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| **Objectives and expected impacts** | • Promote Healthy Living: self-management of health and lifestyle intervention.  
• Support Active Ageing: workplace interventions and overcoming functional loss. |
- Improve healthcare: improving healthcare systems, treating, and managing chronic diseases.
- Cross-challenges and EIT Health activities: removing barriers to innovation, leveraging talents and education, leveraging enabling technologies and exploiting big data

The expected impacts within Horizon Europe include:
- To build synergies with EIT Health which has a focus area on ‘Fostering healthy lives by introducing behavioural change’ (EIT Health Focus Area 6). Special opportunities exist in there for targeting children and other vulnerable groups in society.
- In addition, allowing the elderly to be able to live independently, providing personal independence and freedom at home, strengthens the capacity of our ageing population to live healthier, longer lives and improves better quality of life.
- To explore synergies with EIT Health Focus Area 5 (‘From workplace to the health place’) which underlines the central role of the workplace for health and for a productive workforce.
- To improve the understanding of co-morbidities and develop new medical responses, for instance through the use of big data, artificial intelligence, and new monitoring technology;
- To support on capacity building, strengthening synergies with ESIF interventions and scale up success stories from health R&I resource building to address regional and social inequalities (Sub-Challenge 1.4a); Identifying innovative solutions for healthcare systems modernisation in conjunction with EIT Health (EIT Health focus area 2 addressing health systems transformation; EIT Health Think Tank)
- To reduce the pressure on healthcare resources and the burden of the care giver (‘carer’) and the health professional, who also need support and training in technical and societal/social aspects to improve the patient journey.

**Necessity test: rationale for a European Partnership**
A partnership approach is more effective in achieving the objectives because it:
- contributes to strengthening local innovation ecosystems, through the involvement of and interaction between local innovation actors;
- creates the conditions to incentivise the commitment of innovation actors for a long time, in order to ensure the continuation of the activities once the EU financial support is phased-out.
- combines, in an integrated way, the education and training activities, the support to innovation and business creation, the strengthening of innovation ecosystems, with the less administrative efforts (no funding to be allocated to research activities), to tackle a global challenge.
- Establishes synergies and complementarities with other EU initiatives, in order to make the critical mass of efforts more consistent.

Traditional call for proposals are not suitable to achieve the objectives stated above because.

**Relevant for the following parts of Horizon Europe**
- Pillar II ‘Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness’
  - Cluster Health
  - Cluster Culture, creativity and inclusive society
  - Cluster Civil Security for Society
  - Cluster Digital, Industry and Space
  - Cluster Climate, Energy and Mobility
Currently identified links with other partnership candidates / Union programmes

Currently identified links include:

- European Partnerships on Innovative Health Initiative, Pre-clinical/clinical health research, Large-scale innovation and transformation of health systems in a digital and ageing society, Personalised Medicine, Rare Diseases, AI, data and robotics, Animal health: Fighting infectious diseases.
- Strategic dialogue with European institutions and other public bodies in Europe
- Synergies with European Institutions and EU funded programmes: different EU institutions such, the EIF and the JRC in order to build bridges and collaborations, ensures that EIT Health’s strategy and objectives are in line with those supported by the EU. For example, the planned Venture Centre of Excellence (VCoE) with EIF will enable co-investment of VCs and EIF in start-ups from the EIT Health pipeline.
- Synergies with other KICs, mainly steered through the various Cross KIC initiatives.

Does the proposed partnership build on currently active ones?

EIT Health is the continuation of the EIT-KIC partnership of the same name currently implemented through the EIT. It was established in 2015, for a maximum duration of 15 years, following a call for proposal in 2014.

Expected type and composition of partners

EIT Health is an autonomous partnership composed of 170 leading organisations spanning key areas of healthcare, such as pharma, medtech, research institutions and universities, as well as cities, regions, or NGOs. The KIC is organised around 6 co-location centres (CLCs), which are geographical hubs for the practical integration of the knowledge triangle (research, education, business). The KIC HQ is based in Munich and 6 co-location centres are located in London (UK), Stockholm (SE), Barcelona (ES), Paris (FR), Heidelberg (DE) and Rotterdam (NL).

Partners come from across the EU. KICs have rules and criteria for bringing in new partners who are usually first associated to KICs activities before eventually become full-fledged KIC partner. Therefore, inclusion of new partners follows the business model and strategic direction of the KIC, and will be even reinforced under Horizon Europe.

EIT Health gives strategic importance to developing new solutions that support European citizens in managing their own health and in leading healthy lives. Citizen Engagement involves developing new means of innovation by supporting citizen science, (big) data handling, co-creation, market investigation and taking other novel approaches.

Contributions and commitments expected from partners

In addition to the EIT grant, the KIC budget includes additional revenue from various sources, e.g. membership fees, ROI from shares in companies, business support services, etc. Partners also provide in-kind contributions to co-fund the activities.

Currently envisaged implementation mode(s).

- ☐ Co-programmed European Partnership
- ☐ Co-funded European Partnership
- ☑ Institutionalised European Partnership
  - ☐ Article 185
  - ☐ Article 187
  - ☑ EIT-KIC
| Justification of the implementation mode | Through an open and competitive call process, each KIC partnership is selected among a number of proposals based on criteria, including: proposed strategy, implementation aspects and expected impact.  
• Based on a multiannual strategy and Business Plans, the KIC will run an integrated portfolio of activities in the field of education, support to innovation and to entrepreneurship in order to contribute tackling global challenges.  
• Each business plan covers a period of one year; it is assessed by external experts, scrutinised and approved by the EIT GB. It is a mean to flexibly address the key issues a KIC tackles.  
• Place-based approach: i.e. integration of a KIC (through its CLCs) in local innovation ecosystems to strengthen the ties between innovation actors.  
• A KIC is meant to be financially sustainable and keep operating after the end of the support of the EIT.  
• Target group: a KIC is meant to involve the actors of the Knowledge Triangle (academia, research and industry). However, a KIC can involve also other actors that can contribute to its objectives (i.e. financial actors, local government, civil society). In particular, entities managing and/or funding research and innovation programmes can also be involved in order to ensure synergies with initiative at national/local level.  
• Each KIC benefits from the interactions and synergies with the other KICs. |
| Proposed starting year | EIT Health is the continuation of the EIT-KIC partnership of the same name currently implemented through the EIT. It was established in 2015 for a maximum duration of 15 years, following a call for proposal in 2014. As of 2021, it will continue to be funded as part of Horizon Europe Programme. |