

PROPOSED EU HEALTH FOR GROWTH PROGRAMME (2014-2020)

CITIZENS' SUMMARY

WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

European health systems are in need of reform, to keep up with **demographic and social change** and to enable European countries to:

- make healthcare services more **sustainable** and encourage **innovation** in health
- improve **public health**
- provide protection from **cross border health threats**, such as flu epidemics.

WHAT IS THE EU PROPOSING?

A new health programme to help EU countries respond effectively to economic and demographic challenges facing their health systems and enable their citizens to stay healthy for longer. The programme would help fund:

- **the uptake of innovative solutions** to improve healthcare provision
- **pooling of resources and know-how** between EU countries to address common problems, while enabling national governments to retain control over their own healthcare systems.

HOW WOULD IT WORK?

By funding a € 446 million EU programme for a 7-year period.

The Programme would fund grants and public procurement contracts for public or private bodies, national authorities, European NGOs and international organisations. It would help EU countries:

- find **cost-effective solutions** to the challenges they face
- make their health systems more **responsive and sustainable**.

WHO WOULD BENEFIT AND HOW?

- **directly** – all national and European public authorities involved in healthcare, and private bodies, NGOs and interest groups with a stake in making health policies and systems more responsive to demographic and social challenges
- **indirectly** – all European citizens, through access to better healthcare, health promotion and preventive measures.

WHEN WOULD IT COME INTO EFFECT?

The Health for growth programme would start in **2014** and run until the end of **2020**.