

# Strengthening the delivery of integrated long-term care in the WHO European region

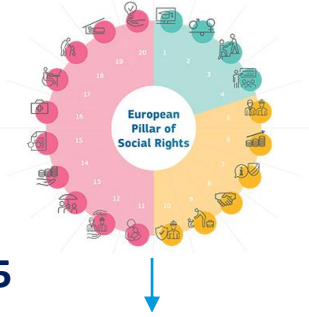
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# From slow build-up to accelerating momentum for long-term care



2010

2015

2019

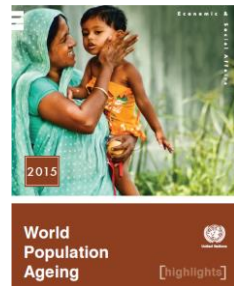
Mar 2020

2020

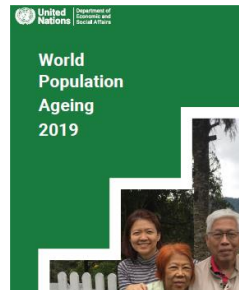
Sept/Dec 2022



“UNECE member States have committed themselves to coping with a growing demand in care services while securing quality and choice for patients and their families “



“countries should prepare for a growing need for long-term care, both home-based and facility-based”



“Health and long-term care systems need to be aligned to meet the needs of ageing populations by providing age-appropriate integrated care”

**Covid-19 declared a pandemic**

2.8 million excess deaths among older people in EURO region, that were associated with the pandemic in 2020 and 2021

**83% of excess mortality globally among older people**



**European Programme of work**



**EU Care Strategy / Council Recommendation on Long-term care**



# Partnerships & collaboration for long-term care



2020

2022

2023

2024



**Lisbon Outcome Statement:**  
Regional summit on policy innovation for healthy ageing in the WHO European Region  
10-11 October 2023  
Lisbon, Portugal



EC – WHO partnership on long-term care





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# The European Programme of Work

## Core Priority 1. Moving towards UHC

### MAINSTREAM THE CARE CONTINUUM TO PUT PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE OF SERVICES

Flagship Initiative 1. The Mental Health Coalition

Flagship Initiative 2. Empowerment through Digital Health

## Core priority 2. Protecting against health emergencies

## Core priority 3. Promoting health and well-being

Flagship Initiative 3. The European Immunization Agenda 2030

Flagship Initiative 4. Healthier Behaviours





# Decade of **healthy ageing**

Four action areas

Four 'enablers'

And **older people at the  
centre**



**World Health  
Organization**

European Region

## **Action Area 1. Combatting Ageism**

Change how we think, feel,  
and act towards age and  
ageing

## **Action Area 2. Age-friendly Environments**

Ensure that communities  
foster the abilities of older  
people

## **Action Area 3. Integrated Care**

Deliver person-centred integrated  
care and primary health services  
responsive to older people

## **Action Area 4. Long-term Care**

Provide access to long-term  
care for older people who  
need it

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# UN Decade of Healthy Ageing: Plan of Action 2021–2030

## (Selected) Actions for Member States

- Ensure **legal frameworks and sustainable financial mechanisms** for provision of long-term care
- Support **active engagement of older people and their families**, civil society and local service providers in designing policies and services
- Steward the development of long-term care, and **foster collaboration among stakeholders**, including older people, their caregivers, nongovernmental organizations, volunteers and the private sector in providing long-term care
- Develop **national standards, guidelines, protocols and accreditation for provision of community care** and support that are ethical and promote the human rights of older people and their caregivers
- Implement **community services** that comply with national standards, guidelines, protocols and accreditation for person-centred, integrated health and social care and support
- **Develop and share models** for provision of community social care and support, including in humanitarian emergencies.

“**Every country** should have a **system** to meet the needs of older people for **long-term care**, including social care and support that helps them with daily living and personal care and enables them to maintain relationships, to age in a place that is right for them, to be free from elder abuse, to access community services and to participate in activities that give their life meaning”



Decade  
of healthy  
ageing

# The Platform

Share your knowledge

HOME

ABOUT ▾

FIND KNOWLEDGE ▾

TOPICS & INITIATIVES ▾

SUBMIT

EN

SEARCH 



## Knowledge for healthy ageing

Find and share knowledge that can improve the lives of older people, their families, and their communities.

[Learn more >](#)



World Health  
Organization

European Region



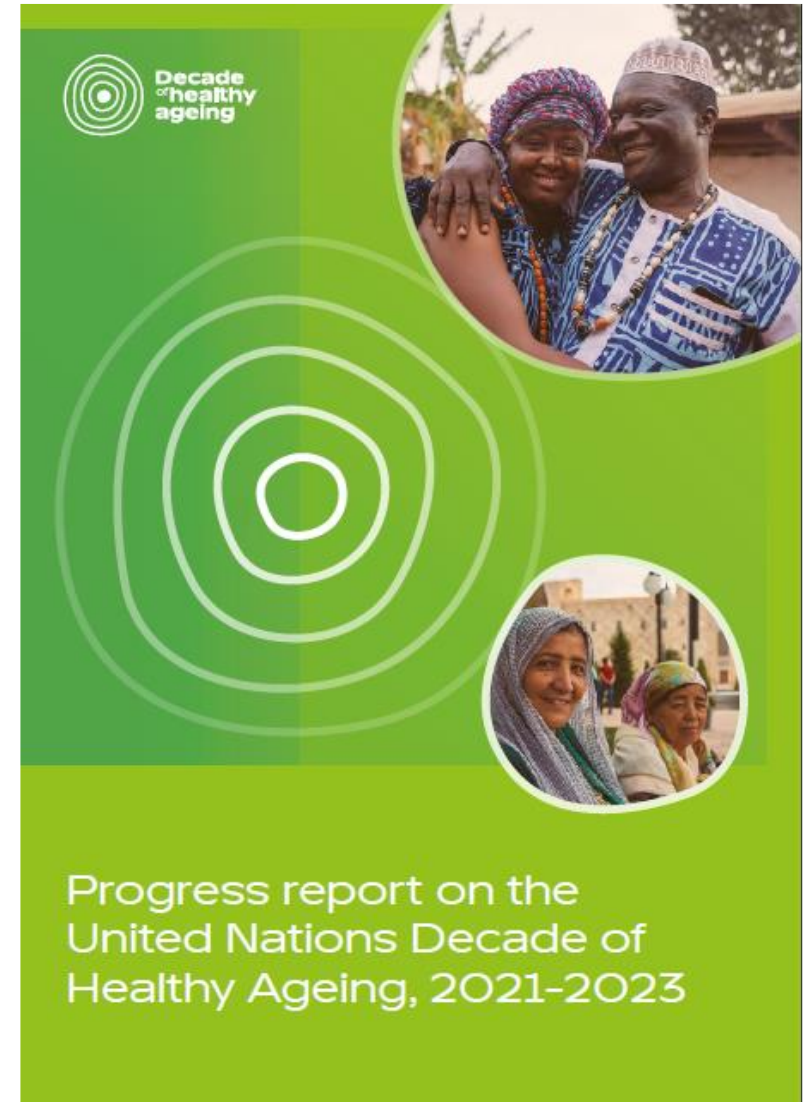
# Progress report on UN Decade

- Assesses the extent of progress made in the first phase of implementation of the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing
- Present contributions to the Decade being made by stakeholder groups, including Member States, UN agencies, civil society, academia, the private sector, community groups and older people themselves;
- Aims to inspire and motivate stakeholders to collaborate in their continued efforts to implement the Decade at country level and scale up interventions to ensure healthy ageing

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240079694>



European Region





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## EC – WHO partnership on long-term care (2023-24)

### Our goals

To help improve access to **affordable high-quality long-term care** in the EU Member States

...by systematizing the **knowledge base**, developing **(self)assessment and planning tools** for long-term care policy, and supporting **informal caregivers**.

# Two Key Objectives

**1** Strengthen long-term care systems and reforms

**2** Improve access to information and support tools for informal caregivers



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# State of long-term care in the EU

Objective 1 focuses on **developing and applying a self-assessment tool** that will allow for a **structured analysis of national long-term care systems**, review of on-going or planned long-term care reforms and the elaboration of **targeted policy options for system strengthening**

The ‘State of LTC’ instrument can guide reforms and, as relevant, technical support for care system reforms aligned to the policy objectives of the Council recommendation on LTC.

Can be used by Member States / regions for self-assessment and planning of LTC policies. Important to involve all relevant actors in the self-assessment process and the design and implementation of follow up measures.

1



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# Support for informal caregivers

Objective 2 focuses on **developing an open access online course for informal caregivers (OpenWHO)**, which can facilitate **access to information, knowledge and skills** required for the delivery of care and for **supporting self-care and wellbeing of informal caregivers**

Designed to include content that can be delivered via different media and in a variety of settings to increase accessibility, blending general content of global relevance with country specific information that can facilitate access to further support and additional resources.

# 2

# Stakeholder engagement

## Who?

National /regional stakeholders and policy-makers in Member States

Social partners, civil society organizations representing care users, care givers and care providers

Experts by experience and academic experts



## How?

Provide input, feedback and support for validation

Participate in in-country activities for LTC system (self-)assessment

Facilitate testing and piloting activities

Support dissemination

# The Lisbon Outcomes Statement

We call for:

- prioritization of **preventive measures for physical, social and mental well-being**, ensuring availability of support and services throughout the life-course through;
- creation of **enabling environments**, including age-friendly cities and communities, to empower individuals across the life-course to engage with their communities, and improvement of service accessibility;
- provision of **accessible, affordable, high-quality care and support for older people, their caregivers and families** across care settings, encompassing primary health care, hospitals and long-term care, while **integrating all levels of care within a continuum**;
- effective implementation of policies to leverage the potential of older people; and
- strong data and evidence to inform actions that foster healthy ageing



## Lisbon Outcome Statement: Regional summit on policy innovation for healthy ageing in the WHO European Region

10-11 October 2023  
Lisbon, Portugal



# Strategic directions for transforming long-term care systems in the European region



## Informal caregivers

Support services, training, improving social protection



## Care workforce

Working conditions, workforce planning, recruitment and retention, development of training curricula



## Quality management

Quality standards (adapted to each care setting), strategies to promote quality improvement



## Tech & data infrastructure

HIS interoperability, data collection, monitoring, standardized indicators, digital solution for cost containment & remote populations

## Integration HC/LTC



Care pathways, common standards and procedures, funds pooling and training of managers and planner on integrated care delivery

## Sustainable financing



Cost projections, revenue raising, financial reviews and budgeting processes

## Local capacity building



Coordination of service delivery at local level, training for local decision-makers, knowledge exchange and support for local financing and budgeting processes

## Needs assessment



Standardized needs assessment instruments, comprehensive assessment



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Thank you very much!

Please do not hesitate to write:  
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