



The European Health Union and challenges for the European health workforce

*ProMIS event on intersectoral cooperation to create partnerships
in the healthcare sector*

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Scope of EU health policy

- Primary responsibility for health systems within the EU lies with its Member States (Art. 168 TFEU). Member States are responsible for the definition of their health policy and for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care.
- A high level of human health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities. The EU complements national health policies and actions, encourages cooperation and coordination between Member States.
- Legislative EU competences in public health include: Quality and safety for medicinal products and medical devices; cross-border health threats; tobacco/alcohol regulations

Building a European Health Union

“Europe must continue to protect lives and livelihoods. This is all the more important in the middle of a pandemic that shows no signs of running out of steam or intensity. [...] For me, it is crystal clear – we need to build a stronger European Health Union.”

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission
State of the Union Address at the European Parliament Plenary September 2020



Key actions of the European Health Union

- Improved crisis preparedness: Planning for future cross-border health threats
- Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: Prevention, detection and quality assured care pathways
- Reform of the EU pharmaceutical legislation: Affordable, accessible, and innovative medicines
- European Health Data Space: Unleashing the full potential of health data
- A comprehensive approach to mental health

State of Health in the EU Companion Report 2021

Draws three takeaway messages based on the findings of the
Country Health Profiles 2021:

1

Understanding the far-reaching health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

2

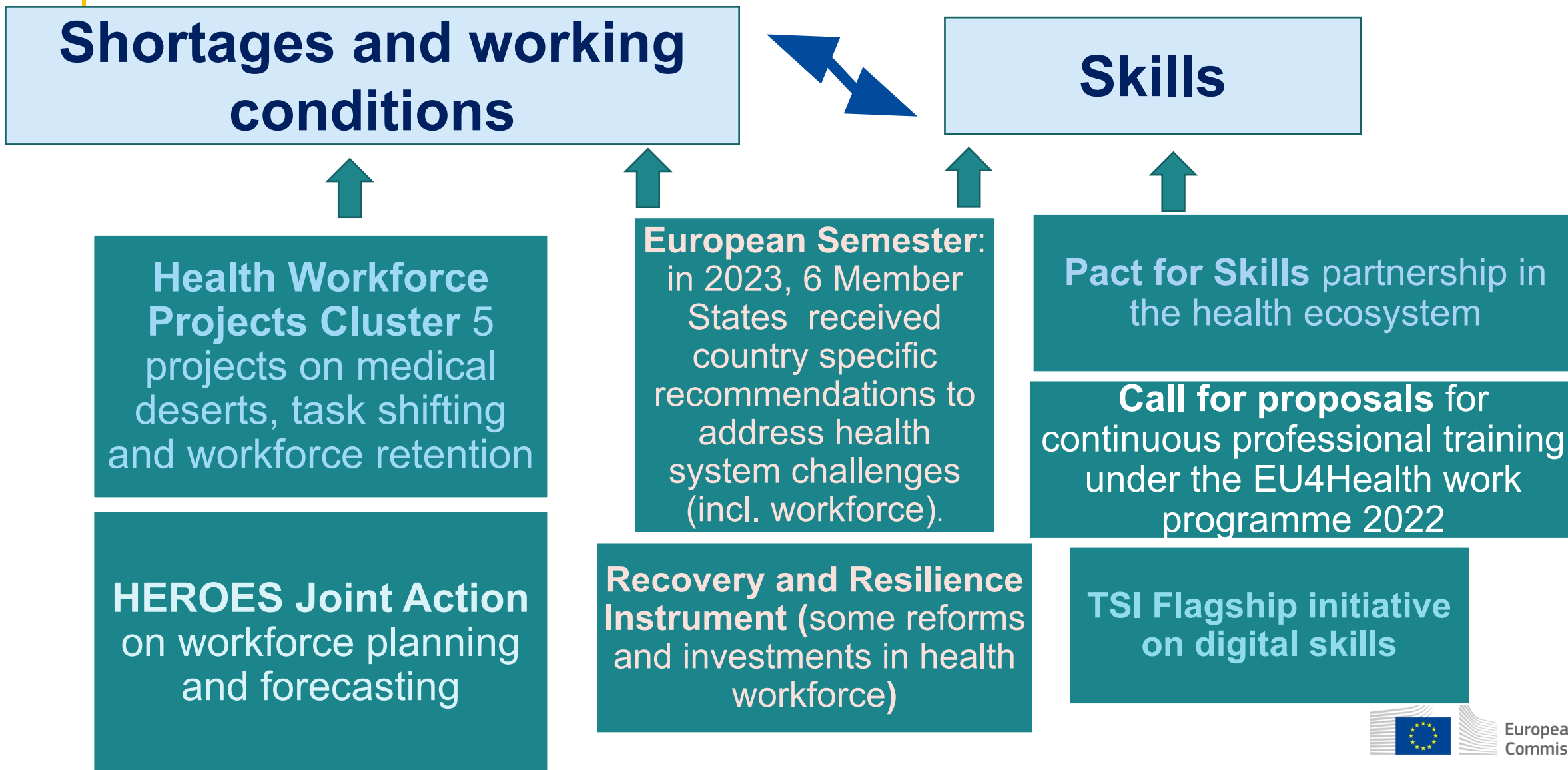
Locking in the advantages of digital innovation in healthcare delivery and public health

3

Rethinking health workforce strategies and planning after the COVID-19 pandemic



Current actions on health workforce



Thank you



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