EU4Health Programme:
2021 Work Programme

Info Session

Date: 28 September 2021

DG SANTE Dir A
Adrian Pereş
Head of EU4Health Task Force

EU4Health – the programme

EU4Health is a clear message that public health is a priority for Europe and it is the instrument to pave the way to a European Health Union

- **RESPONSE TO COVID-19** – supporting the fight against cross-border health threats and boosting the preparedness and capability to respond effectively to future health crises

- **AMBITIOUS VISION** – will go beyond crisis response to support and complement national health policies for strengthening and modernizing health systems, reducing inequalities and overcome shared challenges

- **THE LARGEST EVER EU INVESTMENT IN HEALTH** – over €5.3 bn (current prices) invested in health during the next 7 years (2021-27)

European Commission

EU4Health – financial envelope

The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021 – 2027 shall be:

EUR 5.3 billion in current prices

- Min. 20 % reserved for health promotion and disease prevention actions

- Max. 12,5 % reserved for procurement complementing national stockpiling of essential crisis-relevant products at Union level

- Max. 12,5 % reserved for supporting global commitments and health initiatives

- Max. 8 % reserved for covering administrative expenses

European Commission

Regulation (EU) 2021/522 – EU4Health Programme

26 March 2021

- Regulation (EU) 2021/522 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing a Programme for the Union's action in the field of health ('EU4Health Programme') for the period 2021-2027, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 282/2014

EUR-Lex
Access to European Union law

Official Journal
of the European Union

L 107

English edition   Legislation

Volume 64
26 March 2021

Contents

I   *Legislative acts*

REGULATIONS

★ Regulation (EU) 2021/522 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing a Programme for the Union's action in the field of health ('EU4Health Programme') for the period 2021-2027, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 (¹) 1

European Commission

EU4Health – general objectives

EU4Health will provide the means and the instruments for delivering on the EU Health policy. Four general objectives represent the breath and the ambitions of the programme:

- **Improve & foster health in the Union**

- **Protect people from serious cross-border health threats**

- **Improve access to medicinal products, medical devices, crisis-relevant products**

- **Strengthen health systems**

European Commission

EU4Health – specific objectives

EU4Health will be implemented along <u>ten specific objectives</u> that identify key areas of intervention

- **(a) Disease prevention & health promotion**;
- (j) International health initiatives & cooperation.

- (b) Prevention, preparedness & response to cross-border health threats;
- **(d) Complementing national stockpiling of essential crisis-relevant products**;
- **(e) Establishing a reserve of medical, healthcare & support staff including training.**

- (c) Enhancement of availability, accessibility & affordability of medicinal products, medical devices and crisis-relevant products

- (f) Strengthening health data, digital tools & services, digital transformation of healthcare;
- (g) Enhancing access to healthcare;
- (h) Developing and implementing EU health legislation and evidence-based decision making;
- (i) Integrated work among MS health systems.

[…] in synergy with other Union instruments, programmes and funds, […]

EU4Health – Implementation

The Programme may provide funding in <u>any of the forms laid down in the Financial Regulation</u>, in particular in the form of grants, prizes and procurement included in the annual work programme.

"Public procurement"
Contracts with economic operators to purchase services or goods on the account of the Commission, either through open tendering procedures or the use of existing framework contracts which were established following competitive procedures

"Grants"
Direct financial contributions from the European Union budget awarded to beneficiaries engaged in activities that serve Union policies.

Guiding principles:
- *Equal treatment and transparency*
- *Co-financing by the beneficiary and non-profit rule applicable*
- *Non-cummulative, non-retroactive and absence of double financing*

"Prizes"
Contests to promote achievements of policy objectives of the Union where one or several beneficiaries are awarded a financial price following a evaluation

European Commission

EU4Health – eligible entities

Any **legal entity** established in a **Member State** or an **overseas country or territory** linked to it and any legal entity **created under Union law** or as an **international organisation**

Any legal entities **established in a third country** associated with the Programme or non-associated (exception)

Any legal entity established in a third country listed in the annual work programme in accordance with the specific rules of the EU4Health Regulation

Natural persons are not eligible for grants under the EU4Health Programme!

European Commission

EU4Health – Synergies & complementarities with other EU Programmes

In order to optimise the added value and impact from investments funded synergies will be sought in particular between the Programme and other Union programmes, to maximise those synergies and avoid duplications

EU4Health

- European Social Fund Plus
- European Regional and Development Fund
- Horizon Europe
- InvestEU Programme
- Single Market Programme
- Digital Europe & Connecting Europe Facility
- Emergency Support Instrument
- Union Civil Protection Mechanism/rescEU
- Erasmus+

European Commission

EU4Health work programme 2021 – governance, procedure & adoption

THE COMMISSION:

- **PREPARATION** – prepares the strategic orientations, priorities and the draft annual work programme.

- **CONSULTATION, INPUT, INFORMATION** – consults the Member States (**EU4Health Steering Group**), dialogues with stakeholders, including representatives of civil society and patient organisation on priorities, strategic orientations and needs, and informs the European Parliament.

- **ADOPTION –** of first annual work programme 2021 including actions, indicative budget allocation, deadlines and details for funds applications (**EU4Health Programme Committee**).

European Commission

EU4Health work programme 2021 – adopted

Commission Implementing Decision of 24.06.2021 on the financing of the Programme for the Union's action in the field of health ('EU4Health Programme') and the adoption of the work programme for 2021 (C(2021)4793 final).

DATE OF ADOPTION: 24 JUNE 2021

BUDGET FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2021 PROGRAMME IS EUR 311.68 MILLION.

Annex to the Commission Implementing Decision – 2021 work programme

Sets out the **priorities** and **actions** for 2021, including resource allocation, for the implementation of the EU4Health Programme.

European Commission

EU4Health work programme 2021 = actions implementing health policies !

The fight against COVID-19 pandemic

- Cross-border health threats
- Preparation of HERA

EU health legislation

- Tobacco
- Blood, tissues & cells
- Medicines
- Medical Devices

Pharmaceutical Strategy for Europe
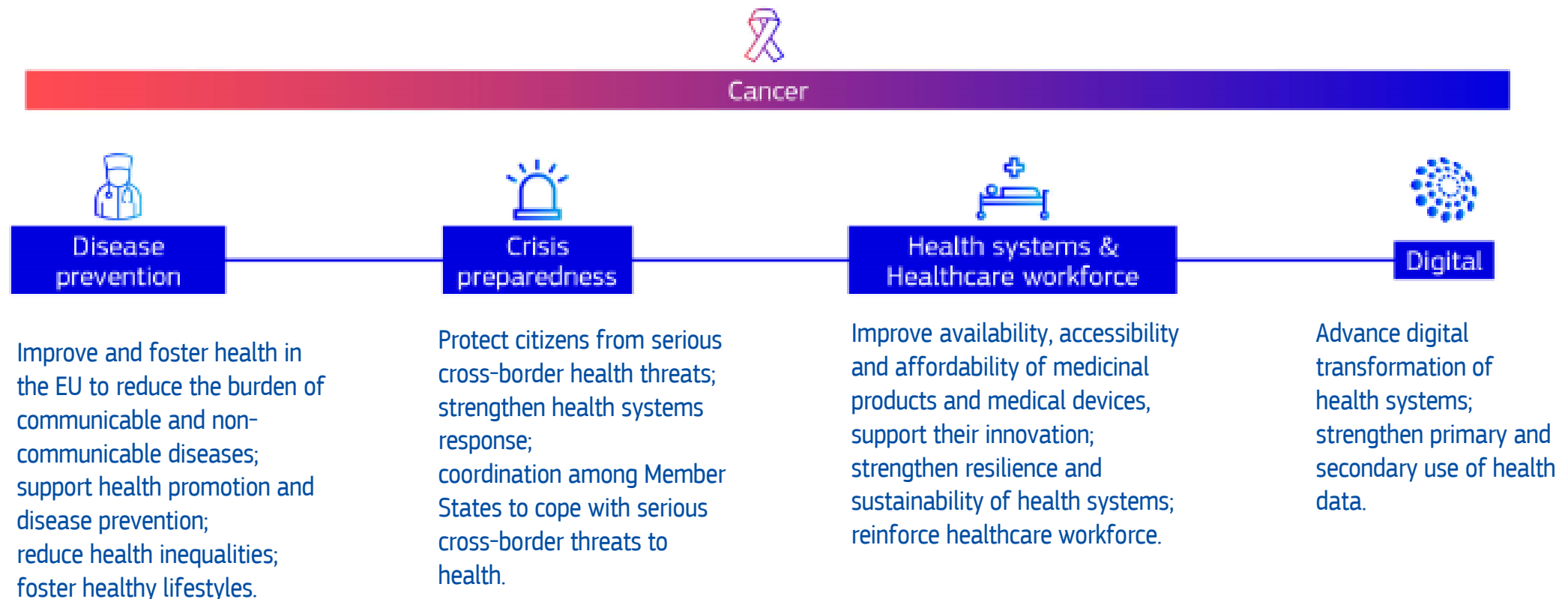
- Medicines shortages
- Quality of medicines

Europe's Beating Cancer Plan

- Flagship initiatives
- Supporting initiatives

A <u>policy implementation tool</u> for both legislative and non-legislative initiatives.

European Commission

Strands of actions

*EU4Health supports **a broad range of actions** under four overarching "strands" with a cross-cutting focus on cancer*

Cancer

Disease prevention	Crisis preparedness	Health systems & Healthcare workforce	Digital
Improve and foster health in the EU to reduce the burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases; support health promotion and disease prevention; reduce health inequalities; foster healthy lifestyles.	Protect citizens from serious cross-border health threats; strengthen health systems response; coordination among Member States to cope with serious cross-border threats to health.	Improve availability, accessibility and affordability of medicinal products and medical devices, support their innovation; strengthen resilience and sustainability of health systems; reinforce healthcare workforce.	Advance digital transformation of health systems; strengthen primary and secondary use of health data.

European Commission

Strand 'Crisis preparedness'

Allocated budget: €107 million

- *Priorities*

  - Mitigate shortage of medicines and support expedited assessment of clinical trials for COVID-19 therapeutics

  - Communicable diseases: surveillance systems requirements, early detection, risk assessment

  - Support to the implementation of the 2017 EU One Health action plan

  - EU Immunisation Initiative

  - EU preparedness: Capacity and capability assessment and training programmes for health specialists

  - AMR – Preparation of HERA

- *Specific Actions*

  - **Joint actions (examples):**
    - **To monitor and mitigate medicines shortages by supporting national authorities;**
    - **COVID-19 therapeutics clinical trials: coordinated assessment and reduction of the time needed to authorise;**
    - **Communicable disease risk assessment and response: support implementation of digitalised, integrated surveillance systems at national and EU level for better detection of early signals.**

  - **Action grants (examples):**
    - AMR: support of capacity building, training and implementation of enhanced infection prevention and control practices.

  - **Procurements (examples):**
    - Preparation of the European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) – mapping of medical countermeasures; assessing flexible EU manufacturing and innovation of medical countermeasures for serious cross-border threats to health; feasibility study on AMR stockpiling.
    - Vaccine misinformation counter initiative; support Member States on national vaccination plans.

European Commission

Strand 'Disease prevention'

Allocated budget: €101 million

- *Priorities*

  - Health promotion and prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and communicable diseases.

  - Sustainable cancer prevention.

  - Improving early detection of cancer.

  - Ensuring access to high standard cancer care diagnosis and treatment.

  - Improving the quality of life for cancer patients, survivors and carers, including reducing inequalities in cancer care, and childhood cancers.

- *Specific Actions*

  - **Joint actions (examples):**
    - **transfer and implementation of best practices on prevention of NCDs and related risk factors.**
    - **support to Member States to roll-out HPV vaccination.**
    - **creation of an EU Network of Comprehensive Cancer Centres.**

  - **Action grants (examples):**
    - support implementation of best practices on the ground to tackle mental health challenges during COVID-19).
    - design, planning and roll-out of an HPV campaign at Member State level.
    - 'Healthylifestyle4All' initiative.
    - 'EU Cancer Treatment Capacity and Capability Mapping' project.
    - EU Network of Youth Cancer Survivors

  - **Direct grants to International Organisations (examples):**
    - collection and support for implementation of innovative best practices and research results on NCDs (OECD).
    - revision and update of the European Code against Cancer (WHO-IARC).

  - **Procurements (examples):**
    - Analysis in the area of access to quality and safety in the use of medical radiation applications.
    - Development of an IT tool for a 'Cancer Survivor Smart Card'.

European Commission

Strand 'Health systems'

Allocated budget: €68 million

- *Priorities*

  - Improving access to healthcare and effectiveness of health coverage (vulnerable groups and targeted intervention

  - Strengthening the 4th cycle of the State of health in the EU

  - Transfer of best practices in primary care

  - Forecasting and planning for workforce in the health care sector

  - EU Health System resilience testing and support programme

  - ERN on urogenital disease and conditions

  - Technical assistance and support to Orphanet

- *Specific Actions*

  - **Joint actions (examples):**
    - **transfer and implementation of best practices in primary care and reinforce MS capacity.**
    - **Increase MS administrative capacity building in effective health workforce**

  - **Action grants (examples):**
    - Support to specialised healthcare for rare urogenital conditions and new guidelines, best practices, educational programmes and training
    - Integration of the Orphanet nomenclature and orphacodes in the new IT of the ERNs

  - **Direct grants to International Organisations (examples):**
    - Recommendations and policy assistance to MS to close gaps in access to healthcare, addressing long-term challenges due to ageing (WHO regional Office for Europe).
    - Expanding the Country profile, stepping up the Voluntary exchanges, digitalisations of the deliverables (OECD and EU Observatory).
    - Resilience testing methodology and technical support to MS to regularly review the health crisis preparedness and to check their resilience against high-pressure scenarios and long –term structural challenges (OECD and EU Observatory).

  - **Procurements (examples):**
    - ERN, IT infrastructure on Health Technology regulation

European Commission

Strand 'Digital'

Allocated budget: €33 million

- *Priorities*

  - European Health Data Space (EHDS): primary use of health data – infrastructure governance

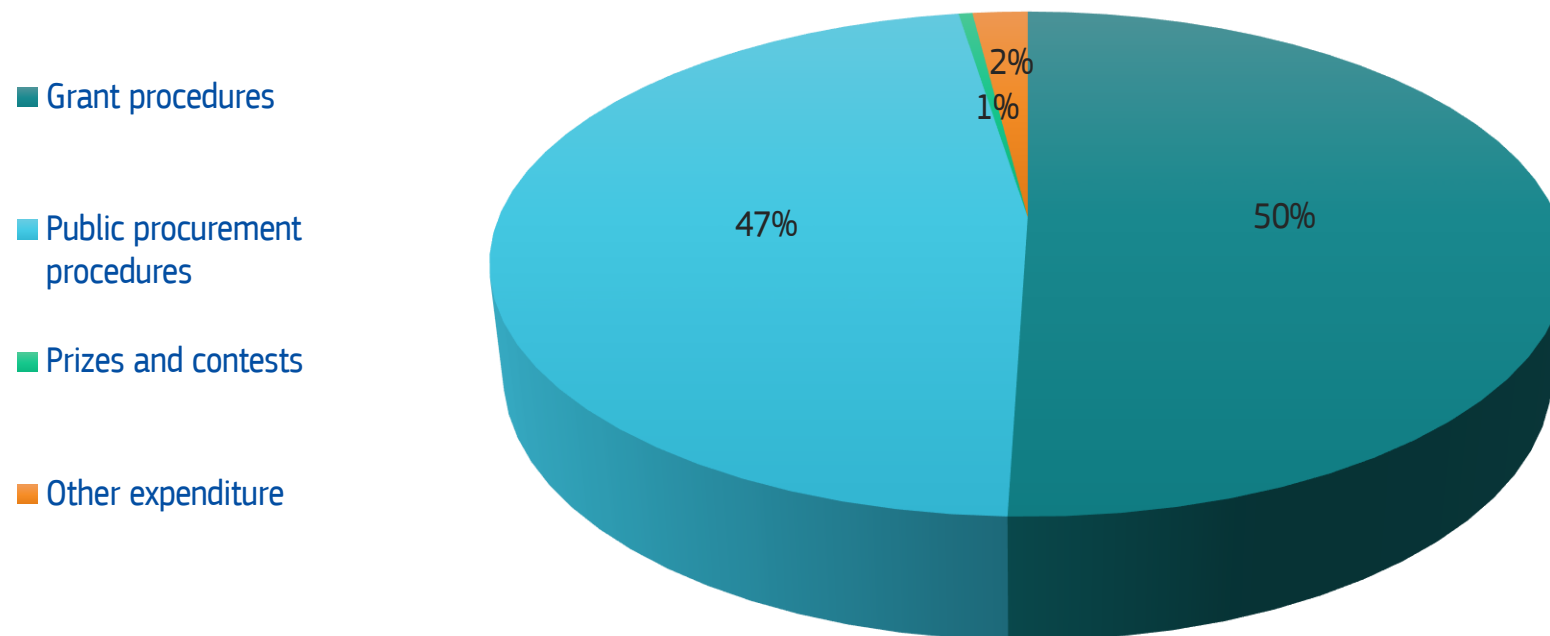 - EHDS: secondary use of health data – infrastructure governance

- *Specific Actions*

  - **Joint actions (examples):**
    - o **Enlargement of the geographic coverage and scope of the MyHealth@EU Digital Service Infrastructure (eHDSI).**
    - o **Enabling patient access to the eHDSI.**
    - o **Increase health data semantic interoperability and build national capacity on health terminologies.**

  - **Action grants (examples):**
    - o Pilot project for an EU infrastructure ecosystem for the secondary use of health data for research, policy-making and regulatory purposes.

  - **Procurements (examples):**
    - o Support services for development, deployment and operation of infrastructures and IT systems enabling access to health data for secondary use

European Commission

Budget allocation

Annual work programmes – actions - performance

Overall budget 2021: approx. **311.68 Mio €**

- Grant procedures
- Public procurement procedures
- Prizes and contests
- Other expenditure

2%
1%
47%
50%

European Commission

Programme performance framework under the MFF 2021-27

- **Balanced** set of indicators through the programme's lifetime
- **Limited** number of performance focused indicators
- **High quality data**: reliable, comparable and efficient

Core performance indicators

- Annex II of the EU4Health Programme regulation
- Annual Commission reporting - Programme Statement and Annual management & performance report

Performance indicators for monitoring & evaluation

- Monitoring progress in implementation & results
- Allow deeper analysis of performance in the interim and ex post evaluations

European Commission

EU4Health work programme 2021
(implementation by HaDEA)

- ✅ **24 June** – work programme adopted

- ✅ **25 June** - first calls for proposals: 5 topics including for Cancer actions (deadline 15 September)

- ✅ **summer** - launch of direct grants to Member States and international organisation

- **autumn** – second calls for proposals - 13 topics: 8 cancer and 2 disease prevention and health promotion, 1 digital, 1 AMR, 1 assisted reproduction; more direct grants

EU4Health work programme 2022
(preparation)

- ✅ **July - August** – stakeholders' consultation (report expected October)

- **September - November** – consultation with MS

- **December** (or early January) – MS opinion & adoption by the Commission

Click here for upcoming funding opportunities!

Thank you

Contact: SANTE-CONSULT-EU4HEALTH@ec.europa.eu

European Commission