EU FUNDS AT THE SERVICE OF HEALTH-CARE INVESTMENTS IN HUNGARY

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1.5 billion EUR dedicated explicitly to health care. Infrastructure figured out 90%, Hungary being top spender of Structural Funds on health care:
The basic policy aim was to push the system towards lower levels of progressivity, while decreasing inequalities in the access to health-care services. The main fields of investment were:

- Primary, outpatient, and inpatient care
- Health-care ICT
- Awareness-raising interventions
- Training, scholarship, employment (health-care staff)
- Coordination of emergency services
- Public health programme communication
- Early childhood programme
- Improving facility management

100% of the allocation has been committed, payments on 62.5%.
Evaluation experiences

• **Targeting**: well done

• **(Out)patient paths**: not automatic

• **Sustainability**: holistic approach needed

• **Physical accessibility**: public transport harmonisation issues

• **Training, employment**: system-level problem

• **Facility management**: bottom-up approach needed

• **Awareness-raising interventions**: coordination needed
Behold, there come seven years of great plenty; and there shall arise after them seven years of famine (Gen 41:29-30)

1. Health-care development is not eligible ‘by right’ any more – investments should be linked to one of the 11 thematic objectives of the EU-2020 Strategy

2. ERDF projects (that are the more costly ones) shall be financed only as complementary to ESF actions (though the ratio between these has not been established by the EC)

H1. In 2014-2020, Hungary receives 15% less money than in 2007-2013

H2. Within this, the majority of funds have been allocated to economic development, the health sector getting only fragments of the 2007-2013 allocation

Σ: Health-care development resources in Cohesion Policy seem to narrow
1. Sustainable health systems, e.g.
   - Energy and cost efficiency
   - E-Health
   - Institutional/organisational development

2. Shift from hospital-based to community-based care
   (de-institutionalisation – synergies with the social care sector)
   - *By target groups:* Children without parental care, People with disabilities and/or mental disorders, Elderly and long-term care, Rehabilitation
   - *By service groups:* Strengthening ambulatory services, primary care coverage, and coordination between levels and actors of health care
3. Reducing health-care inequalities by enhancing access to affordable, sustainable and high-quality services:

- Organisation (e.g. opening hours, quotas)
- Territorial access (availability of services, medicines, tele-access)
- Physical access (e.g. disabled, transport)
- Training of health care staff
- Special focus on maternal and infant care + disadvantaged/vulnerable groups

4. Investing in prevention

- Targeted awareness-raising and public health programmes
- Financing better living and housing conditions
- Ensuring physical activity possibilities
- Special focus on consumption habits + disadvantaged/vulnerable groups
Where to place health-care in the EU-2020?

(TO1) Research, technological development and innovation

(TO2) Information and communication technologies

(TO3) Competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises

(TO4) Shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors

(TO5) Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management

(TO6) Environment protection and resource efficiency

(TO7) Sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures

(TO8) Employment and supporting labour mobility

(TO9) Social inclusion and combating poverty

(TO10) Education, skills and lifelong learning

(TO11) Institutional capacity and efficient public administration
**What else we can do?**

1. **Good news: Medical equipment from ESF**

2. **Focus on related fields**
   - Energy efficiency in buildings
   - Social care sector (already mentioned)
   - Direct grants and loans to health-care-related private-sector investments
   - R&D&I resources for universities, research institutions, and private innovators

3. **Alternative European resources**
   - Health for Growth
   - Horizon 2020
   - Norwegian Fund
   - Swiss Contribution
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION!