



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

SANTE B4: Disease prevention and health promotion

Preparatory meeting on Joint Actions under EU4Health 2024 work programme

06 September 2024

A preparatory meeting for the joint actions under the [EU4Health 2024 work programme](#), on 'promoting a comprehensive, prevention-oriented approach to mental health to support vulnerable groups' (DP-g-24-24) and 'health promotion and disease prevention including smoke- and aerosol-free environments' (DP/CR-g-24-27), was held on 6 September 2024. It was chaired by DG SANTE and attended by the nominated competent authorities of the EU Member States, Norway, Iceland, Ukraine, Moldova, Montenegro and the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA).

Introduction by the Commission

DG SANTE explained that the aim of the meeting was to present the expected activities and deliverables, and to ensure synergies and complementarities with ongoing actions. The meeting provided also the opportunity for countries to discuss their specific interest areas and to demonstrate their potential interest to lead the joint actions.

Promoting a comprehensive, prevention-oriented approach to mental health to support vulnerable groups (DP-g-24-24)

DG SANTE presented the objectives, activities, deliverables and expected results of the joint action on mental health that focuses on support to vulnerable groups. The possible activities include the piloting and transfer of best and promising practices collected in the EU Repository of best and promising practices on mental health and the implementation of the relevant flagships of the Communication on a comprehensive approach to mental health.

The coordinator of the joint action [ImpleMENTAL](#) presented the action's main activities and lessons learnt. This was followed by a presentation of the coordinator of the joint action '[Mental Health Together](#)' (MENTOR), which has just kicked-off its activities. An exchange of views was held during which the countries showed a keen interest to coordinate the action or lead a work package and presented their views on possible topics to be addressed in the action.

Health promotion and disease prevention including smoke- and aerosol-free environments' (DP/CR-g-24-27)

DG SANTE presented the objectives, activities, deliverables and expected results of the joint action on health promotion and disease prevention which includes the strengthening of the '[Healthier Together](#)' EU NCD initiative. In relation to smoke-free environments, the expected activities include: support for the implementation of the tobacco-related objectives of [Europe's Beating Cancer Plan](#), support for the implementation of the upcoming Recommendation on smoke- and aerosol-free environments, developing guidelines and evidence-based recommendations, and supporting the design and piloting of new and existing approaches to achieve comprehensive smoke- and aerosol-free policies.

The coordinators of the joint actions [JA PreventNCD](#) on health determinants and [JACARDI](#) on cardiovascular diseases and diabetes, presented their main activities and lessons learnt. An exchange of views was held during which the countries indicated their interest in coordinating the action and in leading possible work packages. Significant interest was shown to include support for the work on smoke- and aerosol-free environments, and on reducing the use of alcohol and exposure of young people to alcohol advertising.

Conclusion and next steps

The Chair thanked the countries for their enthusiasm and interest in participating actively in these joint actions. A hands-on workshop, organised by HaDEA, will be held on 2nd October 2024, during which the nominated competent authorities will continue the discussion to identify a coordinator for each joint actions and possible work packages and their respective leaders.