

It is crucial to ensure the health and well-being of European Union citizens, which is a pre-condition for their employability. The health sector is a vital economic sector strongly driven by innovation. Representing 10% of the EU's GDP and accounting for 8% of the total European workforce, health is a value in itself and a growth-friendly area for investment.

The **European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)**, cornerstone of the Investment Plan for Europe, supports investments in innovative health solutions, new effective medicines and social infrastructures. By investing in medical infrastructure, services and research, EFSI is contributing to the EU's effort towards growth, employment and competitiveness.



# Why it is important

National health systems in the EU face common challenges: increasing cost of healthcare, ageing populations, rising prevalence of chronic diseases, healthcare workforce shortages and inequalities in access to health services. Therefore, health systems need to adapt efficiently to tackle these significant challenges and become more efficient, accessible and resilient than ever. **Medical research, digital health solutions and investments in infrastructure and new care models** are key to this process. By mobilising better levels of financing, in particular for long-term and higher risk investments, the Investment plan for Europe can support health systems in the EU and bring together private and public investment to revitalise the health sector.



## **Opportunities and benefits**

Health project promoters from the public and the private sectors, can benefit from the Investment Plan by getting financing under the European Fund for Strategic Investments, registering a project to the European Investment Project Portal (EIPP) to reach potential investors, and making use of the advisory services of the European Investment Advisory Hub (EIAH).

The Investment Plan supports projects in various health areas, recognising the importance of infrastructure investments but also the role of **innovation in** health systems, research and medical education:

- Medical research, education and training
- Innovative products, services and delivery solutions (including by SMEs, mid-caps and start-ups)
- New models of health infrastructure and services (especially for primary and integrated forms of care)



#### How to access finance

Project promoters should consult the **Infrastructure and Innovation Window** deployed through the European Investment Bank (EIB). Small and medium enterprises shall consult the **SME Window** implemented through the European Investment Fund (EIF). Investment platforms, which pool together smaller projects by location or sector, can also be backed by EFSI.



### Complementary financial sources

The opportunities offered under the Investment Plan for Europe complement the grants provided by the **European Structural and Investment Funds** - ESIF (European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund). Up to € 9 billion of grants for health are planned in the period 2014-2020. The European Fund for Strategic Investments and ESIF can be combined. The European Investment Bank (EIB) also offers financing under its **Health and Life Science line**. Additional EIB financing is available under the Horizon 2020 **InnovFin Infectious Diseases Facility.** 

# **EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED**

Renovation and extension of **Rydygier general hospital** (Poland). Combination of various forms of EU financing to upgrade Toruń's Rydygier hospital and improve healthcare for local people.

**Private Medical Network Expansion** (Romania) helping to build two private hospitals and 15 outpatient centers, increasing access to private healthcare and creating 2,000 jobs.

€ 15 million

Construction of 14 new **primary care centres** (Ireland), providing basic health services including GP surgeries, occupational therapy, social work and dietary advice.

€ 70 million

Design, construction and operation of the new "Cittadella della Salute" at the **Treviso hospital** (Italy), complying with the strictest safety and ecosustainability standards and investing in accompanying social impact initiatives to deliver eHealth services.

New research building, production and laboratory facilities for **AMW** (Germany), a developer and manufacturer of innovative drug delivery systems.

Construction of new manufacturing facilities for **Biovet Peshtera** (Bulgaria), as well as financing research, development and innovation activities on medicated and nutritional feed additives and pharmaceuticals for animal productivity and health.

Financing of **Livanova's** research and development activities (France and Italy) in cardiac surgery and cardiac rhythm management.

€ 100 million

Biotech firm **Apeiron's Biologics** (Austria) expanding research and development of pharmaceutical products to fight rare forms of cancer that affect children.

#### More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/health http://europa.eu/investeu/ http://www.eib.org http://www.eif.org



