Use of Structural Funds in health

European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety

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Support to Member States’ health authorities to channel ESIF support to health

ESI Funds for Health project – objective:

- to further develop capacities of the relevant actors in EU Member States and regions to support the effective and consistent implementation of ESIF for health, to support capacity buildings in Member States through knowledge sharing, developing and promoting exchange of information and good practices among interested Member States
ESI Funds for Health project - Activities

• **Mapped and classified** over 7,000 health-related projects co-financed by the ESI Funds in all Member States; 
  Over **EUR 8 billion** spent on health-related projects in MS and Interreg programmes

• Set out **the concrete contributions made by these investments towards health policy goals** through the assessment of a range of exemplary projects;

• Provided hundreds of programme managers, project beneficiaries, experts and other stakeholders with **the opportunity to contribute and learn from the project findings as well as further their networks** through a series of workshops;

• Developed a set of findings and recommendations that can help health stakeholders and the wider policy community to maximise the results from ESI Funds in both the current and future programming periods.
ESI Funds for Health project - classification into 6 health themes

- Access to healthcare: 34%
- Reform of health systems: 12%
- e-health: 23%
- Research and innovation: 3%
- Ageing and health promotion: 23%
- Health workforce: 4%
Access to health care

- EUR 1.3 billion invested, 923 projects in 16 Member States targeted access to health care and health inequalities
- Workshop in Portugal
- Example: PROXIMITY MOBILE HEALTHCARE UNITS
Health promotion, healthy ageing, workplace health and safety

- EUR 2 billion invested, 2,535 projects in 25 Member States targeted health promotion, healthy ageing, workplace health and safety
- Workshop in Croatia
- Example: Green care farms - care homes in the Kujawsko-Pomorskie region”, Poland
ESIF investments in health

The reform of health systems

• EUR 1.6 billion invested, 1,738 identified projects in 16 Member States targeted reform of health systems
• Workshop in the Czechia
• Example: MENTAL HEALTH CARE REFORM – CZECH REPUBLIC
ESIF investments in health

The uptake of e-health and digital solutions

- EUR 600 million invested, 225 projects in 19 Member States targeted e-health and digital solutions
- Workshop in Hungary
- Example: eMEN, Interreg North-West Europe/Cognitive behavioural therapy game for children (depression), as part of eMEN
ESIF investments in health

Research and innovation

• EUR 1.8 billion invested, 1,708 projects in 20 Member States targeted research and innovation in health
• Workshop in the Netherlands
• Example: AgeWell - medical robotics specialists and physicians in rehabilitation, Romania
## Support for the health workforce

- **EUR 979 million invested**
- 275 projects in 20 Member States targeted support for the health workforce
- Workshop in Bulgaria
- Example: ESIF investments for HR in health sector – Latvia

### HR challenges

- Lack of doctors and nurses in regions
- HR age structure
- Placement of major educational establishments is centralized
- Compliance of skills and competencies with the reform

### HR accessibility in regions

#### Main activities

- **One-time compensation**
  - Five monthly wages for a doctor/nurse + 1 wage per family member (spouse/children)

- **Monthly allowance**
  - 200 EUR for two years (100% 1st year; 70% 2nd year 6 months; 30% 2 year last 6 months)

- **Compensation for GPs**

- **Measures for accessibility increase**
Conclusions

ESI Funds for Health project – lessons learned and success factors

• *Integration of investment plans into a broader reform agenda is needed,*

• *Cross-sectoral cooperation is key to developing integrated solutions that tackle the challenges faced by the health sector.*

• ESI-funded projects contribute to the implementation of health reforms, but their success relies on institutions having the necessary *capacity* to implement reforms.

• *Investments in people* (services, networks, education) are crucial for the health sector and must be considered next to the necessary *infrastructure* investments.

• Co-ordination and *combination of resources and funds* is important to achieve a better, more sustainable return on investment in health
Structural funds in 2021-2027 to support (Commission proposal) :

- Improved accessibility, effectiveness and resilience of healthcare systems
- Equal access to affordable, accessible, sustainable and high-quality healthcare with a view to reducing health inequalities
- Investment strategies, which consider together human capital needs, needs for infrastructure, innovative technologies and new care delivery models
- More health promotion and disease prevention
- Shifting away from hospital and institution-centered care to community and home-based care
http://esifundsforhealth.eu/

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) support local and regional projects that contribute to job creation and a sustainable European economy.

This website shows examples of ESIF-funded health projects and provides information on the implementation of projects that contribute to wider health policy goals.