



European Programme
of Work 2026-2030
#UnitedActionForBetterHealth



World Health
Organization

European Region



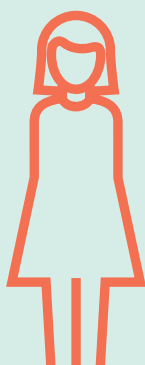
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Developing the second European Programme of Work, 2026–2030 (EPW2)



Why?

We are living in an era of remarkable progress in health, with improved living conditions, medical advancements and public health initiatives. But while we are living longer, we are not necessarily living in better health. Many of us are struggling with chronic diseases, disability and lack of access to adequate care.



79.3
years

12.6 years
in poor health



73.3
years

8.7 years
in poor health



Average life expectancy in the WHO European Region

Source: European Health Report 2024

We know that good health builds community resilience, societal stability and economic prosperity. Yet sweeping changes – population ageing, a shrinking health workforce, the climate crisis, greater inequality, a digital revolution – are fraying the very fabric of our societies.

With your help, we're developing a shared plan to navigate these changes, putting health and well-being first.



What?



The EPW2 is a guiding framework for the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the Member States of the WHO European Region to advance health for the almost 1 billion people living here. It builds on the solid progress of the first EPW (2020–2025) with a new five-year regional mandate.



The EPW2 serves two purposes:

1. It provides a strategic vision and compass for countries and partners to navigate the forces already reshaping the health landscape over the long term.
2. It sets out a five-year plan of action for the Regional Office to advance progress on health.

Drawing on WHO's global mandate to promote, provide and protect the health and well-being of all people, everywhere, the EPW2 will tailor WHO's global health strategy to the regional context and accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

To complement the EPW2, a "futures paper" offering a longer-term vision for collective health and well-being is also in development.

How?



Online public hearings, country consultations and meetings with partners are gathering insights and ideas to develop the EPW2. Additionally, a comprehensive review of the first EPW's performance, existing Member State-backed resolutions on health, and country-specific and subregional strategies will provide further understanding.

Member States are co-creating the plan and shaping its priorities and targets, and will co-deliver its actions.

Who?



Every Member State has nominated an EPW2 focal point to lead country-level engagement jointly with WHO country offices, and a formal advisory process is underway through WHO's governing bodies.

Young people, civil society representatives, academic institutions, professional organizations, United Nations agencies and other international partners are actively involved. WHO personnel at all levels are contributing through town halls and team meetings.

When?



The process of developing the EPW2 began in November 2024. Through a phased approach – from inception through inquiry, alignment, operationalization and finalization – WHO is gathering contributions, aligning plans with national and global priorities, and seeking regular feedback.

A final draft of the EPW2 document will be put to Member States for their endorsement at the 75th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe on 28–30 October 2025.

Inception



November to
December 2024

Inquiry



January to
March 2025

Alignment



March
2025

Operationalization



April to May
2025

Finalization



June to
September 2025

Endorsement



October
2025



Find out more

WHO/Europe's EPW2 website

Contact

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