



European Health Research Opportunities for Funding

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EU Research Policy - Competitiveness, Quality of Life and Support to EU policies

The key objective of EU Research policy (Art. 173 of Lisbon Treaty):
"strengthening its (Union) scientific and technological bases by achieving a European research area in which researchers, scientific knowledge and technology circulate freely, and encouraging it to become more competitive, including its industry" and "while promoting all research activities deemed necessary by virtue of other chapters of the Treaties" (Art. 168 - public health)

The core objectives for Health research in FP7 are *"improving the health of the European citizens and increasing the competitiveness of the European health related industries and businesses..."* with emphasis on *"translational research"*.

N.B.:

The European Commission currently manages about 5% of total public spending in R&D in the European Union.

The EU currently invests about 1.9% of GDP in research





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Role of EC in Research

European Commission programmes bring down barriers :

- between countries:
 - multinational consortia (EU-27 + associated countries)
 - researchers from any country in the world can participate;
and promotes coordination of national funding programmes (ERA)
- between different types of organizations:
universities, research centres, SMEs, large companies, etc.
- between disciplines: focus on translational research
and encourages mobility: Marie Curie fellowships for researchers
and for host institutes, including ingoing & outgoing grants



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Health Research & Ageing - on the Move ...

- Bottom up -
4th Framework Programme
- Problem solving - Key Action 6
5th Framework Programme
- Scientific support to policies -
6th Framework Programme
- Cross-cutting -
7th Framework Programme



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Key Action 6 Results - the Ageing Population and their Disabilities

- 190 Million Euros of Community funds have been spent
- Over 120 research and development projects have been funded under this FP5 Key Action
- About 1000 participants from - universities, enterprises, public sector, professional organisations, NGOs, users and providers - have contributed a major effort in the field of the different areas in ageing research

All of them aiming to improve the
Quality of Life of European older Citizens



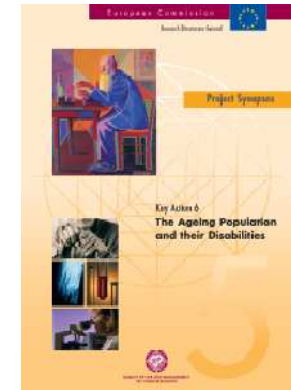
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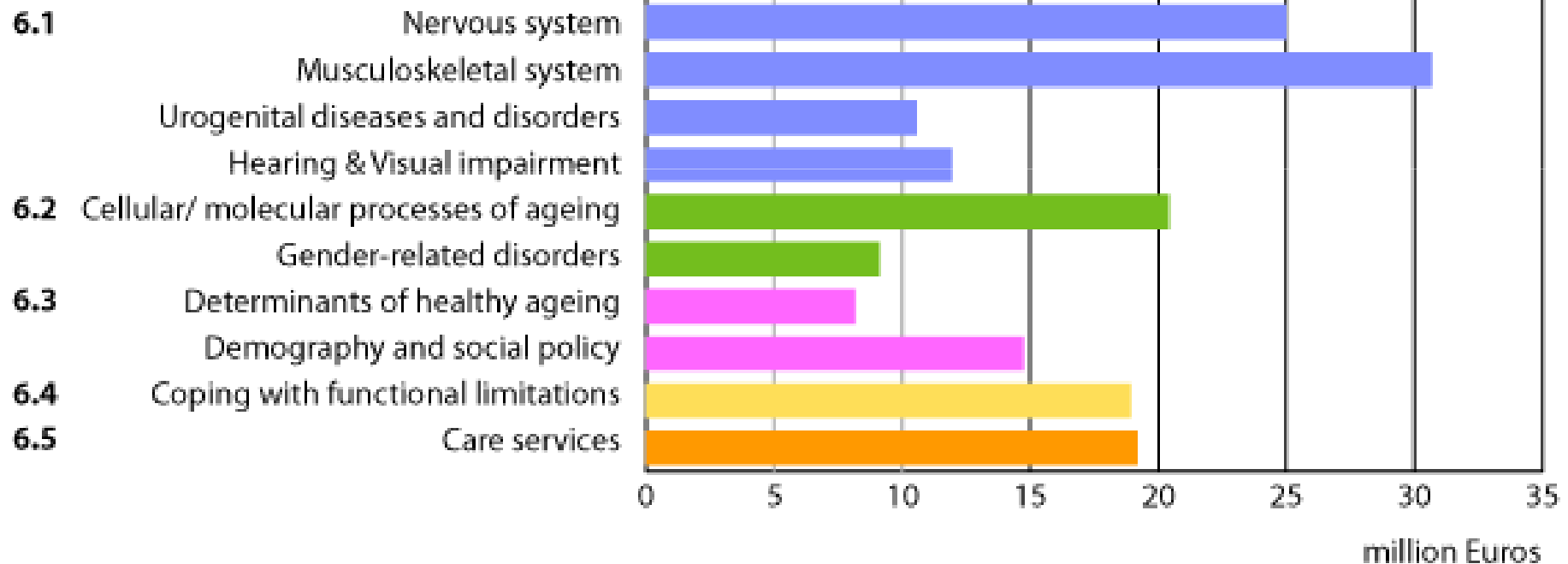
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EU Funding by Action Line



Action Line No.



Total EU funding = 190.1 MEURO

Total no. of projects = 121

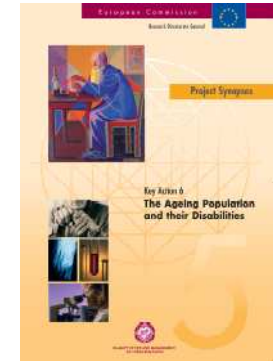




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Ageing Key Action Achievements



- Increased cooperation, networking and knowledge sharing leading to greater prioritisation, more collaborative research ventures between different disciplines leading to a more effective translation of European research outputs into practice.
- Improved public awareness of ageing research and its importance (many projects included older people or their organisations and held conferences or workshops)
- The creation of arrangements for cooperation between Member States which have the potential for replication in other fields and which has laid the foundation of a European Research Area on the ageing population: Forum and ERA-AGE
- The holistic approach to research, emphasising cooperation and knowledge transfer, including the involvement of all stakeholders has led to both improvements in the quality of life of older people and in the quality and efficiency of the services they use

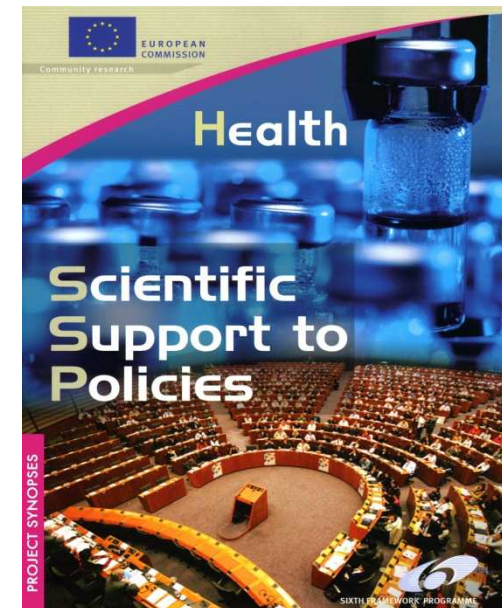


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FP6 - SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO POLICIES (SSP)

- Demand-driven
- Responsive to policy requirements:
 - European Social Agenda - ageing, combating discrimination, barrier-free Europe
 - EU Public Health Programme - monitoring, information, threats, determinants
- Clients:
 - DG SANCO, DG EMPL, DG ENV, DG ECFIN, DG ENTR
- Budget: +/- 50 million €





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“Health, Security and Opportunities for the People of Europe”

- Health determinants, sustainable health care services and pension systems (in particular in the context of **ageing and demographic change**) Area 2.1



- Quality of life issues relating to handicapped / disabled people (including equal access facilities) Area 2.4

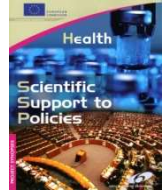




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FP6-SSP PROJECTS with relevance to healthy ageing



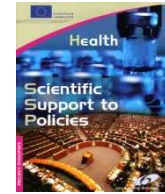
- Methodologies for comparing costs of health services
- Key factors driving health expenditures with particular reference to ageing
- Health promotion through obesity prevention
- Impact of key determinants on Europe's cancer burden
- Investigation into cancer, chronic diseases, nutrition and lifestyle



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FP6-SSP PROJECTS with relevance to healthy ageing



- Social participation & social inclusion issues - access to buildings & building design
- Mobility & accessibility of public transport
- Measurement of types and prevalence of impairments
- Service organisation and evaluation- quality of care and quality assurance
- Rethinking care - improved independent living conditions, appropriate community care
- Labour market accessibility



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Strengthening ERA Foundations: ERA-Nets

- To stimulate and support programme co-ordination and joint actions conducted at national or regional level
- To help develop the common knowledge base necessary for the coherent development of policies

A. Support for co-ordination activities:

Health of key population groups, major diseases, visual impairment, psychiatric diseases - co-ordination of research, comparative studies ... already had **Forums on Ageing, Cancer & Genomes** - bringing programme managers together



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European Research Area in Ageing Research

**Full title:**

European research area in ageing research

Research field:

Population ageing

Coordinator:

UK: The National Collaboration on Ageing Research

Core partners:

- Austria: The Austrian Academy of Sciences
- Finland: The Academy of Finland
- France: Caisse Nationale d'Assurance Vieillesse
- Luxembourg: Fonds National de la Recherche
- Netherlands: The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development
- Norway: The Research Council of Norway
- Romania: Ministry of Health and Family; Executive Agency for Higher Education and Research Funding
- Sweden: Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research

Future partners:

- Germany: Projektträger DLR
- Israel: Israeli Ministry of Health
- Italy: Istituto Superiore di Sanita
- Latvia: The Latvian Council of Science
- Spain: The Ministry of Science and Technology

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Duration:

4 years

EC funding:

€2.40 million

Project reference:

CA-510177-ERA-AGE





EU 7th Framework Programme for Research (FP7) 2007-2013

Healthy ageing & the Health Theme in the Cooperation Programme





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Collaborative research in the Health theme

Main policy drivers:

- **Improving health** of European citizens
- **Increasing competitiveness** of European health-related industries and businesses
- **Addressing global health issues**, including emerging epidemics

• Budget:

- **€6.1 billion over 7 years (2007-2013)**



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Cooperation:

Collaborative research in FP7

Thematic Priorities

1. Health	6.1
2. Food, agriculture, fisheries and biotechnology	1.9
3. Information and communication technologies	9.1
4. Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies	3.5
5. Energy	2.3
6. Environment (including climate change)	1.9
7. Transport (including aeronautics)	4.2
8. Socio-economic sciences and the humanities	0.6
9. Security & 10. Space	<u>2.8</u>
Total for collaborative research	€32.4 billion



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Health theme structure

Pillar 1:

**Biotechnology,
generic tools
& technologies
for health**

Pillar 2:

**Translating
research for
human health**

Pillar 3:

**Optimising
the delivery
of health care**

**Cross-cutting issues: child health, the health of ageing population
gender-related health issues**

Activity (Pillar) 4:

**Specific International Cooperation
Actions (SICAs) and other actions
across the theme – EU policy needs**



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The Health theme structure and content

1. Biotechnology, generic tools and technologies

- High-throughput research
enhancing data generation, standardisation, acquisition & analysis
- Detection, diagnosis and monitoring
with emphasis on non-invasive or minimally invasive approaches
- Predicting suitability, safety and efficacy of therapies
develop and validate parameters, tools, methods and standards
(mainly through IMI) and alternatives to animal testing
- Innovative therapeutic approaches and interventions
gene and cell therapy, regenerative medicine, immunotherapy
and vaccines





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The Health theme structure and content

2. Translating research for human health

- Integrating biological data and processes:
large-scale data gathering, systems biology
- Research on the brain and related diseases,
human development and ageing
- Translational research in major infectious diseases
to confront major threats to public health
antimicrobial drug resistance, HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB,
emerging epidemics, neglected infectious diseases
- Translational research in other major diseases:
cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity,
rare diseases, and other chronic diseases



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The Health theme structure and content

3. Optimising the delivery of health care to citizens

- Translating clinical research into clinical practice - behavioural and organisational interventions, patient safety, better use of medicines, decision-making in clinical settings
- Quality, efficiency, solidarity of health care systems, organisational, financial, regulatory aspects, best-good practice, workforce
- Enhanced health promotion and disease prevention, wider determinants of health, providing evidence of best public health measures – life styles, interventions, mental health in a life course perspective

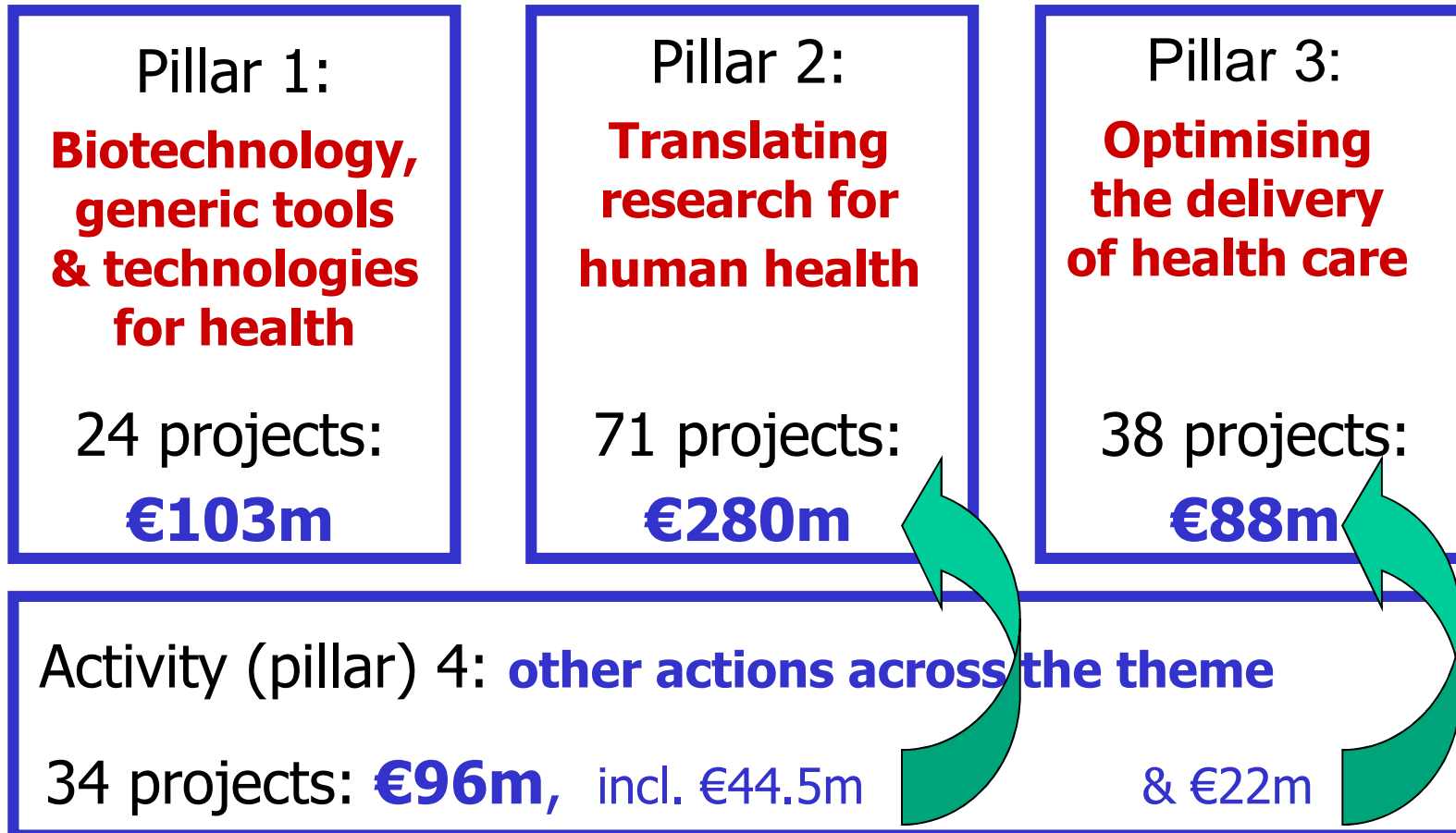


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Health theme in FP7

2nd call, €567m: 167 proposals



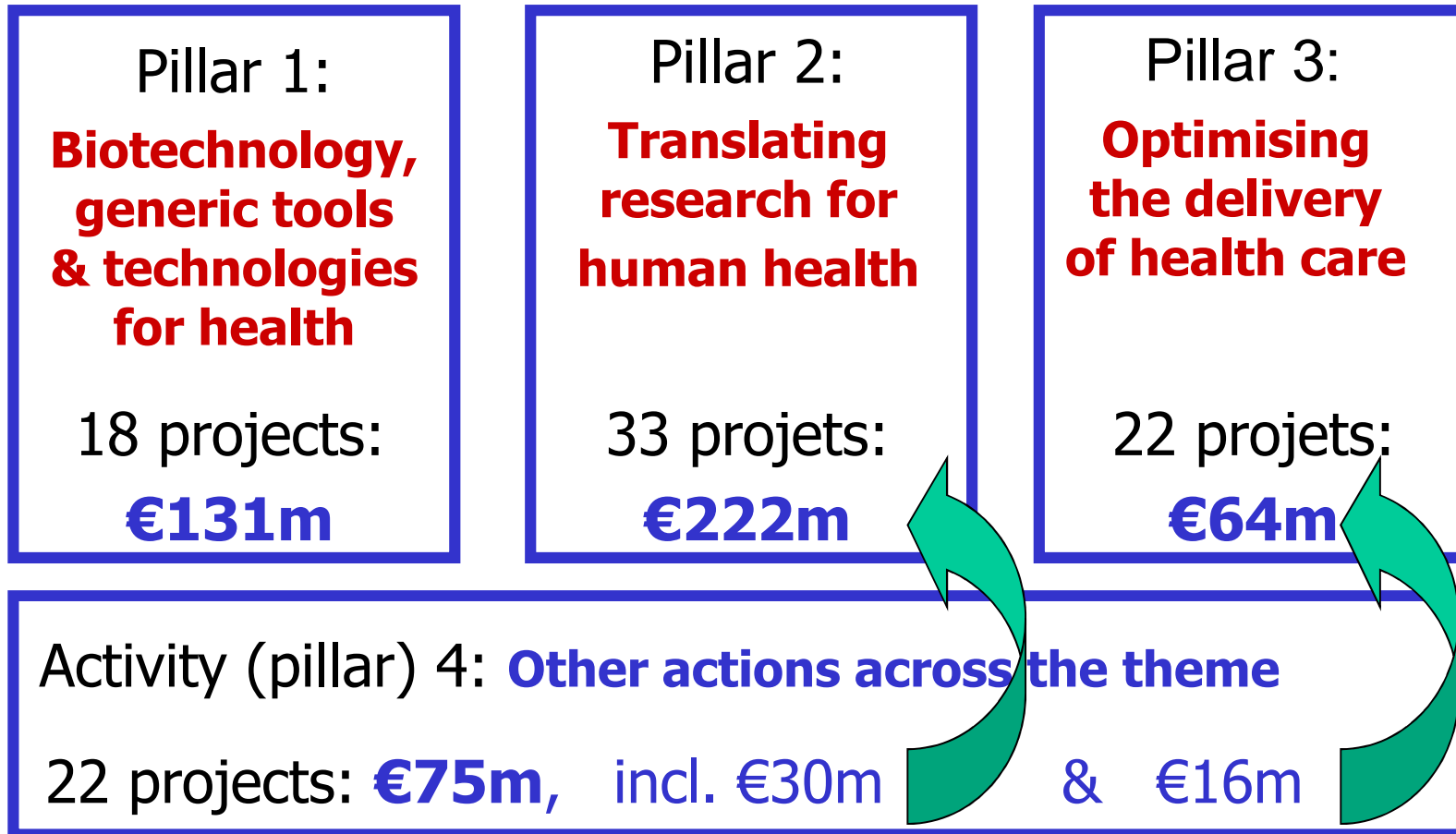


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Health theme in FP7

3rd call (single-stage), €493m: 95 projects





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FP7 Human Development & Ageing Portfolio

- **TOLERAGE:** Normalisation of immune reactivity in old age – from basic mechanisms to clinical application
- **RESOLVE:** Resolve chronic inflammation and achieve healthy ageing by understanding non-regenerative repair
- **MARK-AGE:** European study to establish biomarkers of Human ageing
- **PREDICT:** Increasing the participation of elderly in clinical trials
- **WHY WE AGE:** A road map for European research on molecular aspects of healthy ageing

4th Call topic: Frailty and its implications in modern society; Role of early-life developmental processes in longevity determination; Homeostasis in human development and its effects on lifespan; Integrative systems biology and comparative genomics for studying human ageing; Markers of cellular senescence for human ageing



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A range of FP7 projects under Pillar 3 ...

- **RightTimePlaceCare** - organisation of dementia care
- **HEMECARE** - integrated approach to health care
- **CHANCES** - ageing cohorts
- **FOCUS** - cardiovascular prevention
- **LINNEAUS EURO & Monitoring Medicines** - patient safety research networks - primary care & safe use of medicines
- **Interlinks, SHELTER & ANCIEN** - health systems and long term care of the elderly
- **COURAGE & MentDis_ICF65+** - health outcome measures and population ageing
- **FUTURAGE** - a road-map for ageing research





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Scientific excellence at European level

Topics selection:

- FP6 and FP7 actions are taken into consideration
- Workshops and conferences with scientific community and others
- Early input from MS & AC (strategic priorities)
- Topics are drafted by the Commission services, to implement FP7.
- Not all topics / areas can be opened at any one time: some areas are closed in some call, emphasis placed on others
- Trying to have a structuring effect on European research



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Work Programme Roadmap

Strategy Paper >> AG/PC - DG and Commissioner (Nov-Dec)



Draft working paper >> 1st PC meeting (January)



Draft working paper >> 2nd PC meeting (March)



Draft Work programme => Inter-service Consultation (May)



Draft Work programme => PC formal opinion (mid-June)



Work Programme adoption (July)



Publication in late-July or early Sept



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Identifying priority areas for research is influenced by a **range of factors including ...**

- FP7 mechanisms (Advisory Group, Programme Committee, NCPs ...)
- Project development, feedback as well as project results, scientific communities, conferences, workshops, consultations ...
- Roadmap projects
- EU policies in the field – DG EMPL, DG SANCO, DG ECFIN
- Other institutions – European Economic & Social Committee



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Influencing factors ...

- **Increased focus on limited number of strategic areas, innovation, SMEs, societal challenges – EU2020, ERA**
- **Joint programming, Innovation Partnerships**
- **coverage of the specific programme, cross-thematic approaches (socio-economic dimension)**
- **International cooperation**
- **Sustainable development – includes public health & ageing**
- **Dissemination actions, knowledge translation**



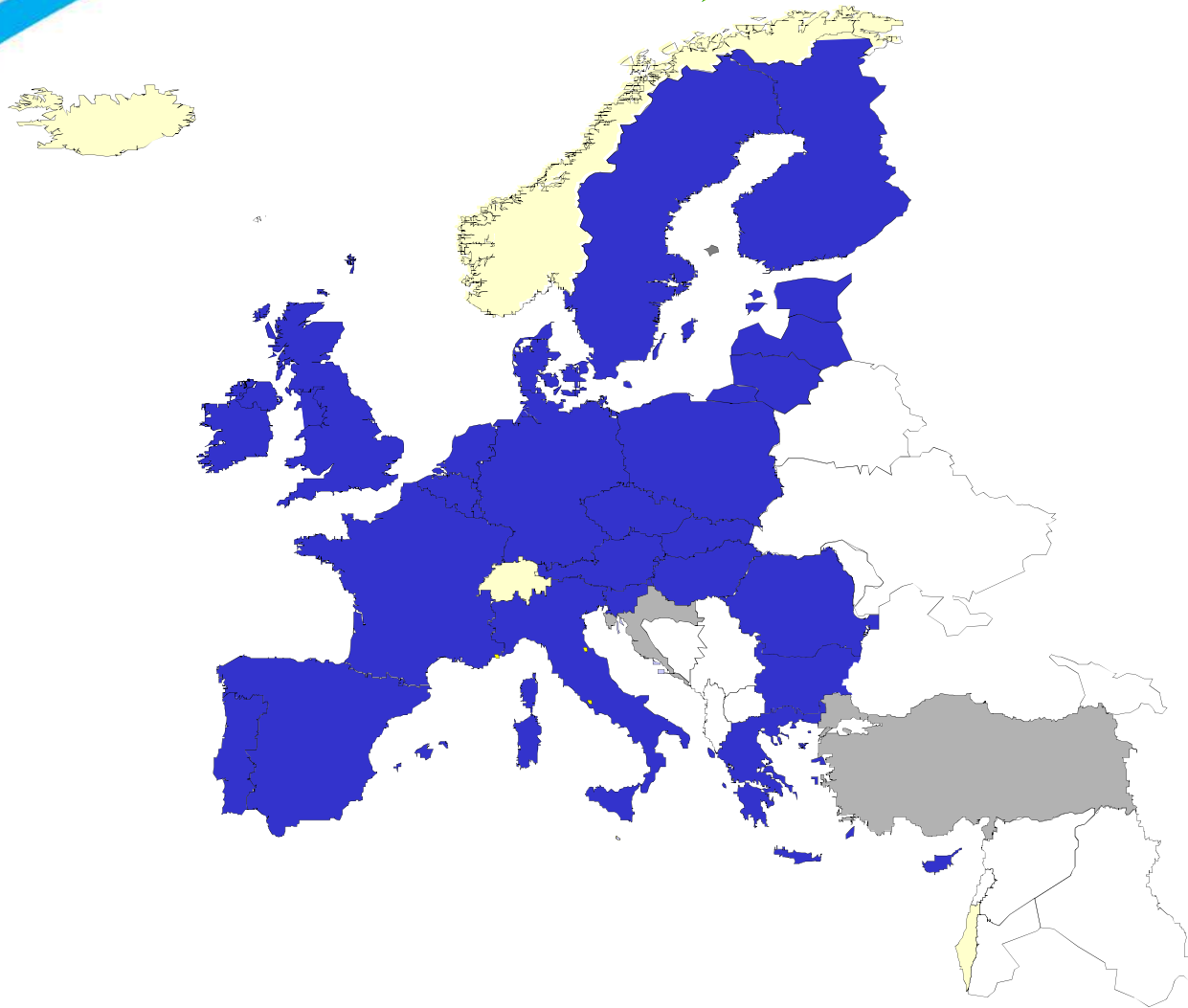
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
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Influencing factors ...



 EU – Member States (n = 27)

 Candidate/Accession countries
• Croatia
• Turkey

 Countries associated with the FP
• Iceland
• Israel
• Norway
• Switzerland



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“Joint Programming”

A European pilot initiative for combating neurodegenerative diseases, in particular Alzheimer’s





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“Joint Programming”

On 22 July 2009, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Recommendation on measures to combat neurodegenerative diseases in particular Alzheimer's, through joint programming of research activities (COM 2009 379)

At the same time the Commission adopted a Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on a European initiative on Alzheimer' disease and other dementias (COM 2009 380)





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The Council Recommendation invites the Member States to work towards establishing:



A common vision of how cooperation and coordination at EU level can help us to understand, detect, prevent and combat neurodegenerative disorders, especially Alzheimer's disease



A Strategic Research Agenda establishing medium to long term research needs and objectives in the area of neurodegenerative diseases



A management structure to monitor the implementation of the Strategic Research Agenda



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A case for Joint Programming (i)

Joint programming

Commission Communication on Joint Programming in July 2008 and Council Conclusions adopted in December 2008

Definition:

Member States engage **voluntarily** and on the basis of **variable geometry**

... in the definition, development and implementation of **common strategic research agendas**

... based on a **common vision** on how to address **major societal challenges**





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A case for Joint Programming (ii)

- Maximise value of national investments in research on AD via coordinated mobilisation of the largest possible number of MS.
- Strengthen coordination of national research efforts in this field at European level.
- Reduce barriers between disciplines and fields of research and compartmentalisation of research activities.
- Reinforce links between basic, clinical and social research.
- Accelerate the integration of basic knowledge into current clinical practice, care organisation and delivery





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Joint Programming Initiatives - Considerations

- Reaching consensus and building agreement
- EU Member States joining forces and to combine research capacities and financial resources
- Voluntary commitment of Member States
- Variable geometry approach – minimalist versus maximalist approach
- JP-ND initiative – a pilot, a model for the future
- Governance structure – Member State representatives - management board – terms of reference – strategic discussions ...



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Other Related Initiatives:

AAL – Assisted Ambient Living:

- An Article 169 initiative - Member States with the Commission
- DG INFSO is the lead service in the Commission
- 700m € Surroundings & Person/Home - ICT Ageing Well Action Plan

Joint Programming on Healthy Ageing:

- One of several areas under consideration by the Council
- DG INFSO is the coordinating service in the Commission
- Areas include e-health, medical technologies, healthcare,

Innovation Partnerships - Commission initiative:

- Healthy Ageing identified as a priority area
- Under health a focus on medical technologies & devices, SMEs,



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Framework Programme 7: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7>

Experts: http://cordis.europa.eu/research_openings/

NCP: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/get-support_en.html





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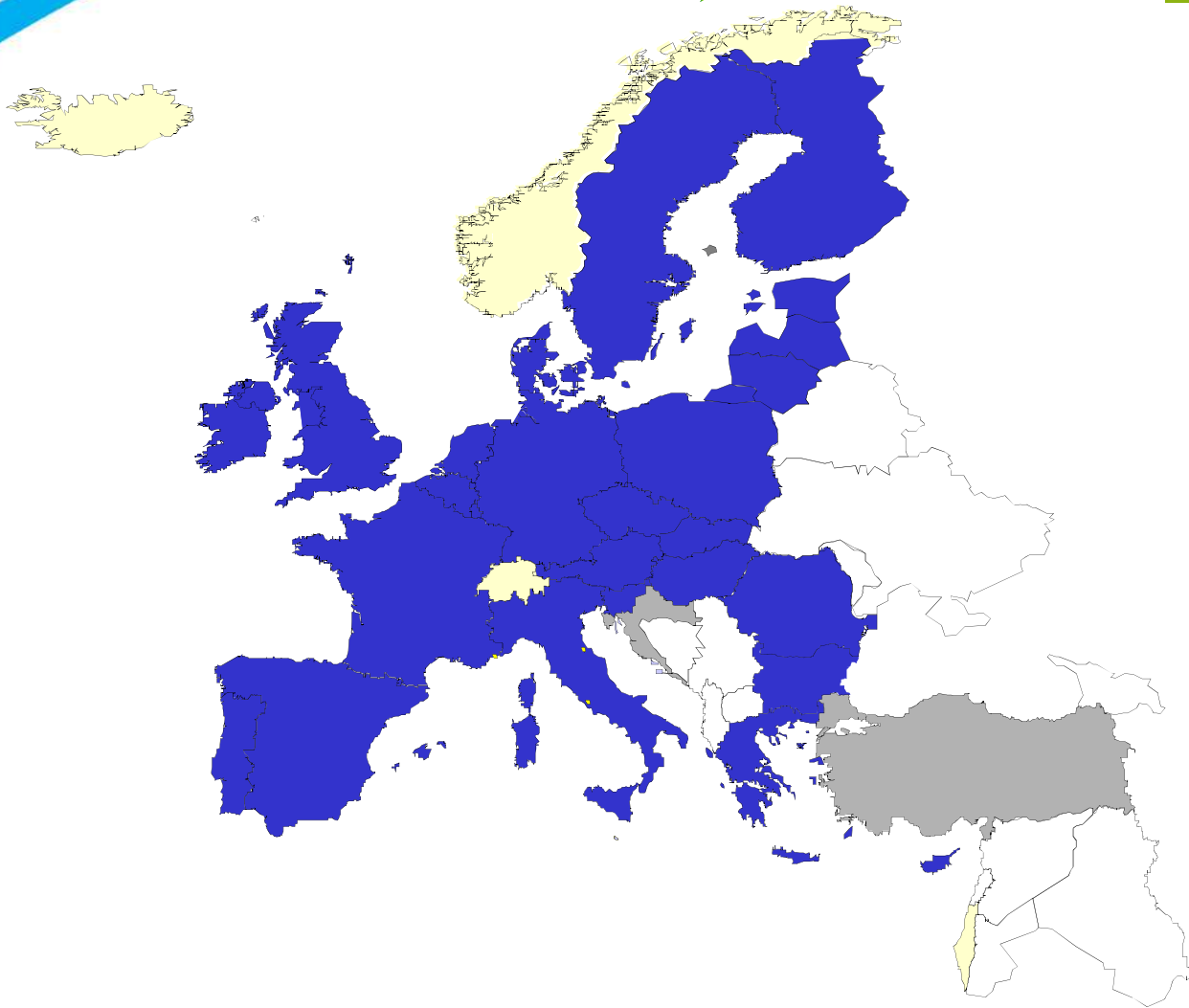
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