

Summary of the EU4Health – work programme for 2026

This is the summary of the Annex to the Commission Implementing Decision on the EU4Health programme for 2026¹, which sets out priorities and actions, including the allocation of resources, for the implementation in 2026 of the EU4Health Programme as provided for under Regulation (EU) 2021/522 of the European Parliament and of the Council² ('the EU4Health Regulation').

The overall budget for 2026 amounts to **EUR 680 684 742³**, of which EUR 270 020 000 will be grants, EUR 352 547 039 will be procurement, EUR 2 590 000 will be other expenditures (all under direct management), and EUR 55 527 703 will be under indirect management.

The general objectives and specific objectives of the EU4Health programme are laid down in Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EU) 2021/522, and are implemented on the basis of the **strands** and **areas of actions** set out in the table below.

Table: Strands & areas of action

STRANDS AND AREAS OF ACTION	2026 budget (in EUR)
1. CRISIS PREPAREDNESS (CP)	429 695 911
HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE AUTHORITY (HERA)	395 189 008
ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE	500 000
HEALTH SECURITY PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS	34 006 903
2. HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION (DP)	47 095 000
ONE HEALTH ACTIONS	250 000
HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES	450 000
MENTAL HEALTH	1 000 000
TOBACCO CONTROL POLICY	1 910 000
EUROPEAN REFERENCE NETWORKS	42 250 000
HEALTH POLICY PLATFORM	525 000

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/health/funding/programme_en.

² Regulation (EU) 2021/522 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing a Programme for the Union's action in the field of health ('EU4Health Programme') for the period 2021-2027 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 (OJ L 107, 26.3.2021, p. 1).

³ The amount includes contributions from associated EEA/EFTA countries to the EU4Health programme as well as contributions from third countries associated to the EU4Health Programme.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES, EXPERTS' GROUPS	710 000
3. CANCER, CARDIOVASCULAR AND OTHER NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (CR/CV&NCDs)	28 588 000
CANCER ACTIONS	8 588 000
EU CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH PLAN –Safe Hearts Plan	20 000 000
4. HEALTH SYSTEMS AND HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE (HS)	111 030 000
PRIMARY CARE AND HEALTH WORKFORCE	2 500 000
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT REGULATION	13 850 000
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL LEGISLATION AND STRATEGY ⁴	12 945 000
CRITICAL MEDICINES	40 000 000
BIOTECH ⁵	13 900 000
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGISLATION ON BLOOD, TISSUES AND CELLS AND ORGANS	9 500 000
IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATIONS ON MEDICAL DEVICES AND IN VITRO MEDICAL DEVICES ⁶	15 835 000
CROSS-BORDER HEALTHCARE	300 000
HEALTH UNION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME	1 400 000
EU GLOBAL HEALTH STRATEGY	100 000
EUROPEAN OBSERVATORY ON HEALTH SYSTEMS AND POLICIES	700 000
5. DIGITAL (DI)	46 150 000
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN HEALTH DATA SPACE REGULATION	44 150 000
AI IN HEALTHCARE	2 000 000
6. OTHER ACTIONS	18 125 831
COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES ⁷	4 260 000

⁴ Including reimbursement of expert participating in Commission controls and audits in the pharmaceutical field and annual contribution and membership fee to the IPRP and ICH.

⁵ Other actions in the 2026 work programme will have a positive impact on the biotech ecosystem (e.g. further strengthening the Medicines Regulatory Network).

⁶ Including the Joint assessment of Notified Bodies.

⁷ Including SANTE and HERA budget.

TRANSLATION SERVICES	120 000
IT RECURRENT ACTIVITIES ⁸	10 100 831
ORGANISATION OF CONFERENCES	600 000
OPERATING GRANTS FOR HEALTH NGOS	1 800 000
EUROPEAN HEALTH AND DIGITAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY (HADEA) EXPERT EVALUATORS AND MONITORS ⁹	790 000
ENLARGEMENT CONFORMITY STUDY	425 000
PEER REVIEW FOR MEDICAL DEVICES	30 000

The **actions proposed for funding** are set out in the bullet points below and cover four main areas: (i) action grants; (ii) procurement; (iii) other actions under direct management; and (iv) actions under indirect management.

Action grants

Calls for proposals to support:

- a) the European Hub for diagnostics development and scale-up (DG HERA);
- b) a laboratory network for medical countermeasures (DG HERA);
- c) action for addressing health inequalities in people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the EU, focusing on cardiovascular health (DG SANTE);
- d) addressing the broader impacts of social media on health and well-being, focusing on the mental health of children and young people (DG SANTE);
- e) dissemination and evaluating the awareness level of the 5th edition of the European Code Against Cancer (DG SANTE);
- f) the continued implementation and sustainability of the inter-specialty cancer training programme (DG SANTE);
- g) an EU flagship programme on cardiovascular diseases: a multidisciplinary and patient-centred approach to prevention, early detection, treatment and care (DG SANTE);
- h) facilitating the use of emerging AI tools in primary care and the required health workforce skills (DG SANTE);
- i) manufacturing capacity of critical medicinal products to strengthen the security of supply (DG SANTE);
- j) supporting clinical trials for biotech medicinal products (DG SANTE);
- k) strengthening resilience of the Union biotech manufacturing capacities – substances of human origin (DG SANTE);
- l) European Health Data Space Readiness Package for secondary use of health data (DG SANTE);
- m) Artificial Intelligence for smart European Health Data Space compliance support (DG SANTE);
- n) advancing Artificial Intelligence in healthcare through local performance assessment (DG SANTE);

⁸ Including SANTE and HERA budget.

⁹ Including SANTE and HERA budget.

- o) designing the ecosystem for multimodal Artificial Intelligence driven prevention and early detection of neurodegenerative diseases (DG SANTE);
- p) contribute to the organisation of conferences (DG SANTE).

Grants for actions co-financed with Member States' authorities / joint actions:

- a) for coordinating whole genome sequencing activities to strengthen preparedness and response (DG HERA);
- b) to strengthen EU deployable diagnostic capacities and pre-positioned medical countermeasures for health emergencies (DG HERA);
- c) to enhance public health security in the Union (DG SANTE);
- d) to support capacity building and AI capabilities in the European medicines regulatory network, including implementation of innovative regulatory aspects of the new EU pharmaceutical legislation (DG SANTE);
- e) to support reinforced market surveillance of medical devices and in vitro diagnostic medical devices to support effective and harmonised application across Member States (JAMS 3.0) (DG SANTE).

Other direct grants to support:

- a) the pan-African health organisations to expand the Pathogen Genomics Initiative and related activities (DG HERA);
- b) the functioning of designated EU reference laboratories in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 on serious cross-border threats to health (DG SANTE);
- c) the coordination, management, and operational activities of the European Reference Networks (DG SANTE);
- d) the European guidelines and quality assurance scheme for gastric cancer (DG SANTE);
- e) the EU Reference Laboratories for the Union contribution on in vitro diagnostic medical devices supporting coordination of their activities to secure harmonisation of practices and meet legal obligations (DG SANTE).

Operating grants:

- a) Calls for proposals to support health NGOs with operating grants in 2027 (DG SANTE).

Procurement:

- a) EU FAB – Ever-warm facilities for vaccines production (DG HERA);
- b) EU FAB+ – Ever-warm facilities for medical countermeasures production (DG HERA);
- c) support to speed up the development of, access to and/or uptake of medical countermeasures - MCM Accelerator (DG HERA);
- d) support to the Commission on gathering intelligence on priority threats and medical countermeasures (DG HERA);
- e) Global and EU wastewater sentinel system (DG HERA);
- f) study barriers and enablers for the introduction and adoption of innovative vector control medical countermeasures in the EU market (DG HERA);
- g) purchase, innovation and deployment of medical countermeasures in emergency situations (DG HERA);
- h) special Eurobarometer on Antimicrobial Resistance (DG SANTE);
- i) study on the design of an indicator framework for the EU One Health Actions (DG SANTE);
- j) operation of IT databases under the Tobacco Products Directive (DG SANTE);
- k) operation of technical group for characterising flavours under Directive 2014/40/EU (DG SANTE);
- l) independent assessments and evaluations of European Reference Networks and of Healthcare

- Providers (DG SANTE);
- m) Health Policy Platform (DG SANTE);
 - n) administrative support to the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan's governance mechanism and stakeholder engagement (DG SANTE);
 - o) IT support for applications under the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan (DG SANTE);
 - p) supporting joint work of Member States in the field of health technology assessment (DG SANTE);
 - q) training of patients and clinical experts to participate in joint work under the HTA Regulation (DG SANTE);
 - r) continuous development and maintenance of the HTA IT platform (DG SANTE);
 - s) evaluation of the application of Regulation (EU) 2021/2282 on health technology assessment (DG SANTE);
 - t) data-driven policy making for medical products (DG SANTE);
 - u) IT support to the European Medicinal Products database (DG SANTE);
 - v) administrative support to events and groups related to the affordability and availability of medicines, including the Critical Medicines Act (DG SANTE);
 - w) study to assess the impact of supply quota and parallel trade on shortages (DG SANTE);
 - x) facilitating the implementation of decentralised manufacturing for biotech medicinal products (DG SANTE);
 - y) development of substances of human origin digital platform (SoHO-X) (DG SANTE);
 - z) supporting joint work of Member States in the field of substances of human origin (DG SANTE);
 - aa) implementation of EUDAMED (DG SANTE);
 - bb) support to the technical secretariat of the Notified Body Coordination Group (DG SANTE);
 - cc) study on methodologies for regulatory sandboxes for medical devices and *in vitro* diagnostic medical devices (DG SANTE);
 - dd) study assessing the Member States' operation of the Directive 2011/24/EU and other Union legislation relating to patient mobility (DG SANTE);
 - ee) programme of Continuous Learning within a European Health Union Professional Network (Health Union Fellowship Programme) (DG SANTE);
 - ff) development and maintenance of the EU Global Health Strategy monitoring framework (DG SANTE);
 - gg) Health Data IT portal and Secure Processing Environment Operational Setup for multi-country application requests (DG SANTE);
 - hh) analytical studies supporting the implementation of the European Health Data Space Regulation (DG SANTE);
 - ii) studies supporting the European Health Data Space progress reports (Article 102(4) Regulation (EU) 2025/327) (DG SANTE);
 - jj) development, deployment and operations of the MyHealth@EU central services on primary uses of health data (DG SANTE);
 - kk) development and operation of HealthData@EU central services and of the EU database and digital testing environments for Electronic Health Record systems (DG SANTE);
 - ll) supporting the maintenance of the European Electronic Health Record exchange Format and common specifications for Electronic Health Record systems (DG SANTE);
 - mm) compliance checks for the European Health Data Space – secondary use (DG SANTE);

Other actions and expenditure:

- a) technical implementation of the Tobacco Products Directive (DG SANTE);
- b) Scientific Committees, functioning of experts' groups, meetings and technical assistance (DG

- SANTE);
- c) reimbursements for national experts participating in Commission audits/controls on pharmaceuticals (DG SANTE);
 - d) securing Union technical expertise in international fora to secure technical convergence and reliance (DG SANTE);
 - e) Joint assessment of notified bodies (DG SANTE);
 - f) annual contribution to the International Pharmaceutical Regulators Programme (IPRP) (DG SANTE);
 - g) annual membership fee to the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) and participation of experts from Member States in ICH meetings (DG SANTE);
 - h) annual contribution to the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies Partnership (DG SANTE);
 - i) HaDEA expert evaluators and monitoring of certain projects;
 - j) expert legal support for the assessment of the regulatory alignment with EU law in the context of EU enlargement;
 - k) Peer reviews between national authorities responsible for notified bodies;
 - l) communication activities;
 - m) IT recurrent;
 - n) Translations;
 - o) events, meetings, peer reviews, experts, data acquisition, legal analyses and studies.

Actions implemented under indirect management:

- a) European Investment Bank – support of innovative medical countermeasures with thematic innovation financial products by the European Investment Bank under the Invest EU Programme – HERA;
- b) Pan American Health Organization – support to the global wastewater surveillance sentinel system (DG HERA);
- c) European Medicines Agency – support for the shelf-life extension programme (DG HERA);
- d) Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau – supporting the development of medical countermeasures against antimicrobial resistance to strengthen global preparedness and response – 2nd phase (DG HERA);
- e) Unitaid – support the creation of a Secretariat for the Global Therapeutics Development Coalition (DG HERA);
- f) World Health Organisation – strengthen Global Health resilience through medical countermeasures preparedness for emerging threats (DG HERA);
- g) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development – Global Health Financing Tracker for transparency and accountability (DG SANTE and DG HERA);
- h) European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control – supporting activities to strengthen whole genome sequencing for EU preparedness and response (DG HERA);
- i) European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control – support global health resilience (DG SANTE);
- j) United Nations Population Fund – European guidelines and quality assurance scheme for cervical cancer (DG SANTE);
- k) European Medicines Agency – Electronic Product Information for medicinal products (DG SANTE);
- l) World Health Organisation – strengthening health information systems in the European region through European Health Data Space and other EU principles and standards (DG SANTE);
- m) Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development – economic modelling for the European Health Data Space and support to the uptake of Artificial Intelligence in health (DG

SANTE).