

# TERMS OF REFERENCES OF THE HEALTH & CARE CLUSTER

version 21/03/2023 (resulting from the Lisbon meeting)

## Objective of the Health and Care Cluster

---

- To support EU-funded projects in:
  - developing synergies to improve their efficacy and efficiency,
  - concentrating their efforts on their specific areas of interest, and
  - benefiting from other's experiences and achievements.

## Mission of the cluster: to act as a synergistic platform

---

The mission of the Health & Care cluster has five components that enable it to become a "synergistic platform":

1. To stimulate **continuous knowledge transfer** and capitalisation between these projects, with a focus on topics which:
  - Contribute to making their results and outcomes exploitable in real life;
  - Are related to European health data initiatives, infrastructures, and the proposal for a Regulation on the European Health Data Space (EHDS);
  - Contribute to the goals of the Digital Agenda of the EU, and to stimulating a sound societal impact in the Member States;
  - Support European policy makers and governmental institutions in making informed policy decisions and implementation.
2. To stimulate and provide collaborative **cross-dissemination of resources** between project consortium members and **common dissemination and exploitation** of key outcomes, as appropriate.
  - Encourage joint publications (i.e., in scientific, academic, industrial fields) of relevant results developed by the EU-funded projects;
  - Support the development of health literacy and digital skills on health and care.
3. To promote the **actual use** of reference resources of interest to EU-funded projects (i.e., documents, templates, guidelines, tools, repositories, digital assets):
  - Resources would relate to topics that the projects may have in common with each other, such as technical architecture, re-usable building blocks, use cases formulation and consolidation, legal and regulatory compliance, outcomes, and impact evaluation.
4. To support those pilot sites which are **working to sustain their piloted service(s)**, beyond the end of the EU-funded projects, through:
  - Exchange of sustainability experience(s);
  - Dissemination activities;
  - Development of synergies with other projects and initiatives;
  - Support for direct interaction with businesses, citizens and society at large.
5. To provide current and future members of the cluster with **guidance on strategic topics** through:
  - A selection of "best of breed" public deliverables and other working papers developed by members of the cluster,
  - Short reports, slide decks, or video webinars addressing operational issues such as:
    - Preparing projects that comply with the European Medical Devices Regulation and the future AI act, among others;
    - Organising open calls that have impact in specific projects;
    - Publishing a good practice guide for obtaining user consent for personal health information.

## Joining the cluster

---

### Eligibility criteria

The criteria for EU-funded projects joining the cluster cover:

- Any projects addressing digital health solutions and/or services that are close to being:
  - Mature enough – from a technological, organisational, people literacy or business model perspective – to be used in real life;
  - Integrated in an operational environment;
  - With technology platform open to third party extensions.
- Any project with a specific – although not exclusive – focus on digital health and care for Active and Healthy Living, digital health and care for the health workforce, and digital skills for health and care.

### Incorporation process

- Invitations to projects to join the cluster are launched by the Commission services (e.g. the Project Officer in charge of following the types of projects covered by the relevant cluster eligibility criteria);
- Other EU-funded projects can also apply voluntarily to join the cluster;
- The compliance with cluster eligibility criteria will be subject to a self-declaration by the project;
- When a project joins the cluster, it will describe:
  - The use cases it works on using the reference template developed by the cluster as reference point,
  - The personas it works with, using the generic catalogue of personas of the cluster as a reference point [to be developed],
  - The strategy it will use for establishing or using sustained pilot sites and services;
- The project will further appoint a liaison officer in charge of identifying relevant resources of any kind to share through the cluster.

## Operations of the cluster

---

- Co-chairs and coordinator group: The cluster is strategically driven by the project coordinators of projects that are members of the cluster (known as the “coordinator group”). This group will be co-chaired by an EHTEL representative, together with a project coordinator who will be appointed by the group by consensus for a period of one year, renewable;
  - In-person meetings of this strategic group will be held twice a year and hosted by projects on a voluntary basis;
- Work programme: The work programme of the cluster (i.e., its working groups and their leaders) will be defined and evaluated on a 24-month basis by the project coordinators who are members of the cluster;
- Knowledge base: The outcomes of the past collaborations undertaken by the cluster, will be made available to others, thanks to project liaison officers;
- Communication
  - The communication infrastructure (i.e., SharePoint, Teams channel, website) will be provided by EHTEL;
  - Members of the cluster will have access to the Futurium channel on “[Active and Healthy Ageing in a Digital World](#)”, and its related social networks, in order to reach a large base of pre-existing followers.

## Sustainability of the cluster

---

- EHTEL has secured minimal resources for a transition period that will sustain the cluster through the two-year period, 2023 and 2024;
- The coordinator group will seek for resources for the following period;
- EHTEL is operating the cluster as a department: the cluster’s has its own branding and own Profit & Loss account.