specific conditions also beyond national borders and developing shared solutions and guidelines to improve healthcare quality and patient safety in order to increase access to **better and safer healthcare for EU citizens***

Actions under Objective II

Better and safer healthcare for EU citizens

- Support the establishment of the **European Reference Networks**
- Support action on **rare diseases**
- Strengthen collaboration on **patient safety and quality of healthcare**
- Improve the **prudent use of antimicrobials** in medicine
- Actions required by or contributing to the objectives of the EU legislation in the field of **medicinal products, tissues and cells, blood, organs, patients' rights in cross-border healthcare**

Specific objective III

*Identifying, disseminating and promoting the up-take of validated best practices for cost-effective prevention measures by addressing the key risk factors, namely smoking, abuse of alcohol and obesity, as well as HIV/AIDS, with a focus on the cross border dimension, in order to **prevent diseases and promote good health***

Actions under Objective III

Prevent diseases and promote good health

- Actions on key health issues such as **smoking prevention, abuse of alcohol, addressing obesity**
- Response to **chronic diseases**, including **cancer**
- Actions required by or contributing to the objectives of the EU legislation in the field of **tobacco products and advertisement**

Specific objective IV

*Developing common approaches and demonstrating their value for better preparedness and coordination in health emergencies in order to **protect citizens from cross-border health threats***

Actions under Objective IV

Protect citizens from cross-border health threats

- Preparedness to and response for **serious cross-border health threats**
- Close gaps in **risk assessment** capacities
- Support **capacity building** against health threats
- Actions required by or contributing to the objectives of the EU legislation in the field of **communicable diseases** and other **health threats**

Health inequalities and knowledge

Under all four specific objectives the Health for Growth Programme will contribute to:

- Addressing **health inequalities** by encouraging and facilitating the exchange of good practices to tackle them (recital 8)
- Fostering a **health knowledge** system to contribute to evidence-based decision making (article 4)

Potential beneficiaries (art. 8)

As the Programme is to support the Member States, the main beneficiaries will be:

health authorities in the Member States

Moreover grants may be awarded to:

- Research and health institutions
- Universities and higher education establishments
- Private bodies
- International organisations
- Non-governmental bodies and health stakeholders (patients' organisations, health professional associations)

The overall budget

EUR 446 million for seven years (EUR 396 million in 2011 prices)

Actions will be funded through (art. 7):

- Grants
- Specific grants for actions with Member States
- Operating grants to support NGOs
- Tenders

All grants shall have co-financing rate of up to 60%
In cases of exceptional utility (like for MS with low GNI) –
up to 80%

The EU Health Programme and the EU Health Policy

- The Health for Growth Programme remains the **main financial instrument** of the EU Health Policy
- Promotes synergies while avoiding duplications with **other EU programmes** (art. 12):
 - >> Framework programmes for research and innovation,
 - >> Structural Funds,
 - >> Programme for social change, etc. (recital 16)
- **Complements national health** activities
 - >> in particular uptake of innovation (recital 7)
- Contributes to cooperation with relevant **international organisations** (recital 19) :
 - >> WHO
 - >> OECD

Implementation of the Programme

Greater synergy between EU and national efforts

- The Commission is responsible for the implementation (art. 10)
- It is assisted by the Programme Committee (art. 16), which will have a final word on the annual work programmes adopted according to the examination procedure (art. 11)
- The Commission, in close cooperation with the Member States, monitors the implementation of the actions under the Programme (art. 13)
- National Focal Points assist the Commission in promotion and dissemination (art. 14) to improve the up-take of the Programme's results