Horizon 2020 Work Programme for Research & Innovation 2018-2020

Implementation science and scale up of interventions

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'Knowledge without practice is useless. Practice without knowledge is dangerous'.

Confucius

For a policy maker...

What good is knowledge without action?

research is not complete until it is used ...
Implementation research in health systems and up-take in policies.

EU funded research and the science-practice gap.

Knowledge creation, demonstration, idea, and up-take.
Implementation research specifically takes into account the context and real-life conditions and engages concerned population groups, leading to more successful implementation and scale-up of public health interventions.
SC1-BHC-19-2019: Implementation research for maternal and child health (up to 1000 days) € 35 M

**Scope:**
- new or improved health service delivery interventions that strengthen maternal and child health and/or
- the scaling up and/or adapting of existing evidence-based interventions to new contexts

No pre-clinical research nor clinical trials in the context of product development
In HIC or LMIC or a combination

SC1-BHC-19-2019: Implementation research for maternal and child health (up to 1000 days)

**Expected impact:**
- Research-supported **solutions** to maternal and child health challenges.
- Evidence of successful and/or innovative **approaches for bridging the "knowledge-do" gap**
- Better understanding of **scaling-up processes**
- Contribution to the achievement of **SDGs (2, 3, 5 & 10)**

SC1-BHC-16-2018: Scaling-up of evidence-based health interventions at population level for the prevention and management of hypertension and/or diabetes

€ 20 M

https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/node/1602
http://www.gacd.org/
• Focus on low and middle income countries or in vulnerable populations in high income countries
• Generate expertise in implementation research & scaling up interventions in NCDs
14 GACD Members

- Argentina’s Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (MINCYT)
- Australia’s National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- Brazil’s São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP)
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
- Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (CAMS)
- European Commission’s Health Directorate of the Research & Innovation Directorate General
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
- Mexico’s National Institute of Medical Science & Nutrition Salvador Zubirán
- South African Medical Research Council (SA MRC)
- Thailand’s Health Systems Research Institute (HSRI)
- UK’s Medical Research Council (UK MRC)
- US National Institutes of Health (NIH)
A global community of researchers in NCDs

- Who work towards understanding how socio-economic, cultural, geopolitical and policy contexts have influenced results
- Cumulative learning across the individual projects
- Findings to be scaled-up and applied in different settings
GACD funding on Implementation Research (€ 200 Million so far)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease/Scale-up</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fund (€Million)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 2 Diabetes</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung Diseases</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension &amp; Diabetes Scale-up</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>20</td>
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</table>
Scaling-up of evidence-based health interventions at population level for the prevention and management of hypertension and/or diabetes

General Scope

• Proposals addressing comorbidities with either hypertension or diabetes, including between them, are encouraged.

• Implementation research

• Low or middle Income Countries or vulnerable populations in High Income countries
Proposals must align with commitments or planned commitments at a regional or country level to implement evidence-based interventions.

Policymakers, intervention payers (excluding research funding agencies), researchers (including local researchers), implementers and beneficiaries should be involved at all stages of the intervention development and implementation design to identify the challenges to intervention delivery in real settings.

Such partners will be integral to the success and sustainability of the programme and it is essential that they are engaged early, and participate actively in the design of the research proposal. Researchers should collaborate closely with the authorities responsible for the programme’s delivery.

Those authorities must pay for and provide the interventions, possibly through loans contracted from development banks or other financial providers.
Scope

• **Identify, develop, test, evaluate and/or refine strategies** to scale-up evidence-based practices into public health, clinical practice, and community settings.

• Identify, understand, and develop strategies **for overcoming barriers to the adoption, adaptation, integration, scale-up** and sustainability of evidence-based interventions, tools, policies, and guidelines.

• They should address a **range of scale-up challenges**, including complex processes, inefficient use of resources, inequitable allocation of resources, and supply and demand barriers to scaling-up and sustainability.

• Use **scale-up methods, tools, and approaches to enhancing** equity, efficiency, people-centred, and responsive health systems, promoting a culture of evidence-informed learning, engaging stakeholders, and improving decisions on policies and programmes to achieve better health outcomes.

• **Identify, understand, and develop strategies for measuring the unintended consequences of intervening** at a system level.
The proposal will cover the research around the scaling up of the interventions. The research may cover:

- **Identification** of the best evidence-based interventions;

- Definition and implementation of **optimum scale-up methods** (e.g. pilots in multiple settings, defining a scalable unit);

- **Embed real time monitoring/evaluation** to refine protocols and ensure adaptability and effective uptake;

- **Evaluation of health outcomes**;

- Where appropriate, **make recommendations for the replication of the applied scale-up interventions** to other countries or very large regions.

- Include **health economic assessments** as an integral part of the proposed research.
Expected Impacts
(one of or combinations of)

- Enhanced *programmes and policies that can significantly reduce the numbers of patients with hypertension and/or diabetes* through prevention.

- Enhanced programmes and policies that can significantly *increase the number of patients* for whom hypertension and/or diabetes *was previously undetected*.

- Enhanced programmes and policies that can significantly *increase the number of patients* for whom hypertension and/or diabetes *is controlled*.

- Enhanced *effective, efficient, equitable and sustainable health systems*, to *lessen inequalities and greater health equity and additional societal benefits*, in the medium and long-term.

- Improved health services *more responsive to the need of the comorbidities* of hypertension and diabetes and other non-communicable diseases.

- **Recommendations to translate findings to other countries** or very large regions.

- Contribute to the attainment of **the SGGs for NCDs**
Thank you!

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#InvestEUresearch
#EUHealthResearch

http://ec.europa.eu/research/health
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal