



Health Programme 2008-2013

Together for Health

The Second Programme of Community Action in the Field of Health 2008-2013 comes into force from 1 January 2008. This follows the first Programme of Community action in the field of public health (2003-2008) which financed over 300 projects and other actions.



The objectives are:

- To improve citizens' health security;
- To promote health, including the reduction of health inequalities;
- To generate and disseminate health information and knowledge.

These objectives align future health action with the overall Community objectives of prosperity, solidarity and security.

The financial envelope for the programme is EUR 321 500 000.

To improve citizens' health security:

- Developing EU and Member States' capacity to respond to health threats, for example with health emergency planning and preparedness measures;
- Actions related to patient safety, injuries and accidents, risk assessment and community legislation on blood, tissues and cells.



To promote health, including the reduction of health inequalities:

- Action on health determinants – such as nutrition, alcohol, tobacco and drug consumption, as well as social and environmental determinants;
- Measures on the prevention of major diseases and bridging health inequalities across the EU;
- Increasing healthy life years and promoting healthy ageing.



To generate and disseminate health information and knowledge:

- Action on health indicators and ways of disseminating information to citizens;
- Focus on Community added-value action to exchange knowledge in areas such as gender issues, children's health or rare diseases.



The Health Programme 2008-2013 is intended to complement, support and add value to the policies of the Member States and contribute to increased solidarity and prosperity in the European Union by protecting and promoting human health and safety and by improving public health.

Under the new Programme, participation and consultation with stakeholders will be promoted.

The Programme will be implemented by means of an annual work plan which sets out priority areas and the funding mechanisms. The operation of the Health Programme 2008-2013 is managed by DG SANCO in cooperation with the Public Health Executive Agency (PHEA).

Financing mechanisms

To ensure full participation in the Programme by organisations which promote a health agenda in line with the Programme objectives, a wider variety of financing mechanisms are offered. These include:

- Cofinancing of projects intended to achieve a Programme objective;
- Tendering actions to achieve a Programme objective;
- Cofinancing of the operating costs of a non-governmental organisation or a specialised network;
- Joint financing of a public body or non-governmental organisation by the Community and one or more Member States;
- Joint actions with other Community programmes, which will generate coherence between this instrument and other Community programmes.

The main financing mechanism is the call for proposals, which is managed by PHEA.

To submit a proposal, applicants should consult all documents published each year with the Work Plan. This includes the principles and criteria for funding actions under the Programme. All the documents related to the Work Plan and Call for Proposals can be downloaded from the PHEA website, once the Call is launched. <http://ec.europa.eu/phea>

Award criteria

All projects must cover one or more of the specific objectives set out in the annual work plan. They will be assessed on the basis of:

- Policy and contextual relevance – projects should provide added value at European level and support developments at European level in the field of health;
- Technical quality – projects should be innovative, with a clear evaluation and dissemination strategy;
- Management quality and budget.

Evaluation process

Independent experts will assist with the evaluation process. Applicants of highly ranked proposals will be invited to negotiate a grant agreement providing for a financial contribution.

■ FOR MORE INFORMATION:

European Commission – DG SANCO
http://ec.europa.eu/health/index_en.htm

The Public Health Executive Agency
<http://ec.europa.eu/pheaz>