



**Deliverable 7.5/1.2.2.1**

**First Annual list of selected R&I funding topics**

**WP7**



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<sup>1</sup> PU = Public  
SEN = Sensitive

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## GLOSSARY / LIST OF ACRONYMS

AWP	Annual Work Plan
JTC	Joint Transnational Call
M€	Million Euros
R&I	Research and Innovation
SRIA	Strategic research and Innovation Agenda
WP	Workpackage

## 1. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

ERA4Health WP7 aims to identify future developments and forward look into scientific, technological and societal areas relevant for the partnership. Identified trends and topics will form the basis of the annual development and selection of call topics.

Under the task 7.2 “Annual development and selection of call topics”, the consortium will annually organise the call topic selection, based on the well previously defined procedure. The result is a description of themes or topics in a report, including their justification.

This deliverable identifies the set of potential topics to be funded under ERA4Health partnership Joint Transnational Call (JTC) #3 and #4. As of note, topics for JTC#1 and JTC#2 were identified in an early stage of development of the partnership (see BOX.1). The list of selected R&I funding topics, herein described, should inform Pillar 2A partners (formally dedicated to Joint funding activities) on the development of the annual call for proposal 2024.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

As the formal methodology to select potential topics for funding is being developed in parallel in task 7.1, this first list of selected topics reflects the discussions undertaken by the consortium while developing the first Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) and the ERA4Health proposal (See BOX. 1). Hence, this topic selection provides a natural extension to the first Call for Proposals by funding research areas identified as “priority” in both SRIA and in the first annual work plan (AWP).

**BOX.1 - Selection of the call topics for the JTC1 and JTC2 (launched in the end of 2022):**

The selection of JTC1 and JTC2 topics was performed according to the commitment of ERA4Health partners on a list of 6 topics arising from ERA4Health SRIA and suggested from EU initiatives in the basis of the ERA4Health partnership (JPI HDHL, ERA-CVD and EuroNanoMed). Two call topics from Prevention and Public Health and two call topics from Nutrition- and lifestyle-related-diseases were elaborated by the Scientific and Stakeholders Advisory Boards of the JPI HDHL. Three topics related to cardiovascular diseases emerged from a public consultation coordinated by ERA-CVD, afterwards merged into 2 topics by ERA4Health partners. And, finally, an additional JTC topic on nanomedicine was suggested by EuroNanoMed and validated during an assembly of ERA4Health partners (held on the 11th of February 2022).

Topics selected for 2023 JTCs are: for JTC#1 - *Identifying novel strategies and approaches to reduce health inequalities through promoting healthy diets and/or physical activity* and for JTC #2 - *Research targeting development of innovative therapeutic strategies in cardiovascular disease. These JTC topics were later refined during a workshop organized before the official start of ERA4Health. In this workshop participated several experts from countries participating to the JTC, society actors and funding organisations.*

*source: ERA4Health first Annual Work Plan (adapted from)*

As enshrined in the first annual work plan:

**Year 1:** *During the first year the [Joint Transnational] calls will include topics related to “Identifying novel strategies and approaches to reduce health inequalities through promoting healthy diets and/or physical activity” and “Innovative Therapies for Cardiovascular Diseases including Treatment of Chronic heart failure and atrial fibrillation”. The next year will be addressed to nano medical technologies and Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life (“Chronobiological mechanisms underlying obesity and metabolic diseases”). For the next years, in the AWP will be selected the topics in these areas to be included in the future calls. In addition to these topics, others may be identified during ERA4Health although they are not currently obvious. They will be determined primarily by the public health need. In any case, all the stakeholders (policymakers, researchers, R&I funders, etc.) will work together in the elaboration of the AWP, where the main priorities for ERA4Health will be selected.*

Taking into consideration that the two main areas of research for funding had already been pre-selected, i) “Nano and advanced technologies” and ii) “Nutrition- and lifestyle-related-diseases”, task 7.2 goal was to determine an indicative financial commitment from the funding organisations participating in ERA4Health, for 2024 call for proposals. The other goal was to

determine the priority between the pre-identified topics under 'Nutrition- and lifestyle- related-diseases' area, namely: Subtopic #1: Modulation of brain aging through improved lifestyle and Subtopic #2: Chronobiological mechanisms underlying obesity and metabolic diseases.

An online [survey](#) (Annex 1), open for 7 days, was distributed to all Funding Organisations in ERA4Health Consortium (table I) to collect their willingness to allocate funds to, at least, one of the research areas.

Table I – List of Funding Organisations

<b>Country</b>	<b>Funding Organisation</b>	<b>Acronym</b>
<b>Austria</b>	Federal Ministry Republic of Austria in Education, Science and Research	BMBWF
<b>Austria</b>	Austrian Science Fund	FWF
<b>Belgium</b>	Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique- FNRS	F.R.S.-FNRS
<b>Belgium</b>	Research Foundation - Flanders	FWO
<b>Denmark</b>	Innovationsfonden	IFD
<b>Egypt</b>	Academy of Scientific Research and Technology	ASRT
<b>France</b>	French National Research Agency	ANR
<b>Germany</b>	Deutsches Zentrum fuer Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.	DLR
<b>Greece</b>	General Secretariat of Research and Innovation	GSRI
<b>Hungary</b>	National Research, Development and Innovation Office	NKFIH
<b>Ireland</b>	Health Research Board	HRB
<b>Israel</b>	Chief Scientist Office, Ministry of Health	CSO-MOH
<b>Italy</b>	Italian Ministry of Health	IT-MoH
<b>Italy</b>	Ministry of Universities and Research	MUR
<b>Latvia</b>	Latvian Council of Science	LCS
<b>Lithuania</b>	RCL, Research Council of Lithuania	LMT
<b>Netherlands</b>	Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development	ZonMw
<b>Netherlands</b>	Nederlandse Organisatie Voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek	NWO
<b>Norway</b>	Research Council of Norway	RCN
<b>Poland</b>	National Centre for Research and Development	NCBR
<b>Portugal</b>	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia	FCT
<b>Romania</b>	Unitatea Executiva Pentru Finantarea Invatamantului Superior A Cercetarii Dezvoltarii Si Inovarii	UEFISCDI
<b>Slovakia</b>	Biomedical Research Center of The Slovak Academy Of Sciences	BMC-SAS
<b>Spain</b>	Instituto de Salud Carlos III	ISCIII
<b>Spain</b>	Agencia Estatal de Investigación	AEI
<b>Spain</b>	Fundación para el Fomento en Asturias de la Investigación Científica Aplicada y la Tecnología - Affiliated of CIUPA	FICYT
<b>Spain</b>	Consejería de Salud y Consumo, Junta de Andalucía	CSCJA

<b>Türkiye</b>	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	TUBITAK
<b>Taiwan</b>	National Science and Technology Council	NSTC

### 3. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY

After the 7-day period, 20 of the 29 funding organisations had answered the survey (Fig. 1A). The funding organisations could either provide a defined budget or a range of funds available for funding. For this, “fixed” amounts as well as the lower range amount were considered as *minimum funding*, indicating that any variation to available funds would result from alterations (reduction or increasing) to the maximum amount indicated in the top part of the range (Fig. 2 and Fig.3).

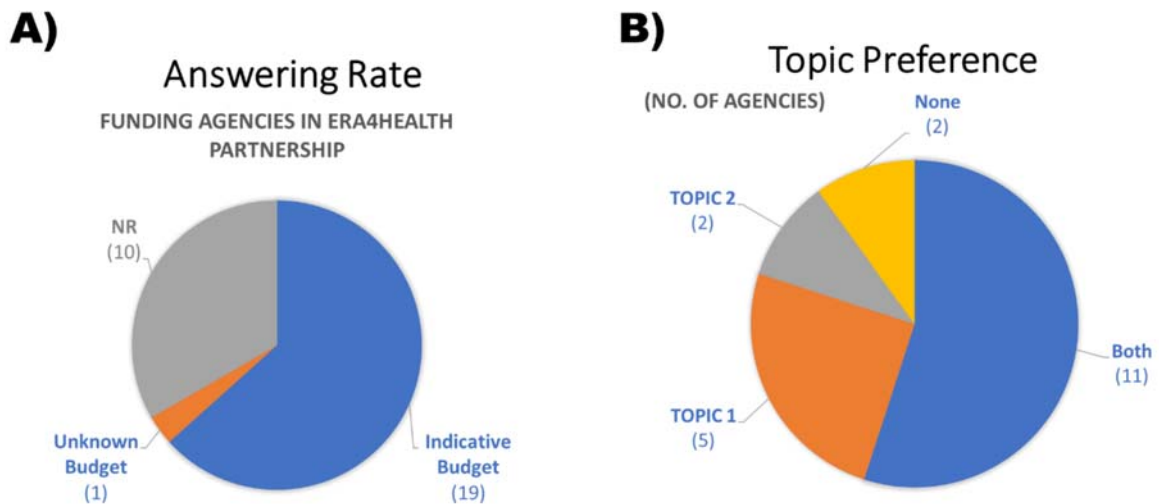


Fig. 1 – Characterization of responders’ universe and general topic preferences. A) Number of organisations that indicated interest and availability of national funds for upcoming Joint Transnational Calls and B) Preference of funding organisations to allocate available funds to both, only one or none of the indicated topics for upcoming Joint Transnational Calls.



## Indicative Budget for TOPIC #1 'Nutrition- and lifestyle- related-diseases'

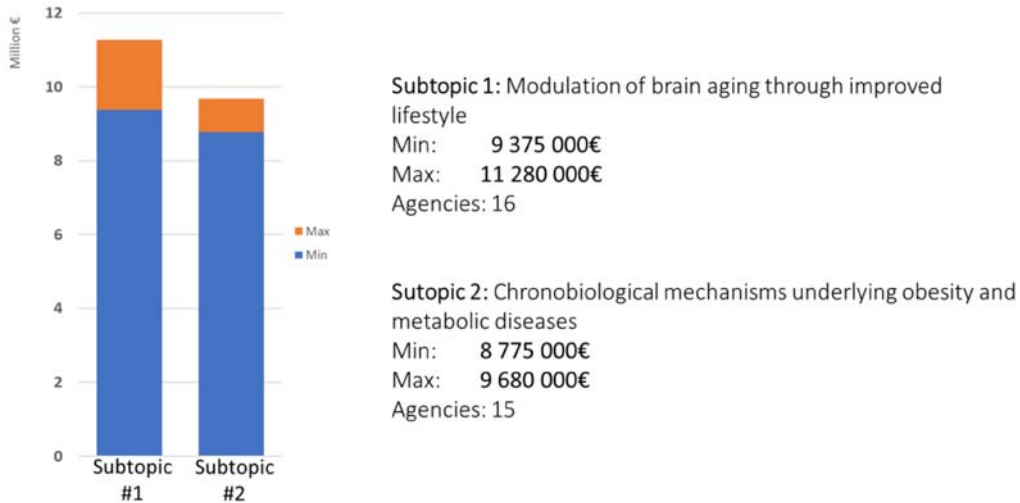


Fig. 2 – Audition of putative funds for the upcoming Joint Transnational Call in 'Nutrition- and lifestyle- related-diseases, specifically to subtopic 1 - Modulation of brain aging through improved lifestyle or subtopic 2 - Chronobiological mechanisms underlying obesity and metabolic diseases

## Indicative Budget for TOPIC #2 'Nanomedicine'

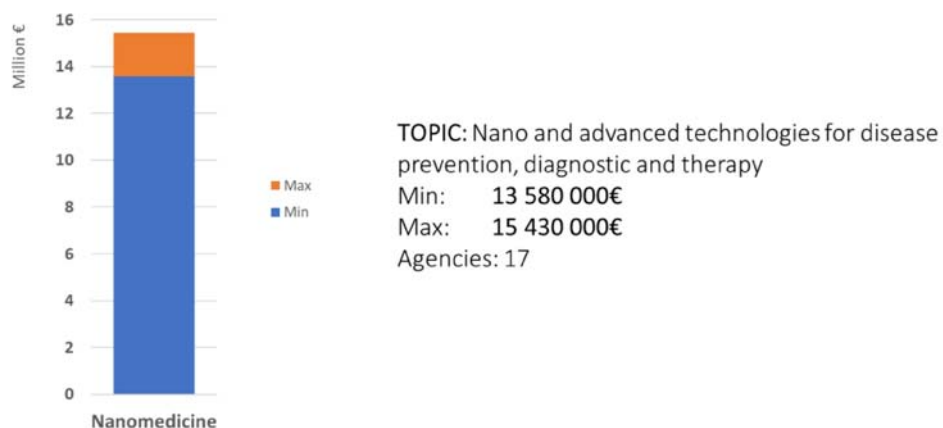


Fig. 3 – Audition of putative funds for the upcoming Joint Transnational Call in Nanomedicine

#### 4. CONCLUSION

From the data presented above it is possible to conclude that under topic 1 'Nutrition- and lifestyle-related diseases, subtopic #1 ***Modulation of brain aging through improved lifestyle*** is the preferred one for funding in this specific research area. This is supported by 16 organisations with a total of 9.4 M€ to 11.3 M€ in contrast with subtopic #2 *Chronobiological mechanisms underlying obesity and metabolic diseases* which was supported by 15 organisations (one less) with an estimated budget of 8.78 M€ to 9.68 M€.

The research area of Nanomedicine was supported by 17 organisations with a total indicative budget of 13.5M€ to 15.4 M€.

These results were communicated to WP7 partners, Pillar 2A leader and Coordination of the partnership which proceeded with its presentation at the Executive Board meeting and preparation of the Call for Proposals 2024.

## 5. ANNEX 1: PRINT SCREEN OF THE SURVEY

URL: <https://forms.office.com/e/BKhDSNEY5i>

# ERA4HEALTH Topic Selection 2024

\* Obrigatório

1. Please identify your organization \*

2. Please identify yourself \*

3. Please indicate your email address \*

4. Which of these two topics - under 'Nutrition- and lifestyle- related-diseases' area - you consider of higher priority for funding \*

- TOPIC 1: Modulation of brain aging through improved lifestyle
- TOPIC 2: Chronobiological mechanisms underlying obesity and metabolic diseases
- Equally important
- Neither Topics

5. Please fill-in an INDICATIVE budget available in your organization to fund the selected topic in Nutrition- and lifestyle-related-diseases area \*

Introduza a sua resposta

6. In the hypothetical case in which your preferred topic is not included in the next call for proposals, will you fund your second option? \*

- No
- Yes, same indicative budget
- Yes, different budget

7. Please indicate how much budget are you willing to put forward, for the second topic of your choice \*

Introduza a sua resposta

8. Please indicate if your organization is willing to contribute for the topic in NANOMEDICINE - Nano and advanced technologies for disease prevention, diagnostic and therapy \*

YES

NO

9. Please fill-in an INDICATIVE budget available in your organization to fund atopic in NANOMEDICINE - Nano and advanced technologies for disease prevention, diagnostic and therapy \*

Introduza a sua resposta