

## **ProMIS event “NFPs/NCPs National and European networks: challenges for the creation of synergies on health among European programmes”, Rome**

### **DAY ONE – 21<sup>st</sup> November**

Day one of the event (21 November) took place at Spazio Europa, managed by the European Parliament Office in Italy and the European Commission Representation in Italy – Rome, and was divided into four main sessions.

#### **Strengthening the delivery of integrated long-term care in the WHO European region**

##### ***S. Ilinca WHO Regional Office for Europe***

The impact of the pandemic on accelerating momentum for long-term care was acknowledged as the key starting point for many of the current efforts. The European Programme of Work 2020-2025 showcases three Core Priorities: moving towards Universal Health Care; protecting against health emergencies; promoting health and well-being. Another foundational element is found in the UN Decade of healthy ageing and its action areas within the Plan of Action 2021-2030: combating ageism; age-friendly environments; integrated care; long-term care (notably this focus is a positive development in an area traditionally under-addressed). The Decade of healthy ageing initiative is not just limited to states in its core functioning, but rather represents an accessible platform for all stakeholders and third parties to share resources and interact. The current Progress Report is available at the following [LINK](#).

Another key initiative among the many active efforts is the EC-WHO partnership on long-term care (2023-24) to help improve access to affordable high-quality long-term care in the EU Member States by systematizing the knowledge base, developing (self)assessment and planning tools for long-term care policy, and supporting informal caregivers. The two main objectives are to (1) strengthen long-term care systems and reforms, and to (2) improve access to information and support tools for informal caregivers. Under objective 1, the ‘State of LTC’ instrument can guide reforms and, as relevant, technical support for care system reforms aligned to the policy objectives of the Council recommendation on LTC. The first draft of the template is currently being piloted and will be made available in 2024 with the aim of providing a flexible instrument. Objective 2 is designed to include content that can be delivered via different media and in a variety of settings to increase accessibility, blending general content of global relevance with country specific information that can facilitate access to further support and additional resources. An online course by WHO-Europe will be made publicly available in 2024 as a support instrument to existing resources.

#### **Synergies among European Programmes: presentation of the strategies in the view of creating synergies**

##### ***S. Hogan HaDEA***

In the context of HaDEA’s activities, synergies across EU Programmes aim to maximise the value, impact, efficiency of EU funding and deliver on EU priorities. To do so, they rely on the shared legal basis of EU funding programmes; the planning, designing, and programming of EU funding programmes, involving joint calls and specific signposting; the aligning of strategic priorities and harmonising rules; and the strong collaboration across the Commission’s services (inter-service groups). Synergies are expected to become increasingly essential, and an acceleration of efforts in this area will be needed. The four main avenues for synergies consist of: complementary funding, bringing together funding from different programmes or different levels in the same project; sequential funding, requiring successive projects that build on each other (upstream / downstream); alternative funding, taking up high-quality project proposals from other programmes (e.g. SoE); and complementarity of parallel projects. HaDEA’s concrete actions to support synergies focus on constant dialogue across colleagues working on similar and synergetic topics; gathering beneficiaries across



cluster themes to exchange, avoid gaps and make recommendations; mapping of topics and colleagues working on them; promoting synergies through beneficiaries and networks, participation in events, info days, strategic missions; and visibility and communication of cross-programme synergetic results. **Moving forward, HaDEA seeks to specifically strengthen relationships with NCPs and NFPs.**

#### ***M. Montero Ramirez CINEA – LIFE programme***

The LIFE programme has over time established and tested a financial support mechanism capable of reaching many potential beneficiaries in fields connected to environment and climate action. A key aspect of the financial instruments deployed is supporting other projects such as those developed under other funding programmes. In a similar fashion as seen with the strategies employed by HaDEA, the main examples of synergies consist of complementary funding (as seen under LIFE with PLP), sequential funding (as seen under LIFE with “LIFE for REACH”), and alternative funding. As a specific example, a recent mechanism that has been added by LIFE to support these efforts concerning alternative funding is the Seal of Excellence, to highlight projects of high quality that didn’t make the cut under LIFE due to budget constraints. Overall, coordination and exchange of information between projects and programmes have been critical to making such synergy strategies and mechanisms functional.

#### ***L. Di Fonzo EACEA***

The HealthyLifeStiles4All Initiative (Erasmus+ Sport Programme) adopted a holistic approach, involving food, health, well-being, and sport. The pledges under this initiative aimed to encourage synergy and cooperation, demonstrating the power of making a collective contribution to a healthy lifestyle. The work undertaken as part of this initiative has taken place in the context of the Erasmus+ Key Action 2 on Cooperation among organisations and institutions. The report by the Commission on the “Mapping of Healthy Lifestyles” is available at the following [LINK](#). Other relevant projects with a synergy component include HOORAY on Youth for Youth’s Mental Health through Physical Activity, and UCANACT on Urban ACTION for cancer prevention for adult and senior citizens.

#### ***S. Jenko, A.M. Borg DG REFORM - Technical Support Instrument and the ‘EU Health Resources Hub’***

Technical Support for Health Reforms in Member States have involved eHealth reforms, primary care, horizontal reforms, and hospital sector reforms. An important example has been the EU Health Resources Hub, which involved Austria, Belgium, and Slovenia to improve public investments and set up the resource hub itself. In this context, the main lessons learnt from working with NCPs are as follows: do not re-invent the wheel and create novel structures that could add layers of complexity; build on and consolidate existing NCP networks and coordinating bodies and formalise their role, strengthening NCPs capacities along the way; capitalise on existing good practices and invest in knowledge transfer to support NCPs; explore opportunities for better streamlining and simplification of procedures; costly and resource-intensive application procedures are ‘push’ factors for future applicants especially with no guarantee for success in highly competitive processes; the Commission should provide guidance on how to establish synergies across programmes, i.e. how to blend funds in practice; an EU level hub could facilitate NCPs work by providing guidance and an open direct channel of communication covering all funds that could be used for health.

### **Round Table: Supporting synergies, complementarity and co-programming actions in Italy**

#### ***Moderator: L. Leonardini ProMIS***

#### ***G. Nicoletti NFP EU4Health***

Repeatedly over time, input concerning several programmes at once has been solicited by stakeholders, and the increased interest of stakeholders concerning synergies between projects and programmes can help towards such an effort. Indeed, this push comes at the same time as the growth of synergy actions at the European level, the expansion of potential beneficiaries, and the increase (albeit of uncertain future sustainability) of European resources in the health field. In the face of the massive growth of stakeholders to be accountable to, multidisciplinary monitoring and integration efforts are more complex than ever, making a generalist approach potentially suboptimal in different specific contexts. Consequently, it is necessary to



further diversify and deepen research and information actions, while at the same time maintaining an overview perspective. This context also highlights how European programmes must benefit the entire community, not only regarding the general objectives of the projects, but also with a view to maintaining the political incentives that support them.

#### **L. Cavallo NCP TSI**

Laid out the efforts of analysis and transversal involvement of the projects presented for each year for the expansion of the proposed reforms and their transformation into more widespread and interconnected initiatives. Highlighted the critical issues in integrating realities of different sizes, particularly in view of the uncertainty that many actors in this field face when interfacing with much larger realities with greater political and/or economic weight. The possibility of realising joint projects without sacrificing the autonomy of specific administrations is a cornerstone of joint activities but requires overcoming basic resistance to participation. The acquisition of skills and knowledge from more experienced or better resourced partners is generally a useful incentive and outcome in projects implemented with a view to the convergence of European reforms. Flagship projects of the Technical Support Instrument are set up communally by EU member states and are useful convergence points for participants with different compatible priorities.

#### **S. d'Alessandro NCP Erasmus+**

Highlighted professional training efforts in the INAPP (*National Institute for the analysis of public policies context*) within the Erasmus+ architecture. Although these are non-health projects, the Commission's priorities concerning social support policies involve professionals who also interface with the health and socio-sanitary realities. Projects on the study and development of methodologies of teaching and support tools for professionals contributing to the health world (educators, assistants, support figures) are of particular interest in view of the Erasmus+ synergies. International projects require partnerships and the sharing of paths, methodologies, and resources to achieve the desired results in the training of professionals.

#### **M. De Bonis NCP Horizon Europe**

In the context of workforce initiatives and the integration of the health and research worlds (including THCS), and the propagation of the Mission on Cancer, a major effort was made by APRE for greater involvement of stakeholders at national level. Additional impetus was given in the context of the European NCP network project HNN3.0, with a view to comparing commonalities between different projects within Horizon and between the Horizon Europe, EU4Health, and Mission on Cancer contexts. An analysis document will be finalised and disseminated to share the outcomes of this process. HNN3.0 includes a WP dedicated to synergies and collaboration with other networks and programmes, and the coordination effort of national contact points at the European level goes hand in hand with the dissemination of opportunities for synergies also at the national level. The difficulties in integrating top-down objectives with the diverse and complex inputs and needs of stakeholders at the local level were again highlighted.

#### **F. Benvenuti NCP LIFE**

LIFE mainly finances pilot experiences, demonstration projects of good practices in the environmental field that then need further support for replication, scaling-up, and dissemination on a larger scale (e.g. through structural funds such as ERDF/ESF). Provided the perspective of the successful Platform of Knowledge within the "[Mettiamoci in Riga](#)" project, designed for the dissemination, knowledge, and replication of good practices on different topics. The aim for the future is to interface more with the health field, and the national LIFE contact point highlighted its willingness and ambition in this regard.

#### Additional input

Anticipated "open-lab" mix-fund workshops to be organised in 2024 by ProMIS as part of the [JA NFP4Health](#) to stimulate synergistic design between different funds. In addition, with a view to strengthening the network of NFPs and NCPs, alignment efforts will be put in place with the support of the Ministry of Health (also in line with similar efforts in other member states, which represent further exchange opportunities).



## Round Table: How to create synergies through NFPs/NCPs networks

**Moderator: S. Florea ProMIS**

**M. Papastavrou Net4LIFE**

The Net4LIFE project is a joint EU LIFE NCP Network Project, aiming to strengthen the transnational cooperation between NCPs, enhance the knowledge and experience sharing amongst NCPs, foster the rapid uptake of knowhow by the newcoming and less experienced NCPs, and improve and professionalize the LIFE NCP service overall. The discussion focused on the challenges of a new network that is the first in its area, especially having acknowledged the uneven presence of resources and engagement at the national, NCP, and stakeholder levels. The trend of repeated activities with significant overlap and inefficiencies continuing alongside capacity-building actions was also acknowledged as one of the key drivers for the formation of a network for the sharing of information and activities. The networks provide a unified voice in policy discussion too, they do not simply impact implementation, and this important dimension must be kept in focus for the amplification of needs and actions. Cross-network peer reviews provide a very important area of further improvement, even when networks with different priorities interact with one another, and this is especially applicable for young and growing networks. The relevance of this kind of work of research and empowerment was also highlighted in the context of the JANFP4Health WP4 and of the ProMIS activities in Italy. Finally, again concerning the growing work of NET4LIFE, the importance of the efforts towards strategic complementarity under the direction of DG GROWTH was especially stressed, pointing out the activities of newly formed complementarity of funds committees as a valuable horizontal input in a sectoral-focused effort.

**E. Fonck HNN3.0**

The sizeable HNN3.0 project (2022-2029) will continue to provide not only a useful resource but also a valuable case study on synergies and network development. It constitutes of a network of National Contact Points (NCPs) in the field of “Health” enhancing transnational cooperation between NCPs for Cluster 1 Health in Horizon Europe to increase the support for those interested in research funding. It is a Consortium of 17 Health NCP institutions, led by APRE (Italy), and its services include: general networking support, toolkits, capacity building for NCPs, staff exchanges, mentoring programmes, brokerage events, and the sharing of success stories. A key tool in this context (available, among others, at the [HNN 3.0 website](#)) is the publicly accessible Funding Opportunities Database for Horizon Europe Health. The complexity of the healthcare landscape in European funding programmes was highlighted once again as an additional reason for serious cooperation and networking efforts, to ensure that resources are brought together, and projects approached effectively. One of the three main networks identified as key by the HNN3.0 analysis is the EU4Health NFP network, and efforts are being made to organise more “exchange and build” events. The two other key networks are the Enterprise Europe network for SMEs innovation and internationalisation, and the network of NCPs for the Digital Europe programme, both targeted by HNN 3.0 with further interaction activities.

Additional input

Connecting with the Digital Europe network is also one of the objectives of the EU4Health NCPs. Twinning activities were identified as very effective tools in the context of the EU4Health NCP network efforts, with further editions planned with the ongoing support of APRE and the Horizon Europe contacts. WP5 on synergies and the events and data collection organised based on their work were also highlighted, in the context of strengthening models for further interactions in the face of ongoing challenges when dealing with institutions and additional beneficiaries.



## ProMIS event “NFPs/NCPs National and European networks: challenges for the creation of synergies on health among European programmes”, Rome

### DAY TWO - 22 November

The day of 22 November (09.00 - 13.30), which was held at the Ministry of Health - Minister's Office, Lungotevere Ripa 1 - Rome, was divided into 2 different interactive workshops aimed at exchanging good practices, sharing tools concrete and technical aspects of the NFP/NCP to stimulate comparison and complementarity actions.

#### Workshop 1 "Health in European Programmes: information and exchange of experiences"

Federico Benvenuti highlighted an important activity of the LIFE Contact Point role: it has the mandate to assist proposers of Life project proposals when the annual calls for tenders are published and a role in disseminating information on the projects underway but does not intervene in the evaluation or in the aspects of Policy. Acts as a liaison with the technical offices so that they can learn about the results of Life projects and therefore adopt the results and contribute to the updating of European or national legislation. LIFE is a program for the development and implementation of policies in the environmental field and with all the different environmental components that are included in the program.

#### *P.Palanza- LifeMILCH*

The **LIFE MILCH** project aims to promote the well-being and health of the child, improving the quality of the environment surrounding the mother-infant couple, to reduce the negative impact on the health of exposure to a class of environmental pollutants called endocrine disruptors and which are present in a pervasive way. In particular, the project focuses on the mother-infant couple and on the analysis of breast milk (and artificial milk) to evaluate the interference of exposure to endocrine disruptors on the natural hormones, growth, and physiological and neurobehavioral development of the child during the first year of life. After an initial phase of biomonitoring of mother-infant pairs, a "risk model" will be developed to define strategic public health guidelines. Careful socio-economic and environmental monitoring will continuously verify the effectiveness of the interventions implemented to reduce the negative impact on human health of exposure to endocrine disruptors, such as metabolic, immune reproductive disorders. The project was co-financed in 2019 by the European Commission under the LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency financial program and will last five years. Participation in the Life MILCH project is on a voluntary basis and will give the mother-infant couple the opportunity to carry out additional medical visits.

**FINDINGS:** Since the objective is to provide policies, the focus was on non-persistent endocrine disruptors, on which a reduction determined by individual behaviour is possible. The rationale is that modifying lifestyle and dietary habits can reduce EI levels in breast milk and, therefore, in the infant. This research provides an excellent indicator of the real exposure of the mother, who does not have control over her diet during breastfeeding, and of the infant, who, having a much lower body weight, accumulates high levels of EI. Appropriate policies (primarily marketing) can simultaneously reduce EI levels also in formula milk and therefore in the infant.

**SYNERGIES:** contribution to the EU database (KTE Life ENVHEALTH network). To establish synergies, there was a networking meeting between the LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency projects, to understand the intersections with the LIFE persuaded project, which works on a more advanced youth population, to share methodological aspects to identify early markers of exposure, in order to identify alterations early. The LIFE PERSUADED project (LIFE13 ENV/IT/000482) evaluated the relationship between childhood pathologies and the exposure levels of the youth population (between 4 and 14 years) in Italy to Phthalates and Bisphenol A (BPA) which are widespread compounds used as plasticizers, not persistent in the environment and rapidly



metabolised; they are recognized endocrine disruptors whose exposure during childhood and puberty deserves special attention since these represent crucial and susceptible phases of development.

### ***L.Cori- LifeGIOCONDA***

**GIOCONDA** is dedicated to lower and upper secondary school students, which encourages dialogue between young people and administrators on environmental and health issues. GIOCONDA (YOUTH MATTER in Decisions on Environment and Health) was born as a LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance project, focused on environment and health issues and on the participation of young citizens. The objective is, in fact, to involve young people in an action of participatory democracy, which is achieved through direct dialogue between schools and local administrations. The LIFE+ project took place from June 2014 to November 2016, in the cities of Ravenna, San Miniato, Naples and Taranto. The major environmental problems taken into consideration were air pollution and noise pollution, which in an urban environment have a great influence on the health of citizens. In fact, the air quality and noise inside and outside the 8 schools in the four cities were monitored. After completing the experimentation in these cities, the methodology was tested in 5 schools to develop the web platform (3 in Ferrara, one in Bitonto and 2 in the Lower Valdarno region).

**RESULTS:** the final product of GIOCONDA is a tool capable of helping administrations make informed decisions, both considering the opinion of young people and local environmental data.

**SYNERGIES:** The online platform is now available for use by other schools and other public administrations: all participants can contribute to building and consolidating a path that will continue in the coming years.

### ***K.Trofimov - TSI Improving digital competences for the health workforce in Estonia***

**TSI** project aimed at improving digital competences of the health workforce in Spain and Estonia. As digital competences are a transferrable skill is not reasonable to differentiate the approach teaching DC among different Health Workforce profiles on the basic level. Health workforce occupational profiles in the context of digital competences are not role specific. Digital competences are divided into two levels: general competences and professional competences, both divided into 8 categories: information search, information processing, communication and cooperation on digital channels, creation and copyright, personal digital hygiene, cybersecurity and information security, use of equipment and digital solutions.

**EXPECTED RESULTS:** develop a strategy to redesign of health workforce curricula of vocational educational and piloting the training of the trainers' programmes.

**SYNERGIES** (between TSI projects): Collection of best practices, capitalizing analysis in previous TSI projects (including health ICT governance framework, integrated hospital master plan, health system performance assessment framework), leveraging on best practices regarding digital competences and transformation in other countries already during the project beginning and putting together methodologies and templates, assuming a multi-country approach. EXPECTED SINERGIES also include open discussions with other ministries of Social Affairs, Education and Research.

### ***O.Marginean SOFTIS-PED ProgrammaErasmus+***

The **Softis-Ped** project is funded by the European Commission and the Romanian National Agency in the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme. The project has the aim to provide the paediatricians, as well as lecturers and students in the field of paediatrics, with relevant and communication skills. A paediatric health survey has been conducted in five European countries: Romania, Hungary, Italy, Spain, and Germany through the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership Project: Softis-Ped - Softskills for Children's Health (2016-1-RO01-KA203-02463, funded by the European Commission. The aim of the current project is to identify the most important soft skills for paediatricians, match them with the best teaching methods and strategies, and elaborate guidelines and materials for training the trainers to use these methods and develop future paediatricians' soft skills. As such, the current study will accomplish the first part of the project aims, i.e. to identify the soft skill needs in the partner countries in terms of communication, hospital environment, transparency of



communication, time management and intercultural issues. The survey findings will eventually conduct to enhancement of paediatric education and services by improving communication with child patients and their families, communication within the medical team and communication across cultures.

**SYNERGIES:** As a result of the exploitation activity several associated partners officially joined the project in order to contribute to the improvement of the project impact on their target groups and to ensure the project sustainability by continuing using the project deliverables in the next years.

#### ***S.Santini - ME-WE project Programme H2020***

**ME-WE** project: Psychosocial Support for Promoting Mental Health and Well-being among Adolescent Young Carers in Europe. Young carers are children and young people under 18 who provide or intend to provide care, assistance, or support to a family member or a friend, who has a chronic illness, disability, frailty or addiction. They carry out, significant or substantial caring tasks, often on a regular basis, and assume a level of responsibility which would usually be associated with an adult (Becker, 2000). Adolescent young carers (AYCs): young carers aged 15-17 (key, transitional phase: moving from childhood into adulthood). Across Europe, approximately 7% of children have caring responsibilities. Yet, they are still too often invisible to policy makers and service providers.

**FINDINGS:** There are some positive impacts related to caring (self-esteem, empathy, maturity). Yet, having to reconcile the challenges of adolescent life with caring responsibilities can be overwhelming. Pressure associated with caring is considered as a risk factor for mental ill-health. Caring can have a negative impact on young carers' education (under-achievement, absence, and drop-outs), leading to low employability. Young carers may have less time for personal development and leisure. They can also become victims of social stigma and bullying, meaning social exclusion.

**SYNERGIES:** ME-WE built a network of universities, research institutes, civil society and carers' organisations across Europe and started a fruitful dialogue on the topic that is continuing beyond the project lifetime.

#### ***S.Gravina COMFORTAGE***

The project focused on personalized prediction, monitoring, and recommendations for the prevention and relief of dementia and frailty in order to: facilitate care providers in designing and implementing personalized and integrated care models; promote innovative care pathways and digitally enabling solutions in the daily lives of the elderly population; and enhance digital literacy of all Stakeholders to support active and healthy lifestyles in old age. The project used heterogeneous data to stratify patients based on personalized prognosis of disease progression with the goal of implementing AI-based recommendation systems with personalized interventions, monitoring disease progression and follow-up of patients, and providing patients and their caregivers with Empowerment tools.

**SYNERGIES:** The project intersects with guidelines and programs/policies: EU Green Paper on Aging; Long Term Care Report; EuropeanCare Strategy In "Promoting our European Way of Life".

#### ***D.Sarigiannis - CROME-Life***

The main environmental problem targeted by CROME-LIFE is the assessment of the impact on human health due to exposure to chemical agents originating either from environmental contamination (air, soil, water), or from consumer products (food contact materials, construction materials, cosmetics, clothes, etc.) through multiple routes, namely inhalation, ingestion and dermal contact in five distinct areas of southern Europe (Greece, Croatia, Slovenia, Italy and Spain). CROME-LIFE has improved our overall understanding on: human biomonitoring (HBM), a widely considered powerful tool for assessing pollution and its associated effects on a personal level acting as a trigger for actions at population/policy level knowing what one is being exposed to and how, is essential information to guide the decision; quantitative estimates of chronic exposure and links to biologically effective dose; the comprehensive association between bio-monitored values and observed health effects, by investigating associations that go beyond linear statistical models of exposure and effect; providing realistic exposure descriptive metrics, considering that biologically effective dose is the actual dose manifesting toxicity and initiating biological responses ending up to adverse effects. At a local



scale, CROME-LIFE has addressed the following problems: (1) in Greece and Croatia there is currently no established human biomonitoring system organised by the competent national and local/regional authorities for public health protection. The results of the project will provide the necessary framework for sampling, laboratory analysis and data interpretation of coupled environmental and human biomonitoring data for improved exposure and health risk assessment with relevance to environmental contaminants. (2) In Italy/Latium region the data generated by the biomonitoring studies will be integrated with biomarkers and health outcomes to obtain a protocol for the evaluation and reduction of risks derived from the exposure to toxic metals/metalloids (arsenic, in particular) in environment/diet. (3) In Slovenia, according to the Act on Chemicals the monitoring of presence of chemicals and their breakdown products in people and organisms shall be conducted in professionally justified intervals of time. This activity is currently entrusted to the CROME-LIFE partner JSI. The results of the project about both environmental and human biomonitoring will be directly used by the institutions in charge of implementing such protocols at the national level. (4) In Spain, and in particular, in Menorca and Valencia there is a need to identify the environmental exposure routes of Hg and organochlorine/organ bromine pollutants into human population. The CROME-LIFE campaigns will provide strategic information on the predominant mechanisms determining the human intake of these pollutants. This will be translated into integrated environmental-human biomonitoring protocols that will be embodied in the protocols followed by the competent authorities.

**SYNERGIES:** collaboration with other programs, such as the European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC) that is seeking to develop next-generation chemical risk assessment to protect health and the environment.

### ***C.Kounas D-Care Erasmus***

**D-care** project faces the need of training for caregivers of people affected by dementia, through the creation of educational program in the form of blended learning, where the caregivers of people with dementia (professionals and non-professionals), will be able to acquire basic skills on how to help people with dementia and how to avoid feeling isolated. The program can be used in VET education and training, in-work training for care staff and volunteers and in adult lifelong learning. The improvement of qualifications of professional carers is one of the priorities of the D-Care project, as through their training they will gain new professional competences, which will enable them to deliver quality services; People with dementia themselves will be involved as co-developers in the process. Also, the use of ICT and digital area will enable teachers and learners (professionals and non-professionals) to improve their digital skills. The partnership consists of different types of organizations: public and private VET institutions, public employers of professional caregivers, NGOs and SMEs from Italy, UK, Denmark, Spain and Greece and a European-wide professional association with its base in Brussels, Belgium. This provides a unique opportunity to find creative solutions together. The target groups for this project are professional carers, non-professional carers (often family members/friends/volunteers), students in health and social care, training providers – teachers, trainers and other workers who will be trained in how to work with dementia sufferers and their caregivers, people living with dementia. More than 2.000 people will benefit indirectly from or will be the target of the activities organized by the project. Following the teacher training, two courses will be developed; the first will involve professional carers who want to work with dementia sufferers, training in CST and knowledge about setting up groups; the second will involve the non-professional carers to help them help and assist the person with dementia.

**EXPECTED RESULTS:** the D-Care project is expected to bring positive and long-lasting effects on the participants, as it is intended to produce the following outcomes: (1) improve knowledge on dementia and its consequences, preserving quality of life, autonomy and the rights of people living with dementia and their caregivers; (2) more active participation in society and more positive attitude towards EU values at a systemic level, D-Care project is expected to respond in a positive way to the policies of Europe concerning active citizenship, promotion of social inclusion and non-discrimination, and lifelong learning. The main sustainable effects of the project will include increased focus on the benefits of innovative dementia care for people living with dementia which includes improved health and well-being and sustainable improvement in support and respite given to carers.





### **S.Alvino Teamcare Erasmus+**

*Partnership for Innovation* funded by the Erasmus+ program which aims to enhance the responsiveness of Social and Health Care (SHC) systems to current challenges and to bridge the gap between the skills that currently characterize working SHC professionals in interprofessional and multidisciplinary teams and the skills actually necessary for these professionals in a model of a resilient and sustainable public health system, person-centred and based on socio-health integration through local services. The aim is not to create a new professional figure nor to train professionals in relation to their specific disciplines, but the intent is to enrich their profile with transversal and digital soft skills that allow them to actively contribute effectively to the construction of Community Based interprofessional teams, capable of implementing a multidimensional assessment of user needs and which define integrated and personalized care paths that take into account the quality of life of end users. These teams can be physically located in a structure or distributed throughout the territory and can be made up of different health and social professionals (general practitioners, geriatricians, paediatricians, psychologists, nurses, rehabilitation therapists, social workers). Once this skills framework has been defined, a European curriculum will be elaborated in a first version at the end of the first year and which will then be tested through four pilots designed in four different countries Italy (precisely ASL 3 of Genoa) Ireland Poland and Greece to evaluate the adaptability to different national contexts. TEAMCARE addresses the issue in an all-encompassing way: skills framework, European curriculum, course design tools, training materials, platform to support TEAM collaboration, etc.

**SYNERGIES:** EU4HEALTH Joint Actions or other projects implementing good practices; Integrated Care based on CBIT; HORIZON EUROPE Technological solutions to support CBIT professionals for data collection for data sharing between professionals for patient monitoring; INTERREG EUROPE Improvement of Policy Instruments in the health and social sector; TECHNICAL SUPPORT INSTRUMENT Technical support to Member States for the implementation of reforms in the health and social sector (training of professionals).

### **Workshop 2 “Future challenges: “Synergies and network Sustainability at national and european level”**

**Amanda Daly – NFP EU4Health Irlanda** highlighted the activities in synergy with Horizon Europe Programme, as there is a well-established collaboration with organization of webinars on EU opportunities and on specific areas such as Cancer and Digital. Moreover, there is evidence of the role of connectors as NFP meaning that there is a constant information and collaboration with other relevant stakeholders. Moreover, there have been developed activities of complementarities among parallel projects (such as three cancer screening pilot projects ongoing in Ireland). With regard to the opportunities in the framework of EU Funds, the “Access Europe” service for Irish civil society, a dedicated programme hosting information events, networking events with NCPs and potential applicants as well as guidance to applicants. In terms of challenges, it has been pointed out the need to constantly update the knowledge on a range of EU supports/funded projects as well as a constant monitoring of ongoing EU4Health projects at national level. The JA NFP4Health might be a potential opportunity for the network as an added value in order to centralise some of the activities and provide support to NFPs in information gathering and analysis. The JA NFP4Health is acting as a contact point for information sharing on EU4Health projects from DG SANTE&HaDEA as well as with regard to specific trainings on synergies and technical topics.

**Irene Mikulcik – EU4Health NFP Team Austria** highlighted the activities in Austria in terms of the EU4Health – stakeholder network with the promotion of the EU4Health opportunities and the launch of a monthly newsletter as well as the dissemination of information, the bilateral exchange with stakeholders in EU Funding opportunities and the promotion of synergies with other health related EU funds and programmes.

With regard to the challenges and synergies, it is relevant to continue working among the network especially regarding the fundamental actions of capacity building and twinning considering the different levels of experience among NFPs in order to reinforce the knowledge.

**Michelle van Wijk – EU4Health NFP Netherlands** presented the actions developed at the national level with regard to the definition of the list of stakeholders with the prioritization of specific targeting actions: presentations, webinars to discuss the new Work Programmes. Moreover, another relevant activity is to



collect unsuccessful and successful EU4Health applications to define success factors of implementation. Among the proposed solutions for the future challenges that might arise, there has been highlighted: the interaction among the NFPs (throughout a platform or through the already informal WhatsApp group), the invitation to webinars among NFPs (preferably organized in English) and the organization of a meeting among all NFPs across Europe every three or four months in order to discuss challenges and collect feedback and needs.

Finally, the workshop has been an opportunity to emphasise the role of the focal point among the network developed under the **JA NFP4Health** – being the project an **important and evident tool acting as a connector among all NFPs and supporting the implementation of the EU4Health Programme.**

