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Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019

JA2015 - GPSD [705038]

START DATE: 01/01/2019

END DATE: 31/12/2019

DURATION: 12 month(s)

CURRENT STATUS: Finalised

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

PROGRAMME PRIORITY: -

CALL: Financial contribution to the functioning of non-governmental bodies (Operating grants)

TOPIC: Specific Grant Agreements 2019 under HP-FPA-2017

EC CONTRIBUTION: 554996 EUR

KEYWORDS: Access To Medicines And Healthcare, Amr, Chronic Diseases, Civil Society, Communicable Diseases, Disadvantaged Groups, Disadvantaged Groups, Health Professionals, Health Promotion, Patients, Prevention, Public Health

Project abstract

EPHA's proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement (SGA) 2019 has been designed to be as coherent as possible with EPHA's 2018-2021 Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA). It provides a problem analysis for the activities proposed, taking into account current developments and evidence that are influencing public health.

The proposal defines the 2019 operational SMART objectives in each priority area and how they relate to the multiannual objectives outlined in the FPA. Each 2019 objective is broken down into concrete activities, milestones and deliverables.

In line with the FPA, EPHA is seeking funding to continue working in eight thematic priority areas: prevention of chronic NCDs, access to affordable medicines, antimicrobial resistance, digital health, healthy trade policy, improving access to healthcare for disadvantaged groups, financing for public health, and capacity building. One of the main differences between the 2019 SGA proposal and previous years is that more emphasis will be placed on establishing synergies between these areas. This will enable EPHA to be more results-oriented by fostering cross-fertilisation of ideas and action, strengthening the evidence base and working effectively as a network through our diverse membership. A strong focus is placed on ensuring transfer of knowledge between the EU and national level to support the priorities of the 3rd Health Programme and the European Commission, and to emphasise the added value of EU health policymaking.

Moreover, the proposal describes the planning and implementation of EPHA's Work Programme, including the resources required to accomplish it (staff and budget), the target audience(s) for each activity and how deliverables will be disseminated. It also shows how the work will be evaluated, with indicators provided for each objective. The final part explains how EPHA's operational and financial management structure supports the successful delivery, with a detailed budget accompanying the proposal.

Work package

Work Package 1: Prevention of chronic non-communicable diseases (food, agriculture, alcohol, tobacco)

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: EPHA

EPHA will introduce the public health perspective into the European Parliament's position on the CAP by working with the lead MEPs (rapporteur and shadows), promoting relevant amendments and offering voting recommendations to MEPs in the AGRI and ENVI Committees. The EP report is vital because it will determine the opportunities for shaping and implementing a health-friendly food and agriculture policy at the national level. With this in mind, EPHA will update its web page with proposals for improving health promotion and demonstrating what national CAP Strategic Plans could look like.

SGA funding allowed EPHA to develop an "Ambition Indicator" for healthy food and drink environments that will be launched online in early 2019. It is a tool to compare and rank Member States' policy measures based on WHO "Best Buy" recommendations, which allow EPHA to identify and present best practices and stimulate national governments to implement the recommendations in line with SDG 3.4.

Moreover, EPHA will organise two workshops to help shape WHO "Best Buys" implementation at national level), during which we will also solicit feedback on the usefulness of the Ambition Indicator for its development.

EPHA established a "Healthy Marketing Alliance" in 2018, which focuses on limiting the exposure of children to the marketing of health-harmful products, in particular alcohol and foods high in fat, sugar and salt. As the Alliance gains maturity, EPHA will organise two meetings to discuss the issues involved and enable the proposal of principles for "Union codes of conduct" – a concrete, newly introduced outcome of the AVMSD.

Finally, EPHA will seek to expand the concept of HiAP – which has long been a guiding principle – by applying it to the concept of healthy and sustainable diets in order to stimulate an enabling environment.

All activities will draw on EPHA's increased engagement in debates about policies for sustainable and healthy food systems, including in partnership with EAT and the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES Food). EPHA joined the new IPES Food Steering Group on food systems policy where we will gather experts' views while actively contributing through our inputs.

This will help EPHA to mainstream public health objectives in the emerging area of food systems policy-making and to become an agenda setter on health policy as expressed in our FPA general objectives.

Work Package 2: Universal access to affordable medicines

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: EPHA

In 2018 EPHA developed a position paper on HTA that has been shared with European and national policymakers working on A2M. EPHA's recommendations are echoed by numerous stakeholders, including several EU MS. Given the ongoing HTA legislative process, EPHA will build on the topic and emphasise the links to the broader A2M issues outlined in our FPA objectives. At EU level, EPHA will hold pre- and post-election policymaker meetings, coupled with high-level advocacy at relevant conferences and in bilateral meetings with national policymakers. EPHA aims to provide context, help define agendas, develop narratives and promote transparency about the content and results of existing studies on IP-related incentives.

There is also scope for establishing links with digital health (e.g. real-world evidence via Big Data) under the Finnish Presidency.

EPHA will continue working hand in hand with its membership, as well as with the European Alliance for Responsible R&D and Affordable Medicines (hosted by EPHA), to draw the links between European, Brussels-based advocacy and national developments.

Work Package 3: Action on Antimicrobial Resistance

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: EPHA

The pan-European Stakeholder Network on AMR under the Commission's Health Policy Platform includes many national stakeholders who have not yet been very involved due to their geographic location or because they only joined recently. Policy recommendations for an Action Plan evaluation framework will be based on webinars with these national partners, as well as meetings with EU and national policymakers, and EPHA's interactions with the Joint Action on AMR (JAMRAI). Since its 2017 investigative report describing the challenges under-resourced health systems are facing in tackling AMR, EPHA has been in dialogue with Romanian policymakers. The fact that Romania has not yet published a national action plan testifies that it is not easy to achieve without adequate funding, people, expertise and technology. EPHA will support the Romanian Presidency by reaching out to European and national policymakers to make dedicated resources available so that a fruitful transfer of practices can take place. This will include links with agriculture and the #EU4Health campaign, which calls for increased EU investments for

tackling cross-border health threats.

Our AMR news feed will be continued on a quarterly basis, which will allow a better selection of relevant articles, including from national and EU media, civil society and international organisations.

EPHA will also continue its long-standing support for the European Antibiotic Awareness Day and World Antibiotic Awareness Week by promoting key 2019 EAAD messages (PR, social media, website), working closely together with members representing health professions (e.g. nurses, doctors, pharmacists) and students.

Work Package 4: Inclusive Digital Health

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: EPHA

We will continue to share our digital health vision and seek feedback at national conferences, including eHealth Week in Romania, to highlight that the digital divide has not been closed yet despite a growing number of solutions targeting members of disadvantaged groups.

Improving health literacy is vital as many patients and health professionals remain oblivious to the potential of digitalisation in modern health systems. We will treat digitalisation as a transformative force for creating sustainable and inclusive health systems essential for completing the Digital Single Market.

EPHA will also provide inputs into the work of the renewed eHealth Stakeholder Group and, depending on opportunities, the eHealth Network.

Following initial Big Data discussions in 2018, we will establish the Terms of Reference for an expert study to be carried out in 2020, based on parameters defined at Working Group level. It will pave the way for a comprehensive position on Big Data in public health in 2020, preceded by a preliminary paper outlining inputs into the Finnish Presidency's Council Conclusions.

EPHA aims to be recognised as an expert stakeholder in data and privacy debates related to digital health as a result of this activity.

Work Package 5: Healthy Trade Policy

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: EPHA

Arising from our work on EU-Latin America trade agreements and subsequent analytical work on Brexit, SGA support enabled EPHA to develop a "Risk Register": a user-friendly prototype to assess the potential risks of trade agreements in key public health areas (food labeling, alcohol, medicines, health services, procurement, etc.), which also serves as an advocacy tool. In 2019, EPHA will apply it in the

context of the many other trade agreements the EU is planning to conclude, also keeping a close eye on the CETA ratification process (including the recent ECJ decision on investor protection) and relevant developments between the EU and US. EPHA's membership in the Expert Group on EU trade agreements will enable us to formally voice health concerns, which are minuted and posted online.

We will also publish positions and provide wording proposals, jointly with our member the European Heart Network (EHN), on how to mainstream specific aspects in trade agreements identified in the risk register, aiming for a model health chapter to support DG Trade and the Expert Group.

Regarding the trade-related aspects of Brexit, given our sizeable UK membership, we will work to maintain strong links between our British and European members and partners, in particular by organising a dedicated capacity building webinar to actively engage in the policy process on specific issues such as NCD prevention.

We will also discuss trade across EPHA Working Groups as a pivotal factor for public health policies, whether related to AMR, food and drink, agriculture, eHealth, etc., and seek synergies, also as part of the informal network of European public interest NGOs working on trade called the "Brussels Trade Coalition".

Work Package 6: Improve access to health/care for vulnerable groups

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: EPHA

To make progress on EPHA's FPA sub-objectives, we will launch a dedicated new Working Group on Health Inequalities to identify commonalities regarding barriers to access healthcare and prevention services, and enable transfer of knowledge and practices, including EPHA members representing the interests of members working on issue-specific (e.g. homelessness), disease-specific (e.g. mental health, communicable diseases) and global health perspectives, migrants and Roma.

This will enable EPHA to provide more robust evidence since health inequalities could benefit from a new framing following the 2013 Marmot review

Following the European Parliament elections, EPHA will produce a video with newly elected MEPs in support of combating health inequalities across Europe, with a view to creating an MEP interest group.

EPHA will link the Roma health work to broader public health issues by organising two national workshops, in Romania and FYROM. In collaboration with our Roma fellows we will explore health in relation to determinants such as poor housing, sanitation, employment, discrimination, etc.

The result will be a more complete picture to understand the influences on health and help reveal any barriers that exclusively apply to Roma, to inform the post-2020 EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies. EPHA will also coordinate the Civil Society Group of the EU Platform for Roma Inclusion to put health and early childhood development on the agenda.

Issues such as improving vaccination uptake (also discussed by a new Joint Action),

the upcoming EC work on infectious diseases, TB, Hepatitis and HIV/AIDS and 3HP-4 topics will be integrated in the Working Group's scope, e.g. to discuss unexplored links such as the one between poverty and AMR .

There is also space for members to support the "Health Workers for All" Coalition since combating health inequalities depends on sufficient numbers of well-trained health professionals.

Work Package 7: Financing Public Health

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: EPHA

EPHA will continue to coordinate the #EU4Health core group set up in 2018 and intensify its advocacy around the European Parliament elections and institutional renewal processes. Together with members and partners, EPHA will underline the need for generous public health funding in the future Multiannual Financial Framework - especially in ESF+ -, inter alia threatened by the loss of the UK's contribution following Brexit. Research and innovation programmes such as Horizon Europe (FP9) also need to emphasise prevention and health promotion, societal needs and public interest more strongly.

In order to reach this objective, we will propose amendments and voting recommendations to the MFF file, stimulate core group action around key negotiation moments, and stress the added value of EU health policies. Specific public health demands will feature in EPHA's election manifesto. Following the elections, EPHA will construct a web page to analyse the profiles of Commissioner candidates from a public health angle, with a special focus on the Health Commissioner. For the hearings in EP Committees, we will propose health-specific questions to MEPs and encourage our members to be involved in social media actions.

At national level, we plan on supporting our members financially to become involved in #EU4Health activities including collecting case studies (begun in 2018) and providing them with materials (background papers, speaking points) to campaign for a strong health strand in the next budgeting period.

EPHA will continue contributing to raise financing issues with the SDG Multi-stakeholder Platform and its sub-groups, in particular dealing with the global dimension (including trade and migration), environment and natural resources (linked to food production) governance and policy coherence, and SDGs at local / national level, where a Slovenian member represents us.

Work Package 8: Capacity building and organisational development

Start month: 1

End month: 12

Work Package Leader: EPHA

The objectives in this area have been bundled together for simplicity and to emphasise that they are part of EPHA's ongoing organisational development. In 2018, SGA funding enabled EPHA to chart the course for structured outreach to potential member groups in countries where EPHA remains underrepresented. Our internal gap analysis concluded that EPHA could gain much from extending the number of national members especially in larger MS (Germany in particular, but also Spain, Italy, and France) and to ensure a more complete network in Eastern/South Eastern Europe and the wider WHO European Region where civil society is weaker. This could be achieved by involving members' own members more strongly (e.g. through joint activities, surveys, social media), better follow-up with non-member project partners and referrals, and by offering webinars to national members.

A new outreach pack will be produced to support future country visits. EPHA will also continue to offer its Professional Development Programme, which responds to members' needs flexibly (e.g. fundraising, EU advocacy strategies) but could also include policy content to discuss the relevance of EU initiatives at local / regional level. This could attract new members, especially if events are organised around national health conferences.

The expected outcome is an improved distribution of national members and public health interests, in particular focusing on organisations that contribute a strong evidence base.

Crucially, EPHA will reintroduce its flagship Annual Conference, which has set the tone for policy discussions in previous years and which coincides with our Annual General Assembly. In previous years we attracted 300 registered participants (NGOs, EC staff, MEP assistants, Perm Reps, company representatives, academics, etc.). EPHA recruited its first European Solidarity Corps volunteers in the autumn of 2018, who will actively contribute to the Work Programme alongside Erasmus+ students from leading academic institutions and public health registrars sent to us by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

COORDINATOR



EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH ALLIANCE (EPHA)

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PARTNERS

No partners related to the current project

Video

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 03/04/2020

Video with newly elected MEPs, affirming their support for tackling health inequalities in collaboration with EPHA.

Infographic

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Infographic to launch Ambition Indicator for healthy food and drink environments, to compare MS policies based on WHO "Best Buy" recommendations.

Op-ed article

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Op-ed article in EU media, outlining usefulness, contribution and potential of Ambition Indicator for healthy food and drink environments.

Event reports

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Two event reports arising from national workshops containing relevant inputs regarding the implementation of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive and WHO "Best Buys".

Policy briefing

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Policy briefing proposing principles for "Union codes of conduct", to advance

AVMSD implementation.

Discussion paper

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Discussion paper on advancing the "Health in All Policies" concept, including inputs into the Finnish Presidency's Council conclusions.

Website articles

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Three web articles analysing relevant HTA developments in relation to EPHA priorities, including IP, pricing, reimbursement, etc.

Scientific paper

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Research paper on value and progress of intergovernmental collaborations on access to medicines, based on interviews with experts.

Event Report

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Event report outlining the discussions, inputs and take-away messages of EPHA's Access to Medicines Forum.

Policy recommendations

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Policy recommendations for establishing an evaluation framework for the One Health Action Plan against AMR, based on inputs received during AMR Stakeholder Network webinars and inputs into the Joint Action on AMR (JAMRAI).

AMR event report

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Event report summarising the discussions of EPHA's AMR event during the Romanian Presidency, including inputs to inform Council conclusions on AMR.

Synergy paper

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Synergy paper describing the potential of digitalisation for public health, including the perspectives and experience of members covering different areas.

Reflection paper

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Reflection paper outlining key Big Data issues, as input into the Finnish Presidency's Council conclusions.

Model health chapter

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Model health chapter containing wording proposals for international trade agreements to mainstream health, based on inputs from EPHA members covering various areas (joint publication with European Heart Network).

Web articles (trade)

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Four web articles analysing relevant developments on TTIP, CETA, Mercosur and other EU trade agreements.

Summary paper (Brexit)

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Paper summarising webinar discussions on potential public health impacts of Brexit on the UK and Europe.

Policy briefing on Health Inequalities

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Policy briefing on health inequalities, based on inputs from EPHA members working on issue-, disease-specific and global health aspects.

Policy recommendations (NRIS)

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Paper with policy recommendations for post-2020 National Roma Integration Strategy, based on national workshops and making links with European Pillar of Social Rights and European Semester.

Summary paper (MFF)

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Summary paper outlining EPHA amendments and voting recommendations submitted as contribution to European Parliament report on new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

Web articles (Financing for PH)

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Two web articles on health aspects of MFF, including aspects such as research and innovation, ESF+, FP9, etc.

Election manifesto

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Election manifesto or statement outlining key MFF demands, based on #EU4Health and core group discussions.

AC event report

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Report outlining theme, discussions and take-away messages of EPHA's 2019 Annual Conference.

ESC evaluation paper

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 01/04/2020

Paper evaluating the contribution of the European Solidarity Corps to EPHA's public health advocacy work.

Summary paper (CAP)

EPHA

Proposal for a Specific Grant Agreement 2019 (EPHA 2019 SGA)

Published on: 31/03/2020

Summary document outlining the EPHA amendments submitted for the European Parliament report on the new Common Agricultural Policy, including voting recommendations.