

# NHS European Office

## European Commission Health Programme

### 2010 Work Plan

#### 1. Introduction

The Public Health Programme is a key element in the delivery of the European Union's Public Health Strategy and runs from 2008 to 2013. The Programme intends to complement initiatives being undertaken by Member States and add value to European health policies. It provides co-financing for innovative projects, conferences, joint actions, and specialised networks or bodies in the field of public health. Its objectives are to:

- improve citizens' health security
- promote health: including the reduction of health inequalities
- generate and disseminate health information and knowledge

The total budget for the Public Health programme is €321.5million, which is divided between annual work programmes and 'calls for proposals'. These set the priorities and financial allocation for a specific year, and outline particular actions which the European Commission aims to support.

The budget for the 2010 call is **€48.4 million**.

#### 2. Financing Mechanisms

Proposed activities funded under the 2010 call will include projects, tenders, operating grants and joint actions. In comparison to previous years the budget for project proposals has been reduced and greater focus is placed on for example, joint actions. The shift in emphasis aims to maximize the efficiency and added value of actions financed, and to ensure that resources are channeled directly towards meeting the programme objectives.

##### Projects

- The proposed budget for projects under the 2010 call is €13.3m.
- Projects should not exceed 3 years in length, must emphasise EU added value, and have a minimum of 3 partners from 3 different Member State.
- In addition they should consider:
  - The use of the Healthy Life Years indicator to measure public health impact
  - Relevance and links to the FP7 Research Programme (particularly the health theme)
  - Gender and health inequalities considerations
- Projects can receive up to 60% of the project value in co-financing from the EC (This can be increased to up to 70% in exceptional circumstances). At least 40% of a project's co-financing must therefore be funded from other sources.

##### Joint Actions

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- The proposed budget for joint actions under the 2010 calls is €10.6 m
- This funding mechanism is only for public or non-profit bodies
- Applications for this funding mechanism should contain a minimum of 10 participating countries (or 3 if they are all from the newer EU member states (since 2004))
- Joint Actions are jointly funded between the EC and the Member states in question. EC contributions cannot exceed 50% (70% in exceptional circumstances)

## Conferences

- The proposed budget for conferences under the 2010 calls is €0.8m
- Public and not for profit bodies with relevant experience are encouraged to apply
- Conferences should have a European angle and audience with a minimum of 10 countries participating. Under the draft work programme €0.2m is provisionally allocated to 2 EU presidency conferences in 2010, with the remaining €0.6m available to others.
- EC contributions cannot exceed 50% of the budget, up to a maximum amount of €100k

## Tenders

- The proposed budget for tenders under the 2010 call is €15.1m.

The deadline for submission of applications is likely to vary given the different publication dates for the various actions.

Any NHS organizations interested in submitting an application under the calls for proposals should consider whether their application has added value at European level, is innovative in nature, takes into account gender perspectives and health inequalities, and can demonstrate synergies with the EU's Research Framework Programme.

## Operating Grants

- The proposed budget for operating grants under the 2010 call is €2m.
- Financial support shall not exceed 60% of the expenditure involved in carrying out eligible activities (80% in exceptional cases).
- Operating grants may be awarded to pan-european networks or organisations to carry out specific activities outlined within the 2010 work programme.

### **3. Draft priorities in the 2010 call**

The following is an overview of the areas covered by the 2010 work programme.

- **Improve citizens' health security**
  - I. Protect citizens against health threats

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- Improve control of communicable diseases
  - Support preparedness for crisis situations
  - Develop information tools, exchange of information and mechanisms for collecting data
  - Improve early detection of health threats
  - Reinforce collaboration between sectors
  - Support the adaptation of the health sector to the consequences of climate change
  - Support reference laboratories and improve assessment of toxic industrial chemicals and radioactive threats
  - Reinforce global health security capacity
- II. Improve Citizens' safety
- Develop prevention in the field of patient safety
  - Scientific advice and risk assessment
  - Safety of blood, tissues, cells and organs
- **Promote health**
- I. Foster healthier ways of life and the reduction of health inequalities
- Promoting Health in all policies
  - Public Health capacity building
  - Reduction of health inequalities
- II. Promote healthier ways of life and reduce major diseases and injuries by tackling health determinants
- Children and young people
  - Health and work
  - Nutrition and physical activity
  - Sexual health and HIV/AIDS
  - Mental Health
  - Tobacco, Alcohol, Illicit drugs
  - Prevention of major and chronic diseases and rare diseases (Cancer, Cardiovascular health, Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, Autism spectrum disorders (ASD), Neurodegenerative diseases, Rare diseases)
  - Healthy environments
  - Injury prevention
- **Generate and Disseminate health information and Knowledge**
- I. Exchange knowledge and best practices
- II. Collect, analyse and disseminate health information
- European Health information system
  - Dissemination and application of health information
- III. Analysis and reporting