

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme

### What is it?

The Health Programme is about fostering health in Europe by encouraging cooperation between Member States to improve the health policies that benefit their citizens. The programme aims to support and complement Member States health initiatives. The Programme is translated into annual work programmes defining actions in priority areas set in the Programme Regulation (EU) No282/2014.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme aims to support:

- Cooperation projects at EU level;
- Actions jointly undertaken by Member State health authorities;
- The functioning of non-governmental bodies;
- Cooperation with international organisations.

### Challenges

- Increasingly challenging **demographic context** threatening the **sustainability of health systems**;
- **Fragile economic recovery** limiting the resources available for **investment in healthcare**;
- Increase of **health inequalities** between/within Member States;
- Increase in **chronic diseases** prevalence;
- **Pandemics and emerging cross-border health threats**;
- Rapid development of **health technologies**.

### General Objectives

- Improve the health of EU citizens and reduce **health inequalities**;
- Encourage **innovation in health** and increase **sustainability of health systems**;
- Focus on themes that address **current health issues** across Member States;
- Support and encourage **cooperation between Member States**.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme integrates the following interventions/ financial mechanisms:

- Projects (Call for Proposals – Grants);
- Actions with MS competent authorities (Joint Actions) – (invited procedure for direct awarding);
- Work of NGOS and Networks (Operating Grants);
- Cooperation with international organizations (Direct Grants)
- Studies, evaluations, etc. (Call for Tenders - Public Procurement)

### Four basic principles

- Co-financing rule: you need to have your own financial resources (or financial resources of third parties). The CHAFEA will subsidize between 60 or 80 percent of the eligible costs;
- Non-profit rule: the grant may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit for you;

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- Non-retroactivity rule: you can get co-funding only for the costs incurred after the starting date stipulated in the grant agreement;
- Non-cumulative rule: each action may give rise to the award of only one grant.

## Why should I do it?

It is the only European programme exclusively dedicated to health and it is focused on:

- Spending smarter but not necessarily more in sustainable health systems;
- Investing in people's health, particularly through health-promotion programmes;
- Investing in health coverage as a way of reducing inequalities and tackling social exclusion.

## Who can apply?

Organisations from EU countries, the EEA (Iceland and Norway only), European Neighbourhood countries and Western Balkan countries are all entitled to participate in the health programme, according to their specific agreements with the EU. Organisations from countries not participating in the programme are encouraged to get involved, as this fact can help achieve the programme's objectives. Such organisations can be invited by partners from participating countries, if their contribution is considered useful. However, they may neither contribute financially nor receive any funding from the programme.

Participation is open to a wide range of organisations:

- Legally established organisations;
- Public authorities, public sector bodies (research and health institutions, universities and higher education establishments);
- Non-governmental bodies;
- International organisations;
- Private companies (through public procurement).

## Eligibility criteria for researchers

Financial support is not available for individuals. Only legally established organisations are able to apply (such as non-governmental organisations, public sector bodies, public administrations, universities, higher education establishments, etc.).

## How can I apply?

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme supports actions alongside the health programme's 23 thematic priorities to improve and protect human health and help Member States develop and maintain innovative and sustainable health systems. Different funding mechanisms are available depending on the **type of action**.

There are mainly two funding mechanisms: **grants and tenders**. The grants may be grants for projects, operating grants, direct grants with international organisations and grants to Member States authorities and bodies for co-financed actions (called joint actions).

The type of funding for each action is set out each year in a **work plan** – with the aim to achieve goals as efficiently as possible with the full cooperation of programme stakeholders. Unless indicated otherwise (for instance tenders), the basic principle is **joint funding**: Commission grants cover a **certain percentage of the overall costs**. See rules for specific funding instruments.

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## When can I apply?

Programming and implementation on the basis of Annual Work Programmes through calls for grants and tenders. See rules for each specific funding instrument.

## How much funding can I expect?

The budget for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme 2014-2020 is €449.4 million.

- 60% is the maximum co-financing rate for all types of grants, and in some rare cases of exceptional utility this may be raised up to 80;
- Given the complementary and motivational nature of EU grants, at least 40% of project costs must be funded from partners' sources;
- Indirect costs are not eligible for the applicants receiving an operating grant from the EU budget;
- Public procurement is of course covered 100%.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme – Operating Grants

### Operating Grants

#### What is it?

Under the 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme (2014-2020), the European Union can offer support to finance some of the core operating costs for non-governmental bodies that promote the health agenda in line with the Programme.

The purpose of an operating grant is to provide financial **support towards the functioning of a body** - over a period that is equivalent to its accounting year - in order to carry out a set of core activities.

The following general principles apply to funding for operating grants:

- Co-financing rule: external **co-financing from a source other than EU funds**, either by the beneficiary's own resources or financial resources of third parties is needed;
- Non-profit rule: the grant **may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit** for your organisation;
- Non-retroactivity rule: you **can get co-funding only for the costs incurred after the starting date** stipulated in the grant agreement;
- Non-cumulative rule: each action may give rise to the award of **only one grant** to any one beneficiary (you cannot get paid twice for the same cost).

These operating grants could be:

1. Framework partnership agreement (FPA) - Multi-annual cooperation will be implemented through the signature of a Framework Partnership Agreement, or FPA, covering the next three years 2015-2017
  - Applicant organisation's strategic pursuits
2. Specific grant agreement (SGA) - Annual co-funding will be ensured through the signature of a Specific Grant Agreement, or SGA, awarded separately each one of the three years covered by the FPA
  - Applicant organisation's operational activities

#### Who can apply?

##### Country eligibility

The call for operating grants is open for applications by **single** bodies (not consortia). To become a beneficiary of an operating grant the organisation needs to be legally established in:

- The European Union (any of the 28 Member States);
- An EFTA country, party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area that has confirmed participation in the Programme.

## Type of organisation

Non-governmental bodies or networks hosted by a non-profit body are eligible. They must be:

- Non-governmental, non-profit-making and independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests;
- Working in the public health area, playing an effective role in civil dialogue processes at Union level and pursuing at least one of the specific objectives of the Programme;
- Active at Union level in at least half of the Member States, and have a balanced geographical coverage of the Union.

## How can I apply?

For submitting a proposal for a grant for the functioning of a non-governmental body (operating grant) the electronic submission system will be used. Operating grants will be awarded under a new framework of long-term cooperation to be established between Chafea and potential beneficiaries:

- In 2014, Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) will be awarded for the period of 2015-2017). Note that being awarded a FPA does not guarantee co-funding. More information will be available on Chafea website when the call is launched.
- Successful applicants of the FPA will be invited to sign the SGA for 2015. This will be a **budgetary commitment** for that specific year. The award of a financial contribution in 2015 does not guarantee to that organisation co-funding for the other two years covered by the FPA.

## When can I apply?

The Consumer, Health and Food Executive Agency organises every year a call for proposals. Only proposals that directly correspond to the topic and description as set out in the annual work programme will be considered for funding. Proposals that only address the thematic area but do not match the specific description of a given action will not be considered for funding.

## How much funding can I expect?

Operating grants can cover 60% of the body's expenditure involved in carrying out eligible activities. In cases of exceptional utility, for activities offering significant European added value, the EU contribution may be up to 80%. The criteria for exceptional utility are:

- 25 % of the members or candidate members of the non-governmental bodies come from Member States whose gross national income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the Union average;
- The proposal demonstrates excellence in furthering public health in Europe and has a very high EU added value.

The EU financial contribution will cover a period of one financial year which starts in accordance with relevant national legislation.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme – Projects

### Projects

#### What is it?

Project grants are one funding instrument under the third EU Health Programme 2014-2020. A project is a management approach of organising resources. It also is a collaborative effort between different organisations in various EU Member States, which join forces to perform various tasks on a common set of objectives for a defined period of time.

All projects should:

- Provide high added value at EU level;
- Involve at least three partners (separate legal entities) from different countries;
- Be innovative, and normally last no longer than three years.

Grants may be awarded to fund actions having a clear Union added value, which are duly justified in the annual work programmes.

#### Who can apply?

To be a beneficiary of an EU project grant, the organisation needs to be legally established in:

- The European Union (any of the 28 Member States) or An EFTA country (plus Norway and Iceland), party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area that has confirmed participation in the Programme;
- In addition, third countries can participate in the Health Programme if the necessary conditions are met, as specified in the call for projects;
- A project proposal must be submitted by at least 3 different legal entities from 3 different eligible countries;
- Type of organization – legally established organizations including public authorities and public sector bodies (research and health institutions, universities, higher education establishments and non-governmental organizations), non-governmental bodies and private bodies. They can submit a project proposal as the coordinator or participate as other beneficiary.

#### How can I apply?

For submitting a proposal the electronic submission system will be used. More information will be available on Chafea website or on the Research and Innovation Participant Portal when the call is launched.

#### When can I apply?

Programming and implementation on the basis of Annual Work Programmes through calls for grants.

## How much funding can I expect?

- Normally 60% of the eligible costs can be covered by EU contribution. Given the complementary and motivational nature of EU grants, at least 40% of project costs must be funded from partners' sources.
- In cases of exceptional utility, projects can receive 80 % co-financing of eligible costs, respecting three criteria:
  - At least 60 % of the total budget of the action is used to fund staff;
  - At least 30% of the budget of the proposed action is allocated to Member States whose gross national income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the Union average;
  - The proposal demonstrates excellence in furthering public health in Europe and has a very high EU added value.
- Indirect costs are not eligible for the applicants receiving an operating grant from the EU budget.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme – Joint Actions

### Joint actions

#### What is it?

Joint Actions (JA) have a clear EU added value and are co-financed either by competent authorities that are responsible for health in the Member States (MS) or in the third countries participating in the Programme, or by public sector bodies and non-governmental bodies mandated by those competent authorities.

#### Who can apply?

To receive EU financial support for a Joint Action, i.e. to be a coordinator or other beneficiary, the authority needs to be legally established in:

- The European Union (any of the 28 Member States);
- An EFTA country, party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area (Iceland, Liechtenstein or Norway).

Competent authorities from other countries can only participate as subcontractors or collaborating partners in projects.

- Focus: MS authorities
- Public sector bodies and non-governmental bodies from the above countries can participate in JA, if they are mandated by competent authorities.

#### How can I apply?

The participants have to be nominated first (no open call!) If a European umbrella organisation/NGO wants to participate in a JA, it must be designated by a MS competent authority through a transparent procedure, according to relevant national legislation.

#### When can I apply?

Programming and implementation on the basis of Annual Work Programmes through calls for grants. In this case, only the participants that have been nominated first can apply to the call.

#### How much funding can I expect?

- EU contribution is 60 % of the total eligible cost;
- In cases of exceptional utility, it is 80 %. For this the criteria are:
  - At least 30 % of the budget of the proposed action is allocated to MS whose gross national income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the Union average;
  - Bodies from at least 14 participating countries participate in the action, out of which at least four are countries whose GNI per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the Union.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme – Public Procurement

### Public Procurement

#### What is it?

A public procurement has the purpose to acquire a product or service, which is made through a call for tender.

Types of tenderer can be:

- Single tenderer;
- Single Tenderer with subcontractor;
- Consortium;
- Consortium with the subcontractor.

#### Who can apply?

Natural and legal persons from the Member States of the European Union countries of the European Economic Area (Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein).

#### How can I apply?

The call is published on the Chafea website.

#### When can I apply?

Programming and implementation on the basis of Annual Work Programmes through calls for tenders.

#### How much funding can I expect?

The EU pays 100 % of the contract price.