

Social prescribing initiatives

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EuroHealthNet

European partnership for health, equity & wellbeing



EuroHealthNet



REGIONE DEL VENETO



Regione Toscana



A.S.L. T03 REGIONE PIEMONTE



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

FONDAZIONE
links
PASSION FOR INNOVATION



Health and disease

Lifestyle risk factors

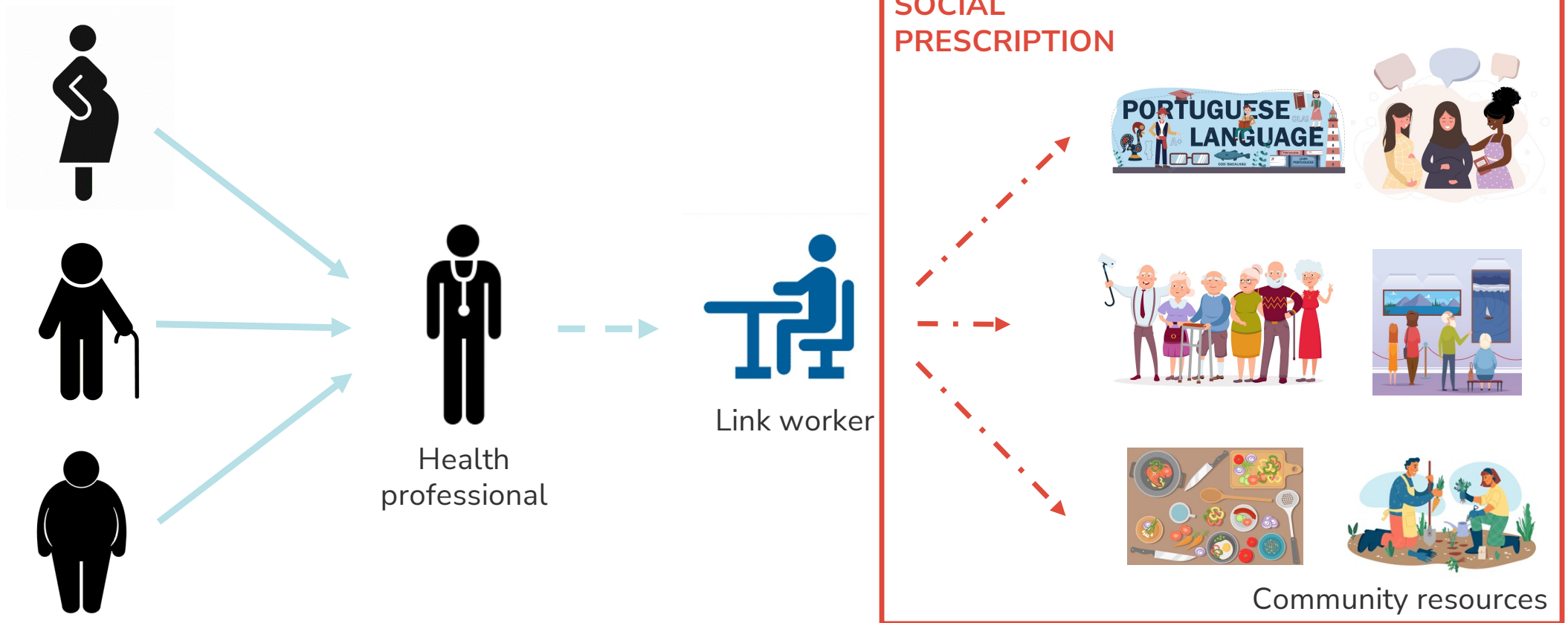
Daily living conditions such as housing, education, employment, working conditions, social support

Economic and social structures

power & wealth distribution, fiscal policy, gender & class

Fran Baum (2019) from Baum FE. More than the tip of the iceberg: health policies and research that go below the surface. Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health 2009; 63: 957

Social prescribing



Austria

- Pilot in 9 primary care facilities since 21/22.
- Wide range of services (incl legal advice and career counselling)
- Quality assurance (evaluation and documentation is key)
- Training for link workers

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

Portugal

- Since 2018 in USF Baxia, Lisbon (16.000 patients) vulnerable community – older people and migrants



Netherlands

- 30% of municipalities apply social prescribing
- Welfare coaches (for older people) fall prevention, loneliness
- Accredited lifestyle coaches (for obese people) – as part of health insurance



National Institute for Public Health
and the Environment
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

Finland

- Physical activity on prescription since 2001 - Arts and culture on prescription since 2015
- Pilot in Lapland in 2020-22 to address loneliness.
- Evaluation: costs 33.000 EUR for 60-80 referrals in community with 10.000 people



LAPIN SAIRAANHOITOPIIRI
LAPPI BUOHCCEDIKŠUNBIIRE

Slovenia

- Long tradition of community health workers (often nurses)
- Health Promotion Centres (as part of primary care) with multi-disciplina

NIJZ Nacionalni inštitut
za javno zdravje

Several countries

- Social prescribing of dance lessons for people with Parkinson's disease



World Health
Organization

UK

- Building a social prescribing blueprint
 - evidence base
 - standardise
 - mainstream into care pathways
 - pricing and reimbursement

UK National Academy of
Social Prescribing since
2019

Invest4Health ‘test-beds’ focused on social prescribing



Italian National Institute of Health

Music and Motherhood (postpartum depression)

Implemented in **multiple sites across Italy** by the Istituto Superiore di Sanità, this programme runs group singing sessions for mothers with postpartum depression. It brings together health services and the arts sector to improve mental health and wellbeing. The model is now being expanded to new locations, with a focus on scaling and sustainable funding.



Autonomous Province of Trento

C.O.P.E. project (young people – NEETs)

Implemented mainly in the Autonomous Province of Trento, this project supports vulnerable young people at higher risk of depression, anxiety, and poor physical health by connecting them to local services, training, and community activities. It builds local networks and trains professionals, with the aim of expanding the model to other regions and ensuring long-term sustainability.

Opportunities: Invest4Health initiative



Invest4Health

- Funded by Horizon Europe, **Invest4Health (I4H)** explores **new ways of financing health promotion and disease prevention (2023-2026)**.
- Our mission: to mobilise more resources for health promotion and disease prevention.
 - through making a better case for investing in health promotion and
 - creating business and **financing models that support more efficient use of resources and maximise the return on investment in health promotion**

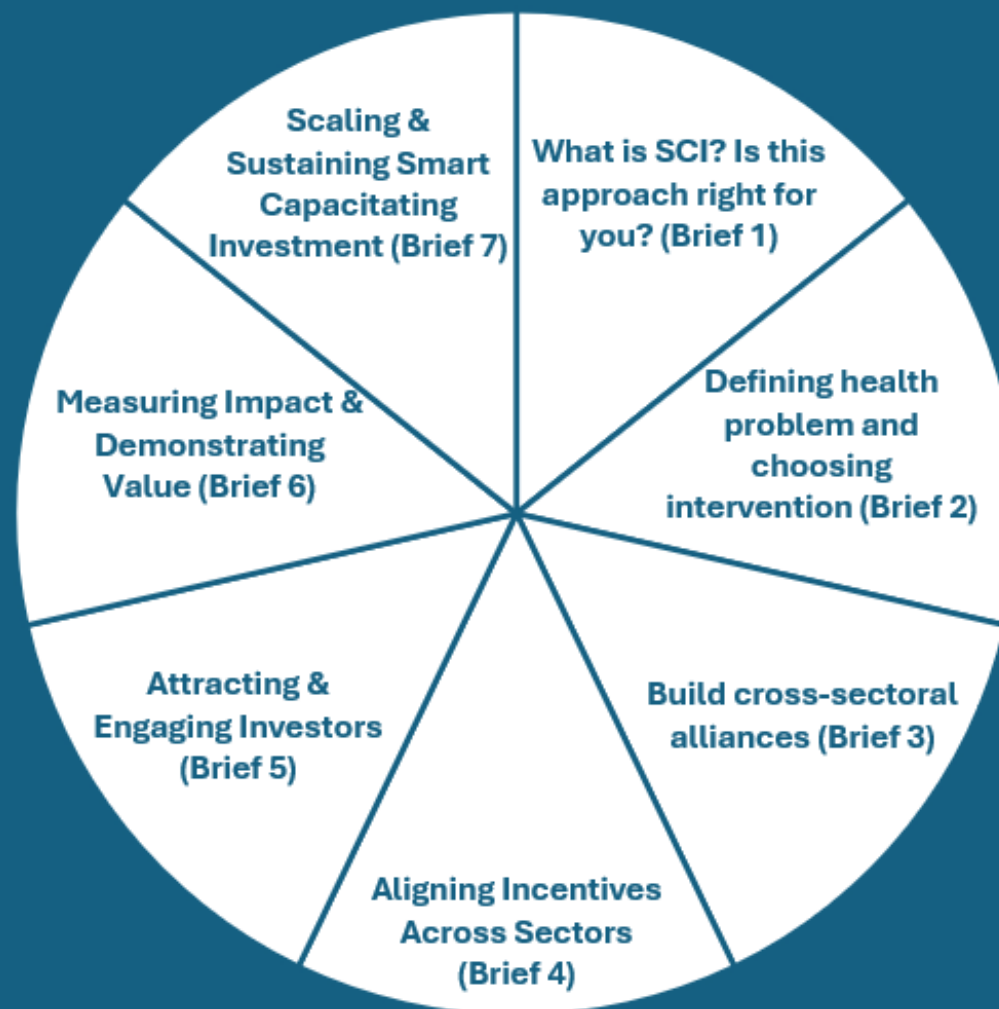
Smart Capacitating Investment for Social Prescribing

Smart Capacitating Investment (SCI) involves unconventional investments in health promotion and disease prevention. These investments may be:

- Made with new resources or made with existing resources that are reallocated towards health promotion.
- Financial or non-financial
- Public or private (or a mix of both)
- Made within or outside of the health sector (e.g., education, transport)
- Oriented towards social return on investment or oriented towards primarily financial return

**Broadening
sources of finance
for health
promotion and
disease
prevention:**

**Thematic
information and
policy briefs
(...upcoming...)**



Social Prescribing to promote and improve access to health and care services for people in vulnerable situations in Europe



“We believe that Social Prescribing (SP) holds the power to transform health systems by bridging the gap between clinical care and the surrounding network of community-based, non-clinical services.”



Coordinated by
Prof. Dr. Wolfram Herrmann
Charité –
Universitätsmedizin Berlin



- Project start: **January 2025**
- Project duration: **5 years**
- Consortium: **22 institutions**
- Europe-wide: **11 countries**
- Funding: **6.97 million €**

1. Co-Creation



2. Randomised Controlled Trial



3. Comparative Qualitative Study



4. Dissemination, Communication, Exploitation & Policy Work



social-prescribing.eu

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HADEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authorities can be held responsible for them. Grant Agreement No 101155873.



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Thank you



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