

A missed opportunity for adaptation?

Lessons from the pandemic: COVID-19 recovery funds and adaptation capacity for public health in Europe

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What did we do?

Aim for this project was to explore the implementation of climate change and health adaptation and identify if the Covid-19 Resilience and Recovery Plans were utilised as an opportunity for climate and health policy action

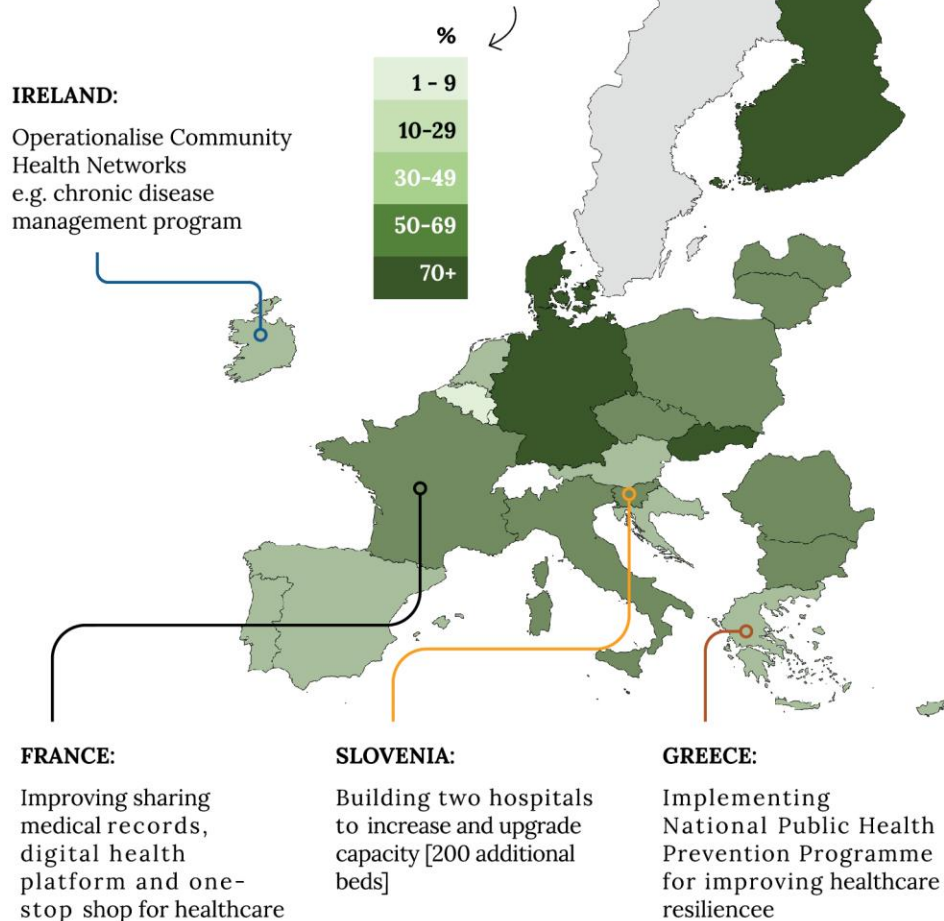
We have:

- ✓ Reviewed EU Member State Covid-19 Resilience and Recovery Plans
- ✓ Interviewed 32 European decisionmakers in international, national and local governments across 20 countries.



Resilience and Recovery Plans

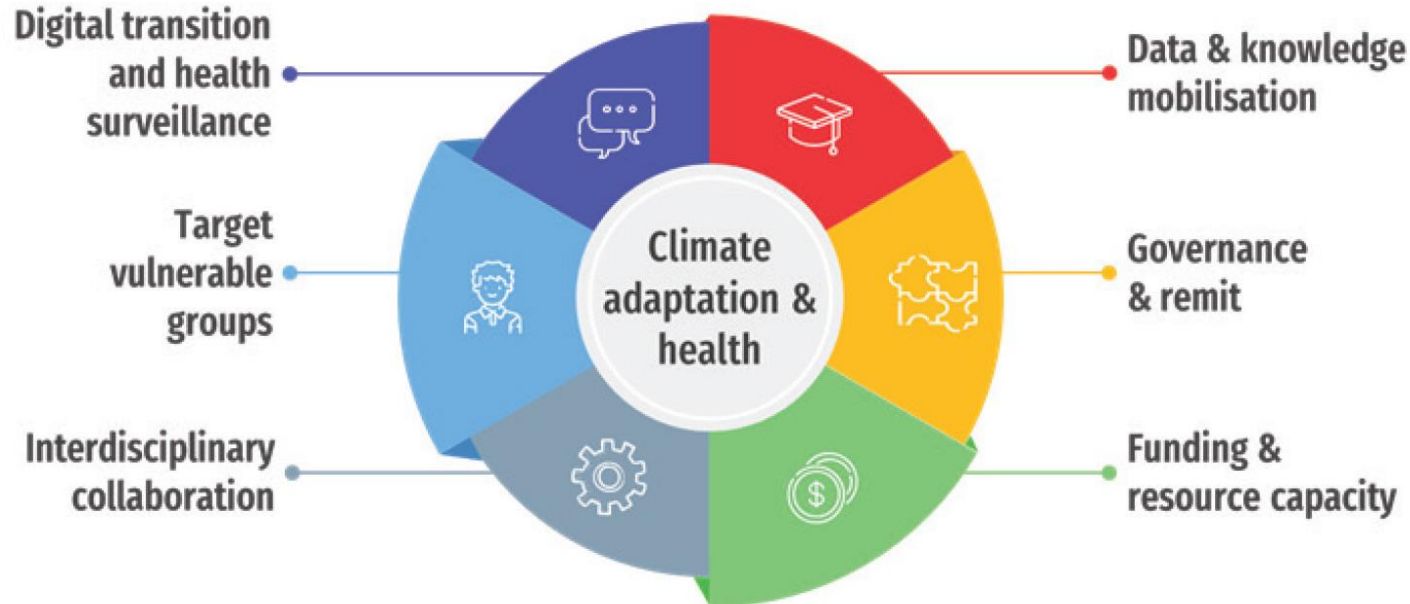
% share of health system expenditure in the Recovery and Resilience plans per Member State and country examples



- Expenditure on health system measures EUR 40 billion on average (9% of total expenditure)
- 26% of plans account for digital expenditure
- Key climate themes: energy efficiency, sustainable mobility and clean power
- **Only 6% of plans expenditure allocated to climate adaptation measures**

Implementing climate and health adaptation

Key components for implementation of climate and health policy



Adapted from WHO Healthy Cities Network figure



Monitoring. Resilience and recovery plans need to be monitored to evaluate benefits for climate change and health system resilience.



Funding. Increase allocation of expenditure and resources for climate and health adaptation measures.



Training. Better alignment and training of public health professionals to increase understanding of climate change and health is needed to improve uptake within public health departments



Inter-sectoral collaboration. Overcome barriers which limit implementation of climate adaptation including improving data and evidence sharing for collaboration between disciplines, departments and government