

Mid-term evaluation of the Third Health Programme (2014-2020)

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

INTRODUCTION

The EU ensures that human health is protected as part of all its policies, and to work with its Member States to improve public health, prevent human illness and eliminate sources of danger to physical and mental health. However, the EU Member States have the primary responsibility for formulating and implementing health policy and delivering healthcare services. The EU's competence only extends to supporting, coordinating or supplementing actions of the Member States.

One of the main ways in which the EU supports, coordinates and supplements actions by the Member States is the third programme for the Union's action in the field of health (2014-2020) (hereinafter: "3HP"). The 3HP provides financial support for actions to address a number of important health-related challenges facing European citizens, governments and health systems. The 3HP supports action across the EU from public authorities, research and health institutions, NGOs, international organisations and – in certain cases – private companies. The total budget for the seven years of its duration is €449.4 million. The 3HP addresses major health challenges facing MS from risk factors (such as use of tobacco and harmful use of alcohol) to chronic and rare diseases, responding to cross border health threats (e.g. Ebola and Zika viruses) as well as ensuring innovation in public health to name just a few areas. For more information on the 3HP, please visit the websites of [DG SANTE](#) or [CHAFEA](#).

This consultation is an opportunity for any interested parties to express their views and opinions on the 3HP. It is a part of the ongoing mid-term evaluation of the 3HP. The consultation covers:

- The objectives and priorities of the 3HP, and the extent to which these are appropriate and in line with health needs in the EU
- The way the 3HP is implemented, and the extent to which this is effective and efficient
- The overall added value and usefulness of the 3HP

The results of the public consultation will be used together with other evidence to inform the mid-term evaluation of the 3HP. The European Commission will publish a Staff Working Document, including a summary of the results of the consultation, in the second half of 2017.

*** Privacy Statement**

Before completing the form, please read carefully the [privacy statement to conform to European data protection regulations](#).

I have read and accept the terms and conditions related to this meeting

In case you wish to contact the Unit responsible for the event, please send an email to: SANTE-HEALTH-PROGRAMME@ec.europa.eu

I. KNOWLEDGE OF AND EXPERIENCE WITH THE 3HP

1.1. How would you describe the extent of your knowledge of:

| | Detailed, in-depth knowledge | Some knowledge | Only very basic knowledge | No knowledge at all |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| *EU health policy? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *The 3HP? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

***1.2. Are you working on health issues that are closely related to (any of) the ones supported by the Health Programme?**

Yes
 No

***1.3. Are you aware of any activities that were funded by the 3HP that are relevant to your work?**

Yes
 No

1.4. Have you ever consulted, used, or participated in any of the results, services or products stemming from activities supported by previous Health Programmes? Please tick the following examples, as appropriate:

The Commission encourages dissemination of Health Programme outputs and results, however linking to the following external websites from this webpage should not be taken as an endorsement of any kind by the European Commission.

- The [European Code Against Cancer](#)
- European screening guidelines on [Breast cancer](#)
- European screening guidelines on [Colorectal cancer](#)
- European screening guidelines on [Cervical cancer](#)
- The [Orphanet](#) database and recommendations for rare diseases
- The Eudamed database for medical devices (only accessible to Member State authorities)
- The [Euripid](#) database for the pricing of medicines
- Materials on [health technology assessment](#)
- Training packages, e.g. on [cancer screening](#), [migrants' and refugees' health](#), capacity building in the preparation and response against health threats in [air](#) and [sea](#) travel
- Best practices for [tackling health inequalities](#)
- Best practices for the diagnosis and treatment of [HIV/AIDS](#), tuberculosis and [hepatitis](#)
- Scientific Opinions from the [Independent Scientific Committees](#)
- Advice from the [Expert Panel for investing in health](#)
- Information campaigns (e.g. [Ex-smokers are unstoppable](#))
- Reports (e.g. [Health at a Glance Europe](#), The Economics of prevention, Country Health Reports, EU Health Report, different Reports on the monitoring of health strategies on nutrition, alcohol etc.)
- Comparable health data (e.g. [ECHI indicators](#))
- Others

Others, please explain

Reports on food and nutrition.

Many reports are not used by us directly but by our partners, such as the national public health agency and municipal health services

*** 1.5. Have you or the organisation / institution you represent ever applied for funding from the 3HP and/or its predecessors?**

- Yes, I/we have applied for funding from the 3HP
- No, I/we have never applied for funding from the 3HP
- Don't know

1.6. If you have never applied for funding from the 3HP, please tell us why (tick all that apply)

- The opportunities and activities are not relevant for me and/or my organisation
- Lack of information on opportunities
- Lack of information on how to apply
- The co-funding rates are not attractive enough
- Excessive administrative burden
- Lack of language skills
- Lack of partners in other European countries
- Other, please specify

Other (please specify)

1.7. The 3HP is supporting cooperation at EU level between relevant health organisations, national health authorities, academia and non-governmental bodies. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| *The cooperation is essential and should be maintained | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *The 3HP should be expanded to include other health areas | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *In practice, the 3HP's results (at least at this mid-term stage) are not visible and the cooperation should be abandoned | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

*** 1.8. In your opinion, what do you consider to be the main way(s) in which the 3HP is contributing (or could contribute) to addressing health-related challenges?**

Topics supported by the programme should be closely linked to political priorities, and focus on innovation, and implementation issues.

1.9. What are the main aspects (if any) that need to be changed or improved in your opinion?

Ensure better alignment with H2020. Dissemination of knowlegde is in many cases still 'old fashioned', with conferences / meetings etc that are targeted towards academia / exports. In order to increase impact, more attention should be paid to other means of dissemination, ie fact sheets, concreet policy proposals etc.

II. THE 3HP OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

The 3HP aims to address a number of important health-related challenges facing EU citizens, governments and health systems. To do this, it pursues a series of objectives and thematic priorities, please see the [factsheet](#) about the 3HP for more information.

2.1. Do you think the EU should provide funding for actions in order to...?

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| * ...promote health, prevent diseases, and foster supportive environments for healthy lifestyles | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| * ...protect citizens from serious cross-border health threats (Zika and Ebola outbreaks) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| * ...contribute to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| * ...facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for EU citizens | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| * ...contribute to addressing health inequalities and the promotion of equity and solidarity | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

2.2. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the 3HP?

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| *The 3HP's objectives and priorities are clear and easy to understand | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *The 3HP's objectives and priorities are in line with the main health needs in Europe and are appropriate for addressing the key issues and challenges | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *The objectives and priorities of the 3HP are consistent with health policy objectives in my country | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *The more explicit consideration of economic resources and constraints in the objectives of the 3HP (compared with its predecessors) is appropriate | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <p>*The objectives and priorities of the 3HP are consistent with wider EU policy objectives, including the Europe 2020 strategy</p> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>*Overall, the way the 3HP's objectives and priorities have been defined facilitates more focused action than under its predecessors</p> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

2.3. If you have any concerns about the relevance and coherence of the 3HP and its objectives, please briefly summarise them here.

There is already more emphasis in the current workplan on the link between EU policy and activities. Nevertheless, we still see activities proposed that have limited EU added value, or only value for a small group of countries. We still see room for improvement in policy coherence with the R&D agenda, global health agenda and trade agenda (access to medicines).

2.4. The 3HP contains 23 thematic priorities, gathered under four specific objectives:

1. Promote health, prevent diseases, and foster supportive environments for healthy lifestyles
2. Protect citizens from serious cross-border health threats
3. Contribute to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems
4. Facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for EU citizens

Please select up to five priorities that you consider to be the most important, and up to five that you consider to be not relevant.

| | | |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| | Most important | Not relevant |
|--|----------------|--------------|

| | | |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1.1. Risk factors such as use of tobacco and passive smoking, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy dietary habits and physical inactivity | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 1.2. Drugs-related health damage, including information and prevention | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 1.3. HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and hepatitis | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 1.4. Chronic diseases including cancer, age-related diseases and neurodegenerative diseases | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 1.5. Tobacco legislation | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 1.6. Health information and knowledge system to contribute to evidence-based decision-making | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2.1. Additional capacities of scientific expertise for risk assessment | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| 2.2. Capacity-building against health threats in Member States, including, where appropriate, cooperation with neighbouring countries | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| 2.3. Implementation of EU legislation on communicable diseases and other health threats, including those caused by biological and chemical incidents, environment and climate change | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2.4. Health information and knowledge system to contribute to evidence-based decision-making | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3.1. Health Technology Assessment | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3.2. Innovation and e-health | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3.3. Health workforce forecasting and planning | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3.4. Setting up a mechanism for pooling expertise at EU level | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3.5. European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3.6. Implementation of EU legislation in the field of medical devices, medicinal products and cross-border healthcare | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3.7. Health information and knowledge system including support to the Scientific Committees set up in accordance with Commission Decision 2008/721/EC | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| 4.1. European Reference Networks | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4.2. Rare diseases | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4.3. Patient safety and quality of healthcare | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4.4. Measures to prevent antimicrobial resistance and control healthcare-associated infections | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4.5. Implementation of EU legislation in the fields of tissues and cells, blood, organs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4.6. Health information and knowledge system to contribute to evidence-based decision-making | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

2.5. If there are any other important thematic priorities you believe the 3HP should support in the future, or amendments to the existing priorities, please list them here.

We think more attention should be paid to dementia, health promotion (ie the link between life style and chronic diseases) and implementation of the roadmap on mental health.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

The 3HP has a total budget of €449.4 million (2014-2020), which is used to support:

- Cooperation projects at EU level (via [project grants](#))
- [Actions](#) jointly undertaken by Member State health authorities
- The functioning of non-governmental bodies (via [operating grants](#))
- Cooperation with international organisations (via direct grants)
- Studies and other service contracts to cover specific needs related to the support of EU health policies

The 3HP is implemented on the basis of Annual Work Programmes developed by the European Commission in consultation with representatives of the countries that participate in the 3HP (via the Programme Committee). An executive agency ([CHAFEA](#)) is responsible for implementing the Programme; its tasks include issuing calls and evaluating proposals, disbursing payments, monitoring actions and disseminating the results. National Focal Points in Member States promote opportunities arising through the Programme. An infographic showing the different roles can be found [here](#).

3.1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the implementation of the 3HP?

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| *The types of funding mechanisms used by the 3HP are appropriate to achieve the objectives of the programme | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *The prioritised actions in the Annual Work Programme permit the optimal involvement of health actors and stakeholders' groups by making appropriate use of the different funding mechanisms | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *The 3HP includes appropriate measures to involve all Member States, including those with lower incomes | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| *The more explicit consideration of economic resources and constraints in the objectives of the 3HP (compared with its predecessors) is appropriate | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <p>*The level of financial support that the 3HP offers is appropriate to address its objectives</p> | ○ | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

3.2. If you have any (additional) concerns about the 3HP and the way in which it is implemented, please briefly summarise them here and provide us with an indication of which area(s) they correspond to (tick all that apply):

- Eligibility / funding arrangements
- Application process
- Administrative burden
- Dissemination of results
- Other (please specify)

3.3 To what extent do you agree with the following statement about the level of awareness of the 3HP?

| | Strongly agree | Agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|--|----------------|-------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| <p>*The results of actions funded by the 3HP are sufficiently disseminated and promoted to those who might be able to make use of them</p> | ○ | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ | ○ |

3.4. Do you have other specific views that could not be expressed in the context of your replies to the above questions?

We recommend (continuation of the current) focus on joint actions and grants. Procurement or operating grants can be a good solution for specific tasks, but may limit innovation and/or engagement of new stakeholders. We think results do not find their way to policy makers and the political level. New ways of knowledge dissemination (or engagement of policy officers in projects) should be looked for.