

... **Joint Programming Initiative**
'A healthy diet for a healthy life' ...



Joint Programming Initiative 'A healthy diet for a healthy life'

The aim of the Joint Programming Initiative 'A healthy diet for a healthy life' (JPI HDHL) is to better understand the factors that determine food choices and physical activity behaviours, and thus human health, to subsequently translate this knowledge into programmes, products, tools and services that promote healthy food choices. JPI HDHL, is one of the Joint Programming Initiatives that represent a voluntary partnership between Member States and Associated Countries of the European Union. They aim to bring major benefits to address major societal challenges. JPI HDHL will contribute significantly to the construction of a fully operational European Research Area (ERA) on the prevention of lifestyle- and diet-related diseases by aligning national research policies and programmes; by enhancing networking and communication amongst the stakeholders in the field of food, nutrition and health and by launching joint calls involving countries members of the JPI HDHL.

Collaboration

The JPI HDHL aims to strengthen leadership and competitiveness of the food industry by effectively integrating research in food, nutritional, social and health sciences, and to increase knowledge and deliver innovative concepts and products. Twenty five countries are involved with the JPI HDHL among which 23 European Member States and associated countries, as well as Canada and New Zealand who joined this European level initiative as the first transatlantic partners.

Next phase in joint programming: the Implementation Plan

On the 28th of March 2014, at the JPI HDHL 2nd Conference, its Implementation Plan was officially launched and handed over to Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, the European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science. This marks the start of the implementation phase of joint programming in the area of Nutrition and Health. The Conference also provided an update on the progress of JPI HDHL since the 1st Conference in 2012.

Implementation

To deliver on the vision and strategy and to achieve the goal of the JPI HDHL, a structured Implementation Plan is required. The plan consists of three research areas:

- Determinants of diet and physical activity (DEDIPAC KH)
- Diet and food production (BioNH)
- Diet related chronic diseases (ENPADASI)

The overall objective of the 'Determinants of Diet and Physical Activity Knowledge Hub' (DEDIPAC KH) is to analyse how consumer decision making in the context of diet, physical activity and health is influenced by individual, socio-economic, and environmental factors. Moreover interdisciplinary approaches and integration of biological and social sciences are promoted.

Diet and food production research area aims at developing healthy, high-quality, safe and sustainable foods. A key step in the implementation of the JPI HDHL SRA in the strategic area of Diet and food production is the development of a European Research network on Biomarkers in Nutrition and Health (BioNH). The main objective of the BioNH call is to support interdisciplinary research and innovative approaches for the validation of Biomarkers and the investigation of intake/exposure and nutritional status of biomarkers within Nutrition and Health.

The diet-related chronic diseases research area focuses on preventing disease and increasing the quality of life by delivering a healthier diet. Nutrient-gene interaction is important to understand the role of genes, nutrients and phenotypes in the initiation, development and progression of risk factors for diet-related chronic diseases. The joint action in this area is to conduct a European Nutritional Phenotype Assessment Data Sharing Initiative (ENPADASI).

More information:

Joint Programming Initiative 'A healthy diet for a healthy life'
The implementation plan
The Strategic Research Agenda



Source: European Food Information Council