

# Health NCP Net

Partner Search ANNEX 2:

Partner Search Tips for other relevant EU initiatives, partnerships and programmes

www.healthncp.net





This Annex complements the "Guidelines for Partner Search", available at <a href="https://hnn30.healthncp.net/hnn-30-supporting-tools">https://hnn30.healthncp.net/hnn-30-supporting-tools</a> as part of the Supporting Tools for applicants developed by the project Health-NCP-Net 3.0 (HNN 3.0) - published 14 May 2025

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# Partner Search Tips for relevant EU initiatives, partnerships and programmes

This document provides suggestions to explore partnering opportunities under the calls of health-related EU initiatives, partnerships and programmes other than Horizon Europe.

# Health-related European Partnerships under Horizon Europe

The European Partnerships are one approach of the European Commission to establish a research and innovation programme together with private and/or public partners under Horizon Europe.

A list and detailed information on the current health-related European Partnerships in Horizon Europe can be found on our <u>Health-NCP-Net Website</u>, the websites of the <u>European Commission</u> and the <u>ERA-Learn project</u>.

Horizon Europe distinguishes between three types of European Partnerships:

Co-funded partnerships involving public authorities,

Important Note: For co-funded Partnerships it is important to check national requirements fixed by participating funding agencies at national level. Open calls of the co-funded partnerships will be published on their own websites.

- Co-programmed partnerships between the EU Commission and private and/or public partners,
- Institutionalised partnerships, based on long-term dimension and need for higher integration under the legal framework of Article 187 or 185 <u>TFEU</u> and <u>EIT-Regulation</u> supported by Horizon Europe. They can involve several Member States, bodies established through a Decision of the Council or EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities.

*Important Notes:* Open calls of the institutionalised partnerships can be found at the <u>Funding & Tenders Portal</u>.

## IHI - Innovative Health Initiative

About | [Institutionalised Partnership] The Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking (IHI JU) aims to enable the cross-sectoral integration of technologies, know-how, products, services and workflows for people-centred healthcare. Its ambition is to support the delivery of timely and well-substantiated prevention, diagnosis and treatment. It intends to contribute to the sustainability and resilience of healthcare systems and to the competitiveness of European health industries. IHI publishes open calls for proposals several times a year; the first tenders took place in June 2022.

Website I https://www.ihi.europa.eu/

The website hosts a <u>dedicated page to Partner Search</u>. Moreover, <u>applicants are encouraged</u> to network and make a pitch at the IHI Call Days and register at the brokerage platforms. For each call for proposals, IHI organises 'Call Days' via a platform which allows participants to identify and set up meetings with fellow participants. The Call Days also include pitching sessions where participants can present their organisation and ideas and/or expertise for project proposals. IHI cannot help individual organisations to find partners, but you can reach out to your <u>national Health NCPs</u>.



Important Note: The funding of the IHI calls is split to the EC (50%) and to the industry associations (50%) involved in the IHI program (EFPIA, MedTechEurope, COCIR, EuropaBio, Vaccines Europe). Especially for IHI single stage calls it is necessary to involve companies of the relevant industry associations (private members) in the consortia in order to meet the eligibility criteria for IHI single stage calls. In IHI single-stage calls applicants need to assure already at proposal stage that the collective contribution to be provided by the constituent or affiliated entities of the private members and/or contributing partners (if any) amounts at least to 45 % of the proposal's eligible costs and the costs of any related additional activities. Therefore, networking at an early stage is very important as soon as the calls are prepublished, e.g. by participating in the IHI Call days or national information event!

## EDCTP 3 - European Partnership for Global Health (EDCTP 3)

About | [Institutionalized Partnership] The EU-Africa Global Health Partnership is the third programme of the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)., It will maintain the focus on poverty-related infectious diseases and successful approaches established in the EDCTP1 and EDCTP2 programmes. Its mission is to support global collaborative research, capacity strengthening, and international initiatives to accelerate the development, evaluation, and implementation of interventions to prevent, identify, and treat infectious diseases and emerging/re-emerging infections in sub-Saharan Africa with the overarching goal to reduce overall mortality and morbidity.

Website | https://www.globalhealth-edctp3.eu/



You can browse **funded projects** <u>here</u> and identify experienced potential partners by exploring the consortium in the linked page of each project.

<u>EDCTP2 online project portfolio</u> | The structure of the portfolio offers an easy access to establish contacts in the area of EDCTP:

- collaborative clinical trials and clinical studies by disease and intervention,
- fellowship programme,
- clinical research capacity.

The project summaries focus on the **consortium**, the challenge, the response and the impact aimed for,

highlighting the place of the project in the EDCTP2 programme.

<u>EDCTP Alumni network</u> | Tits online platform for former and current EDCTP fellows was created to support the networking of African researchers, bringing them together in various phases of their career.

<u>EDCTP Forum</u> | It is a biennial event providing an international platform for the presentation and discussion of cutting-edge research addressing the burden of poverty-related and neglected infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa and the capacity development and networking activities that support this goal.

In this sense: i.) the *portfolio* is a good source to find experienced partners and potential collaborations at international level to apply under this European Partnership; ii.) the *Alumni network platform* makes the professional profiles of current and former EDCTP fellows publicly accessible and facilitates their collaboration, including in working groups on HIV,



tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected or emerging infectious diseases; iii.) participating in the *EDCTP Forum* could be a good opportunity for partner search since it attracts diverse stakeholders including representatives from research institutions and universities, the larger scientific community, health care providers, governments, regional bodies, regulators, civil society, and public and private research and development partners.

# THCS - Transforming Health Care Systems

About | [Co-funded partnership] The partnership aims to contribute to the transition towards more sustainable, resilient, innovative and high-quality people-centred health and care systems. This Partnership brings together a broad range of research and innovation results and actors to work towards a common vision and translate them into coordinated actions for implementation, evidence-based policies and concrete hands-on outcomes

Website | https://www.thcspartnership.eu/



If you are interested in participating in the THCS Calls and you would like to search for potential partners, please find the dedicated <u>Partner Search Tool</u>. The partnering tool helps you to find cooperation possibilities and can be used in the following ways:

- Post a Partner Offer/Request
- Search List of Partner Offers/Requests posted by others

Stay updated here to network! Work package 10 of THCS, under the Pillar Support transferability and Strengthening ecosystems will be in charge of developing and maintaining the THCS Knowledge Hub, which will act as a multifunctional platform addressing the needs of different target groups in the health and care sector. The Knowledge Hub will foster the exchange (both physical and virtual) between different health and care actors at macro, meso and micro level. Different activities and instruments to foster capacity building and to facilitate the transfer of best practices are also foreseen!

The THCS Partnership is the result of previous work done in the field of health services and systems research. In particular, it is connected with AAL 2 - The Active and Assisted Living Programme (AAL Programme) and JPI MYBL - Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) "More Years, Better Lives.

[!] Therefore, a good practice would be to explore the respective databases of funded projects under these programmes to identify potential new partners under THCS:

- https://jp-demographic.eu/projects/
- http://www.aal-europe.eu/projects-main/

## ERA4Health - Fostering a European Research Area for Health Research

About | [Co-funded Partnership] The EU-funded ERA4Health Partnership aims at fostering high-impact translational research for addressing public health needs. Through cross-national joint calls for proposals and making the most of interregional and international cooperation, ERA4Health aims to provide influential contributions as well as a sustainable model of funding for ground-breaking translational research in the health domain across Europe and beyond.

ERA4Health focuses on tackling diseases and reducing disease burden by addressing the following challenges:



- The increasing demand for a better quality of life and a better care of patients.
- The need to transform public health care systems in a more effective, efficient, equitable, accessible, and resilient ones.
- The need to strengthen disease prevention and health promotion.

#### Website | https://era4health.eu/

The EU Partnership provides a <u>PARTFINDER</u>, a solution for research groups that are actively looking for partners or are interested in establishing cooperation with other partners from all around the world. The tool significantly facilitates the creation of national and international research consortia and joint participation in grant competitions.

Moreover, for each call for proposals, ERA4Health organizes an **info day and matchmaking event** which allows participants to identify and set up meetings with fellow participants.



This Partnership lays on several previous initiatives. Therefore, a good practice would be to explore the respective databases of funded projects under these programmes to identify potential new partners under ERA4Health:

- ERA-CVD
- ERA-HDHL
- EuroNanoMed III
- HDHL-INTIMIC
- JPI HDHL

#### ERDERA - European Rare Diseases Research Alliance

About | [Co-funded Partnership] ERDERA aims to improve the health and well-being of people living with a rare disease in Europe, by making Europe a world leader in Rare Disease (RD) research and innovation, to support concrete health benefits to rare disease patients, through better prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

#### Website | <a href="https://erdera.org/">https://erdera.org/</a>

Besides Joint Transnational Calls and Clinical Trials Calls, funding under this partnership is also oriented to the <a href="Networking Support Scheme">Networking Support Scheme</a>, that plays a crucial role in building the research ecosystem by fostering knowledge sharing across national and international actors, attracting underrepresented regions, engaging young researchers, and strengthening the involvement of patient organisations. Funded projects under this scheme should be considered to identify potential partners within these networks.

ERDERA counts over 180 organisations from 36 countries encompassing leading global research institutes, patients' organisations, European research infrastructures, pharmaceutical and technology companies, public funding agencies, philanthropic and private funders, regulatory institutions, healthcare authorities, hospitals, universities or medical associations.

The former European Joint Programme on Rare Diseases (<u>EJP RD</u>) brought together over 130 institutions (including all 24 ERNs) from 35 countries. 85% of European RD Research community directly or indirectly was involved in EJP RD.





The <u>completed list of EJP RD beneficiaries</u> can be explored for partner search purposes per country or per type of organisation.

## EP PerMed - European Partnership for Personalised Medicine

About | [Co-funded Partnership] The vision of the European Partnership for Personalised Medicine is to improve health outcomes within sustainable healthcare systems through research, development, innovation and implementation of personalised medicine approaches for the benefit of patients, citizens, and society.

Website | https://www.eppermed.eu/

The <u>EP PerMed Partnering Platform</u> is available to get connected with other experts in Personalised Medicine. This tool is meant to help applicants to reach out to other people involved in the field of personalised medicine, in order to facilitate cooperations – e.g. between different fields of expertise, different sectors or different countries. The Platform offers opportunities for networking in the context of EP PerMed's currently open calls.

Specific call-independent networking opportunities are expected to complement this at a later stage.

This Partnership is connected to the previous ERA-Net ERA PerMed.

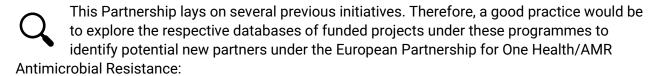


A good practice would be to explore the <u>database</u> of funded projects under the previous ERA-Net and the <u>new one</u> under the current EP PerMed, to identify potential new partners for new calls.

## AMR - OHAMR - One Health Antimicrobial Resistance

About | [Co-funded Partnership] The European Partnership for One Health/AMR Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) aims to coordinate and align AMR research activities and funding in Europe and beyond. It will facilitate transdisciplinary co-operation and national coherence on AMR policy between different sectors (e.g. human health, agriculture, environment, innovation). The main goal is to contribute to achieving the objectives of the European One Health Action Plan against AMR and the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Action Plan on AMR, by reducing the threat of AMR and contribute to achieving the objectives of the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA).

#### Website | pending



- JPI AMR
- JPI-EC-AMR
- JPIAMR-ACTION
- One Health EJP



# European Partnership on Pandemic Preparedness

About | [Co-funded Partnership] This partnership aims to improve the EU's preparedness to predict and respond to emerging infectious health threats by better coordinating funding for research and innovation at EU, national (and regional) level towards jointly agreed objectives and an agreed strategic research and innovation agenda (SRIA). Such a partnership should contribute to building a coherent ERA, enabling Member States, Associated Countries and the European Commission to rapidly and jointly support research and innovation in pandemic preparedness. The Partnership is expected to build on existing pandemic preparedness networks, and work in synergy with the Health Emergency Response Authority (HERA). Collaboration with the private sector is anticipated.

The partnership is prepared by the EU project <u>BeReady</u>.

## Website | pending

The Partnership is expected to work in synergy with the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) and continue to build on existing pandemic preparedness networks and research infrastructures.

Therefore, a good practice would be to explore some of the databases of such networks and infrastructures to identify potential new partners for calls under the new partnership:

- BY-COVID (<u>https://by-covid.org/</u>)
- ISIDORe (<a href="https://isidore-project.eu/">https://isidore-project.eu/</a>)
- PHIRI (<a href="https://www.phiri.eu/">https://www.phiri.eu/</a>)

# Other programmes and initiatives

#### EU4Health

About | The EU4Health programme was adopted as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to reinforce crisis preparedness in the EU. The pandemic highlighted the fragility of national health systems. The EU4Health programme will bring a contribution to the long-term health challenges by building stronger, more resilient and more accessible health systems. Health is an investment and, with a €5.3 billion budget during the 2021-27 period, the EU4Health programme is an unparalleled EU financial support in the health area. EU4Health is a clear message that public health is a priority for the EU and it is one of the main instruments to pave the way to a European Health Union.

EU4Health is implemented by annual Work Programmes supporting a broad range of actions that are clustered under four overarching "strands" with a cross-cutting focus on cancer.

- Crisis preparedness
- Health promotion & disease prevention
- Health systems & healthcare workforce
- Digital

The programme provides funding to eligible entities, health organisations and NGOs from EU countries, or non-EU countries associated to the programme.

Website | https://health.ec.europa.eu/funding/eu4health-programme-2021-2027-vision-healthier-european-union\_en



You can search for partners and submit your grant proposal in the <u>Funding & Tenders Portal</u>.

Moreover, a Joint Action on increasing the capacity of **National Focal Points (NFPs)** – <u>NFP4Health</u>, funded under the European Public Health Programme, aims to enforce the network of National Focal Points and create sustainable actions to promote the achievement of the health objectives for the period 2021-2027. NFPs can support applicants in building consortia.

#### COST

About | COST is a funding organisation for the creation of research networks, called COST Actions. These *networks* offer an open space for collaboration among scientists across Europe (and beyond) and thereby give impetus to research advancements and innovation. COST funding intends to complement national research funds, as they are exclusively dedicated to cover collaboration activities, such as *workshops, conferences, working group meetings, training schools, short-term scientific missions, and dissemination and communication activities* 

Website | https://www.cost.eu/



<u>Browse COST Actions - List of COST Actions past and ongoing | COST</u> to identify thematic networks of R&I organizations as potential partners for your project in the field of Health!

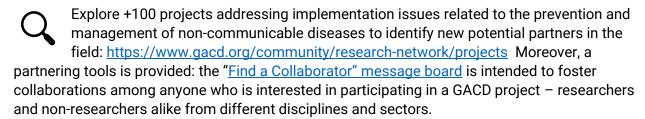
## GACD - The Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases

**About** | The Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) brings together major international research funding agencies specifically to address the growing burden of NCDs in LMICs and vulnerable populations in high-income countries (HICs). The GACD

- invests in impactful NCD implementation research,
- builds implementation science capacity and capability in relation to NCDs,
- facilitates collaborations and partnerships to support GACD investment and impact.

The GACD Research Network of investigators are active in more than 73 countries around the world.

Website | https://www.gacd.org/



#### Euratom

**About |** Euratom aims to support research and training activities in the nuclear field, with a focus on continuous improvement of nuclear safety, security and radiation protection, maintenance and development of nuclear expertise and fusion energy development. The Euratom program complements the objectives and content of Horizon Europe.

The Euratom program also offers funding opportunities for health-related topics, e.g. on radiation therapy and radiation protection.



Website | https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/euratom-research-and-training-programme\_en



Conferences and summits represent good opportunities to get in touch with potential partners in this field. Such events are expected to be published <a href="here">here</a>.

A network of National Contact Points is active to support applicants, also in building consortia under this Programme: <a href="https://neteuratom.eu/">https://neteuratom.eu/</a>. Among the services for applicants, this network publishes new brokerage events or similar initiatives <a href="https://neteuratom.eu/">here</a>.

## **Digital Europe**

**About** | Digital Europe, with a total budget of 7.6 billion euros, supports the digital transformation throughout Europe. The Digital Europe Program has five priority areas: supercomputing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills and ensuring the widespread use of digital technologies in business and society.

The program is aimed at bridging the gap between the research of digital technologies and their use and bringing the research results to the market - for the benefit of European citizens and businesses, especially SMEs.

Some tenders will be aimed at an application in the field of health.

Website | https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/digital-europe-programme\_en

You can search for partners and submit your grant proposal in the Funding & Tenders Portal.



Conferences, summits and other similar events represent good opportunities to get in touch with potential partners in this field. Such events are expected to be published <a href="here">here</a>.

A network of National Contact Points has started to support applicants: DEP4ALL.