

Flash Report

Stakeholder Webinar on Healthier together – EU Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative

15 December 2021

On 15 December 2021, a webinar was held for the non-communicable disease stakeholder community, chaired by the Director for Public Health, DG SANTE, for circa 120 participants.

Overview of the Non-Communicable Diseases initiative

DG SANTE presented the new 'Healthier Together' – EU Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative to the community of non-communicable disease stakeholders. This initiative will help Member States reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases. It will cover the period 2022-2027 and include five strands: cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, and mental health and neurological disorders, and a horizontal strand on health determinants. In each of these strands, the initiative will promote the reduction of health inequalities.

Stakeholders were invited to participate in the co-creation process and to identify and submit their input to the Initiative, including examples of best practices, via the Health Policy Platform. Their input may then be included in the document that will list suggestions for ambitious actions to the Member States. Health authorities will have the opportunity to prioritise the actions.

The initiative was **warmly welcomed and strongly supported** by the stakeholders.

Comments included suggestions to collaborate with international organisations, such as the OECD and the WHO, to address the social determinants of health, to improve the availability of NCD data for policy-making, and to promote health in all policies and cross sectorial approaches.

A specific stakeholders' network on the topic of Non-Communicable Diseases is hosted on the Health Policy Platform and will serve as central channel for stakeholders to communicate and engage. A template to provide such input will be uploaded to the Health Policy Platform in January.

Conclusions and Next Steps

The meeting was concluded by thanking participants for their strong engagement as well as their valuable and enriching input and reminding that the next stakeholder webinars on this topic are planned for 3 February, 17 March, 27 April and 3 June 2022.