



2017 Maltese
Presidency of the
Council of the
European Union

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The Trio programme

- Guided by the strategic agenda of the European Council adopted in June 2014
- One of the common priority areas of the 18 month programme of the Trio Presidency of the Council as established by Netherlands, Slovak and Maltese Presidencies, covering the period January 2016 to June 2017 refers to:
- **A UNION THAT EMPOWERS AND PROTECTS ALL ITS CITIZENS**

The Trio programme

- “The protection of the health of EU citizens remains a key objective. The three Presidencies will take forward discussions on ways to **improve the health status of the EU population**, by **fighting non-communicable diseases**, the availability of and **access to innovative and affordable medicines** for patients as well as **cooperation between Member States' health systems...**”

See, Council of the European Union, “Taking forward the Strategic Agenda - 18 month programme of the Council (1 January 2016 - 30 June 2017, Doc 15258/15, Brussels, pg.13.

- Non Communicable Diseases - Childhood Obesity: Halting the Rise
- Voluntary structured co-operation between Health Systems
- Communicable Disease - HIV prevention and control across the EU
- Data for Health - The key to personalised sustainable care



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Non Communicable Diseases Childhood Obesity: Halting the Rise



Relevance at EU level



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- BURDEN

In the WHO European Region

1 in 3
11-year-olds is 
overweight
or
obese

- EU ACTION

- 2004: Green paper on promoting healthy diets and physical activity
- 2005 :European platform for action on diet, PA and health
- 2007 : Strategy on nutrition, overweight and obesity related health issues
- 2014 :EU action plan on childhood obesity + Council Conclusions
- 2016 : Roadmap + Council conclusions on food product improvement

Childhood obesity: halting the rise



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- 2 main focus areas
 - Strategic approach: mid term evaluation of the EU Childhood obesity action plan 2014-2020
 - Supporting tool : Food procurement for health in schools



Aim to halt rise in childhood obesity in EU by 2020.

- Support a healthy start in life
- Promote healthier environments, especially in schools and pre-schools
- Make the healthy option the easier option
- Restrict marketing and advertising to children
- Inform and empower families
- Encourage physical activity
- Monitor and evaluate
- Increase research.

Strategic approach



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- Mid term evaluation to see situation in Member States
 - Identify good practices
 - Identify areas of concern
 - Outline how EU and MS can step up actions on childhood obesity
 - Development of council conclusions

Food procurement for health in Schools: Why ?



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- School aged children in Europe consume at least one meal in schools
- Opportunity for food to comply with good nutrition principles
- Government responsibility to protect public health
- Implementation of healthy food procurement improves markers of healthy eating

Food procurement for health in Schools : How?



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- Providing an enabling environment for healthy preferences
- Overcoming barriers to the expression of healthy preferences
- Encouraging people to reassess exiting unhealthy preferences at point of purchase
- Stimulate food-systems response : innovation and product improvement

Food procurement for health in Schools : What?



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- Development of guiding principles
- Added value and opportunity for all
- Voluntary public procurement guidelines for foods for schools which can be adapted for use by MS

Guidance on food procurement for health in schools

- What is public procurement and what do we mean with food procurement for health?
- Why should we consider public procurement of foods for health in schools?
- What can the impact be on children, schools and the food environment?
- EU examples of food procurement for health
- What are the barriers and can they be overcome?
- Guidance on school food standards and food procurement criteria for health

Technical workshop

22-23rd February 2017



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Thank you for your kind
attention!