

Horizon 2020 condensed

Societal Challenge 1: Health, demographic change and wellbeing

What is the ‘Health, demographic change and wellbeing’ challenge?

The ‘Health, demographic change and wellbeing’ Societal Challenge aims to improve our understanding of the causes and mechanisms underlying health, healthy ageing and disease. It also aims to improve our ability to monitor health and to prevent, detect, treat and manage disease. In addition, this Challenge will support research which enables older people to remain active and healthy and test and demonstrate new models and tools for health and care delivery.

What will be funded?

Societal Challenge 1 (SC1) has approximately €2 billion available for call topics in the 2018-2020 work programme. The calls will directly contribute to the 'Digitising and transforming European industry and services' and 'Boosting the effectiveness of the Security Union' Focus Areas under H2020.

The 2018-2020 work programme has three main calls:



Better health and care, economic growth and sustainable health systems

- Priority Areas:
 - Personalised medicine; Innovative health and care industry
 - Infectious diseases and improving global health
 - Innovative health and care systems - Integration of care
 - Decoding the role of the overall environment for health and wellbeing



Digital transformation in Health and Care



Trusted Big Data solutions and Cybersecurity for Health and Care

- Focus Areas:
 - Digitising and transforming European industry and services
 - Boosting the effectiveness of the Security Union

Funding, eligibility and project details

Funding within the 2018-2020 work programme is largely for collaborative projects, but there is also funding for Pre-commercial Procurement, Co-ordination and Support Actions and ERA-Net Co-funds. The Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing Societal Challenge of Horizon 2020 and contributes to several Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) in the field of health such as the JPI ‘More Years Better Lives’, the JPI on Neurodegenerative Diseases and the JPI on Antimicrobial Resistance.

All SC1 calls are open for international cooperation and some topics target specific countries/regions such as Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, and Thailand. Co-funding mechanisms are available for participants from some third countries which enables them to receive funding from their home country if the application is successful. Moreover, any legal entity established in the USA is eligible to receive EU contribution to support its participation in projects supported in most calls of SC1 (**EU-US in Horizon 2020**).

Call timings and budgets

The 'Better health and care, economic growth and sustainable health systems' call is the largest, with a proposed budget of €498M in 2020. There are 21 topics in 2020 that open on 4 July 2019 and have the deadline on 7 April 2020, with the exception of 4 two-stage topics, with the deadline for the first stage on 24 September 2019.

The 'Digital transformation in health and care' call has an indicative budget of €92M in 2020. The deadlines for this call are on 13 November 2019 (two topics) and 22 April 2020 (six topics).

The 'Trusted Digital solutions and Cybersecurity for Health and Care' call has an indicative budget of €70M in 2020 and will fund two topics with the deadlines on 13 November 2019 and 22 April 2020.

Other EU funding for health research

Other Societal Challenges under Horizon 2020 also include funding topics in the field of health research; in particular NMBP (Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies) and Societal Challenge 2. SC1 also provides funding to the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), a number of Joint Technology Initiatives, the European and Developing Country Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP), and the Active Assisted Living (AAL) Joint Programme.

Also relevant within EU health funding - although not part of Horizon 2020 - is the Health Programme run by the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumers, DG SANTE (see separate [UKRO Factsheet](#)).

Relevant EU policy areas and developments

Health 2020 is the European policy framework for health and well-being, which aims to support action across government and society to "significantly improve the health and well-being of populations, reduce health inequalities, strengthen public health and ensure people-centred health systems that are universal, equitable, sustainable and of high quality". Health 2020 makes the case for significant investment in health, and details the ways that good health benefits all in society and supports economic recovery.

The European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing, Equity Action joint action programme, and European Structural and Investment Funds will all relate strongly to the aims of the Health Programme.

The 2018-2020 work programme also contributes to a number of EU policy areas including:

- The EU's commitment to the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals;
- The European Consensus on Development "Our World, Our Dignity, our Future";
- The COP21;
- The goals of the Ostrava declaration on environment and health;
- The Digital Single Market;
- The European One Health Action Plan against Antimicrobial Resistance;
- The cross-border healthcare directive (and its support to the European Reference Networks);
- The Communication on upgrading the single market (health technology assessments initiative);
- The Council Conclusions on Personalised Medicine and on Pharmaceuticals.

More information:

- Societal Challenge 1 2018-2020 work programme part:
ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-health_en.pdf
- European Commission pages on policies, strategy and funding in health research
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/health/index.cfm>
- European Commission Horizon 2020 SC1 page:
<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/health-demographic-change-and-wellbeing>
- EU Funding & Tenders Portal for:
 - Calls for proposals under **Funding Opportunities**
 - Horizon 2020 Work programmes
ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/funding/reference_docs.html#h2020-work-programmes
- Health 2020: The European Policy for Health and Well-Being:
<http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-policy/health-2020-the-european-policy-for-health-and-well-being>
- E-Health: Transformation of Health and Care in the Digital Single Market
<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/european-policy-ehealth>
- EU Health Programme: https://ec.europa.eu/health/funding/programme_en
- Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI): <https://www.imi.europa.eu/>
- The European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP):
www.edctp.org
- Active Assisted Living Programme (AAL): ICT for Living Well:
<http://www.aal-europe.eu>
- Joint Programming Initiatives (JPI):
 - More Years Better Lives: www.jp-demographic.eu
 - Antimicrobial Resistance: www.jpamr.eu
 - Neurodegenerative Disease Research: www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu
- European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Active and Healthy Ageing:
https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/home_en
- Health NCP NET 2.0 – SC1 National Contact Points Network
<https://www.healthncp.net/>
- Sign up to the UKRO Portal to stay up to date on Horizon 2020: www.ukro.ac.uk
- For specific questions, contact your UKRO European Advisor.