



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

CANCER

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges



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Cyprus National Horizon Europe Event, 18.01.23

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European Commission

DG Research and Innovation

Combatting diseases

#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionCancer



5 EU Missions

A mission is a portfolio of actions across disciplines intended to achieve a **bold, inspirational and measurable goal** within a set timeframe, with **impact** for society and policy making as well as relevance for a significant part of the European population and wide range of European citizens.

Adaptation to
Climate Change



Cancer



Climate-neutral
and Smart Cities



Restore our
Ocean and Waters



Soil Deal
for Europe





Mission on Cancer

Challenges

- **2.7 million people** in the EU are **diagnosed** each year
- **1.3 million people die** from cancer each year (expect increase)
- **Total cost of cancer** in Europe in 2018: €199 billion
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic and war in Ukraine

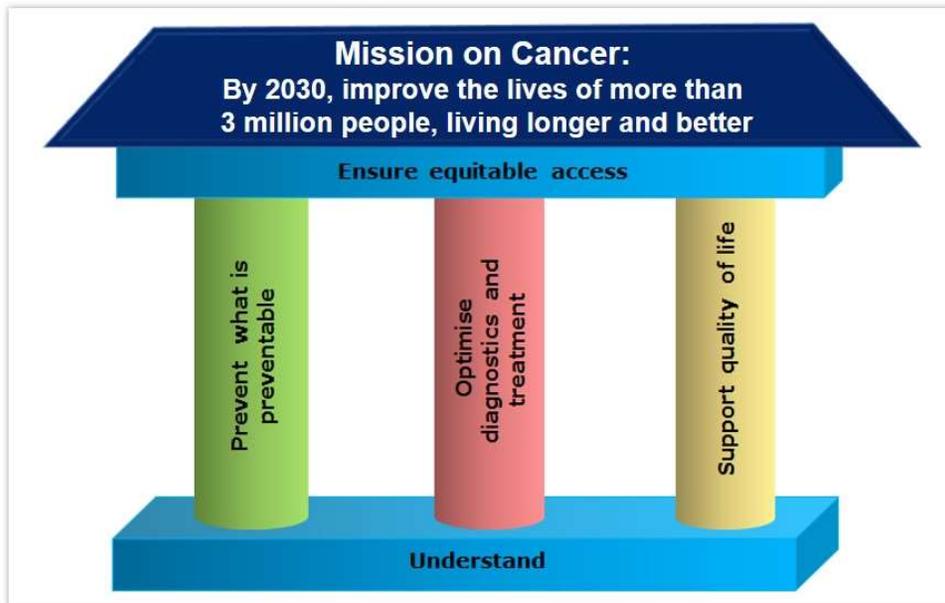
GOAL

Improve the lives of more than 3 million people by 2030

through prevention, cure and for those affected by cancer including their families, to live longer and better



Mission on Cancer



Specific objectives:

1. Understanding
2. Prevention
3. Diagnosis and treatment
4. Quality-of-life

Operational objectives:

1. Foster innovation: Generation of knowledge and evidence
2. Promote innovation: Test, validate, demonstrate and upscale solutions
3. Track progress and monitor inequities in access to knowledge, research and care
4. Engage with the cancer community, citizens/patients and society at large

Mission implementation:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/research_and_innovation/funding/documents/cancer_implementation_plan_for_publication_final_v2.pdf



Mission on Cancer

Concrete actions

- UNCAN.eu platform (starting 2022)
- Cancer Patient Digital Centre (2023)
- many R&I actions under each of the four mission objectives
- Network of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures
- Network of national Cancer Mission hubs
- Synergies (= positive support from other initiatives at EU, national, regional, local level)



Cancer Mission Work Programme 2023-2024

- Proposals will be evaluated on scientific merits, **portfolio approach, overall threshold 12.**
- Mission topics aim at involving **other disciplines and sectors.**
- Applicants should budget for networking activities (details to be added during grant preparation) => **project clusters.**
- **Citizen (including patients and caregivers) engagement:** civil society, patient and caregiver organisations and communities should be consistently engaged.
- Mission topics will include **end-user** engagement such as:
 - Living lab services Kuopio University Hospital (FI): <https://www.psshp.fi/web/en/organisation/living-lab>
 - Living Labs at INCa (FR): <https://gnius.esante.gouv.fr/en/players/player-profiles/living-lab-institut-national-du-cancer>
 - Living Lab at IrsiCaixa AIDS Research Institute (ES): <https://www.scishops.eu/case-study-living-lab-for-health-spain/>
 - European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL): <https://enoll.org/>
 - also cancer centres, national and regional health authorities and services, local communities (e.g. cities).



HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-01: Addressing **poorly-understood** tumour-host interactions to enhance immune system-centred treatment and care interventions in childhood, adolescent, adult and elderly cancer patients.

Submission: **12.04.2023**; EUR 7-12 M/proposal; **70 pages**; R&I actions; **portfolio approach**; synergies;

Scope

- Systematic understanding of tumour-host interactions in poorly-understood cancers
- Combine knowledge and high-quality data from biomedical and clinical studies, and real-world data
- Demonstrate access to and use of multiple comprehensive databases in and beyond health research
- Propose socially acceptable, affordable novel treatment or care interventions or health technologies .. **that involve the end-user using participative research models**

Expected outcome

- Researchers and health professionals understand tumour-host processes that spur cancer development and progression
- Researchers, innovators, and professionals from different disciplines and sectors ensure accessibility and re-usability of their data, models, tools and technology to support the UNCAN.eu platform
- Health policy makers are aware of an improved understanding of tumour-host interactions in cancer patients that would allow the co-design of cancer-related innovation and health policies



HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-02: Enhance **primary** cancer prevention through **sustainable behavioural** change

Submission: **12.04.2023**; EUR 4-6 M/proposal; R&I actions; portfolio approach; synergies;

Scope

- Develop, test and evaluate the effective impacts of innovative primary cancer prevention programmes
- Provide evidence-based cost-benefit analyses of the proposed programmes
- Identify and address specific **bottlenecks and barriers that prevent the uptake** of sustainable behavioural change
- Identify the most appropriate actors and develop incentives promoting sustainable behavioural change
- Assess and validate parameters and factors facilitating or impeding behavioural change, and measure their impact
- Attention to health determinants, including occupational and environmental factors (e.g. pollution)
- **Reach and involve** disadvantaged socio-economic population groups, vulnerable groups, and people living in rural areas

Expected outcome

- Citizens, including people at high risk of developing cancer, cancer patients and survivors benefit from health promotion and primary prevention programmes that reflect behavioural change and psycho-social approaches
- Citizens, cancer patients and cancer survivors benefit from easy-to-understand and accessible, tailored recommendations and support programmes on sustainable behavioural changes, including psycho-social care
- Policymakers and authorities promote healthy environments as well as health promotion and prevention programmes



HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-03: **Pragmatic** clinical trials on minimally invasive diagnostics

Submission: **12.04.2023**; EUR 6-8 M/proposal; R&I actions; portfolio approach; synergies;

Scope

- **Randomised or cluster-randomised academic investigator-initiated** pragmatic clinical trials to deliver effective and evidence-based diagnostic interventions
- adapted to the particular needs of the target population and to the specificities of the provision of care at local, regional, or national level, duly **reflecting the diversity** across Member States and Associated Countries
- The **primary and secondary endpoints** of the pragmatic clinical trial should support overall survival, patient-reported outcomes and quality of life issues considered important by and for cancer patients and their caregivers;
- Such **endpoints should be defined together with patients and their caregivers**
- the trials should be completed **within 5 years**. **Translational research is not within the scope of this topic;**

Expected outcome

- Cancer patients and their caregivers have access to optimised and affordable, minimally-invasive diagnostic interventions that increase their quality of life
- Healthcare professionals and academia deliver better outcomes through routine healthcare, including quality of life
- National healthcare providers, policymakers and authorities will have the evidence to implement optimised and affordable minimally-invasive diagnostics in their healthcare systems, including in everyday medical practice.



HORIZON-MISS-2023-CANCER-01-04:

Establish best practices and tools to improve the quality of life for childhood cancer patients, survivors and their families **in European regions**

Submission: **12.04.2023**; EUR 6 M/proposal; **Innovation action**; **written commitment from regions**; liaise with EUonQoL project;

Scope

- Best practices and validated tools related to for example education, sports, employment, medical follow-up including mental and physical health should be tested and scaled up **in regions in at least three different countries**
- Address hurdles, factors and situations that impede implementation of good practices and tools in real-life settings with the intention to make the life of childhood cancer survivors easier and better.
- Attention should be paid to **social and health determinants**, including sex, gender, age and other relevant variables, such as socio-economic status, living in rural or remote areas and education;
- Several best practices and tools should be chosen and scaled up together with childhood cancer survivors. Participative research models, such as oncology-centred living labs should be considered.

Expected outcome

- Childhood cancer patients, survivors and their families benefit from enhanced quality of life. Consequently, they can better achieve their values and personal life goals;
- Health care professionals, supportive workers and councillors enhance the quality of life for childhood cancer patients, survivors and their families.



Idea of clustering: Bring projects together

Why clusters?

- Avoid silo-working
- Create added value
- Increase impact of EU funding
- Establish policy feedback loop

Challenge: Identify what can be done together

Areas:

- Research & Innovation
- Communication & Dissemination
- Citizen Engagement
- Data Management
- Addressing inequalities
- Research Capacity Building
- Cancer Mission Hubs



4 Cancer Mission project clusters

- Understanding cancer - *started*
- Prevention, including screening - *started*
- Diagnosis and Treatment – *starting in 2023*
- Quality of Life – *starting in 2023*

Footnote in mission WP2023: *In order to address the objectives of the Mission on Cancer, participants will collaborate in project clusters to leverage EU-funding, increase networking across sectors and disciplines, and establish a portfolio of Cancer Mission R&I and policy actions.*



Statistics on participants from Cyprus

Project Number	Project Acronym	Project Title	Participant Legal Name
101096649	DIOPTRA	EARLY DYNAMIC SCREENING FOR COLORECTAL CANCER VIA NOVEL PROTEIN BIOMARKERS REFLECTING BIOLOGICAL INITIATION MECHANISMS	CSCY COMPUTER SOLUTIONS CYPRUS LTD
101096649	DIOPTRA	EARLY DYNAMIC SCREENING FOR COLORECTAL CANCER VIA NOVEL PROTEIN BIOMARKERS REFLECTING BIOLOGICAL INITIATION MECHANISMS	LINAC-PET SCAN OPCO LIMITED
101096649	DIOPTRA	EARLY DYNAMIC SCREENING FOR COLORECTAL CANCER VIA NOVEL PROTEIN BIOMARKERS REFLECTING BIOLOGICAL INITIATION MECHANISMS	CSI CENTER FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION LTD
101096649	DIOPTRA	EARLY DYNAMIC SCREENING FOR COLORECTAL CANCER VIA NOVEL PROTEIN BIOMARKERS REFLECTING BIOLOGICAL INITIATION MECHANISMS	VILABS (CY) LTD
101097036	ONCOSCREEN	A European "shield" against colorectal cancer based on novel, more precise and affordable risk-based screening methods and viable policy pathways	CATALINK LIMITED
101097094	ELMUMY	Elucidation of risk factors and health determinants associated with PROGRESSION of Monoclonal Gammopathies to Multiple Myeloma	KYPRIAKO IDRYMA EREVNON GIA TI MYIKI DISTROFIA
		<i>COMPREHENSIVE CANCER INFRASTRUCTURES</i>	
		<i>Pragmatic Clinical Trial</i>	
		<i>Establishing of Cancer Mission Hubs: Networks and Synergies</i>	
		<i>Participatory Decision Making for Cancer Prevention through implementation research</i>	



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Thank you!

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Cancer Mission Website:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/missions-horizon-europe/cancer_en

Implementation Plan:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/research_and_innovation/funding/documents/cancer_implementation_plan_for_publication_final_v2.pdf

EU Info Day 17.1.23:

<https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/home>

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EUROPEAN UNION



1. EU Missions

2. Work Programme 2023-2024

3. Statistics on participants from Cyprus



Network of national Cancer Mission Hubs

Main activities:

- Awareness raising and coordination of Mission's activities at national, regional or local levels;
- Facilitate integration of Mission activities;
- Facilitate engagement of actors and stakeholders to cover all areas;
- Support citizen engagement activities.



EU Missions – synergies with EU policies and initiatives

Initiatives that can help achieve the goal of the EU Mission on Cancer

- Horizon Europe partnerships
- European Cancer Information System
- Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability
- Zero Pollution Action Plan
- HealthyLifestyles4all initiative
- Strategic Agenda for Medical Ionising Radiation Applications
- Research and Training Programme (Euratom)
- Pharmaceutical Strategy

Initiatives that can act as 'enabler' for the EU Mission on Cancer:

- European Health Data Space
- Knowledge Centre on Cancer (KCC)
- EIT & KICs
- European Universities Initiative

Initiatives which the EU Mission on Cancer will contribute to:

- Artificial Intelligence Agenda
- European Data Strategy
- Digital transformation and skills
- New European Bauhaus initiative

National activities

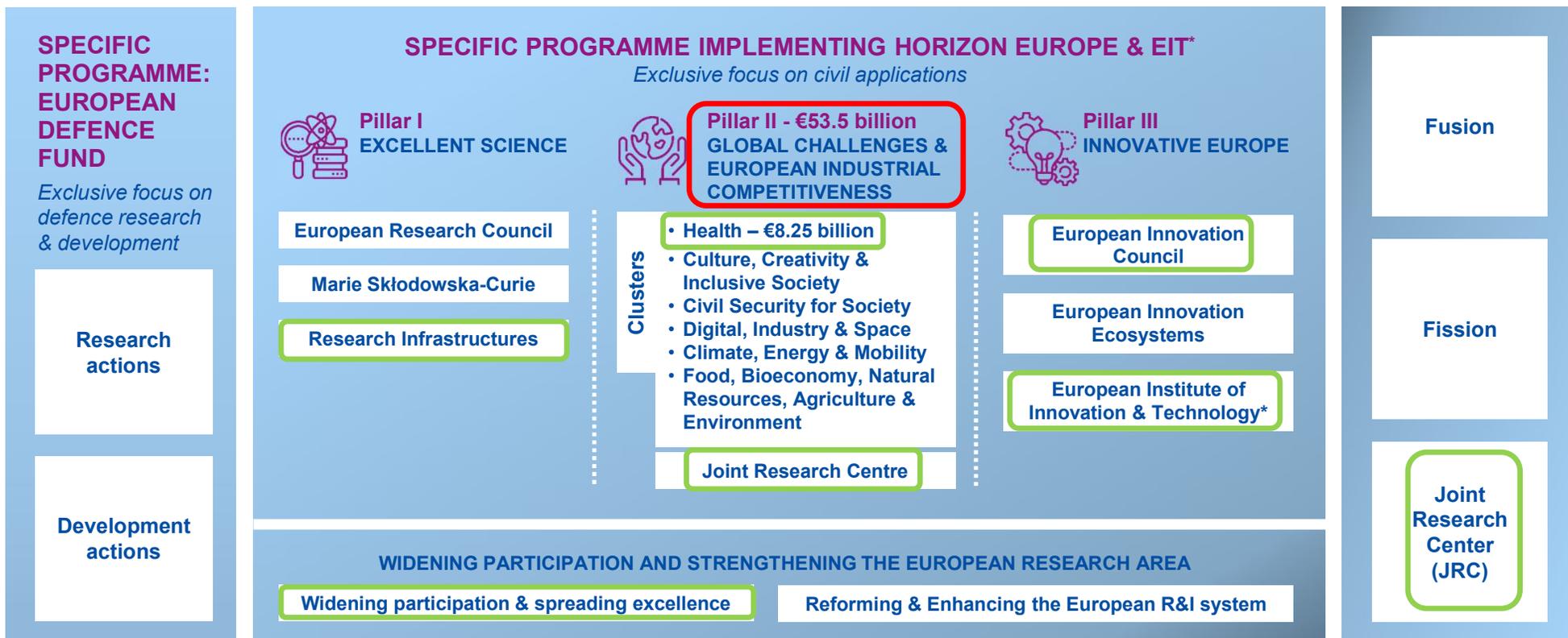


References

- **EU Mission on Cancer**
 - [Cancer Mission](#)
 - Horizon Europe rules apply (see information on participation of [UK](#), [CH](#), Associated and Third countries)
 - Please, read the implementation plan before you apply:
 - [Commission Communication](#) with [Implementation plan](#) (29 September 2021)
 - [Horizon Europe mission work programme 2023](#) (published on 6 December)
 - Mission calls for proposals and partner search tool are accessible via the [Funding & Tenders Portal](#)
 - First, contact your [national contact point](#), then contact RTD-SANTE-CANCER-MISSION@ec.europa.eu
- [Horizon Europe Health Partnerships and Innovative Health Initiative](#)
- [Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and EU4Health programme](#)
- [Digital Europe programme](#)
- [Euratom Research and Training Programme](#)
- [EIT-Health KIC](#)
- [Knowledge Centre on Cancer \(KCC\)](#)
- [HaDEA](#)

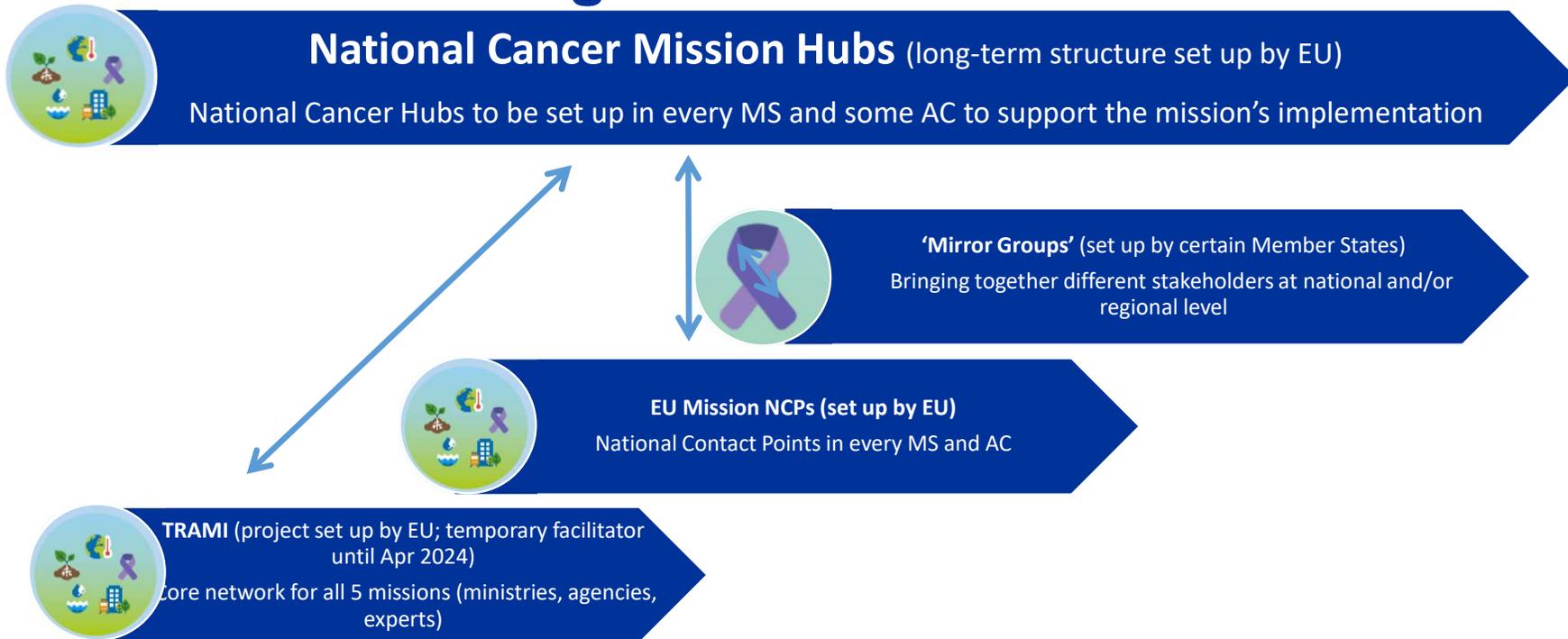
HORIZON EUROPE

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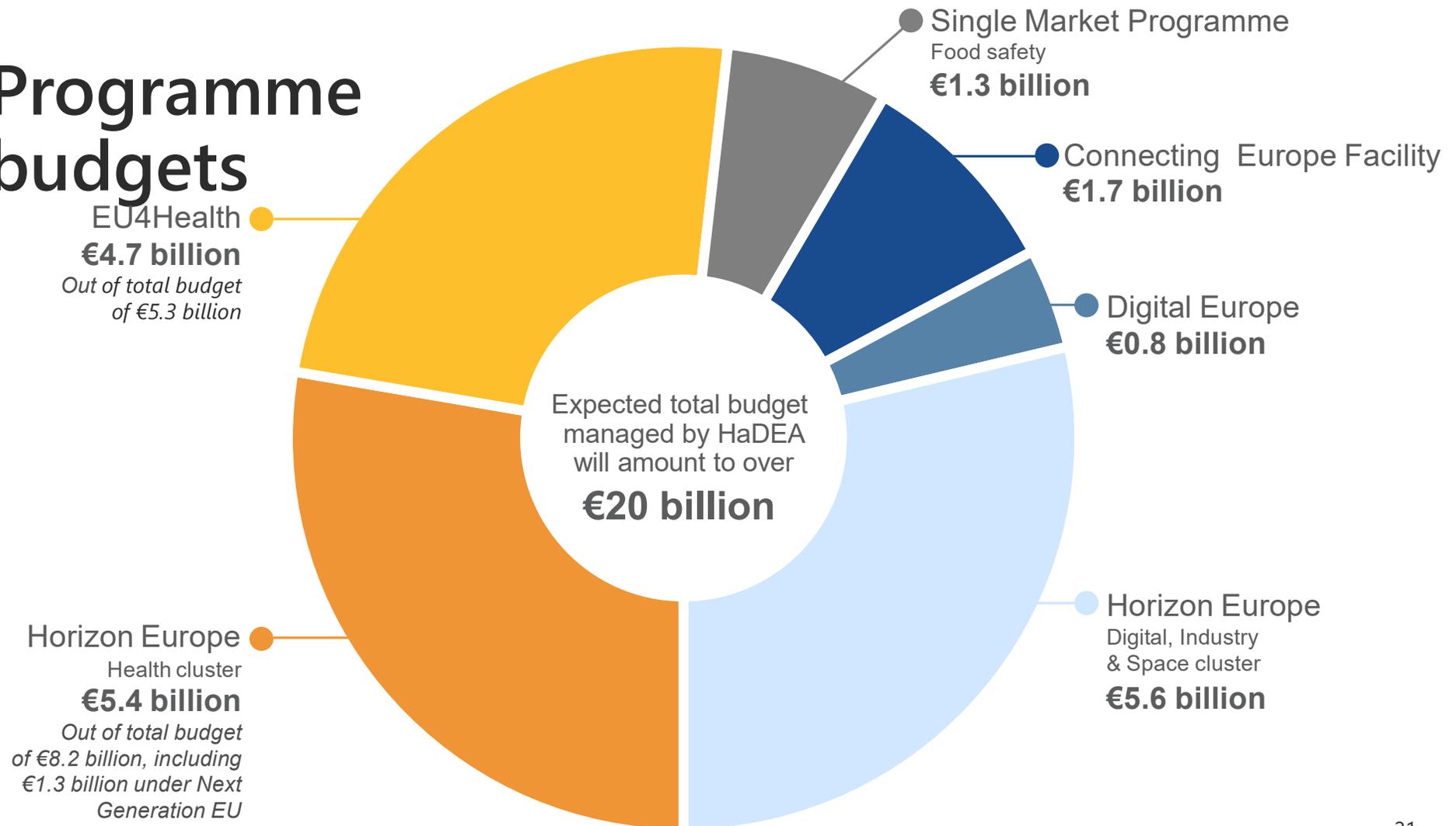


* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

Governance – linking EU and Member States initiatives



Programme budgets



Roles and responsibilities

European Commission

Defines policy

- Defines strategy, objectives and priority areas/work programmes
- Makes programme decisions
- Selects projects for (co-)funding
- Evaluates the programme implementation and the Agency's performance



HaDEA

Turns policy into action

- Manages the project lifecycle:
 - Organises calls for proposals and external evaluations
 - Monitors the implementation of projects
- Supports communication activities (Info Days, publications, etc.)
- Provides feedback to policy making