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Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level

JA2015 - GPSD [705038]

START DATE: 01/01/2016

END DATE: 31/12/2016

DURATION: 12 month(s)

CURRENT STATUS: Finalised

PROGRAMME TITLE: 3rd Health Programme (2014-2020)

PROGRAMME PRIORITY: -

CALL: Health Programme Adhoc Call for invited (named) beneficiaries

TOPIC: Financial contributions to the functioning of non-governmental body
(Operating grants)

EC CONTRIBUTION: 332539 EUR

KEYWORDS: Anorexia, Bulimia, Cancer Control Plans, Cancer Prevention, Cancer Screening, Code Against Cancer, Communication Campaigns, Dietary patterns, Eating disorders, Effectiveness, Food allergies, Food consumption, Health Systems, Hpv, Hpv, Nutrition, Nutrition, Nutritional deficiencies, Obesity, Obesity, Tobacco Control, Vaccination

Project abstract

The Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL) is an NGO leading on cancer control actions at the European level since 1980. Represented by members in the EU and non-EU countries at the national level, leagues are often the main resource for the public for cancer control information and services. ECL provides a unique platform for cancer leagues to share specific know-how and experiences and is the only network in existence exclusively for cancer leagues. The running of ECL has been mainly financed by fees from its members, which cover a skeleton staff and office expenses. Prior to receiving co-funding in 2015 in the form of an Operating Grant from the EU, ECL's main source of income was membership fees, rates which have not changed for 10 years, but due to times of austerity, ECL has been unable to justify increasing the fees. ECL applied for an Operating Grant in 2014 to increase its resources in order to be able to implement actions efficiently in line with its renewed strategy 2014-2017. In 2015, the EU co-funding allowed us to increase our activities in the implementation of work for Strategic Goal 2: Promote Cancer Prevention. The grant has enabled ECL to increase our work in cancer prevention, and specifically in communicating the new 4th revision of the European Code Against Cancer in 2015, activities which included confirming translations of the Code, encouraging our members to communicate the Code, targeting young adults and incorporating the messages in all our activities including work at the European Parliament. In 2016 we will continue and expand these efforts with the Code as well as continue our normal and important activities such as tobacco control and patient support, while increasing our work at the national levels with our member leagues and other partners, which will include to a limited extent global partners during the World Cancer Congress in October 2016 in Paris.

Summary of context, overall objectives, strategic, relevance and contribution of the action

Context: Cancer is a leading cause of death worldwide and accounted for 8.2 million deaths (22% of all NCD deaths) in 2012. In Europe, the burden of cancer in Europe is growing at an alarming rate. In 2012, there were 3.45 million new cases of cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) and 1.75 million deaths from cancer. In the European Union, the estimated numbers of new cases of cancer were approximately 1.4 million in males and 1.2 million in females, and around 707,000 men and 555,000 women died from cancer in the same year. Around one third of cancer deaths are due to the 5 leading behavioural and dietary risks: high body mass index, low fruit and vegetable intake, lack of physical activity, tobacco use, alcohol use. Therefore, whilst new treatments and therapies are making a difference for improved health outcomes, it is essential that the prevention of chronic diseases (such as cancer) receives greater attention and resources to motivate people to live healthier

lives, and encourage governments to enact healthy policies to reverse the growing cancer burden. The actions implemented by ECL in 2016 covers the whole spectrum of cancer control, but pays close attention to primary and secondary prevention through the promotion of the European Code Against Cancer and tobacco control advocacy.

Overall objectives: Monitor EU cancer prevention and control legislation and actions at the EU; Work towards a tobacco free Europe; Through the Patient Support Working Group (PSWG), explore patient issues among the member leagues for areas where ECL is able to formulate recommendations for use by leagues and at the EU level; Communicate and promote the implementation of the European Code Against Cancer in collaboration with member leagues.

Strategic relevance: The action seeks to deliver strategic added-value through the exchange of good practice, informing EU policy development and implementation through intelligence provided by cancer leagues on the ground; and fostering closer cooperation between cancer societies and relevant stakeholders to tackle common challenges arising from the growing chronic disease burden.

Contribution to health programme goals: The action contributes to the health programme goals "to promote health, prevent diseases and foster supportive environments for healthy lifestyles taking into account the 'health in all policies principle'" through the active dissemination of the European Code Against Cancer; enhancing ECL's leading role in tobacco control advocacy through the monitoring of the implementation of the tobacco control directive; and spreading innovative, prevention-focused actions through the organisation workshops and high-level events.

Methods and means

Methods include: Workshops and round-table meetings; online communication including social media; surveys and site visits.

Means include: In 2016, ECL established a new "task force" for equal access to cancer medicines to actively address the problems that threaten the accessibility of cancer medicines; Secretariat function of the MEPs Against Cancer interest group of the European Parliament; Continuation of Patient Support Working Group; Cooperation with nominated representatives of cancer societies for prevention and tobacco control issues; Collaboration with key stakeholders; Participation in EU fora and platforms such as the EU diet and psychical activity platform, EU expert group on cancer, and the European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer (ECIBC).

Work performed during the reporting period

The following activities illustrate some of the key work performed during the action in 2016:

- MEPs Against Cancer - production of strategic Road Map to cover the remaining Parliamentary period;
- European Code Against Cancer Dissemination - two dissemination workshops held in Brussels and Lyon, for the benefit of ECL members; pilot "train the trainer" programme developed and run in Romania; European Week Against Cancer youth competition organised with over 1000 participants; animated video for the European Code Against Cancer developed.
- Patient Support Working Group - two meetings of the group held in Barcelona and Paris; update of PSWG rehabilitation atlas.
- Access to Medicines - launch of new task force designed for ECL members to join forces to tackle the issue of equal access to cancer medicines.
- Tobacco Control - participation in several high level events and symposia on numerous tobacco control related issues; draft of the 6th report of the tobacco control ranking scale.

The main output achieved so far and their potential impact and use by target group (including benefits)

The main outputs of the work have been:

- Strategic Road Map for the MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) interest group of the European Parliament - this has been actively used by the beneficiaries of this document, namely Members of the MAC group to plan and organise meetings and related events of the group;
- Summary report and draft training programme of the pilot train the trainers programme for the dissemination of the European Code Against Cancer - this has been used by the participants of the pilot event held in Bucharest in April 2016, and at subsequent local follow up meetings;
- Youth Ambassadors workshop report - the active participation of the group increased in 2016 and several independent events organised by the Youth Ambassadors have been held in 2016 at national and local levels;
- Reports of the workshops on the dissemination of the European Code Against Cancer - the workshop report captures the key learning and conclusions from the two workshops held in 2016 and have been disseminated to all ECL members and made publicly available online;

- An animated video of the European Code Against Cancer was produced and launched during the European Week Against Cancer - it has been disseminated widely across multiple social media platforms;
- A youth competition to design an infographic for the European Code Against Cancer was launched ahead of the European Week Against cancer - over 1.100 participants entered the competition, which was aimed at 8-18 years old;
- An atlas of rehabilitation programmes of ECL Patient Support Working Group members was updated and has been disseminated amongst the group, who use the atlas to compare existing in the field;
- A master-course on policy and advocacy at the EU level was developed and delivered in the run up to the 2016 World Cancer Congress in Paris - this resource was open to all registered participants of the Congress and supported those who participated in developing advocacy strategies;
- A local dissemination projects series was launched to provide small-scale support to leagues to help boost the dissemination of the European Code Against Cancer;
- A series of site visits were conducted in 2016 to ECL members to learn more about their cancer prevention activities. A report of these visits was produced as an outcome.

Achieved outcomes compared to the expected outcomes

The achieved outcomes were mostly in line with what was anticipated at the outset of the strategic grant agreement. In certain areas, the outcomes exceeded expectations, for example: the participation and reach of the European Week Against Cancer youth competition was more popular than anticipated, with 1130 participants entering into the competition. The pilot train the trainer programme that took place in Romania in April 2016 was very favourably evaluated by participants, who reported several instances of how they had used the training to improve cancer prevention activities. In contrast to the anticipated process, this evaluation was conducted 3 months after the training rather than 6 months, because this would encourage and support participants to build on the learning from the training. Likewise, the new microgrant programme launched by ECL in 2016, provided 8 cancer leagues with resources to boost their cancer prevention and European Code Against Cancer work, which was in excess of the figure anticipated from the outset of the action.

Dissemination and evaluation activities carried out so far and their major results

A large number of dissemination activities took place during the course of the action, including:

Joint event with Cancer Research UK, ECCO and SIOPE during world cancer day to highlight shared concerns in cancer control; High profile publication in cancer world magazine for specially commissioned infographic and article on the European Code Against Cancer; Specially designed animated video illustrating the European Code Against Cancer that has since been translated into all EU languages; High visibility for the work of the action, in particular the European Code Against cancer, during the launch of the Romanian National Cancer Plan; A large a number of actions throughout Europe during the European Week Against Cancer; 7 leagues supported with local dissemination projects to promote the European Code Against Cancer; Dissemination of cancer prevention materials during World Youth Days 2016, attended by 2 million young people and taking place in Krakow, Poland; Advocacy masterclass designed for the UICC World Cancer Congress in Paris.

Each activity was fully evaluated after completion and the feedback used to improve subsequent events. This was evident in the organisation of the European Code Against Cancer workshops, for which member leagues stated a need for greater discussion and sharing of current practice to disseminate the European Code Against Cancer. As a result, a larger number of leagues are disseminating the ECAC consistent with the recommendations determined by the action. This is particularly clear with the greater number of leagues focusing on promoting the European Code Against cancer as a coherent package of recommendation. The newly created access to medicines task force has already delivered results based on the founding declaration that has provoked governmental and key stakeholders to act. The advocacy masterclass of UICC was favourable evaluated, with the learning and educational outputs being put into practice by master course students and now open to other interested stakeholders.

Work package

Work Package 1: Coordination

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: ECL

Manage administrative and financial reporting and other requirements for Chafea and to coordinate activities of work packages to maximize impact and use of resources.

Work Package 2: Dissemination

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: ECL

Inform and engage our wide network of collaborators (leagues, umbrella organisations, EU bodies, international bodies etc.) to further disseminate the results of our work.

Work Package 3: Evaluation

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: ECL

Report on progress of running of ECL Secretariat to Board at each Board meeting for feedback and advice

Work Package 4: Cancer control advocacy

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: ECL

Provide Secretariat for MEPs Against Cancer (MAC); maintain legacy of commitments from the EU Alcohol Forum, and develop new commitments in the Diet, Physical Activity and Health Platform.

Work Package 5: Tobacco control

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: ECL

Work on priority issues with partners such as Smoke Free Partnership including follow up on the Tobacco Products Directive at the national level, monitoring industry, taxation issues, etc.

Work Package 6: Promoting cancer prevention and the European Code

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: ECL

Cancer Control Officer will coordinate activities to actively engage leagues and youth for optimal dissemination of the Code at the national level. This will be followed next year with activities for participants to engage policy makers in their countries.

Work Package 7: Cancer patient support working group

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: ECL

The Patient Support Working Group is a platform for leagues to share experiences and to agree on priorities to work in collaboration on priority areas at the European level to support the needs of patients in the countries and to address issues of inequality.

Work Package 8: Strengthening collaboration for cancer

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: ECL

This work package aims to recruit new leagues into the ECL membership, especially those in lower-income member states. It also aims to strengthen our ties with other umbrella organisations and non-member leagues.

COORDINATOR



ASSOCIATION EUROPEENNE DES LIGUES CONTRE LE CANCER
ASBL (ECL)

Chaussée de Louvain 479
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Belgium

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PARTNERS

No partners related to the current project

Monthly newsletters

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 22/12/2016

Share information of ECL and member activities, and ensure that the Code is given visibility each month. News items on current topics in tobacco control provide for ECL newsletters and other means of communication

Draft report for 6th Tobacco Control Scale (final to be launched in March 2017)

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 12/05/2017

Update current tobacco control ranking report in advance of ECToH 2017

Site visit reports

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 26/04/2017

Site visits to take place at least 3 times per year: this can include visiting leagues highly active in cancer prevention, leagues that are dormant in ECL network, and potential members. Summary evaluative reports will be produced in order to share the learning attained from the visit. ECL members are encouraged to join ECL secretariat during visits.

Annual General Assembly report

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 22/12/2016

Produce summary report of the AGM 2016. Building on the experience of forging an agreement with the smoke-free partnership, establish and conclude at least two memorandum of understanding with key stakeholders.

Publish rehabilitation atlas

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 09/12/2016

PSWG members began mapping rehabilitation programmes across Europe in 2015, one aim of 2016 is to develop this in to a booklet/atlas to gather best practices across Europe. Produce multi-annual strategic action plan outlining key activities, objectives and evaluation frame for the group. Host two meetings of PSWG and provide summary reports for members

Code dissemination workshops

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 05/12/2016

Organise 2 workshops to exchange knowledge and experiences on communicating the code, focusing on: diffusion amongst policymakers (1st workshop); and promoting the relevant recommendations on cancer screening participation (2nd workshop). Reports produced will outline key findings and propose recommendations for cancer leagues and other identified stakeholders.

Train the trainer workshop

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 08/09/2016

“Train the trainer” methodology workshop, building capacity of local staff and volunteers to communicate the messages of the code and engage with various target audiences. Workshop will be piloted in 2016 in a low-medium resource country (provisionally: Romania). The developed outputs will then be implemented in other countries following evaluation in 2017.

Youth Ambassadors workshop

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 08/09/2016

The second annual workshop will take place in Brussels, following up on the previous year's actions, and discussing activity for the forthcoming year.

Cancer Code youth competition

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 08/09/2016

During the European Week Against Cancer (25-31 May), ECL will run a competition aimed at young designers (aged under 30 in line with the youth ambassadors' age criteria) to create a tool (e.g. - video, game, app) that raise awareness of the messages of the code against cancer. Participants will be encouraged to develop in a variety of languages. Commission an animated video designed to promote the code as a product for health promotion across Europe. The video will be short in duration and flexible enough to use on multiple platforms by ECL, its members and partners, when disseminating the code.

MAC road map 2016-2019

ECL

Cancer Leagues Collaborating in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National and European Level (ECL SGA 2016)

Published on: 20/05/2016

Produce multi-annual road map outlining key activities, and strategy for increasing membership and broadening engagement. Provide reports from MEPs Against Cancer meetings at most 3 months after the event.