

Greater Manchester Brussels Service

Briefing: EU Funding and Health

The European Commission runs a number of initiatives in support of Health and Social Care. This briefing is a summary of the most relevant EU funding programmes that will support health projects.

If you would like the GM Brussels Service to follow any of the issues highlighted in this Policy Briefing please contact a [member of the team](#).

HORIZON 2020



Horizon 2020 (H2020) is the €79bn EU programme in support of research, development and innovation. The programme has three main Pillars: Excellence in Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges.

Calls for projects are launched in bi-annual work programmes.

One of the work programmes under the Societal Challenge Pillar is solely dedicated to health.

H2020 Societal Challenge 1 (SC1) - Health, demographic change and wellbeing - aims to improve the understanding of the causes and mechanisms underlying health, healthy ageing and disease. Actions are aimed to keep older people active and independent for longer as well as supporting the development of new, safer and more effective interventions. Research and innovation under Horizon 2020 also contributes to the sustainability of health and care systems.

SC1 2016-17 Work Programme was launched in October 2015. With a budget of just under €1bn (€509.41m for 2016 and €436.58m for 2017), the Work Programme will support projects under 38 different topic calls structured under seven main headings:

- Understanding health, well-being & disease (2 topics 2016 / 2 topics 2017)
- Preventing disease (2 topics 2016, 1 topic 2017)

- Treating and managing diseases (1 topic 2016, 2 topics 2017, 1 topic 2016-17)
- Active ageing & self-management of health (3 topics 2016, 1 topic 2017)
- Methods & data (2 topics 2016, 3 topics 2017)
- Health care provision & integrated care (1 topic 2016)
- Co-ordination activities (12 topics 2016, 3 topics 2017)

In addition to the SC1 Work Programme, health and social care is also found under **other H2020 Work Programmes and European Initiatives developed within the framework of H2020 :**

Tackling Societal Challenges:

- Societal Challenge 2 - Food security, sustainable agriculture, and the bio-based economy.
 - Healthy and safe foods and diets for all.
 - Linking healthy oceans and seas with healthy people.
- Societal Challenge 3 - Secure, clean, and efficient energy.
 - Renovation of buildings - the impact of indoor climatic conditions on personal health, productivity and comfort.

Excellent Science across all fields

- European research Council - Frontier research.
- Future and Emerging Technologies (FET).
- Skills and career development for researchers (Marie Curie).

Industrial Leadership and Competitive Frameworks

- Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies
 - Advanced materials and nanotechnologies for healthcare.
- ICT
 - Demonstration of TOLAE-enabled product prototypes in healthcare.
 - Photonics key applications in healthcare.
- Science of Society
 - Putting open science into action.
- Cross cutting Themes
 - Pilot line manufacturing of nanostructured antimicrobial surfaces using advanced nanosurface functionalization technologies.
 - Wearables for smart ecosystems (inc. healthcare).

Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 (IMI 2) - is a joint undertaking between the European Union and the pharmaceutical industry association EFPIA. It supports collaborative research projects and networks of industrial and academic experts in order to boost pharmaceutical innovation in Europe. Calls are released annually.

The Joint Programming Initiative for a Healthy Diet for a Health Life (JPI HDHL) – supports research, large population studies and controlled trials on the relationship between diet, exercise and health.

The Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPIAMR) - aims to align resources by creating a collaborative platform, maximising existing and future efforts to combat AMR.

The Joint Programming Initiative on More Years, Better Lives (JPI MYBL) - seeks to enhance coordination and collaboration related to demographic change on a wide range of research fields and policy topics including health, social welfare, education & learning, work & productivity, housing, urban & rural development and mobility.

The Joint Programming on Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) - is the largest global research initiative aimed at tackling the challenge of neurodegenerative diseases. JPND aims at finding causes, developing cures, and identifying appropriate ways to care for those with neurodegenerative diseases.

Deadlines: For a good summary of all the open and closed health calls under H2020 (inc IMI and the JPIs) please [visit the HNN2.0 website](#).

Intervention rate: Depending on call. Research actions are 100% funded, and innovation actions are 70%. Public bodies can receive 100% funding.

More info: [H2020 main website](#); [H2020 Societal Challenge 1](#); [HNN2.0](#); [Fit for Health](#); [EUMatch \(Partner Search for SC1\)](#); [IMI 2](#); [JPI HDHL](#); [JPI AMR](#); [JPI MYBL](#); [JPND](#)

Contact Points in UK:

H2020 UK National Contact Points: [Jerome de Barros](#) at Innovate UK and [Alex Harris](#) at MRC;

JPI HDHL UK National Contact Point: [Karen Finney](#) at MRC

ACTIVE AND ASSISTED LIVING (AAL)



The AAL Programme aims to create better conditions of life for the older adults and to strengthen the industrial opportunities in Europe through the use of information and communication technology (ICT). It carries out its mandate through the funding of cross-national projects (at least three countries involved) involving research bodies business partners and at least one small and medium enterprise (SME), and one user's organisations (representing the older adults).

AAL will release one annual call a year (usually in spring). 2016 call will be announced on 8 March under the following theme: **“Living well with dementia – The contribution of ICT to integrated solutions for enabling the wellbeing of people living with dementia and their communities”**

2016 call will look to bring together technologies and services to create ICT based solutions with a clear route to market addressing the aspirations and challenges that will enable the wellbeing of people with dementia and their communities (family, caregivers, neighbourhood, service providers, care system, etc).

UK academic institutions are not eligible to apply. UK Local authorities, charities and NHS Trust are eligible but projects will need to have one SME partner from UK.

Deadlines: One call a year. The deadline is usually in May.

Intervention rate: SME up to 60%; large companies up to 50%; Local Authorities and NHS Trust up to 50%; charities and foundations up to 100% of a maximum grant of €75,000

More Info: [AAL](#); [AAL Project Ideas](#)

UK Contact Point – [Chris Sawyer](#) and [Graham Mobbs](#) at Innovate UK



THE HEALTH PROGRAMME

The third EU Health Programme (€449m) is the main instrument the European Commission uses to implement the EU health strategy. It is implemented by means of annual work plans which set out priority areas and the criteria for funding actions under the programme.

The Programme has four specific objectives: 1) promote health, prevent diseases, and foster supportive environments for healthy lifestyles; 2) protect citizens from serious cross-border health threats; 3) contribute to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems; 4) facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for Union citizens.

The Work Programme for 2016 is still to be released however early indication suggests the following topics as the main focus for the new calls:

- Migrants' health
- Alcohol abuse
- Illicit drug use
- Chronic diseases
- European Reference Networks
- Rare diseases
- Donor selection and protection

Deadlines: Usually in autumn each year.

Intervention rate: usually 60%

More info: [Health Programme Website](#); [Health Programme on a nutshell \(good summary\)](#)

UK Contact Point - [Sarah Collen-Godman at NHS European Office.](#)

OTHER FUNDS

The European Commission runs also a number of other funding programmes which are not sector focused but nevertheless they can could still offer opportunities for health related projects.

ERASMUS +



ERASMUS + (€14.7bn) is the EU programme in support of education, training, youth and sports. It covers all level of education: school, VET, HE as well as informal education. The programme is structured in three “Key Actions”.

Key Action 1 holds the larger allocation of the programme and will support mobility schemes for students and educational staff. **Key Action 2** is aimed at supporting strategic partnerships, and cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practice. Actions could include opportunities to boost skills for health professionals, as well as designing innovative methods for boosting healthy living skills across all groups of society – children, youth and adults. A small allocation of the programme goes to **Key Action 3** to support policy reform projects.

Deadlines: [Several calls a year](#).

Intervention rate: Depending on call.

More info: [Erasmus+ UK](#); [Erasmus+ EC website](#)

UK Contact Point: [British Council](#) ; [Ecorys UK](#)

Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)



EaSI (€815 million) supports policy experimentation and other actions in support of sustainable employment and social inclusion. Health and safety at work, especially for those at risk or from vulnerable groups, is one of the priorities of the programme (Progress Axis).

Deadlines: [Annual calls](#)

Intervention rate: 80%

More info: [EaSI Website](#); [Progress Axis](#)

Northwest Europe Interreg V (NWE)



The **NWE Programme** (€396m) provides funding to cities and regions to foster innovation, SME competitiveness, resource efficiency and sustainable energy. Opportunities for health projects can be found under **Priority 1 - “To enhance innovation capacity through international cooperation”** - and especially Priority 1.2 which focuses on **social innovation and societal challenges**. NWE has funded health projects in the past on SMEs competitiveness within the health sector, the use of new technology in health and social care settings and on innovative ways to address health conditions such as dementia or mental health.

Regions covered by the Programme – UK, Ireland, The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and parts of Germany and France.

Deadlines: Two deadlines a year for Stage 1 (usually spring and autumn) and two deadlines a year for Stage 2 (usually late spring and winter). Current Stage 1 call closes on 27 May 2016.

Intervention rate: 60%

More info: [NWE Website](#); [NWE Partner Search](#)

UK Contact Point: [Ian Hill](#) at DCLG

Atlantic Area Interreg V (AA)



As per the NWE Programme (€140m), **Priority 1** of the AA Programme also focuses on “**stimulating innovation and competitiveness**” in the Atlantic Area region. AA does not have a social innovation priority but nevertheless the programme will support transfer of innovation and also the commercialisation of new products and services across all sectors including health.

Regions covered by the Programme – Portugal, Ireland, North and Southwest of Spain, parts of France, West regions of Wales, England and Scotland, Northern Ireland, Madeira, the Azores, and Canary Islands

Deadlines: One deadline a year. First call will be released in May 2016

Intervention rate: 75%

More info: [AA Website](#)

UK Contact Point: [Filippo Compagni](#) at DCLG

Interreg Europe



Interreg Europe (€359m) helps regional and local governments across Europe to develop and deliver better policy through interregional cooperation. Covering the whole of Europe, the programme will fund best practice, knowledge exchange, capacity building and networking activities across all policy areas including those addressing **key societal challenges** in the field of health, demographic change and well-being.

All Partners of Interreg Europe Projects must have a letter of commitment from their Structural Funds Managing Authority. In IK the letter should be issued by the relevant LEP.

Deadlines: One deadline a year. 2016 call will close on 13 May.

Intervention rate: 75%

More info: [Interreg Europe Website](#)

URBACT III



URBACT III (€96.3m) is a European exchange and learning programme promoting sustainable urban development. Through URBACT cities work together to develop new solutions to urban challenges, (inc. demographic change, healthy ageing and wellbeing) and to share good practices, lessons and solutions with all stakeholders involved in urban policy.

Calls are released annually around three areas – Action Planning Networks, Implementation Networks and Good Practices.

Deadlines: The next call for Implementation Networks will be launched on 22 March 2016. Deadline for Phase 1 Applications is likely to be in early June 2016. A call for Good Practice will be released in Autumn 2016. And the next call for Networks will be in Spring 2017

Intervention rate: 70%

More info: [URBACT III Website](#); [URBACT III Health funded Networks and other health news](#)

ESPON 2020



Policymakers and practitioners at all administrative levels and territorial scales can submit expression of interest for specific local targeted analysis they would like to see funded through the ESPON 2020 programme. If the proposal is approved the European Commission, through the ESPON 2020 Secretariat, will tender the study and contract directly a team of researchers to undertake the targeted analysis. ESPON covers all policy areas.

Deadlines: two cut off dates a year.

Intervention rate: n/a

More info: [ESPON 2020 Targeted Analysis](#)

OTHER RELEVANT LINKS

[European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing](#)

[DG Health, Food and Safety](#)

[Consumers, Health, Agricultural and Food Executive Agency \(CHAFAEA\)](#)

[eHealth and Ageing](#)

[European Institute of Innovation and Technology for Health \(ETI Health\)](#)

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