

Flash report

Meeting

Sub-group on Cancer and Sub-group on Non-Communicable Diseases, under the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases

7 Sept 2022

The Sub-group on Cancer and the Sub-group on Non-Communicable Diseases, both under the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, held a virtual meeting chaired by DG SANTE. Representatives of health and research ministries from 22 Member States, plus Iceland and Norway, attended the meeting with a number of Commission services, and agencies<sup>1</sup>.

EU NCD Initiative – Health Determinants Strand

DG SANTE provided a brief overview of the 'Healthier Together' – EU Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative<sup>2</sup>, which aims to identify high impact actions to reduce the burden of NCDs in Member States and use windows of opportunity to implement them in the Member States with EU support from the EU4Health Programme and other EU programmes and funding instruments.

DG SANTE then presented the best practice results from the 2022 call on the five strands of the Healthier Together Initiative (health determinants, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, mental health and neurological disorders), followed by previous best practices relating to disease prevention. Member States were then given the opportunity to discuss and decide whether these best practices could be considered for implementation in the Joint Action.

Joint Action on health determinants: sub-action on cancer prevention

DG SANTE informed participants of the sub-action on cancer prevention, which is part of a direct grant to Member States' authorities on Cancer and other NCDs prevention – action on health determinants funded under the EU4Health Programmes Annual Work Plan 2022<sup>3</sup> and aims to implement prevention actions under the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan<sup>4</sup>. The call represents a new approach to support coordinated actions in the area of health promotion and disease prevention on cancer.

Next steps for preparation

Participants were then reminded of next dates surrounding the Joint Action on health determinants, which has a budget of EUR 75 million. The European Health and Digital Executive Agency, HaDEA, will organise a hands-on workshop for entities that have been nominated by the competent authorities of Member States on 13, 14 and 15 September

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<sup>1</sup> Directorates-General represented included Communications Networks, Content (CNECT), Energy (ENER), Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (EMPL), Environment (ENV), Health and Food Safety (SANTE), Research and Innovation (RTD), General Secretariat (SG), Service Juridique (SJ), as well as the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and representatives from a number of EU decentralised and executive agencies such as the European Health and Digital Food Executive Agency (HaDEA).

<sup>2</sup> [https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/healthier-together-eu-non-communicable-diseases-initiative\\_en](https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/healthier-together-eu-non-communicable-diseases-initiative_en)

<sup>3</sup> [https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/2022-eu4health-work-programme\\_en](https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/2022-eu4health-work-programme_en)

<sup>4</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/promoting-our-european-way-life/european-health-union/cancer-plan-europe\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/promoting-our-european-way-life/european-health-union/cancer-plan-europe_en)

to facilitate the preparation of the proposal (the deadline to submit the proposal is 13 January 2023). Member States were encouraged to indicate their interest in any specific work areas of the Joint Action and to indicate whether they may wish to take an active role (such as the joint action coordinator or work package leader). They were then asked to provide feedback on how to build the Joint Action. There followed an animated tour de table.

#### Conclusions and AOB

The Chair thanked everyone for their attention and valuable contributions and reminded participants that the next regular meeting of the SGPP will be held on 5 October in Luxembourg.