

# Study on cross-border cooperation

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„Enhancing Healthcare Cooperation in Cross-border Regions“  
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# What to expect

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- » How many cross-border collaboration projects in healthcare are going on across the EU?
- » What are the topics of these cross-border collaboration projects?
- » What drives cross-border collaboration in healthcare across the EU?
- » How to support practitioners in setting up cross-border collaboration in healthcare?

# **MAPPING** **of existing healthcare related cross-border initiatives**

Aim of the mapping:

- » to present a **comprehensive picture of cross-border healthcare collaboration** across the European Union (EU) (based on Chapter IV of Directive 2011/24/EU) by mapping projects which received support by **European funding instruments**

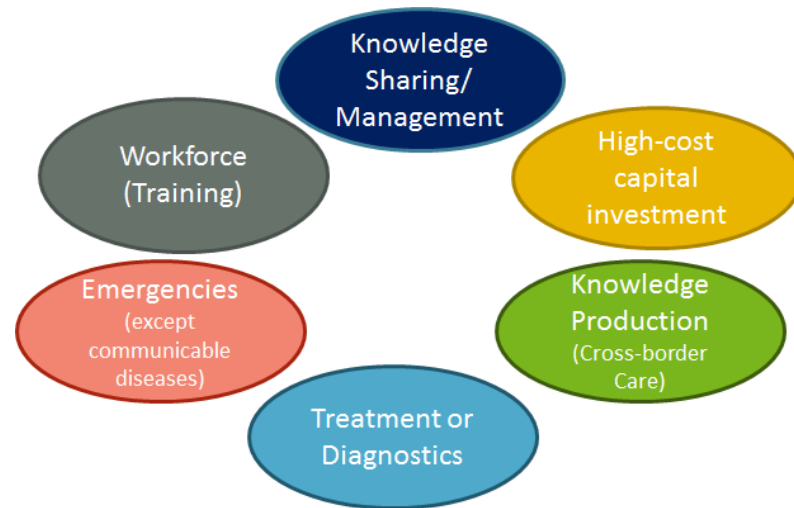
# Scope of the inventory of cross-border care projects

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*„Cross-border collaboration in the field of health care can involve a transfer, a movement or an exchange of individuals, services and resources.“ (Glinos, 2011:217)*


- » **Monitoring of Status quo** - Mapping of existing CBC projects
- » Going **beyond silos of individual funding mechanisms** (e.g. Interreg, Joint Actions, bilateral programmes)

## » **Six thematic Categories**



# What insights to gain from the mapping?

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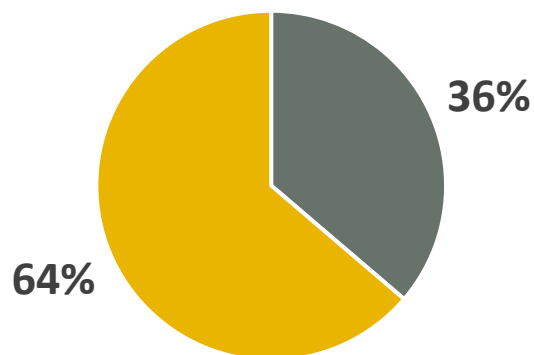
- » Understanding of **regional differences** and **cooperation levels** (transnational, interregional, cross-border)
  - > „fluid“  „rigid“
- » Understanding of **thematic priorities**
  - ✓ Actors involved, e.g. workforce vs. patients
  - ✓ Distribution of typical activities, e.g. training vs. care provision
- » **Financial information:** amount and distribution
- » Possible **incentives for CBHC collaborations**
  - » Distinction of **different perspectives:**
    - ✓ System level: capital investment, research
    - ✓ Provider level: knowledge-sharing, training
    - ✓ Patient level: emergency care, improved treatment



# A glimpse of the results

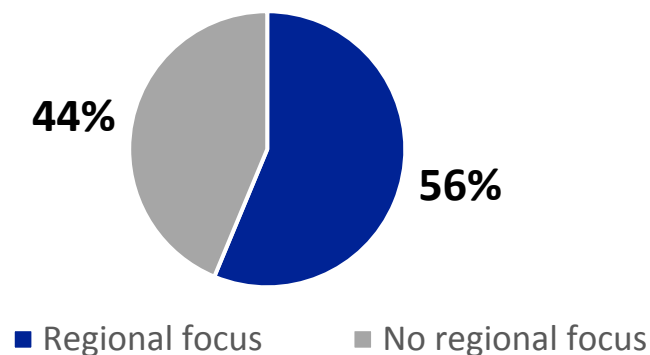
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- » Total of 1,167 projects identified
- » 423 bilateral or multilateral cross-border collaborations across Europe selected



■ Selected projects

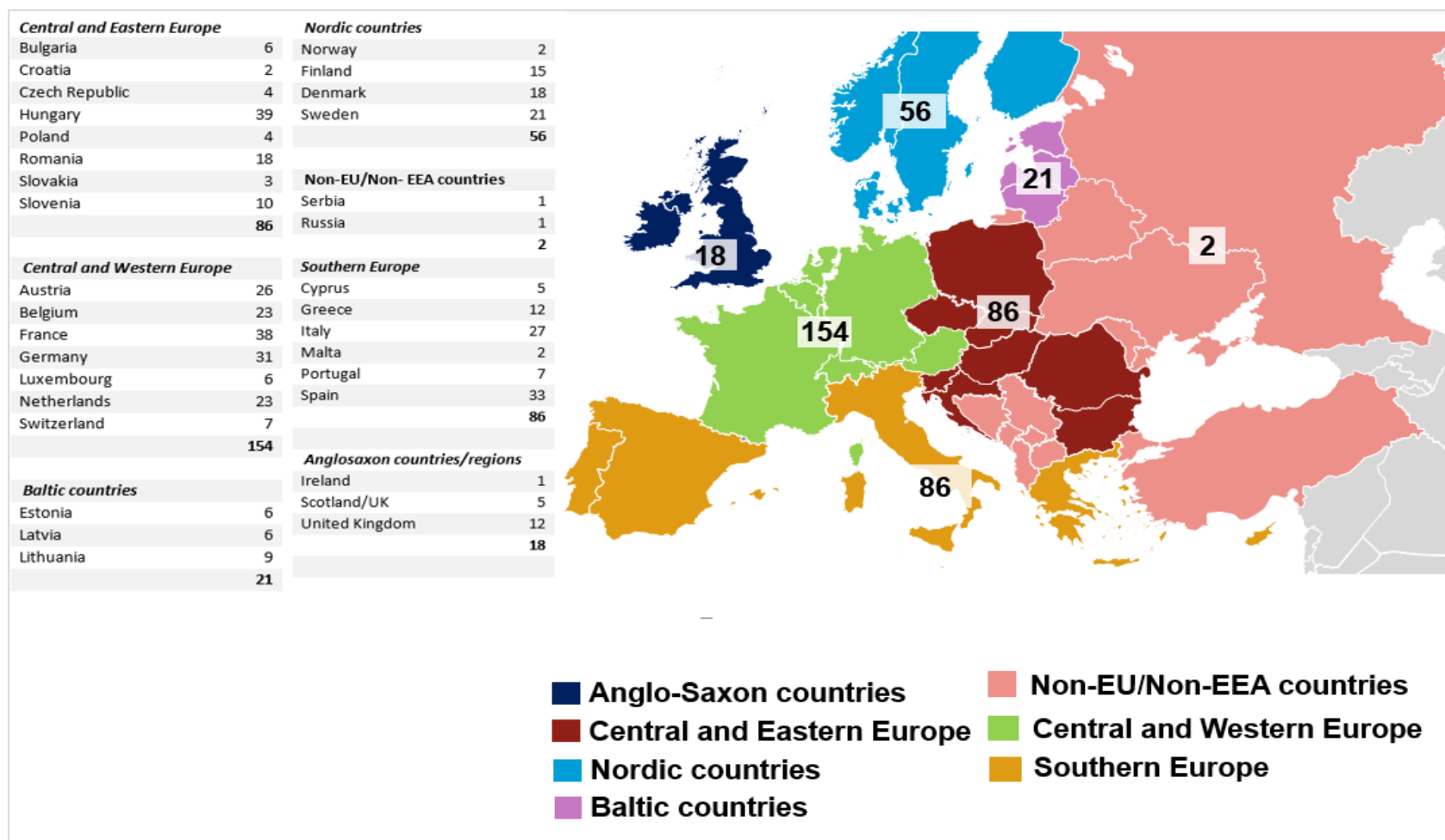
■ Non-selected identified projects (incl. duplicates)



Projects aim to improve:

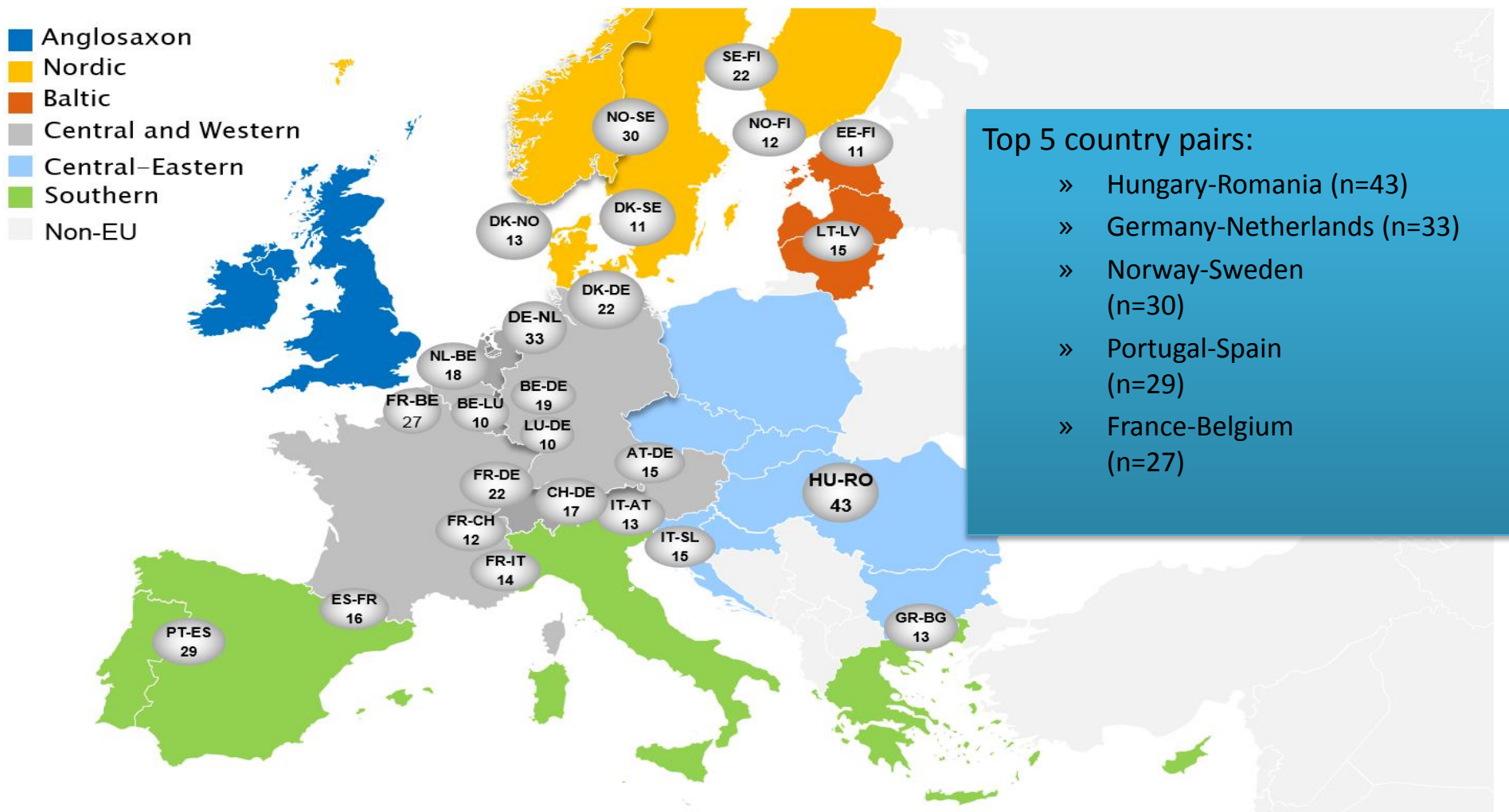
- » local/regional health care systems or
- » the health of local/regional population

# Central and Western European countries lead the most cross-border care projects



**Note:** Numbers in the graph refer to the total of cross-border care projects identified in the whole region subject to the respective colouring where the number is placed (e.g. 86 projects in Central and Eastern European countries, coloured in dark red). The table on the left side provides a more detailed split-up.

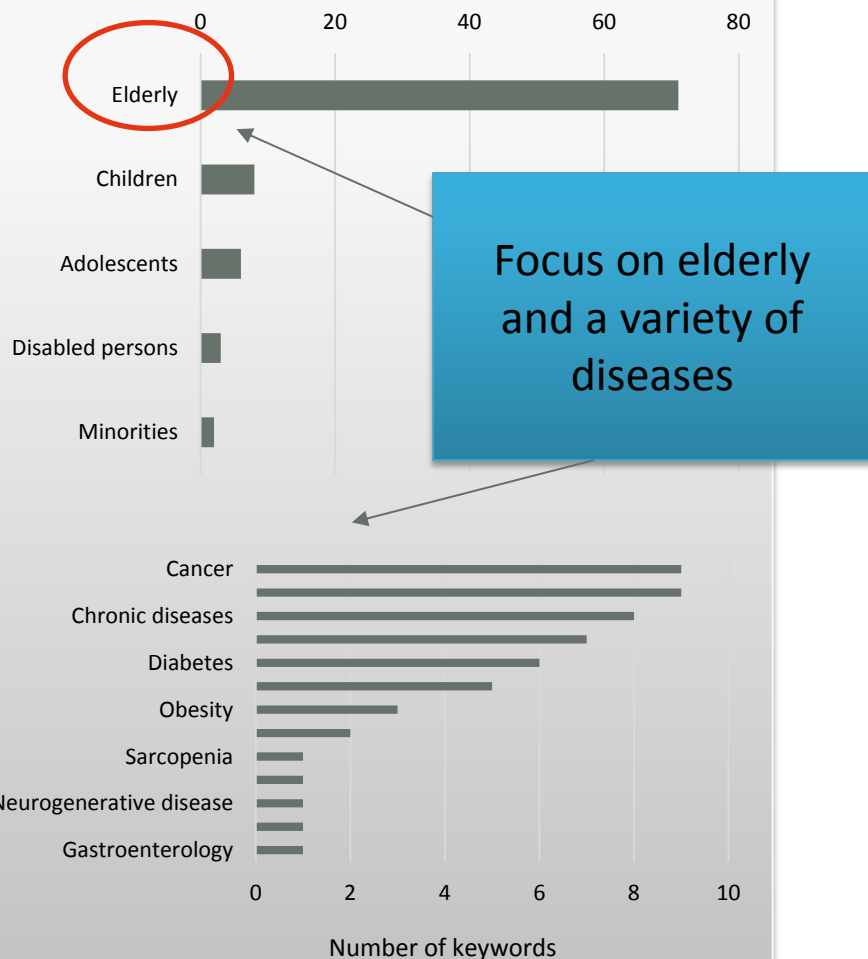
# Bilateral contracts are spread across Europe, albeit mainly between **neighbouring countries**



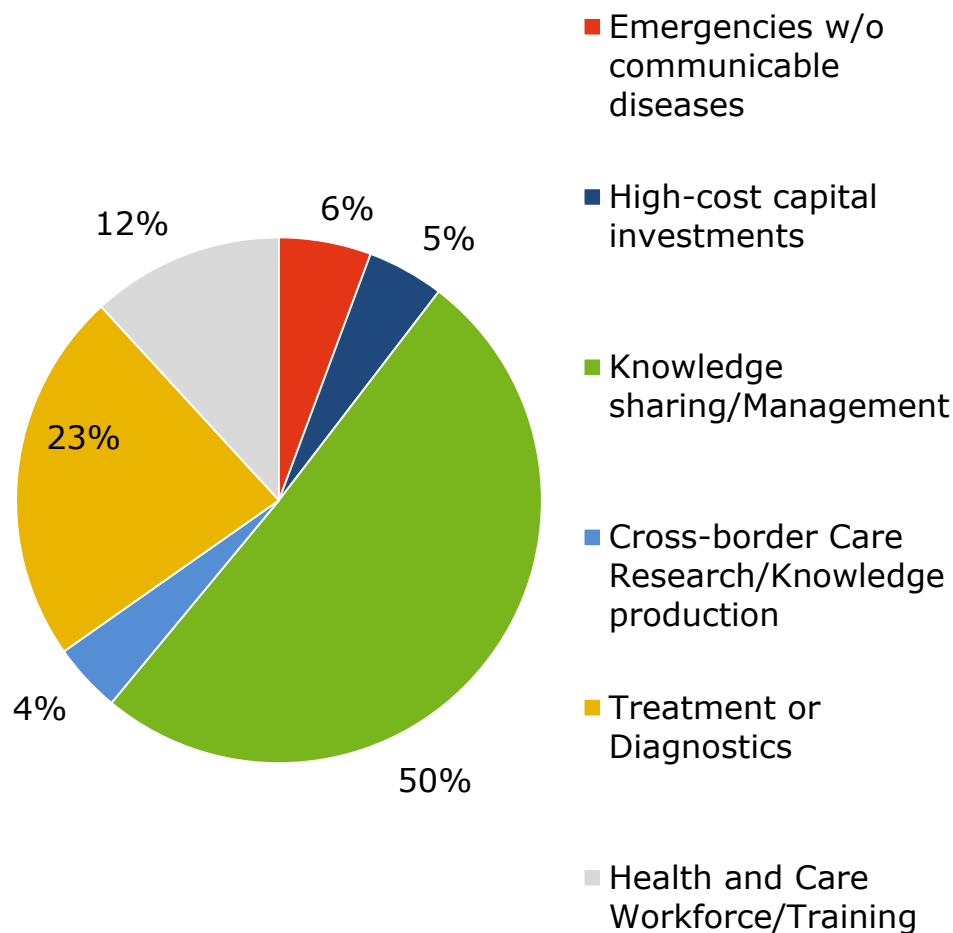
*Country pairs in bilateral or multilateral cross-border care collaborations with at least 10 projects in EU/EEA countries:*

# Knowledge sharing and treatment collaborations prevail in identified cross-border care projects

## Project key words



## Primary thematic focus of EU-funded Cross-border Care Projects (2007-2017)



## To wrap it up

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- » Diverse picture of collaboration in healthcare, social care and public health across Europe
- » Cultural, historical and geographical ties remain important
  - » Fluid borders instead of rigid borders
- » Central and Western European countries as frontrunners, but Central and Eastern European countries frequently involved too
  - » Hungary and Romania as special success story of cross-border care?
- » Regional focus is still important but non-regional focus also relevant in almost half of the projects identified

Inventory list available under: [https://goeg.at/study\\_on\\_cross-border\\_cooperation](https://goeg.at/study_on_cross-border_cooperation)



# CROSS-BORDER.CARE MANUAL & TOOLS

for supporting the start of cross-border collaboration in healthcare

Aim of the Manual & Tools:

- » provide **practice oriented support material for stakeholders** (i.e. healthcare providers, healthcare payers and local authorities) who are interested in starting cross-border collaboration

**The Toolkit is designed as a Manual**

*The Toolbox builds on results of upstream study results, especially a systematic inventory of cross-border collaborations in Europe ([https://goeg.at/study\\_on\\_cross-border\\_cooperation](https://goeg.at/study_on_cross-border_cooperation)) .*

# How is the Cross-border.Care Manual & Tools structured?

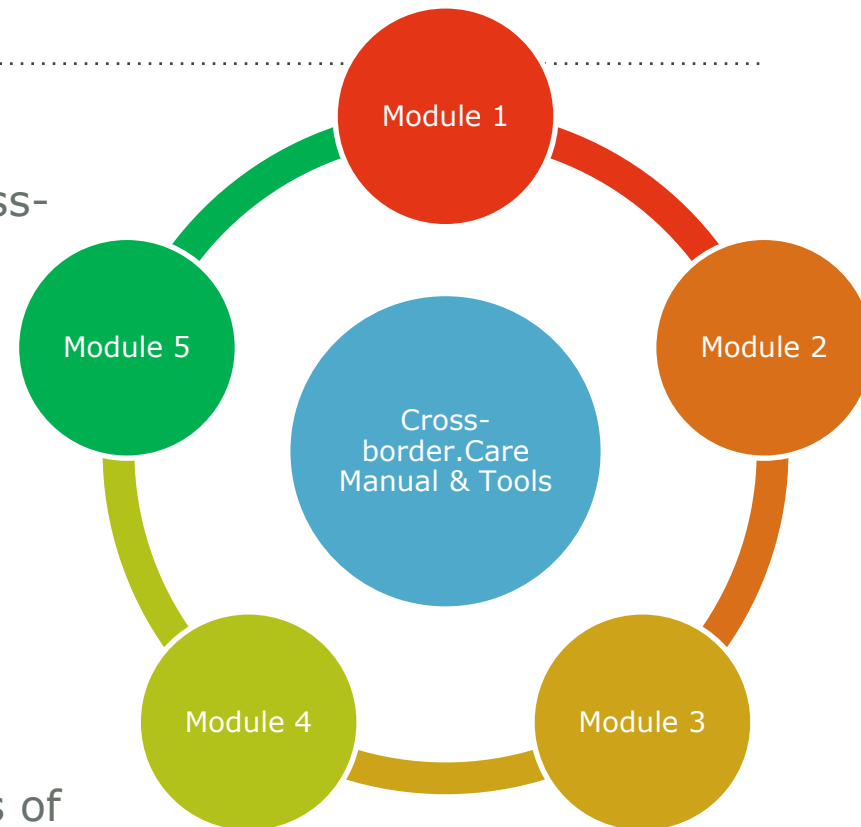
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Tools related to project management in cross-border collaboration in healthcare

- » **Module 1:** Project preparation
- » **Module 2:** Project development
- » **Module 3:** Contracting
- » **Module 4:** Project implementation

Practice-based information on specific types of cross—border healthcare collaboration

- » **Module 5:** Business cases



[1] European Commission. Project Cycle Management Guidelines. Brussels: European Commission, 2004.

[2] INTERact. Project management handbook. n.d.

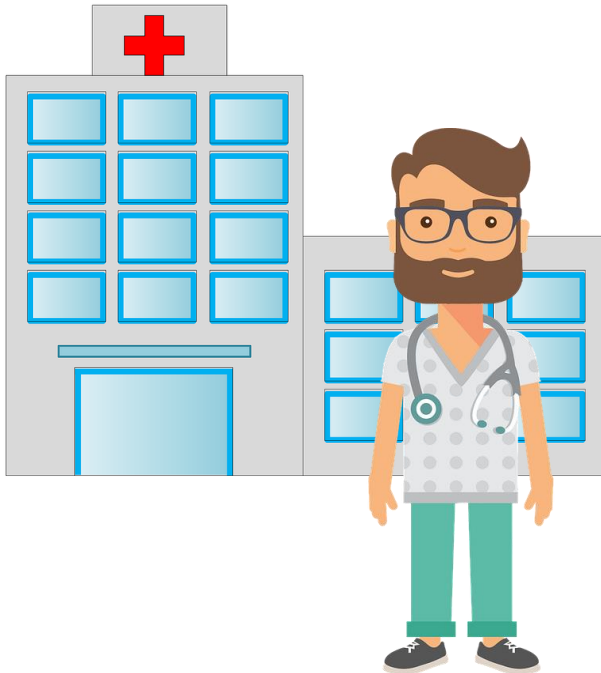
# Who is the target group of the *Cross-border.Care Manual and Tools*?

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Healthcare providers

Healthcare purchasers

Public authorities



## How should the *Cross-border.Care Manual & Tools be used?*

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- » Modules follow project life cycle logic build on one another
  - » Tools should facilitate proceeding into next life cycle stage
- » Flexibility is guaranteed
  - » Tools designed as self-standing support material
  - » Users may focus on particular topics depending on experience
- » *Cross-border.Care Manual & Tools designed to provide an idea of what to consider when starting a cross-border collaboration in healthcare in order to make it a success*

# How to prepare?

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## Module 1: Project Preparation

Project  
idea

Stake-  
holders

Project  
concept

Project  
partners

Funding

# How to develop?

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## Module 2: Project Development

Project  
content

Time  
shedule

Decision-  
making

Work  
plan

Budget  
&  
Finance

Commu-  
nication

# How to secure commitment?

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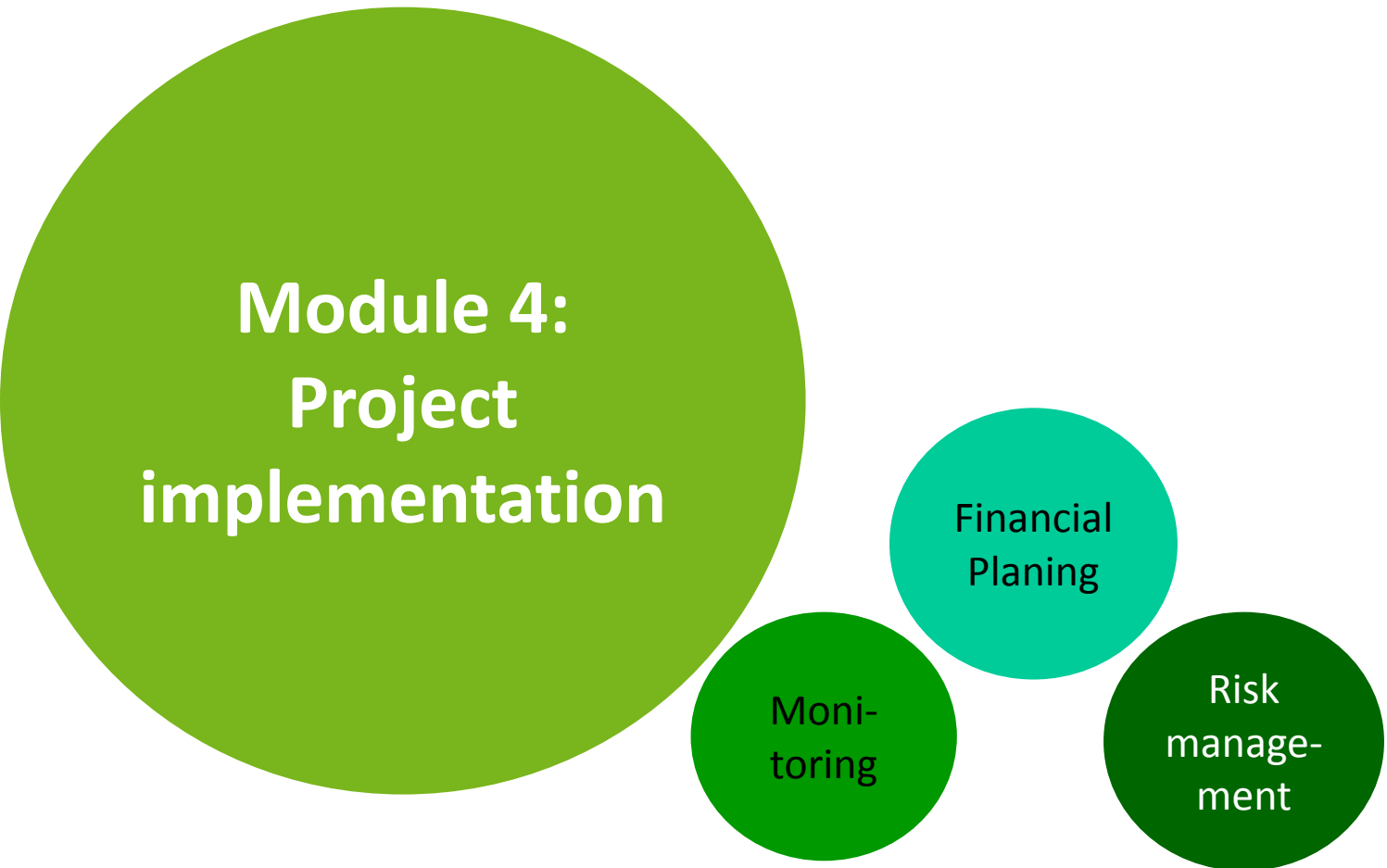
## Module 3: Contracting

Project  
partner  
agreement

Legal  
form

# How to get started?

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**Module 4:  
Project  
implementation**

**Financial  
Planing**

**Moni-  
toring**

**Risk  
manage-  
ment**



Source: pixabay.com

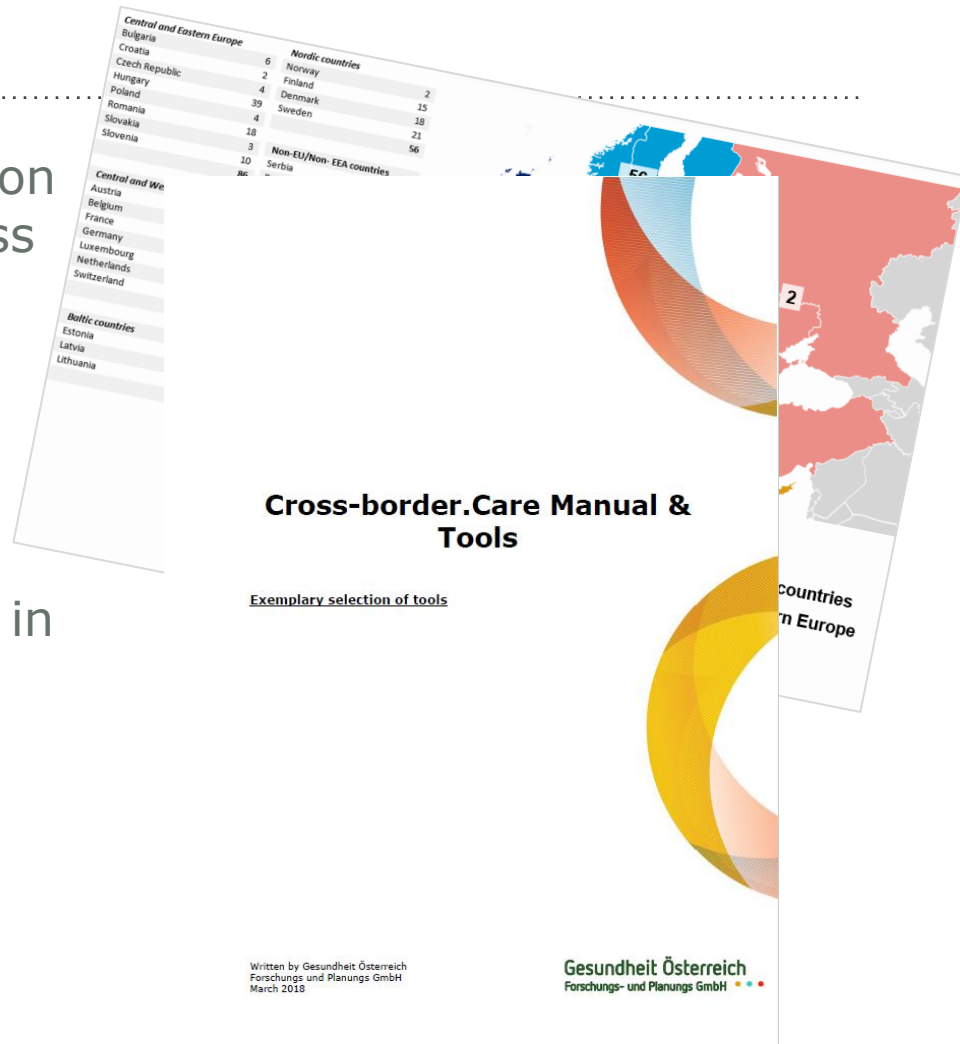
# The Toolkit at a glance

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- » 1 Manual = 4 Modules = 40 Tools
- » Project management support for starting cross-border collaboration in healthcare
- » All Tools are available in Word or Excel format
  - » Download of separate documents (per Tool):  
[https://goeg.at/study\\_on\\_cross-border\\_cooperation](https://goeg.at/study_on_cross-border_cooperation)
  - » Full study report:  
<https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/52088b97-3234-11e8-b5fe-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

# Lessons learned

- » A lot of Cross-border collaboration in healthcare is happening across the EU
  - » Less focus on patient mobility
- » EU funding helps but may not drive cross-border collaboration in healthcare alone.
  - » History, culture, geography are more important
- » No need to fight alone against windmills. Support is available.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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