

PARTNER SEARCH

PROGRAMME: ESPON 2020 - Targeted Analysis Call

Cut-off date: 13 January 2017

Lead Partners: Greater Manchester Combine Authority, UK

PROJECT – FINANCIAL MODELS FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING INVESTMENT

Please respond by 15th December 2016

Health and Social Care is largely recognised in Europe as an important asset for regional development and competitiveness (i.e health infrastructure, e-health, R&D and SMEs support), as well as an important driver to address social disparity such as health inequality. Policy and decision makers need, now more than ever, to work with public health bodies and health organisations on common long term health strategies that help improve the health and social well-being of local people beyond traditional provision. This will require new thinking and new analysis to assess what models and tools will help regions across Europe to have a more efficient and sustainable health and social care system.

THE CHALLENGE AND THE OPPORTUNITY

Many governments across Europe saw severe cuts in their welfare spending after the financial crisis of 2007 ([OECD Health Statistics 2016](#)). In 2015, the OECD highlighted a slow increase in health spending, however this is still below the growth rates seen in the years before the economic crisis.

Health and Care Services across Europe are already undergoing changes to adapt systems to a growing demand caused by the increase of the ageing population and chronic conditions. This restructuring, which is combining health and social care resources, will need to involve the developing and testing of innovative solutions and eventually the large-scale implementation of the most successful practices ([European Scaling-up Strategy in Active and Healthy Ageing](#))¹.

It is well accepted that **health technology and health innovation** such as telehealth, telecare, ehealth and mhealth, allows the system to have a more patient focus healthcare delivery which is more efficient, effective and one that provides opportunities for cost reduction and well needed savings. The technology is widely available, however implementation at scale has been very fragmented mainly due to lack of resources and more importantly **investment**.

PROPOSED TARGETED ANALYSIS

The lack of a business model or of arrangements for the reimbursement of the service is often quoted as a significant barrier to large scale deployment ([European Scaling-up Strategy in Active and Healthy Ageing](#)). Currently the use of existing resources and lack of

¹ "[European Scaling-up Strategy in Active and Healthy Ageing](#)"

other funding means that **invest to save models** are not funded. Local and regional authorities can look to prudential borrowing but these are not typically used in this area. Introducing new funding models which would involve more investments rather than grants will require careful modelling to project future savings to both pay for the investment and to see projected healthcare savings in the longer term.

This proposed ESPON TA project will assess the search for a more sustainable and efficient investment model of health and social care system within a group of selected European cities and regions. It will focus upon new approaches and models to finance and invest in health and social care technology at scale, and the development of new locally-controlled financial instruments that rely less in grants and more in investment.

These new investment models will help regions to identify the most viable options for investment, how they can be implemented and the savings that they would lead to. In addition it will provide a route to funding options that could include a mixture of diverting existing funds, invest to save model and other loan based funding.

This could be similar to the JESSICA and JEREMIE models under Cohesion Policy which has proved to be a successful story in many part of Europe including GM (NW Evergreen Fund).

A revolving fund dedicated to Health currently does not exist in Europe.

Revenue to a **revolving health fund** will come from savings in the welfare system generated by the spending. However, to maximise the effect and benefits it will need to have a regional approach and to link with the regional growth agenda and more specific with the regions' "health economy".

With this ESPON TA participating regions will be able to plan how to grasp the opportunities to both invest in health and social care and to create the right ecosystem where increasing investment and collaborations between stakeholders could bring a large and long term boost to their regional economy and the well-being of their citizens.

The overall aim of the project will be to encourage cross-national learning and to capture practical, transferable lessons that could be applied in other European contexts.

PARTNERS SOUGHT

Eligible stakeholders are **national, regional and local authorities**, in the EU member states and the ESPON partner states (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) having competence in developing and/or implementing policies with a territorial dimension.

Universities, academic experts and private companies are not eligible to submit stakeholder proposals for Targeted Analyses.

ESPON 2020 EXPLAINED

The ESPON 2020 Programme aims at promoting and fostering a European territorial dimension in development and cooperation by providing evidence, knowledge transfer and policy learning to public authorities and other policy actors at all levels.

The programme ring-fences part of its budget to support **specific targeted analysis proposed by policy makers from cities and regions**. Submissions of targeted analysis can be done throughout the year with two cut off dates – next cut-off date 13 January 2017.

If the proposal is successful, the ESPON team will tender the project proposed and will contract directly with the successful researcher or team of researchers. The partners of the proposed targeted analysis will be involved in drafting the tender and also the lead stakeholder is also involved in the evaluation of the tenders.

At the end of the Targeted Analysis, the participating regions will have a high level policy and research study at no cost to the authorities. The commitment from the participating authorities is:

- Deliver regional/local information and data (if needed);
- Participate in the steering group of the Targeted Analysis (this will incur some travel costs which will not be covered by ESPON);
- Support the uptake and transfer of results of the Targeted Analysis

More info on how ESPON 2020 Targeted Analysis work can be found on [this link](#).

GREATER MANCHESTER

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority is made up of the ten Greater Manchester councils who work with other local services to improve the city-region. More info about Greater Manchester can be found on [this link](#).

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