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# Horizon 2020 Work Programme for Research & Innovation 2018-2020

## Implementation science and scale up of interventions

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Research and  
Innovation

**'Knowledge without practice is useless.  
Practice without knowledge is dangerous'.**

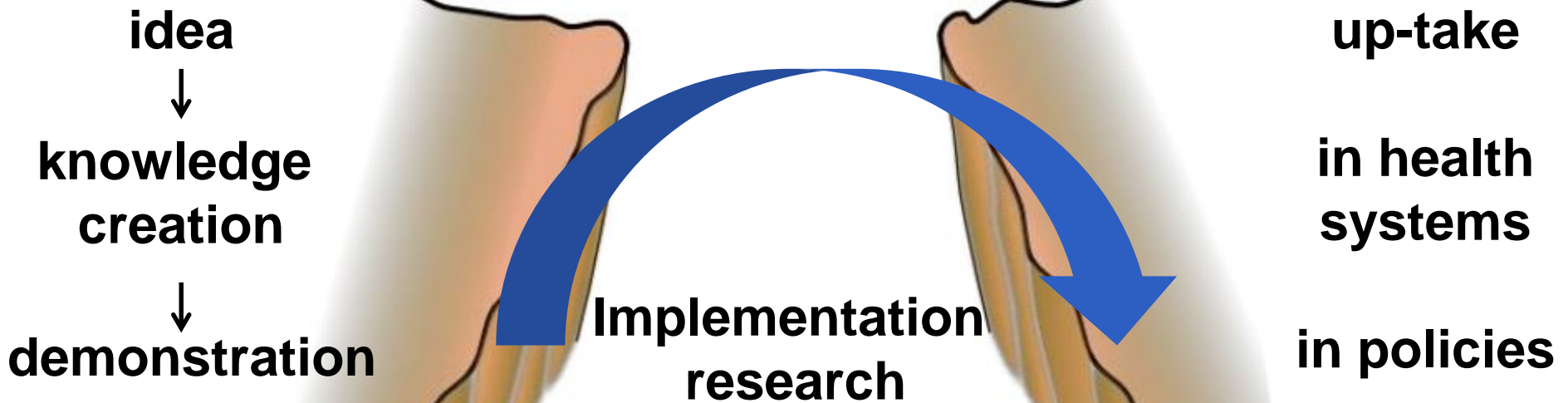
*Confucius*

For a policy maker...

**What good is  
knowledge  
without action?**

**research is not  
complete until it  
is used ...**

# The science-practice gap



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EU funded research



In Europe and worldwide



European Commission

Implementation research specifically takes into account the **context** and **real-life conditions** and **engages concerned population groups**, leading to more successful implementation and scale-up of public health interventions.



# Relevant topic

**SC1-BHC-19-2019: Implementation research for  
maternal and child health (up to 1000 days)**

**€ 35 M**

**Scope:**

- **new or improved health service delivery interventions** that strengthen maternal and child health *and/or*
- the **scaling up and/or adapting of existing** evidence-based interventions to **new contexts**

**No pre-clinical research nor clinical trials in the context of product development**

**In HIC or LMIC or a combination**

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/node/1602>

## SC1-BHC-19-2019: Implementation research for maternal and child health (up to 1000 days)

### Expected impact:

- Research-supported **solutions** to maternal and child health challenges.
- evidence of successful and/or innovative **approaches for bridging the "knowledge-do" gap**
- Better understanding of **scaling-up processes**
- Contribution to the achievement of **SDGs** (2, 3, 5 & 10)

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/node/1602>

## **SC1-BHC-16-2018: Scaling-up of evidence-based health interventions at population level for the prevention and management of hypertension and/or diabetes**

**€ 20 M**

<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/node/1602>  
<http://www.gacd.org/>

- Focus on low and middle income countries or in vulnerable populations in high income countries
- Generate expertise in implementation research & scaling up interventions in NCDs





# 14 GACD Members



Argentina's  
Ministry of Science,  
Technology  
and Productive  
Innovation  
(MINCYT)



Australia's  
National Health  
and Medical  
Research Council  
(NHMRC)



Brazil's São  
Paulo Research  
Foundation  
(FAPESP)



Canadian  
Institutes  
of Health  
Research  
(CIHR)



Chinese  
Academy  
of Medical  
Sciences  
(CAMS)



European  
Commission's  
Health Directorate  
of the Research  
& Innovation  
Directorate General



Indian Council  
of Medical  
Research  
(ICMR)



Japan Agency  
for Medical  
Research and  
Development  
(AMED)



Mexico's  
National  
Institute of  
Medical  
Science &  
Nutrition  
Salvador  
Zubirán



South African  
Medical  
Research  
Council  
(SA MRC)



Thailand's  
Health Systems  
Research  
Institute (HSRI)



UK's Medical  
Research  
Council  
(UK MRC)



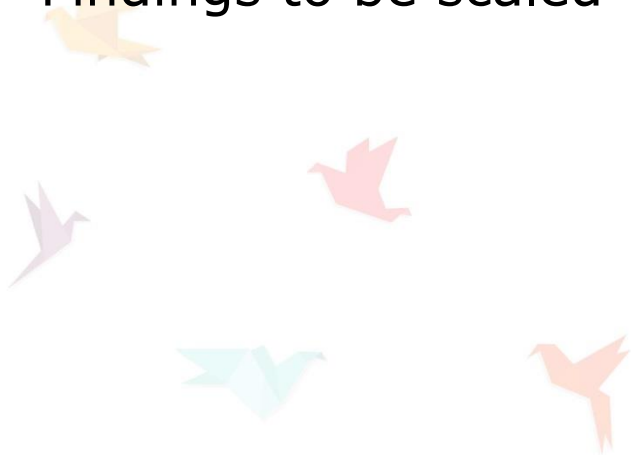
US National  
Institutes of  
Health (NIH)



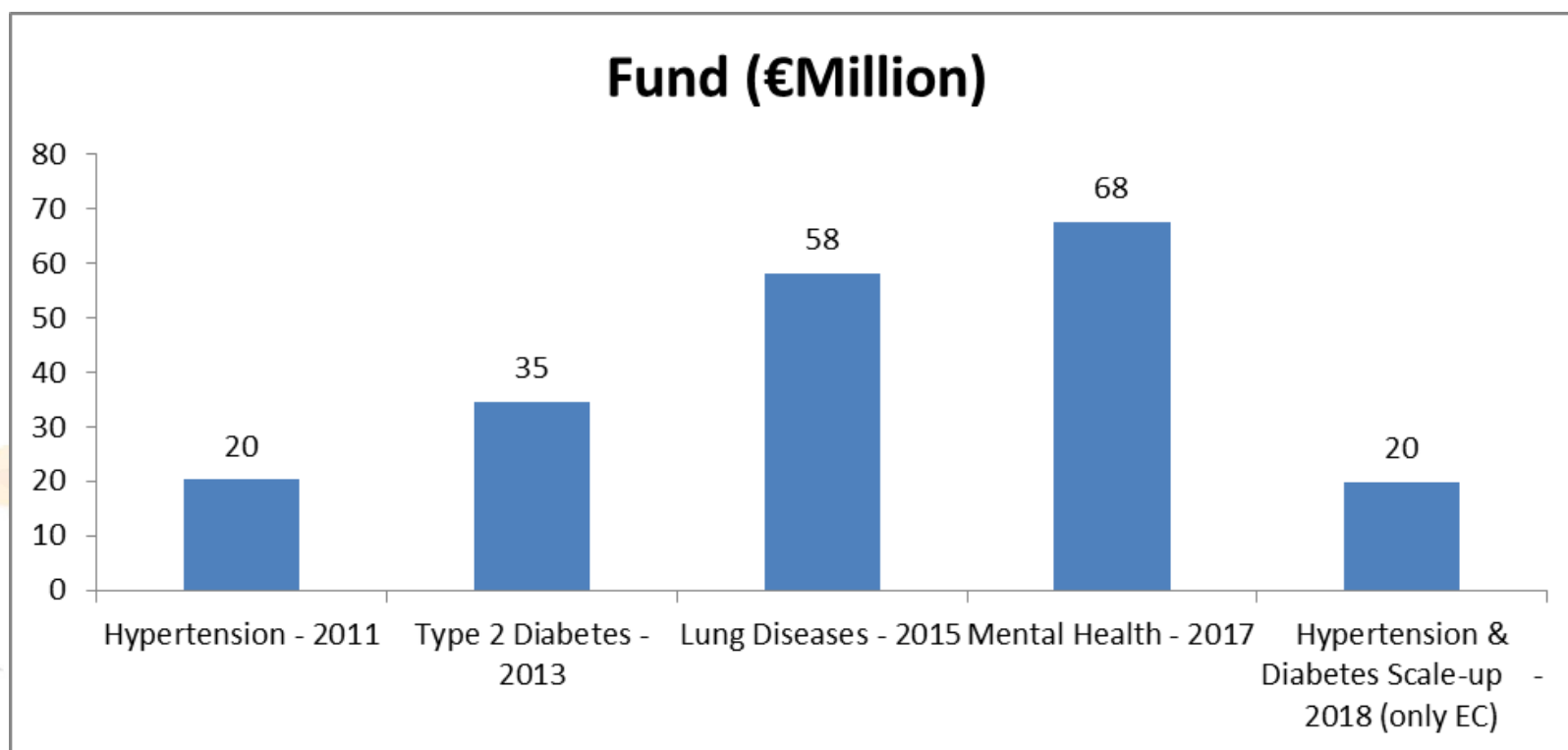
European  
Commission

## **A global community of researchers in NCDs**

- Who work towards understanding how socio-economic, cultural, geopolitical and policy contexts have influenced results
- Cumulative learning across the individual projects
- Findings to be scaled-up and applied in different settings



# GACD funding on Implementation Research (€ 200 Million so far)



## Topic

**Scaling-up of evidence-based health interventions at population level for the prevention and management of hypertension and/or diabetes**

## General Scope

- **Proposals addressing comorbidities with either hypertension or diabetes, including between them, are encouraged.**
- **Implementation research**
- **Low or middle Income Countries or vulnerable populations in High Income countries**

## Scope

- Proposals **must align with commitments or planned commitments at a regional or country level** to implement evidence-based interventions.
- **Policymakers, intervention payers** (excluding research funding agencies), **researchers** (including local researchers), **implementers and beneficiaries** should **be involved at all stages of the intervention development and implementation design** to identify the challenges to intervention delivery in real settings.
- **Such partners will be integral to the success and sustainability of the programme** and it is essential that they are engaged early, and participate actively in the design of the research proposal. Researchers should collaborate closely with the authorities responsible for the programme's delivery.
- Those authorities **must pay for and provide the interventions**, possibly through **loans contracted from development banks or other financial providers**.

## Scope

- **Identify, develop, test, evaluate and/or refine strategies** to scale-up evidence-based practices into public health, clinical practice, and community settings.
- Identify, understand, and develop strategies **for overcoming barriers to the adoption, adaptation, integration, scale-up** and sustainability of evidence-based interventions, tools, policies, and guidelines.
- They should address **a range of scale-up challenges**, including complex processes, inefficient use of resources, inequitable allocation of resources, and supply and demand barriers to scaling-up and sustainability.
- Use **scale-up methods, tools, and approaches to enhancing** equity, efficiency, people-centred, and responsive health systems, promoting a culture of evidence-informed learning, engaging stakeholders, and improving decisions on policies and programmes to achieve better health outcomes.
- Identify, understand, and develop strategies **for measuring the unintended consequences of intervening** at a system level.

## Scope

The proposal **will cover the research around the scaling up of the interventions**. The research may cover:

- **Identification** of the best evidence-based interventions;
- Definition and implementation of **optimum scale-up methods** (e.g. pilots in multiple settings, defining a scalable unit);
- **Embed real time monitoring/evaluation** to refine protocols and ensure adaptability and effective uptake;
- **Evaluation of health outcomes**;
- Where appropriate, **make recommendations for the replication of the applied scale-up interventions** to other countries or very large regions.
- Include **health economic assessments** as an integral part of the proposed research

## Expected Impacts (one of or combinations of)

- Enhanced **programmes and policies that can significantly reduce the numbers of patients with hypertension and/or diabetes** through prevention.
- Enhanced programmes and policies that can significantly **increase the number of patients** for whom hypertension and/or diabetes **was previously undetected**.
- Enhanced programmes and policies that can significantly **increase the number of patients** for whom hypertension and/or diabetes **is controlled**.
- Enhanced **effective, efficient, equitable and sustainable health systems, to lesser inequalities and greater health equity and additional societal benefits**, in the medium and long-term.
- Improved health services **more responsive to the need of the comorbidities** of hypertension and diabetes and other non-communicable diseases.
- **Recommendations to translate findings to other countries** or very large regions.
- Contribute to the attainment of **the SGGs for NCDs**



# Thank you!

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**#EUHealthResearch**

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/health>

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>