



21ST EHEALTH NETWORK MEETING 1-2 JUNE 2022, PARIS, FRANCE

COVER NOTE

11.3 Update on funding opportunities: Digital Europe Programme

1. Issue at stake

Update on the eHealth related funding opportunities under the Digital Europe Programme, in particular also those contributing to the European Health Data Space.

2. Summary

The Digital Europe Programme is the EU funding programme focused on bringing digital technology to businesses, citizens and public administrations. It supports projects in 5 key capacity areas: supercomputing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills, and ensuring a wide use of digital technologies across the economy and society, including through European Digital Innovation Hubs.

The Digital Europe Programme will contribute to the deployment of European common data spaces as outlined in the European strategy for data, including the European Health Data Space. To this end, its work programme 2021/2022 supports the development of an open source cloud-to-edge middleware infrastructure that can be used in different data spaces, complemented by large-scale pilots for cloud-to-edge based service solutions in a number of sectors that can include health. The programme further supports the data spaces support centre that shall coordinate all relevant actions on sectorial data spaces. Support to the deployment of two health-specific federated European data infrastructures will facilitate secure, cross-border access to genomics data and cancer images data. In addition, physical connectivity is supported through the Connecting Europe Facility that promotes the interconnection of cloud infrastructures in Member States, including in health.

eHealth is also one of the potential sectors targeted under a call supporting the piloting of European Digital Identity Wallets, which could contribute to improving patients' access to their health data (e.g. ePrescription or patient summary).

The Testing and Experimentation Facility (TEF) for Health supported under the work programme shall ultimately foster trust and acceptance and boost the roll-out of European AI, data and robotics solutions from the lab to the market through its validation process. To this end, it aims to accelerate testing by creating common, accessible infrastructures and services, which combine the necessary technical, administrative, medical and ethical procedures and certifications, as appropriate.

In addition, the Digital Europe work programme 2021/22 supports two coordination and support actions specifically targeting health, on uptake of digital health solutions and on digital twins in healthcare by strengthening the related ecosystem. Another dedicated topic focuses on strengthening cybersecurity resilience in healthcare and health institutions.

3. Format of procedure in the meeting

No action required only for information