European Commission

Management Plan 2025

Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety

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PART 1. Introduction and strategic outlook

Mission statement and operating context

The Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) strives to protect human, animal and plant health, promote a high level of food and animal feed safety, address societal concerns like animal welfare, and enable the health and food sectors to achieve their full economic potential. The **One Health** approach, linking the health of humans, animals, plants, and the wider environment underpins DG SANTE action to prevent, prepare for and respond to threats at EU level and beyond. Our mission supports the Commission's priorities in two of the EU's most important economic sectors – health and food. It contributes to four of the general objectives in President von der Leyen's Political Guidelines:

- **a new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness**,
- **a new era for European defence and security**,
- **supporting people and strengthening our societies and our social models** and
- **sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature**.

In **public health**, we help EU countries to manage and prepare for crises, improve public health and access to healthcare, and strengthen their health systems, in line with Treaty on the functioning of the EU (TFEU). For **medicinal products**, we contribute to building an effective internal market and high standards for safe, high quality and effective medicines and support innovation in the sector. We also develop expertise on **health systems** and contribute to preventing and reducing the impact of ill-health on individuals and economies, ensuring more efficient public expenditure and boosting prosperity and social cohesion. We support **innovation and the uptake of modern health technologies** to deliver better care and cost-effectiveness and reinforce the sector's global competitiveness. We promote **patients' rights in cross-border healthcare** and better health, including tobacco control and vaccination. DG SANTE will continue to work closely with international partners such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and in the context of the G7 and G20 to address global health threats such as zoonoses and antimicrobial resistance.

In **food and feed safety**, we ensure that well-developed EU rules are correctly applied and work to modernise and simplify them in line with Better Regulation principles. We strive to uphold world-class standards for **animal welfare**, **animal and plant health**, **safe and trustworthy products**, and an **efficient internal market**, enabling trust by consumers

and businesses. We base our work on **scientific assessments and international standards**. We play a leading role in preventing and managing the **EU's response to food safety crises** and **threats to human, animal and plant health**. We address **challenges linked to food safety** – global ones like antimicrobial resistance, but also others like those arising from e-commerce and food fraud – and foster innovative tools that help increase the sustainability and resilience of our food system. We also promote the **EU Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) system**, working with non-EU partner countries, international organisations and other stakeholders, to help maintain the EU's competitive position and raise global standards in International Standard Setting Bodies.

DG SANTE's activities are directly shaped by the **TFEU** and principally linked to Articles 168 (public health), 43 (agricultural policy), 114 (internal market), 207 (trade in goods) and 13 (animal welfare). Article 168 stipulates that a high level of **human health** protection is ensured in all Union policies and activities. EU action supports disease prevention and health promotion, and cooperation between Member State health systems. EU rules also cover cross-border health and cooperation on digital health, rare diseases and health technology assessment, medicinal products and medical devices, tobacco control and substances of human origin (such as blood, tissues and cells). In **food safety**, the EU designs, implements and enforces a common policy and set of rules that apply across all Member States and to imports, which also impacts our trade partners. As outlined in the **Vision for Agriculture and Food**, the Commission will pursue, in line with international rules, the stronger alignment of production standards applied to imported products, notably on pesticides and animal welfare.

The EU plays an important supporting role for protecting human health and food safety, providing guidance, **training (Better Training for Safer Foods)** and tools to promote cooperation and help national systems operate more effectively. It helps EU countries tackle key challenges such as antimicrobial resistance and health system reforms; it ensures safe, effective and high-quality medicines and food safety, and helps prepare for and manage health threats, crises and disease outbreaks. We also contribute to the EU's progress towards the global Sustainable Development Goals.

DG SANTE works closely with the **European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA),** which implements the EU4Health Programme and a number of actions under the Single Market Programme - Food Safety. We are also a partner DG to five **decentralised EU agencies**: the **European Medicines Agency (EMA)**, the **European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)**, the **European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)**, the **Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO)** and the **European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)**. DG SANTE is also committed to consultations with citizens and stakeholders on health and food safety as part of the Commission's Better Regulation Agenda, which helps ensure that our work is transparent, accountable, and effective.

In line with the Commission's broader simplification agenda, DG SANTE ensures that significant resources go into effective and efficient **implementation and enforcement of**

our legislation. This involves a large number of decisions, notably **market authorisations for food and medicinal products**. We also carry out over 250 **audits and other Commission controls** per year in Member States and third countries exporting to the EU. These Commission controls evaluate whether EU rules on food safety and some human health areas (clinical trials and active pharmaceutical ingredients in third countries) are properly implemented and enforced. DG SANTE's Better Regulation activities aim to ensure the legislative framework remains fit-for-purpose in an ever-changing environment, is based on the best available evidence and achieves its objectives with limited burden for businesses and people. DG SANTE continues to adopt a strategic approach to resolving **pending infringements and complaints** and thoroughly assesses national draft laws notified by the Member States under the Single Market Transparency Directive to ensure the correct implementation of EU rules.

Strategic outlook 2025 - 2029

Europe's public health and food sectors play an important role in **promoting the sustainable prosperity and competitiveness** of the EU economy, while **supporting people, strengthening our societies and social models and sustaining our quality of life.**

In the area of **public health,** the **European Health Union** aims to strengthen coordination and solidarity in a context of health threats and challenges. These include an ageing population and an associated increase in chronic diseases, shortages of medicines and medical devices, growing budgetary pressures on health systems, the health-related impact

of climate change, antimicrobial resistance, and chemical /biological /radiological /nuclear and bioterrorism threats.

DG SANTE will contribute to **General objective 1: A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness** by **improving the competitiveness of the European health sector through innovation ([1]),** in line with the recommendations from the Draghi report ([2]), and with the Competitiveness Compass for the EU ([3]). The KPI under this heading will be the number of medicines authorised by the European Medicines Agency each year. The number of clinical trials authorised in the EU in each trial phase will track the attractiveness of Europe in the various stages of medicine development. A priority is the successful adoption of the reform of the pharmaceutical legislation.

The regulations on **medical devices and in-vitro diagnostics and on clinical trials** will be evaluated and reviewed to assess and address the root causes of the challenges encountered in the transition to the new frameworks. At the same time, their implementation will continue to ensure the highest level of safety and efficacy for patients, while improving the competitiveness of these innovative sectors. This includes ongoing work to simplify the regulatory framework for medical devices, including dedicated tertiary legislation. A new **European Biotech Act** will strengthen Europe's competitiveness and autonomy in this critical sector – making it easier to turn Europe's innovation potential into concrete market opportunities.

Resilient and effective health systems providing accessible and equitable healthcare will contribute to **General objective 1: Promoting sustainable prosperity and competitiveness**, as well as to **General objective 3: Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models.** Enabling health systems to provide optimal healthcare to patients will require continuous investments in the sector. Improvement of health sector financial schemes, efforts to reduce healthcare professional shortages, and capital investments addressing infrastructure gaps will help reduce EU population unmet medical needs. The indicator measuring self-reported unmet needs for medical examination in the population ([4]) will inform on the ability of national health systems to deliver the health care that the EU population needs.

The implementation of the new legislation on the **European Health Data Space** is a major project for the coming years. Through sufficient investments and fostering the deployment of Artificial Intelligence, it will dramatically modernise health systems, improve healthcare provision and boost research and innovation. The Commission's proposal for a **Critical Medicines Act,** adopted on 11 March 2025, aims to increase the security of supply of critical medicines. To support access to innovative medicines, the focus will also be on implementing

([1]) This specific objective also contributes to General objective 3: Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models
([2]) The future of European competitiveness, September 2024.
([3]) A competitiveness compass for the EU, COM(2025) 30 final of 29 January 2025
([4]) This is the Key Performance Indicator for this objective

the **Health Technology Assessment Regulation**, establishing a new EU legal framework for clinical assessment of medicines and medical devices.

Strengthened health security, through preparedness for, prevention of and response to serious cross-border threats to health, will support the achievement of **General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security.** As underlined in the Niniistö report ([5]), health security is a key component of the EU's comprehensive preparedness framework. Through stronger and coordinated prevention, preparedness and response actions, the Union will react in timely and efficient manner to future health crises and contribute to strengthening global health security. The KPI is the number of EU/ EEA countries with a new or updated national preparedness action plan following the recommendations from the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assessments ([6]). Also, the **implementation of the One Health approach** will contribute to this general objective, recognising the connection between people, animals, plants and their shared environment. The Commission works with Member States to make further progress in the fight against antimicrobial resistance, and to prevent and respond to zoonoses.

DG SANTE will also step up its work on preventive health **to improve people's health by reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases,** contributing to **General Objective 3: Supporting people and strengthening our societies and our social models ([7]).** In particular, DG SANTE will promote mental health, fighting cardiovascular diseases and cancer, supporting the resilience of our health systems. Preventing disease by addressing key health determinants through a life course approach will help to reduce health inequalities and the disease burden at both individual and population level, alleviating pressure on overstretched health systems. The KPI for this objective is the number of Member States which have achieved breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screening coverage at the level of benchmarks ([8]).

DG SANTE will contribute to **General objective 4: Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature** as EU food and feed safety policy aims primarily to protect human health by **ensuring that all food and feed placed on the internal market is safe**, and by **protecting animal health and welfare and plant health**. DG SANTE will also contribute to **General objective 1: A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness** and to **General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security** by supporting the competitiveness of the food sector and ensuring food and feed safety.

EU food rules have been in place for more than sixty years, firmly positioning the EU as a global leader in food safety. The EU is the world's top exporter and third largest importer of

([5]) Strengthening Europe's Civilian and Military Preparedness and Readiness. 30 October 2024.
([6]) As stated in the Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 on Serious Cross-Border Threats to Health
([7]) This specific objective contributes as well to General objective 1: Promoting sustainable prosperity and competitiveness.
([8]) The benchmarks are defined in line with European guidelines and quality assurance schemes, as proposed by the EU4Health-funded project CanScreen-ECIS. EU cancer screening schemes are a flagship initiative of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan.

agrifood products, supporting millions of jobs that rely on rigorous safety measures and controls. More than 5 million official controls were performed by Member States in 2022.

Science-based food and feed safety standards ensure that only safe and high-quality products can be marketed in the EU. A barrier-free internal market for goods based on **harmonised rules reduces costs and fosters economies of scale** for food business operators, bolstering the **competitiveness** of EU agrifood domestically and globally. The Commission proposed a legal framework for plants developed with certain new genomic techniques (NGTs), which have the potential to reduce dependency on pesticide use and increase plants' resilience to a changing climate.

The Commission responds to advances in scientific knowledge and to systemic challenges **by regularly reviewing and updating food safety standards. Innovation**, **resilience,** and **sustainability** are key to ensuring the long-term **competitiveness** of all actors in the EU's agrifood systems. Innovative and sustainable food systems help combat **climate change**, reduce **food waste**, ensure **food security,** and promote **healthy diets**. They are also important to ensure **food remains affordable for citizens**. The Commission bases its work on **independent scientific advice** provided by the European Food Safety Authority and in **consultation** with EU Member States and stakeholders. The percentage of planned legislative and implementing initiatives delivered on time (KPI) will measure DG SANTE's effectiveness in planning and implementation. The Commission, as the risk manager, influences business decisions. It should therefore propose realistic timelines that take account of all possible delays in preparing, adopting and implementing proposals. This reduces uncertainty and provides a reliable timeline for business, thus contributing to EU competitiveness.

The Commission will continue to maintain the highest food safety standards by **regularly updating** its legislation (notably on market access for a range of substances used in food production and for maximum residue limits of hazardous substances which may be found in food). Stronger **implementation** and **enforcement** will also contribute, as will reducing administrative burdens. Other initiatives that support this goal include:

- the proposed **legislation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques (NGTs)**,
- the **amendment of the Waste Framework Directive** (in relation to reducing and preventing food waste), politically agreed between the co-legislators in February 2025.

The EU's **animal welfare legislation** will be modernised with a view to aligning it with the latest scientific evidence and strengthening the single market. The KPI will be the number of notifications in the new iRASFF animal welfare network, which demonstrates the cooperation of MS in enforcing animal welfare legislation. The number of persons following EU animal welfare training programmes indicates the dissemination of knowledge of EU animal welfare rules, notably to government officials, who are responsible for spreading knowledge and best practices in their respective countries.

DG SANTE will continue to monitor as a KPI that the estimated risk at payment for its cost-based expenditure stays below 2% of relevant expenditure (2024 baseline: 0.51%).

Cross-cutting efforts – implementation and simplification agenda

During this political mandate of the Commission**,** DG SANTE will **conduct continuous stress-testing** of its entire legislative *acquis* to identify its cumulative impacts, potential inconsistencies, and areas for simplification, to achieve its policy objectives more efficiently. DG SANTE will also take advantage of various tools such as implementation dialogues, reality checks, targeted surveys and studies to gather further feedback on implementation and inform measures for simplification.

A planned simplification omnibus or package in Q4 2025 will simplify procedures for ensuring continued availability of plant protection products, biocidal products and feed additives and speed up the time to market for biopesticides. A **broader stress-testing exercise** in 2025 and 2026 will examine the processes for authorisation of regulated food and feed products, involving also an evaluation of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Throughout the mandate, DG SANTE will continue addressing burdensome reporting and simplifying business operations.

DG SANTE will prepare a **Biotech Act**, with the aim to make it easier to bring biotech products from the laboratory to factory and onto the market. The Act will provide a forward-looking framework conducive to innovation, for example by simplifying and improving existing legislation. More generally it intends to leverage the potential that biotechnologies can bring to our economy, competitiveness and innovation.

Evaluations on animal health law, biocidal products, medical devices and plant variety rights conducted in 2025 and 2026 will identify further opportunities for simplification in these sectors. They will be informed by businesses' views via dedicated **reality checks**. In addition, in line with the mission letter to Commissioner Várhelyi and with the Communication on implementation and simplification ([9]), two Implementation Dialogues with stakeholders to align implementation with realities on the ground will be organised in 2025. These **implementation dialogues** will take place in the areas of biocidal products and import controls, in July and December 2025 respectively. Additional dialogues will follow in the coming years in areas where implementation hurdles are identified by relevant parties or through evaluations and fitness checks. The Annual Progress Report on Implementation and Enforcement will be prepared for submission by the Commissioner to the respective Parliamentary committees and Council configurations by 30 September 2025.DG SANTE will work closely with Member States using various tools and forums to ensure that EU health and food safety laws are applied and enforced. In this renewed emphasis on

([9]) 250201_Simplification_Communication_en.pdf

implementation and enforcement, DG SANTE will intensify its efforts by leveraging new preventive tools when necessary. A variety of implementation support measures will be used. This includes the implementation strategies for the European Health Data Space Regulation and the planned Regulation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and technical support such as a digital platform (EU SoHO Platform) to facilitate efficient and effective exchange of information concerning substances of human origin (SoHO) activities in the Union. Regular follow-up and dialogue bolster the enforcement of EU public health and food safety standards. The results of the implementation dialogues will be key to developing strategies for compliance in specific areas. A dedicated Directorate also continuously audits and analyses how Member States apply EU rules.

The resolution of pending **infringements and complaints** will continue with a strategic approach and enhanced dialogue with Member States. To prevent non-compliance of national laws with EU legislation in the area of health and food safety, DG SANTE will also continue to deploy significant resources to assess Member States' draft laws under the Single Market Transparency Directive and to carry out compliance assessments of Directives.

PART 2. Delivering on the Commission's priorities in 2025

General Objective 1: A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

DG SANTE works to ensure that its key legislation in health is implemented, given its critical importance to the well-being of EU citizens. The implementation of its regulatory framework ensures that the EU remains an attractive and competitive market for innovative products and services contributing to the EU's global leadership in health. The preparatory work on medical devices is part of DG SANTE's stress-test planning. Potential simplification measures will be informed by reality checks. Its non-regulatory work brings together Member States and stakeholders to coordinate work in different areas (e.g. cancer, cardiovascular health and rare diseases) in pursuit of an EU approach.

Specific objective 1.1: Improve the competitiveness of the European health sector through innovation

In 2025, DG SANTE will work to make **the European Health Data Space (EHDS)** a reality by starting the implementation of the recently adopted Regulation. When fully implemented, the EHDS will enable the access to and sharing of health data to boost healthcare innovation, supporting the competitiveness of the European health ecosystem. The EHDS will be critical for accelerating innovation in Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare. A high-level conference to promote the EHDS was organised in March 2025. DG SANTE will promote, when relevant, the use of digital technologies across all its initiatives.

Similarly, implementing **the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Regulation** will help enhance the competitiveness and attractiveness of the medical products sector in Europe and increase access to innovative products. Work is now focused on the joint clinical assessment and joint scientific consultation of new oncology medicines and advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMPs) seeking marketing authorisation in the EU. A dedicated **HTA IT platform** is being developed to ensure that the joint HTA work is carried out in a secure environment. A high-level conference will also be held in 2025 to showcase the EU HTA framework.

DG SANTE will continue to support the inter-institutional negotiations to deliver **the reform of the pharmaceutical legislation**, including medicines for rare diseases and children, and to prepare its implementation under the Pharmaceutical Strategy for Europe. The reform will bring important regulatory modernisation, simplification and facilitation, and improve the structure of the European Medicines Agency, supporting both innovation and competitiveness in the sector. It will require many delegated and implementing acts, including several at the time of application of the legislation. In parallel, DG SANTE will complete the review of the variation system for human medicines by publishing Commission guidelines to simplify and streamline the life-cycle management of human medicines. DG SANTE will conduct a large-scale campaign to raise awareness among industry and policy-makers of EU action to boost innovation and competitiveness in the pharma sector.

Preparatory work on the **Biotech Act** will continue throughout 2025. A key initiative of Commission, the Biotech Act has enormous potential to foster competitiveness and innovation in the EU across sectors and will thus contribute to the Commission's simplification agenda. To prepare this work strand on simplification and implementation, a series of reality checks could be conducted in the course of the year. In this context, making the **EU clinical trials regulatory framework** more efficient will support both innovation and better health outcomes. Work will continue in 2025 and beyond to improve and modernise the Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS) on the basis on information gathered from its users, including Member States and sponsors.

DG SANTE will also work to simplify the **regulatory framework** for **medical devices**, including through dedicated tertiary legislation. It will accelerate its **targeted evaluation** to assess and possibly propose legislative measures to reduce burdens, simplify the system, foster innovation and promote competitiveness for the benefit of patients. Work will continue to enhance coordination with Member States and notified bodies notably on market surveillance and vigilance. In addition, efforts to increase the capacity of notified bodies for in vitro diagnostics medical devices and the development of the **European database on medical devices** (EUDAMED) will continue. An information campaign on EUDAMED, targeting medical device companies, will be rolled out in the second half of the year. As part of specific implementation activities, two reality checks took place in February and March 2025, and a high-level event with stakeholder involvement will be organised by the end of 2025. This will substantially contribute to the Commission's simplification agenda, and foster competitiveness of European businesses, while maintaining a high level of safety for patients and users.

Specific objective 1.2: Resilient and effective health systems providing accessible and equitable healthcare

As set out in the Commissioner's mission letter, DG SANTE led the work to adopt the proposal for a new **Critical Medicines Act** to address severe shortages and reduce dependencies for critical medicines, as well as to improve access to and availability of other medicines of common interest. DG SANTE will support the inter-institutional negotiations to deliver on the Act and prepare its implementation.

DG SANTE will continue contributing to completing **the European Health Union** by supporting actions for resilient and accessible health systems, including supporting the digital transformation of healthcare systems. DG SANTE has worked closely with DG CNECT to deliver an **action plan on cybersecurity of hospitals and healthcare providers** aimed at improving threat detection, preparedness, and crisis response in the healthcare sector.

DG SANTE will continue to deliver country-specific information and analysis on health and health systems as part of the **European Semester**, producing a dedicated health annex for all 27 country reports. Supporting resilient health systems and health reforms, while boosting workforce productivity, will become increasingly important. In addition, the milestones and targets of the **27 national recovery and resilience plans** under the **Recovery and Resilience Facility** will be monitored. By the end of 2025, 29 country health profiles (covering all EU Member States, Iceland and Norway), with a spotlight section on pharmaceuticals, alongside an accompanying synthesis report and an interactive dashboard, will be published as part of the **State of health in the EU** project.

In 2025 the secretariat for **expert group on health systems performance assessment (HSPA)**, will continue to be provided by DG SANTE. The expert group published a report on identifying, measuring and reducing low value care in February 2025. Work will now focus on health workforce with a focus on sharing experiences on safe staffing levels. The Joint Action on Health Workforce planning, health training projects (7 projects), a new project on nurse shortages with WHO, and the BEWELL health skills multi-stakeholder partnership (Erasmus+) will contribute to making EU healthcare systems more resilient.

On **Substances of Human Origin (SoHO),** 2025 will focus on the implementation of the new Regulation. SANTE will set up the SoHO Coordination Board and its six working groups, as well as the SoHO IT platform aimed at supporting access to these substances. It will also steer the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM - Council of Europe) and the ECDC in their new roles as expert bodies on SoHO, as well as to prepare

SoHO supply contingency plans. The recent Council conclusions on transplantation will be implemented through a dedicated EU4Health action and cooperation with EDQM.

EU citizens have the right to access healthcare in any EU country and to be reimbursed for care abroad. The conditions are set out in the **Cross-border Healthcare Directive**, and DG SANTE will work on ensuring better awareness and understanding of this Directive. DG SANTE will also raise awareness of the work of the **European Reference Networks (ERNs)**, bringing together European hospital centres of expertise and reference to tackle rare, low prevalence and complex diseases and conditions requiring highly specialised healthcare. There will be a number of events on the Cross-border Healthcare Directive and the European Reference Networks in 2025: an EU-level event in Brussels as well as 4 national workshops. One event was arranged in the European Parliament for Rare Disease Day on 27 February. In addition, to better integrate the ERNs into national healthcare systems, the Commission is supporting the Joint Action JARDIN which promotes the development of national plans for rare diseases and brings together all stakeholders in the area of rare diseases.

Work will continue on ensuring effective engagement with a wide range of health stakeholders through the **Health Policy Platform**. The Platform serves as a stakeholder involvement and consultation mechanism, supporting DG SANTE and its stakeholders with webinars and online networks. The **EU4Health Programme** will continue to financially support EU priorities in health, fostering synergies in areas such as health promotion and disease prevention, digital matters and cancer, cardiovascular and other non-communicable diseases. It will also promote international health collaboration including through the association of third countries to the EU4Health programme and contribute to the **support to Ukraine** following Russia's military aggression, for instance the unprecedented medical evacuation operations.

General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security

Through stronger and coordinated prevention, preparedness and response actions, the Union will react in a timely and efficient manner to future health crises and contribute to strengthening global health security.

Specific objective 2.1: Strengthened health security, through preparedness for, prevention of and response to serious cross-border threats to health

DG SANTE will continue implementing the **regulation on serious cross-border threats to health**, which provides the EU with stronger rules to govern action on prevention, preparedness and response to major health threats. The rules form part of the EU's health

security architecture and will help ensure preparedness in a rapidly changing world. Key outputs in 2025 will include delivering the Union prevention, preparedness, and response plan, establishing a new European Union Reference Laboratory for respiratory viruses and preparing a plan for a future Reference Laboratory on biotoxins. An evaluation of the implementation of EU rules on serious cross-border threats to health will be delivered in Q3/2025. The evaluation will in particular assess the operation of the Early Warning and Response System and the epidemiological surveillance network, as well as the coordination of the response within the Health Security Committee.

DG SANTE will also manage surveillance, alert and response to health threats in coordination with the **European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control**. An independent external evaluation of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control's performance in relation to its objectives, mandate, tasks and procedures is due in December 2025. In accordance with Article 31 of the Regulation 2022/2370 that revised the ECDC mandate, this first evaluation will address the possible need to amend the mandate of the Centre and examine the feasibility of extending the Centre's mandate to address the impact cross-border threats to health for non-communicable diseases. DG SANTE, together with DG INTPA, will continue to coordinate and contribute to the implementation of the new EU Global Health Strategy, with due considerations given to the evolving context. DG SANTE has also worked on negotiating a **pandemic agreement** under the auspices of the World Health Organization which was adopted on 20 May 2025([10]).

Specific objective 2.2: Implementing a One Health approach

DG SANTE will actively promote the **One Health approach**, recognising the interdependence between people, animals, plants and their shared environment. This will include reinforced coordination internally in the Commission, with EU agencies, and with Member States and stakeholders. It will also be reflected in the work on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response improving the global health security architecture, food-borne outbreak investigations, and contributing to the fight against **antimicrobial resistance** (AMR). SANTE's work on animal welfare will contribute to reducing antimicrobial resistance since improved conditions for animals reduce the need for medications. DG SANTE works with Member States to prevent, monitor and respond to zoonoses, i.e. diseases which can be

([10]) Its opening for signature and ratification is subject to finalization of its Annex on Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing System. In this regard, WHO Members created an open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group with the aim to submit the outcome of the negotiations to the World Health Assembly in May 2026.

transmitted to humans from animals, and to strengthen preparedness for future zoonotic health threats.

DG SANTE will continue its work on implementing the Council Recommendation to reach the 2030 targets on antimicrobial resistance and consumption by supporting Member States through a Joint Action and by fostering cooperation with EU agencies, stakeholders and Member States through the AMR One Health Network, as well as with international organisations. Increasing public awareness of the threat of antimicrobial resistance will remain a top priority for DG SANTE in 2025, including via a new campaign aimed at adults.

General objective 3: Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models

Preventing disease by addressing key health determinants through a life course approach will help to reduce health inequalities and the disease burden at both individual and population level – thus alleviating pressure on overstretched health systems.

Specific objective 3.1: Improving people's health by reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases

In 2025, DG SANTE will continue implementing **Europe's Beating Cancer Plan**. Over 90% of actions under the Cancer Plan have been started or concluded, as highlighted in a review of the Plan published on World Cancer Day 2025. Key actions in 2025 will include launching the **5th Edition of the European Code against Cancer**, aiming to raise public awareness of cancer risk factors. In addition, DG SANTE's cancer screening campaign will continue in the first half of the year to encourage the uptake of screening. Furthermore, the **EU Network of Comprehensive Cancer Centres** will be established in 2025. Its objective is to improve timely diagnosis and treatment by linking national structures that oversee all aspects of cancer care, research and specialised medical training. A **Youth Policy Dialogue on cancer** brought together 30 young people from across Europe in February 2025, giving them the opportunity to engage with Commissioner Várhelyi, share their experiences as cancer survivors or professionals, and discuss EU health policies and cancer programmes.

In 2025, the Commission will present an EU **cardiovascular health plan**. Cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of mortality and the main factor for ill-health and disability in the EU. The plan will draw on the success of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and will help develop and make available new and personalised ways of prevention and treatment for Europeans. This will help improve public health, support competitiveness and innovation in digitalisation and the use of AI. The roll out of the plan's initiatives will start in 2026.

As part of its work on preventive health, DG SANTE is currently **evaluating the Tobacco Products Directive and the Tobacco Advertising Directive**, DG SANTE is also leading the negotiations on the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control ahead of the 11th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11) in November 2025.

The use of digital technologies, more specifically social media, has become a significant challenge impacting the mental health of young people in the EU. DG SANTE will therefore also launch in 2025 the preparatory work for the **EU-wide inquiry on the broader impacts of social media and excessive screentime on the mental health and wellbeing of young people in the EU,** in line with the Mission Letter of Commissioner Várhelyi.

General Objective 4: Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

DG SANTE aims to ensure proper implementation of the extensive legislation on **food and feed safety** and **animal and plant health**, and to simplify it where possible. It systematically adopts a "One Health" approach to preparedness and prevention, integrating human, animal, plant and environmental health. These efforts have a positive impact on the EU's competitiveness, directly through promoting innovation leading to new products for consumers, farmers and businesses and indirectly by fostering a more stable and predictable market environment. The Food Safety Simplification Omnibus planned for Q4 will deliver simplification and reduce administrative burden for the food and feed industry (see below). DG SANTE will launch a communication campaign in 2025 to highlight the EU's high food safety standards.

Specific objective 4.1: Contributing to the competitiveness of the food sector and ensuring food and feed safety

Accelerating **market access for biopesticides** will be a priority in 2025, in particular through a proposal for targeted amendments of the rules concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market to facilitate approvals for biopesticides and authorisation of products that contain them. The proposal will be part of a planned Food Safety Simplification Omnibus package in Q4 2025, which aims to increase competitiveness of farmers and the food and feed industry and reduce administrative burdens related to marketing authorisations of products. The package will notably seek to accelerate the access

to the EU market for biopesticides by providing a definition of biocontrol active substances, introduce the possibility for Member States to grant provisional authorisations for plant protection products containing such biocontrol active substances while their evaluation is still ongoing, and create a fast-track procedure for their approval and authorisation. This package will also deliver meaningful simplification and clarification of some regulatory requirements relating to other pesticides, and will also include measures on biocidal products and feed additives, as well as possible other measures that will ensure a comprehensive cross-sectoral approach to simplifying EU Food Law. Maximum residue levels for pesticides will continue to be set to ensure food safety for both EU-produced and imported products.

SANTE aims to reduce administrative burdens through starting an evaluation of the **Biocidal Products Regulation**, simplifying procedures in the review programme of existing active substances and providing guidance on how to simplify implementation. An implementation dialogue will take place in July 2025. DG SANTE's stress-testing activities also include the evaluation of EFSA and of the Community plant variety right (CPVR) legislation.

SANTE will continue supporting the co-legislators during negotiations on the legislative proposal on plants produced by certain **new genomic techniques (NGTs)** to support the competitiveness of the European farming and breeding sectors. Work will continue on preparing an impact assessment and legislative proposal for a revision of the legislation on **food contact materials (FCM)**, aiming at simplification for companies and authorities.

On 19 February 2025, the co-legislators reached political agreement on the legislative proposal amending the Waste Framework Directive to set legally binding **food waste reduction targets**. After the formal adoption later this year, SANTE will start preparing a significant number of implementation actions including supporting studies. In collaboration with the JRC, SANTE will develop criteria for the **sustainable public procurement of food and catering services**, supporting the initiative on public procurement announced in the **Vision for Agriculture and Food**, and further improve the **food system monitoring framework** published in November 2024.

SANTE will continue implementing legislation related to health and nutrition claims made on foods, food information to consumers and the composition and labelling requirements for specific population groups including infants and young children, including rules on the addition of vitamins, minerals and certain other substances to foods.

SANTE will continue to support the co-legislators during the negotiations on the two proposals for Regulations on the production and marketing of **Plant and Forest Reproductive**

Materials. It will prepare the tertiary legislation and other follow-up actions resulting from the 2024 amendment of the **Plant Health Regulation**. Also in 2025, SANTE will manage any outbreaks of **plant and animal diseases and food-borne outbreaks** on EU territory and ensure the implementation of the **Official Controls Regulation**. SANTE will propose amended requirements on food hygiene based on evolving scientific advice and fight against fraud through stricter official controls of products of animal origin and using digital tools. An important review of the animal by-products legislation is ongoing. Simplification efforts continue with a possible targeted revision of the **feed additives legislation**, which will ease authorisation procedures, and streamlined reporting under the Official Controls Regulation. The Directorate-General will continue to ensure the implementation of EU legislation on **veterinary medicinal products**.

SANTE conducts substantial work on **audits and analysis** throughout the year to evaluate the performance of official controls in Member States and non-EU countries exporting animals and goods to the EU. The overall work programme for 2025 includes 259 planned controls - complemented by "on-demand" controls - in the area of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare, plant health and certain areas of human health protection. The publication of related reports contributes significantly to the credibility of, and necessity for, Union controls. In line with the Vision for Agriculture and Food, SANTE will take a leading role in a dedicated Task Force for strengthening the controls on imports. An implementation dialogue will take place in December 2025.

SANTE will continue to **promote and defend** food safety, plant health, animal health and welfare standards in the World Trade Organisation (WTO), in International Standard Setting Bodies (**Codex Alimentarius**, the **World Organisation for Animal Health** (WOAH), the **International Plant Protection Convention** (IPPC)) and UN agencies. SANTE will continue to pursue positive bilateral relations on health and food safety with key commercial partners, including the UK, Switzerland, Türkiye, the US, China, India, and Mercosur countries. It will continue monitoring the implementation of the Windsor Framework([11]). We will also increase efforts to coordinate candidate countries' preparedness for enlargement in these areas.

Specific objective 4.2: Modernising animal welfare based on latest scientific evidence and strengthening the single market

SANTE will continue to support the co-legislators' negotiations on the legislative proposals on **animal transport** and on the **welfare and traceability of dogs and cats**. In parallel, we are preparing the implementation phase after negotiations conclude on both proposals,

([11]) The Windsor Framework is the new way in which the Protocol on Ireland / Northern Ireland is referred to in accordance with Joint Declaration No 1/2023 of the Union and the United Kingdom in the Joint Committee established by the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of 24 March 2023 (OJ L 102, 17.4.2023, p. 87).

in particular for provisions on digitalisation. Following up on the Commission's reply to the **European Citizens' Initiative "Fur Free Europe"**, the Directorate-General will this year conduct preparatory work for a Commission Communication to be adopted in 2026. For this purpose, a study will be launched and a call for evidence will be published.

SANTE will prepare for a legislative proposal on **on-farm welfare**, which is planned for adoption in 2026. The 16th meeting of the **Platform on Animal Welfare** on 31 March 2025, with the participation of Commissioner Várhelyi, launched the 2025 round of stakeholder consultations for that proposal. The platform, managed by SANTE, ensures a wide spectrum of stakeholder involvement and is an essential tool to foster dialogue and avoid polarisation. Further consultations will take place, through a call for evidence, additional meetings of the Platform on Animal Welfare, consultations of the European Board on Agriculture and Food, and interviews, surveys and workshops. In this context, SANTE will continue the work on animal welfare indicators, via a subgroup of the EU Animal Welfare Platform and an external study. The Commission will continue to control welfare at slaughter and during transport by sea to strengthen compliance monitoring and facilitate solutions to common challenges in animal transport. SANTE will continue working with the European Maritime Safety Agency to improve livestock vessels and minimise animal welfare risks during transport by sea. The Expert Group of Liaison Bodies will also continue harmonising the implementation of EU animal welfare during transport rules by the Member States. DG SANTE's stress-testing activities also include the evaluation of the Animal Health Law in 2026.

DG SANTE will also follow ongoing EFSA opinions related to the welfare of animals, supervise the work of the four EU reference centres, organise regular meetings of EU Member State experts on animal welfare, provide input on animal welfare for the future Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and develop dedicated workshops in the context of the **Better Training for Safer Food Academy (BTSF)**. SANTE will also help assess the readiness of accession countries to align with EU animal welfare legislation and support them in this process. SANTE will participate in **international activities** related to animal welfare in WOAH, FAO and other UN bodies, and cooperate bilaterally with countries such as New Zealand, Canada or Australia in the context of a negotiated animal welfare cooperation chapter.

PART 3. A modern and sustainable public administration: outputs in 2025

The internal control framework supports sound management and decision-making. It ensures that risks to meeting objectives are addressed and reduced to acceptable levels through cost-effective controls. The Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety has established a tailored internal control system. The effective functioning of this system will be assessed on an ongoing basis throughout the year and will be subject to an annual assessment covering all internal control principles.

A. Human resource management

There is a growing discrepancy between the scarcity of human resources and the ever-growing need for action by the Commission. We are embarking on a new mandate with staff that is already heavily engaged on implementation of the huge legislation and other initiatives recently adopted of which a lot stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, the new mission letter contains many new tasks, actions and legislation. The resource gap is only very partially addressed in DG SANTE by constantly reviewing and readjusting between the 'nice to have' and 'must have' areas of work.

DG SANTE will prepare a revision of its organisational structure to finalise the implementation of organisational efficiency savings with the aim for the DG's administrative operations to continually become more efficient, including through redeployment. All margins for redeployment will then have been exhausted.

DG SANTE will also strive to maintain its excellent record achieved at the beginning of this Commission's mandate on gender balance amongst managers (55% of middle managers were female). The intention is to recruit at least 3 new female Heads of Unit.

In light of challenging times for Europe, DG SANTE will work to ensure that DG SANTE's staff engagement index stays above the Commission average (in 2023, DG SANTE's engagement index was 77%, above the average of 73%).

B. Digital transformation and data management

In 2025, DG SANTE will continue its path to digital transformation through initiatives outlined in the Digital and Data Master Plan (DDMP) and Digital Transformation Roadmap, which are aligned with the corporate Digital, Cybersecurity and Cloud strategies and pursue the relevant implementation actions of both strategies. Primary responsibilities for Cybersecurity are assigned to the Director-General (DGs) and Local Information Security Officer (LISO). Significant efforts will continue on rationalising and modernising the IT portfolio, using corporate solutions and leveraging artificial intelligence (AI), whilst modernising our infrastructure and considering corporate targets to migrate to the Cloud to ensure improved scalability and business continuity. DG SANTE is one of the 9 pioneer DGs in DIGIT

cloudification programme and is committed to promoting a secure deployment of new cloud workloads using the new EC Cloud Security Controls Baseline (CSCB), the principles and rules on outsourcing of CIS, the EC Managed Landing Zone and the recommendations of the Cloud Council. *(Note: the baseline indicators for 2024 for the % of IT systems utilising cloud infrastructure services compared to the total number of IT systems in 2024 was baselined at 25.53%)*..

It will continue to implement its Data Strategy, enhancing data assets, assigning data owners and data stewards, streamlining data sharing with other systems such as the data.europa.eu portal, using SANTE's data platform, modernising tools, and improving staff skills around data management including through training. DG SANTE has achieved an established level of data maturity in data management, ownership and responsibilities, and data skills, while currently being at the developing level in data quality.

To implement the digital-ready policymaking, an interdisciplinary team is established that is providing support to colleagues and is keeping contact with DG DIGIT. This is complemented by awareness raising activities. Delivery and improvements of flagship systems will continue such as the ERN Clinical Patient Management System 2.0, MyHealth@EU and HealthData@EU (part of the European Health Data Space) to enhance the interoperability and accessibility of health data. Tools such as the Health Technology Assessment Platform and the EU Database on Medical Devices - Medical Device Regulation will digitalise and/or simplify processes and reduce administrative burdens. Collaborative tools for external stakeholders including the Food Losses and Waste Hub and Health Policy Platform will be improved.

DG SANTE is committed to strong data protection and cybersecurity, focusing on compliance, regular IT reviews, updated records, staff training, and promoting awareness through assessments and reporting practices. *(Note: Indicators for 2024 for percentage of statutory staff that has completed at least one IT training course baseline was set at 43.19% and the percentage of staff trained on data protection compliance combined with the percentage of public records of processing operations reviewed within the last two years was 81,5%).*

Our 2025 initiatives aim to ensure SANTE's sustainable, secure, and responsible digital transformation, aligning with the Commission digital strategy and robust data management. DG SANTE also established an AI change management plan, addressing use of AI literacy of staff, using corporate AI tools and integrating AI in business solutions, starting with the support teams interactions with end users.

C. Sound financial management

DG SANTE's latest internal controls strategy was adopted by the Management Board in January 2025, taking account of changes in the DG's control structure following the transfer of budget implementation tasks to HaDEA, the new Financial Regulation and SUMMA. The strategy includes all control and anti-fraud measures for all types of expenditure directly

managed by the DG. It encompasses risk assessment and risk management integrated into the planning process, and control activities including ex-ante verifications.

DG SANTE will continue to monitor that the estimated risk at payment for its cost-based expenditure stays below 2% of relevant expenditure (2024 baseline: 0.51%). It will strive to have cost-effective controls in place which give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions and ensure compliance with regulatory provisions and accounting closure instructions. It will regularly monitor indicators to assess budget execution and timeliness of payments (see performance tables in Annex 3 for details of the DG's outputs and indicators). DG SANTE will implement and monitor the action plans for audits by the Commission's Internal Audit Service and the European Court of Auditors.

D. Fraud risk management

DG SANTE has developed and implemented its own anti-fraud strategy and action plan since 2013, based on a fraud risk assessment and methodology provided by OLAF. The controls to prevent and detect fraud are the same as those intended to ensure the legality and regularity of transactions. An assessment of fraud risks is included in the annual risk management exercise. In 2025, DG SANTE will continue to strengthen cooperation with OLAF and EPPO and strive to ensure a high implementation rate of the measures set out in its anti-fraud action plan (2024 baseline implementation rate: 80%). DG SANTE aims to contribute to implementing the revised Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy's Action plan ([12]) where applicable and participate in OLAF's awareness-raising activities on anti-fraud matters through the network on Fraud Prevention and Detection.

During 2025, DG SANTE will launch a process to update its anti-fraud strategy and prepare an action plan for 2026-2028 to reflect the Commission's Anti-Fraud Strategy and the related action plan. Of particular importance is the assessment with policy officers of the need to re-launch DG SANTE's inter-agency task force and close co-operation on anti-fraud with EU decentralised agencies. In addition, DG SANTE's financial cell will update the list of fraud indicators and red flags for procurement and grants, as well as communicate them to staff. Performance tables in Annex 3 show details of DG SANTE's outputs and indicators on fraud risk management.

E. Sound environmental management

To fulfil the Commission's commitment to become carbon neutral by 2030, its greenhouse gas emissions will have to be reduced by at least 38% compared to 2019. This requires a significant reduction in the environmental impact of missions, meetings and conferences (the baseline in 2019 for DG SANTE is 1,475 tons of Co2 emissions for staff professional travel) Within its administrative budget of year 2025, DG SANTE applied the standard reduction of

([12]) Communication from the Commission 'Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy Action plan - revision 2023 COM(2023) 405 of 11 July 2023 –'the Communication on the 2023 revision' – and the accompanying document, SWD(2023) 245 – 'the revised Action Plan.

15% compared to the 2024 budget, while not reducing the mission budget. To meet this target, the DG will have to reduce the number of in-person meetings.

DG SANTE has four buildings in three different Member States: Belgium, Luxembourg and Ireland. SANTE's two buildings in Brussels and the building in Luxembourg fall under the responsibility of OIB and OIL respectively. DG SANTE's building and site in Grange, Ireland, where DG SANTE itself manages the day-to-day running of the site, are fully integrated into EMAS (the Commission's Eco-Management and Audit scheme). DG SANTE and its staff in all three sites are committed to participating in the sound environmental management of Commission buildings and to reducing our negative impact on the environment.

In 2025, DG SANTE aims to maintain the EMAS registration for the Grange site with a focus on efficiencies and reducing the environmental impacts of the day-to-day functioning of the office. A large section of the main office building will continue to be shut down to reduce energy use, and efforts will be dedicated to reducing the environmental footprint of measures to keep the infrastructure safe and in good working order. The office will strive to maintain the good performance of its waste management regime for non-hazardous waste. At the end of 2024, a new environmental consultancy contract entered into force to allow the outsourcing of most of the EMAS participation-related activities.

ANNEX 1: Specific objectives and result indicators 2025-2029

General objective 1: A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

Specific Objective 1.1: Improve the competitiveness of the European health sector through innovation [13]

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Result indicator 1.1.1 Number of Commission Decisions adopted on human medicines authorisation

Explanation: The number of decisions adopted based on the European Medicines Agency's assessments

Source of data: European Medicines Agency/DG SANTE

This result indicator is selected as a KPI

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
100	Increase	Increase

Result indicator 1.1.2 Number of authorisations of clinical trials broken down by trial phase (I/II/III/IV)

Explanation: Indicator of the attractiveness of the EU as a destination for investment in medicine development, including notably the crucial "scale-up" phase, where there are fears of the EU falling behind its competitors

Source of data: CTIS

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (20XX)	**Target** (2029)
Phase I 585 Phase II 760 Phase III 613 Phase IV 275	614 798 643 288	644 836 674 302

[13] This specific objective contributes also to General objective 3 Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models

General objective 1: A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

Specific Objective 1.2.: Resilient and effective health systems providing accessible and equitable healthcare **([14])**

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Result indicator 1.2.1 Percentage of the population self-reported unmet needs for medical examination due to financial reasons, long waiting lists or distance

Explanation: This indicator measures the ability of national health systems to ensure the EU population receives the healthcare it needs. The impact of policies to reinforce national health systems should be partly captured by this indicator.

Source of data: ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/hlth_silc_08b/default/table?lang=en&category=hlth.hlth_care.hlth_unm

This result indicator is selected as a KPI

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2026)	**Target** (2029)
3.6%	Decrease	Decrease

Result indicator 1.2.2 Shortage of healthcare professionals

Explanation: This indicator measures the impact of efforts made at national and EU level to strengthen the healthcare workforce to address EU population needs.

Source of data: DG SANTE calculation based on ESTAT data and using OECD methodology

Baseline (2023)	**Interim milestone** (2026)	**Target** (2029)
1.2 million	Decrease	Decrease

Result indicator 1.2.3 Number of shortages of medicines in the single point of contact (SPOC) network reported by Member States

Explanation: This indicator measures the level of monitoring and reporting on relevant shortages of human and veterinary medicines by measuring the number of shortages of medicines that were identified as critical with respect to their impact on human/animal health ([15]).

Source of data: European Medicines Agency

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2026)	**Target** (2029)
69	110	90

([14]) This specific objective contributes also to General objective 3 Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models

([15]) The indicator is based on data reported by the Member States to the SPOC Working Party. The indicator is a relative proxy indicator which does not necessarily correlate with the number of critical shortages at EU level, given that an increase in reported shortages can either be due to an increase in the number of actual shortages

General objective 1: A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

Specific Objective 1.2.: Resilient and effective health systems providing accessible and equitable healthcare **([14])**

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Result indicator 1.2.4 Number of Member States connected to MyHealth@EU and HealthData@EU ([16]) digital cross-border infrastructures

Explanation: This indicator measures the progress made towards the implementation of the European Health Data Space (EHDS), through setting up the central services for the two digital infrastructures by the Commission and connections to the two digital infrastructures by the Member States.

Source of data: Reporting obligations under the EHDS Regulation

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
MyHealth@EU: 15 HealthData@EU: n/a	MyHealth@EU: 20 HealthData@EU: n/a	MyHealth@EU: 27 HealthData@EU:27

or due to better reporting and monitoring by Marketing Authorisation Holders and Member States. The values for this indicator may increase in the short term due to a increased level of reporting and monitoring and is expected to stagnate once the forthcoming Pharmaceutical package starts to take effect.

([16]) The HealthData@EU infrastructure will be operational only as of 2029.

General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security

Specific Objective 2.1: Strengthened health security, through preparedness for, prevention of and response to serious cross-border threats to health

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Result indicator 2.1.1 Number of countries having developed or updated a national preparedness action plan following recommendations from the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assessments (PHEPA mission) ([17])

Explanation: The indicator measures the progress in prevention, preparedness and response to serious health events by counting the number of EU/EEA countries with a new or updated national plan integrating the recommendation of the PHEPA missions. Unit of measurement: cumulative number of countries.

Source of data: Member States

This result indicator is selected as a KPI

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
0 ([18])	20	30

Result indicator 2.1.2 Number of European Reference Laboratories (EURLs) for Public Health in operation

Explanation: The indicator measures the progress in Public Health laboratory capacity at EU level for priority infectious diseases and other health events by monitoring the number of EURLs. Unit of measurement: cumulative number of EURLs

Source of data: DG SANTE

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
6	11	14

Result indicator 2.1.3 Updated Union prevention, preparedness and response plan for health crisis

Explanation: The indicator measures the capacity to adapt the Union prevention, preparedness and response plan through monitoring the updates of the plan that incorporate the recommendations of the regular test exercises**.**

Source of data: DG SANTE

([17]) As stated in the Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 on Serious Cross-Border Threats to Health, the European Centre for Disease prevention and Control (ECDC) in coordination with relevant Union agencies and bodies, conduct Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assessments (PHEPA) of all 30 European Union and European Economic Area (EU/EEA) countries every three years to assess the state of implementation of their national prevention, preparedness and response planning.

([18]) The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assessments started to be conducted in 2024. Therefore, the baseline for 2024 is zero: it was too early for Member States to develop new or update existing national preparedness actions plans based on the PHEPA recommendations.

General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security ***Specific Objective 2.1: Strengthened health security, through preparedness for, prevention of and response to serious cross-border threats to health*** *Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others*		
Baseline (2025)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
First version of the plan	Plan updated following latest test exercises	New plan updated following latest test exercise

General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security ***Specific Objective 2.2: Implementing a One Health approach*** *Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others*		
Result indicator 2.2.1 Consumption of antibiotics in humans **Explanation:** The total consumption of antibiotics in humans (in Defined Daily Dose (DDD) per 1,000 inhabitants per day), in the community and hospital sectors combined, including in long-term care facilities and in home-care settings **Source of data:** ECDC https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/assets/amr-targets-2024/index.html **This result indicator is selected as a KPI**		
Baseline (2019)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2030) ([19])
19.9 DDD	Decrease	15.9 DDD (20% reduction)
Result indicator 2.2.2 Percentage of the areas officially free from certain zoonoses (Bovine Brucellosis, Sheep and Goat Brucellosis, Tuberculosis) **Explanation:** Member States implement eradication programmes to eliminate certain zoonoses from their territories (infection with Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex – *M. bovis, M. caprae* and *M. tuberculosis* – and with *Brucella abortus, B melitensis* and *B.suis*). The indicator measures the progress achieved in eradication. Unit: increase in percentage of areas officially free from these zoonoses. **Source of data:** DG SANTE		
Baseline (2025)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
25%	28%	30%

([19]) 2030 is the target year stated in the Council Recommendation on stepping up EU actions to combat antimicrobial resistance in a One Health approach 2023/C 220/01

General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security

Specific Objective 2.2: Implementing a One Health approach

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Result indicator 2.2.3 Sales of antimicrobials in farmed animals and aquaculture

Explanation: This indicator measures the overall EU sales of veterinary antimicrobials for farmed animals and aquaculture. The measurement unit is mg/PCU, i.e. mg of active substance sold per population correction unit (PCU). ([20])

Source of data: ESVAC and ESUAvet annual reports. Latest report here: European sales and use of antimicrobials for veterinary medicine - Annual surveillance report for 2023

Baseline (2023)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2030) ([21])
88.5 mg/PCU	Decrease	59.3mg/PCU

([20]) The PCU is applied as a proxy for the size of the food-producing animal population and serves to normalise the sales data by the number of animals that could be potentially treated with antimicrobials.

([21]) 2030 is the target year set in the Farm to Fork strategy

General objective 3 Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models

Specific Objective 3.1: Improving people's health by reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases ([22])

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Result indicator 3.1.1 Number of Member States which have achieved breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screening examinations at the level of the benchmarks

Explanation: This indicator measures the number of Member States which have achieved breast cancer screening coverage of over 70%, cervical cancer screening examination coverage of 70% and colorectal cancer screening examination coverage of 45%. ([23])

Source of data: This indicator is calculated based on Eurostat Preventive cancer screenings - programme data: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/hlth_ps_prev/default/table?lang=en.

This result indicator is selected as a KPI.

Baseline (2022)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
3	Increase	Increase

Result indicator 3.1.2 Prevalence of use of tobacco and nicotine products

Explanation: The indicator measures the EU average of the share of the population aged 15 years and over who reported current use of any tobacco or nicotine products.

Source of data: Attitudes of Europeans towards tobacco and related products - June 2024 - Eurobarometer survey. The data are collected through Eurobarometer 539 survey and are based on self-reports during the face-to-face interviews in people's homes.

Baseline (2023)	**Interim milestone** (2026)	**Target** (2029)
26.5% ([24])	Decrease	Decrease

([22]) This specific objective contributes also to General objective 1 A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

([23]) These benchmarks are defined in line with European guidelines and quality assurance schemes, as proposed by the EU4Health-funded project CanScreen-ECIS. EU cancer screening schemes are a flagship initiative of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan.

([24]) EU average of the share of the population who reported

- that they currently smoke cigarettes (incl. hand-rolled cigarettes), cigars, cigarillos or a pipe: 24%;
- regular use of heated tobacco products: 2%;
- regular use of electronic cigarettes: 3%.

General objective 3 Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models

Specific Objective 3.1: Improving people's health by reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases ([22])

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Result indicator 3.1.3 Number of EU Member States having reached at least 90% coverage for a full Human papillomavirus virus (HPV) vaccination course (last dose) in eligible girls

Explanation: The indicator measures the progress towards fully vaccinating 90% of girls against HPV at EU level in line with the objective in Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the Council Recommendation on vaccine-preventable cancers (C/2024/4259) which set out that all Member States should achieve this target by 2030. Unit: Cumulative number of EU Member States.

Source of data: ECDC. A vaccination coverage dashboard will be available end of 2025.

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2030)
2	10	27

Result indicator 3.1.4 Prevention of health budget

Explanation: This indicator measures the share of preventive care spending as part of total health spending (average in EU countries).

Source of data: OECD Data Explorer • Health expenditure and financing

Baseline (2022)	**Interim milestone** (2026)	**Target** (2029)
4.2%	Increase	Increase

General objective 4 Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

Specific Objective 4.1 Contributing to the competitiveness of the food sector and ensuring food and feed safety

Related to spending programme(s): Single Market Programme

Result indicator 4.1.1 Percentage of legislative and implementing initiatives delivered as planned

Explanation: This indicator will measure the accuracy in planning and implementation of the SANTE Management plan, counting the number of initiatives delivered according to the annual management plan. Realistic timelines that take account of all possible delays in preparing, adopting and implementing initiatives, reduce uncertainty and provide a reliable business climate, contributing to EU competitiveness.

Source of data: DG SANTE calculation

This result indicator is selected as a KPI

Baseline average 2021-24	**Interim milestone** 2027	**Target** 2029
68%	70%	75%

Result indicator 4.1.2 Number of phytosanitary programmes successfully implemented / total number of phytosanitary programmes approved ([25])

Explanation: It measures the level of implementation of approved programmes in compliance with EU SPS laws.

Source of data: HADEA

Baseline (2023)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
100%	100%	100%

Result indicator 4.1.3 Relative proportion of Commission controls undertaken in third countries with respect to Commission controls undertaken in Member States.

Explanation: By monitoring how the Commission divides its audit resources between third countries and Member States, the indicator provides an objective perspective on how the commitment (26) is being translated into practice to further strengthen the control on food and feed imports into the EU.

Source of data: DG SANTE, published HFAA work programme

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
38%	42%	46%

([25]) By successfully implemented, we count programmes with no warning or penalty letter.

([26]) In line with the Commission commitment in its Vision for Agriculture and Food, a dedicated task force is proposed to further strengthen the control on food and feed imports into the EU. An important element of these controls are the audits that the Commission carries out in third countries.

General objective 4 Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

Specific Objective 4.1 Contributing to the competitiveness of the food sector and ensuring food and feed safety

Related to spending programme(s): Single Market Programme

Result indicator 4.1.4 Use and risk of chemical pesticides

Explanation: Monitoring UN SDG 2 in an EU context involves tracking progress towards sustainable agricultural practices and reducing the use and risk of chemical pesticides. The indicator is used to monitor progress ([27]) towards the non-legally binding target of a 50% reduction by 2030.

Source of data: DG SANTE (Eurostat online data code: sdg_02_53)

Baseline (2015-17)	**Interim milestone** (2026)	**Target** (2030)
100	48	50

Result indicator 4.1.5 Food waste

Explanation: The fight against food waste is closely linked with the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG Target 12.3) to halve per capita global food waste at retail and consumer levels by 2030. The EU plays a key role in accelerating and scaling up efforts to reduce food waste. ([28])

Source of data: This indicator is part of the EU Food System Monitoring Dashboard. See indicator on food loss and waste under environmental/cross-cutting.

Baseline (2020)	**Interim milestone** (2026)	**Target** (2029)
59.2 million tons	56.2 million tons (data from 2024) or 5% reduction ([29])	50.3 million tons (data from 2027) or 15% reduction ([30])

([27]) The market withdrawal of more hazardous pesticides may lead to the use of higher amounts of lower risk pesticides. This means that the trajectory towards the target is unlikely to be linear, with some fluctuations above and below the trendline expected.

([28]) Through the Waste Framework Directive (where an amendment has recently been agreed at political level), Member States are required to reduce food waste at each stage of the food supply chain, monitor food waste levels and report on progress.

([29]) Own assessment, based on expected Member States performance

([30]) Own assessment, based on expected Member States performance. May be subject to change depending on date of entry into force of food waste reduction targets

General objective 4 Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

Specific Objective 4.2: Modernising animal welfare based on latest scientific evidence and strengthening the single market

Related to spending programme(s): Single Market Programme

Result indicator 4.2.1 Number of animal welfare notifications per year under the iRASFF Animal Welfare Module

Explanation: This measure demonstrates the cooperation of Member States in enforcing animal welfare legislation (iRASFF).

Source of data: DG SANTE (iRASFF)

This result indicator is selected as a KPI

Baseline (2024) ([31])	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
0	150	200

Result indicator 4.2.2 Number of persons that followed EU trainings on animal welfare (BTSF workshops, BTSF online trainings, STM)

Explanation: This measure indicates the dissemination of knowledge of EU animal welfare rules, notably to government officials, who are responsible for spreading knowledge and best practices in their respective countries.

Source of data: DG SANTE

Baseline (2024)	**Interim milestone** (2027)	**Target** (2029)
655	750	800

([31]) The animal welfare module of iRASFF was launched early 2025.

ANNEX 2: Performance tables – delivering on Commission priorities in 2025

General objective 1: A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness ***Specific Objective 1.1: Improve the competitiveness of the European health sector through innovation*** *Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others*		
Main outputs in 2025:		
New policy initiatives		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Preparatory work for the proposal on a Biotechnology Act (including for a targeted revision of the Clinical Trials Regulation (simplification and streamlining))	Adoption	Q4 2025
Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Review of legislation of medical devices/IVDs	Adoption	Q4 2025
Evaluations and fitness checks – part of the stress testing of the EU acquis		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Evaluation on medical devices	Completion	Q4 2025
Implementation dialogues and reality checks		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Reality check(s) on medical devices	Meeting(s) held	Q1 2025 (20/02 and 20/03)
Major public consultations		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Public consultation on the evaluation on medical devices	Consultation closed	Q1 2025
Major implementation activities and enforcement actions		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Implementation Strategy for EHDS (future updates together with Article 102(4) EHDS Regulation progress report)	Adoption (note to be shared with Member States)	Q3 2025

Other major outputs		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Reform of the EU pharmaceutical legislation	Support to co-legislators	In the course of 2025
Study on challenges and barriers for the deployment of AI in healthcare	Publication of study	Q2 2025
Preparatory work for the implementation of the reform of the EU pharmaceutical legislation	Preparation of tertiary legislation	In the course of 2025
Revision of the guidelines on the variation system	Publication of the revised guidelines	Q3 2025
Revision of the pharmacovigilance implementing regulation	Publication of the revised guidelines	Q2 2025
Medical devices short-term actions	Adoption of implementing regulation and adoption of guidance	In the course of 2025
Implementation of the Regulation on the European Health Data Space (EHDS)	Acts adopted by the Commission	In the course of 2025
Implementation of the Regulation on Health Technology Assessment	Number of joint clinical assessments: estimated maximum of 25 Number of joint scientific consultations: estimated maximum of 10 HTA IT platform online	In the course of 2025 In the course of 2025 Q1 2025
Implementing act on implementing regulation on procedural rules on joint clinical assessment of medical devices and In vitro diagnostic devices - to be adopted under Health Technology Assessment Regulation	Adoption .	Q3 2025
Conference on EU HTA regulation	Meeting held	Q2 2025

Output	Indicator	Target
Health Technology Assessment stakeholder network	Meetings held	Two meetings held in 2025
High-level event on medical devices	Meeting held	Q4 2025
High-level event on European Health Data Space	Meeting held	Q1 2025

General objective 1: A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

Specific Objective 1.2: Resilient and effective health systems providing accessible and equitable healthcare

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Main outputs in 2025:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal on a Critical Medicines Act	Adoption by the Commission	Adoption date: 11/03/2025

Other major outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Adoption of the 2026 EU4Health work programme	Adoption by the Commission	In the course of 2025
Negotiations with third countries for association to the EU4Health programme	Successful association of third countries to the EU4Health programme	In the course of 2025
New tools to inform policies on access to healthcare (EU4Health actions)	Methodology to assess the impact of in-kind health benefits on poverty and income inequalities developed Guidelines for Member States on improving access to healthcare for persons with disabilities developed and 3 workshops on implementation organised	Q2 2025 Q3 2025

Output	Indicator	Target
Training of health professionals with a focus on digital skills (EU4Health action)	At least 20 thousand health professionals trained	Q4 2025
Seminar for Member States on the use of health workforce planning in reforms of health systems (EU4Health action)	International seminar for Member States	Q3 2025
Reports and workshops by Health Systems Performance Assessment expert group	Report on "low-value care" published and workshop held on health workforce	Q1-Q3
State of Health in the EU, 5th cycle Country health profiles and synthesis report	29 country profiles and synthesis report published	Q4 2025
High-level event on cross-border healthcare Directive and European Reference Networks (ERNs)	Meeting held	Q4 2025
Implementation of the new Substances of Human Origin (SoHO) Regulation	Adoption of the implementing act setting up the SoHO platform Set up of the SoHO coordination board and its six working groups	Q3 2025 Q2 2025

General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security

Specific Objective 2.1: Strengthened health security, through preparedness for, prevention of and response to serious cross-border threats to health

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Main outputs in 2025:

Evaluations and fitness checks – part of the stress testing of the EU acquis

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the legislation on serious cross-border health threats	Publication	Q3 2025

Other major outputs		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Union prevention, preparedness, and response plan	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2025
Legal act establishing a new European Union Reference Laboratory for respiratory viruses	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2025
Implementation of the regulation on serious cross-border threats to health - Implementing/delegated acts on: - Implementing act surveillance and the requisite digital platform - the EU Health Task Force - response coordination in the Health Security Committee	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2025 (32) Q4 2025 Q4 2025

(32) The timeline for the delegated acts is Q1 2026, after the 2 months period for European Parliament scrutiny.

General objective 2: A new era for European defence and security

Specific Objective 2.2: Implementing a One Health approach

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Main outputs in 2025:

Other major outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Feasibility study on integrated surveillance systems on antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial consumption encompassing human health, animal health, plant health, food, wastewater and the environment ([33])	Publication of final report	Q3 2025
Meeting of the EU AMR One Health network with Member States	Meeting held	Q4 2025
One Health thematic network on the Health Policy Platform	Launch	Q3/Q4 2025
Implementing act on antimicrobials for animals of the equine species ([34])	Preparatory work	In the course of 2025
Amendment of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/2598 laying down the list of third countries or regions thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of certain animals and products of animal origin intended for human consumption	Preparatory work	In the course of 2025

([33]) Under Council Recommendation on stepping up EU actions to combat antimicrobial resistance in a One Health approach

([34]) Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/1973 to extend its scope to animals of the equine species and set out conditions for the use of certain antimicrobials in these animals in accordance with Articles 112 and 113 of Regulation (EU) 2019/6

General objective 3: Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models

Specific Objective 3.1: Improving people's health by reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases

Related to spending programme(s): EU4Health and others

Main outputs in 2025:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
EU cardiovascular health plan	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2025
Proposal for a Council Recommendation on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2025

Evaluations and fitness checks – part of the stress testing of the EU acquis

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the Tobacco Products Directive and the Tobacco Advertising Directive	Preparatory work	Q4 2025 /Q1 2026

Major public consultations

Output	Indicator	Target
EU-wide inquiry on mental health and social media	Preparatory work	In the course of 2025

Other major outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan	Ongoing implementation	Throughout the year
Youth Policy Dialogue on cancer	Delivery	Q1 2025

General objective 4: Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

Specific Objective 4.1: Contributing to the competitiveness of the food sector and ensuring food and feed safety

Related to spending programme(s): Single Market Programme

Main outputs in 2025:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for a Regulation to tackle the illegal placing on the market, as fresh, of tuna frozen in brine destined to canning	Adoption by the Commission	Q3 2025

Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for a Food Safety Simplification Omnibus	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2025

Evaluations and fitness checks – part of the stress testing of the EU acquis

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the Biocidal Products Regulation	Initial analysis of Member States' Implementation Reports Start of the work under the contract for a study in support of the evaluation	Q3 2025 Q4 2025

Implementation dialogues and reality checks

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation Dialogue on the Biocidal Products Regulation (Regulation (EC) No 528/2012)	Meeting held	15 July 2025
Implementation Dialogue on import controls	Meeting held	December 2025

Major public consultations

Output	Indicator	Target
Public consultation in the context of the evaluation on plant variety legislation and founding legislation of the CPVO	Launch of the public consultation	Q4 2025

Major implementation activities and enforcement actions		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Implementation strategy for the Commission's proposal on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques (COM(2023) 411 final)	Adoption	Q4 2025
Other major outputs		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Proposal for a Directive amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste (food waste part of the Waste Framework Directive)	Agreement by the co-legislators	Q1 2025
Priority pending proposals ([35]) - Proposal for a Regulation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed, and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/625 - Proposal for a Regulation on the production and marketing of forest reproductive material, amending Regulations (EU) 2016/2031 and 2017/625 and repealing Council Directive 1999/105/EC (Regulation on forest reproductive material) - Proposal for a Regulation on the production and marketing of plant reproductive material in the Union,(Regulation on plant reproductive material)	Progress/agreement by the co-legislators	In the course of 2025

([35]) The list includes proposals led by DG SANTE that were announced as priority proposals in annex III of the 2025 Commission Work Programme and that were pending agreement by the co-legislators at end 2024

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of the legal frameworks for various groups of substances used for the production of foods, novel foods, GMOs and derived products (authorisation, prohibition, limits, use conditions, labelling, etc) and other uses	Adoption of relevant decisions	Ongoing regular activity in 2025
Implementation of the legal frameworks for plant protection products and biocidal products (e.g. decisions on approval, review programmes, authorisations, postponement of expiry dates, limits in food, etc.)	Adoption	Ongoing regular activity in 2025
Commission report regarding Member States' experience with the contained use of genetically modified microorganisms in the 2022-2024 period	Adoption	Q4 2025
Implementation of the legal frameworks on food contact materials and processes of recycling plastics	Adoption	Ongoing regular activity in 2025
Setting or updating limits for contaminants in feed and food following EFSA opinions	Adoption	Ongoing regular activity in 2025
Implementation of the harmonised food safety acquis in the areas of food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, animal breeding, animal by-products, plant health, plant reproductive material, plant variety rights, plant genetic resources and official controls.	Adoption	Ongoing regular activity in 2025
Legal acts related to veterinary medicinal products	9 Adoptions + preparatory work	Ongoing regular activity in 2025
Regulatory study on biotechnology and biomanufacturing (action 1 of the Communication 'Building the future with nature: Boosting Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing in the EU') *Concerns food/feed as well as health.	Completion of external contractor report	Q4 2025

Output	Indicator	Target
Call for evidence for a proposal for a Regulation on the setting of maximum and minimum amounts of vitamins and minerals in food supplements and fortified foods in the European Union	Launch of call for evidence Publication on summary report	Q2 2025 Q4 2025
Audits on the implementation of the sustainable use directive (SUD)	Inclusion in the HFAA annual work programme	Q4 2025

General objective 4: Sustaining our quality of life: food security, water and nature

Specific Objective 4.2: Modernising animal welfare based on latest scientific evidence and strengthening the single market

Related to spending programme(s): Single Market Programme

Main outputs in 2025:

Major public consultations

Output	Indicator	Target
Public consultation in view of an upcoming legislative proposal on on-farm welfare (expected in 2026)	Launch	Q3 2025

Other major outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
In view of an upcoming legislative proposal on on-farm welfare (expected in 2026): • 3 meetings of the Platform on Animal Welfare • Call for evidence • Study supporting the impact assessment	 Events organised Publication Launch	 Q1, Q2 and Q4 2025 Q2 2025 Q3 2025

Output	Indicator	Target
Priority pending proposals ([36]) - Proposal for a Regulation on the protection of animals during transport and related operations, amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 - Proposal for a Regulation on the welfare of dogs and cats and their traceability	Progress/agreement by the co-legislators	For transport – advancing the negotiations with co-legislators in 2025 For the welfare of dogs and cats: finalisation of the trilogues by the end of 2025
Overview report on the long transport of young calves	Publication	Q2 2025
Preparatory work for the Commission Communication to be adopted in 2026 as follow-up to the ECI Communication "Fur Free Europe": • External study • Call for evidence	Launch Publication	In the course of 2025 In the course of 2025

([36]) The list includes proposals led by DG SANTE that were announced as priority proposals in annex III of the 2025 Commission Work Programme and that were pending agreement by the co-legislators at end 2024

ANNEX 3: Performance tables – A modern and sustainable public administration

A. Human resource management

Objective: SANTE employs a skilled, diverse and motivated workforce to deliver on the Commission's priorities		
Main outputs in 2025:		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Appointment of female DHoU	% of female DHoU	>50%
Training programme for Female management talent development	Number of female AD Officials with management potential trained	4 (MDP + SANTE own initiative)
Regular organisation of virtual staff meetings with the Director-General	Number of events	4
Systematic participation of Senior Management in Unit meetings	Number of unit meetings	Every two meetings and at least 8 times a year
Participatory workshops on key policy and organisational topics (AI, Ethics, DIO action)	Number of workshops	6
Social responsibility activities for staff	Number of events	4

B. Digital transformation and data management

Objective: SANTE is using innovative, trusted digital solutions for better policymaking, data management and administrative processes to create a digitally transformed, user-focused and data-driven Commission		
Main outputs in 2025:		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Digital culture		
Artificial Intelligence	Number of sessions on use of corporate AI to all SANTE Staff and management Tailored sessions for all SANTE Units	2 sessions 1 session per Unit
Digital-ready EU policymaking		
Digital-ready EU policymaking	Percentage of DG SANTE legislative proposals that address the digital	100% of the proposals address digital aspects

	aspects in the Legislative, Financial and Digital Statement (LFDS) relative to the total number of DG SANTE legislative proposals within scope of the LFDS.	
Business driven Digital Transformation		
Data findability	Number of IT solutions reviewed to identify datasets and publish updates on the Corporate data catalogue	15/41 IT solutions (baseline 2024: 3/41 IT solutions)
Transparency and data reuse	Number of solutions publishing data through the SANTE data platform for: a) Open data b) Downstream systems	a) 24 datasets / 10 solutions b) + 5 datasets / + 2 solutions (baseline 2024): a) 12 datasets / 4 solutions b) 3 datasets / 3 solutions
Seamless Digital Environment		
IT Legacy ratio	Ratio of fully supported, depreciated and unsupported IT systems (hosted in the corporate datacentre) per department	50%: 50%: 0% (Fully Supported, Deprecated, Unsupported) (Baseline 2024: 86%: 14%: 0.3%)
Green, resilient and secure digital infrastructure		
Cybersecurity	% of IT Security plans that are updated in the last 2 years	100%
Data protection	% of IT solutions reviewed that are in alignment with the EUDPR	100% of IT solutions reviewed

C. Sound financial management

Objective: The authorising officer by delegation has reasonable assurance that resources have been used in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and that cost-effective controls are in place which give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of underlying transactions

Main outputs in 2025

Output	Indicator	Target
Effective controls: legal and regular transactions	Estimated risk at payment	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure
	Estimated risk at closure	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure

Output	Indicator	Target
Effective controls: Safeguarded assets (*stock of vaccines/antigens for animal diseases*)	Compliance with regulatory provisions and accounting closure instructions after audit/review corrections	Remains 100% compliant
Efficient controls	Budget execution Timely payments	Remains > 95% of payment appropriations Remains > 95% of payments (in value) made on time
Economy of controls	Overall estimated cost of controls	Remains < 2% of funds managed

D. Fraud risk management

Objective: The risk of fraud is minimised through the application of effective anti-fraud measures and the implementation of the Commission anti-fraud strategy ([37]) aimed at the prevention, detection and correction ([38]) of fraud		
Main outputs in 2025:		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Launch the update of DG SANTE's anti-fraud strategy in 2025	Launch the update of DG SANTE's anti-fraud strategy and preparation of action plan for 2026-2028 to reflect the updated Commission's Anti-fraud Strategy of 2023	By the end of 2025
Participation in the network "Fraud Prevention and Detection" (FPD) chaired by OLAF and dissemination of the relevant information stemming from these networks	**Participation in the FPDnet meetings and feed-back given to the financial cell**	**At least 4 FPDnet meetings per year and sub-group meetings**

([37]) Communication from the Commission 'Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy: enhanced action to protect the EU budget", COM(2019) 176 of 29 April 2019 – 'the CAFS Communication' – and the accompanying action plan, SWD(2019) 170 – 'the CAFS Action Plan'.

([38]) Correction of fraud' is an umbrella term, which notably refers to the recovery of amounts unduly spent and to administrative sanctions.

Updating fraud indicators and "red flags" for procurement and grants procedures	**Updated lists communicated to relevant staff**	**By the end of 2025**
Actions linked to handling "conflict of interest" in agencies, scientific committees and expert groups	SANTE permanent group including relevant policy units to discuss common issues to the agencies for which SANTE is partner and assess the need for a meeting of the SANTE inter-agencies Task Force on independence	1 meeting per year of the SANTE permanent group to evaluate the need for a meeting on the SANTE task force (TF) on independence, with all-agencies for which SANTE is partner

E. Sound environmental management

Objective: Reaching climate neutrality by 2030 and a reduced environmental footprint for the Commission.

Main outputs in 2025

Output	Indicator	Target
Increase in the use (number of) video-conferencing rooms in Grange for meetings with stakeholders (avoiding business trips) in the DG.	Increase/decrease compared to 2024	Increase
Participation in the seasonal energy saving action (closing DG's buildings)	% of SANTE's buildings participating in the annual BEST energy saving actions in winter % of SANTE's buildings participating in the annual BEST energy saving actions in summer	75% (3 out of 4: 2 in BXL, 1 in LUX, 1 IRL) 75% (3 out of 4: 2 in BXL, 1 in LUX, 1 IRL)
Communication and awareness raising actions in line with EMAS corporate campaigns (including corporate Velo Mai campaign, Grange-specific internal EMAS communication campaign, an OIB/OIL EMAS campaign for buildings in BXL and LUX)	% of SANTE sites informed/participated	100%
# Actions to promote more sustainable missions/business travel from Brussels & Luxembourg	Number of actions	1 action

Output	Indicator	Target
Review of DG's business travel trends /patterns (based on corporate EC-staff's professional trips (missions) with a view to optimise and gradually reduce CO2 emissions (e.g. by optimising the number of participants in the same mission, promoting more sustainable travelling options, promoting videoconferencing/ virtual events as an alternative))	CO2 (t) emissions from DG's missions (% means of transportation used)	Reduce DG's CO2 emissions from missions
Actions to reduce use of resources other than energy (water, paper etc.) including in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or in collaboration with OIB/OIL where appropriate.	Number of actions to reduce use of resources other than energy	1 action
	% of SANTE sites informed/participated	100%
Actions to reduce waste and improve waste sorting, incl. in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns	Number of actions	1 action
	% of SANTE sites informed/ participate	75%
Continuous improvement of environmental performance of the Commission site in Grange	Retention of EMAS registration for the Grange site	Achieved