



European efforts in Mental Health research



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Mental Health



The problem:

- *Each year 38.2% of the EU population suffers from a mental disorder.*
- *Mood disorders alone costed >€113 billion in Europe in 2010. (Eur. Neuropsychopharmacol. (2011) 21:718-779)*

EC strategy:

- *Use Programme funding (FP7, Health programme) to support the priorities of:*
 - The Europe 2020 strategy and the Innovation Union
 - The European Pact for Mental Health.



Europe 2020 – the Innovation Union



AIM:

- *To improve conditions and access to finance for research and innovation to turn ideas into products, growth and jobs.*

HOW:

- *Focussing on societal challenges: e.g. climate, energy, health*
- *Healthy ageing is one of the grand challenges identified.*
Mental health is key to this aim.
- *Strengthening links in the innovation chain by:*
 - Creating 'European Innovation Partnerships' between the EU and national levels to speed up the development and deployment of the technologies needed to meet the challenges.
 - **Pilot EIP on Healthy Aging**, aiming at adding 2 healthy years to lives of citizens by 2020.





- *5 priorities:*
 - *Mental Health in Youth*
 - *Prevention of Depression and Suicide*
 - *Mental Health in Older People*
 - *Stigma & Social Exclusion*
 - *Mental Health in the Workplace*
- *Implemented through 5 thematic conferences in 2009-2011*
- *Conclusions from conferences included in the EU-Compass Database of Policies and Good Practices*
- *Council Conclusions on the Mental Health Pact: results and future actions, 6 June 2011*
 - **Joint Action on Mental Health** and Well-being, starting 2012/13



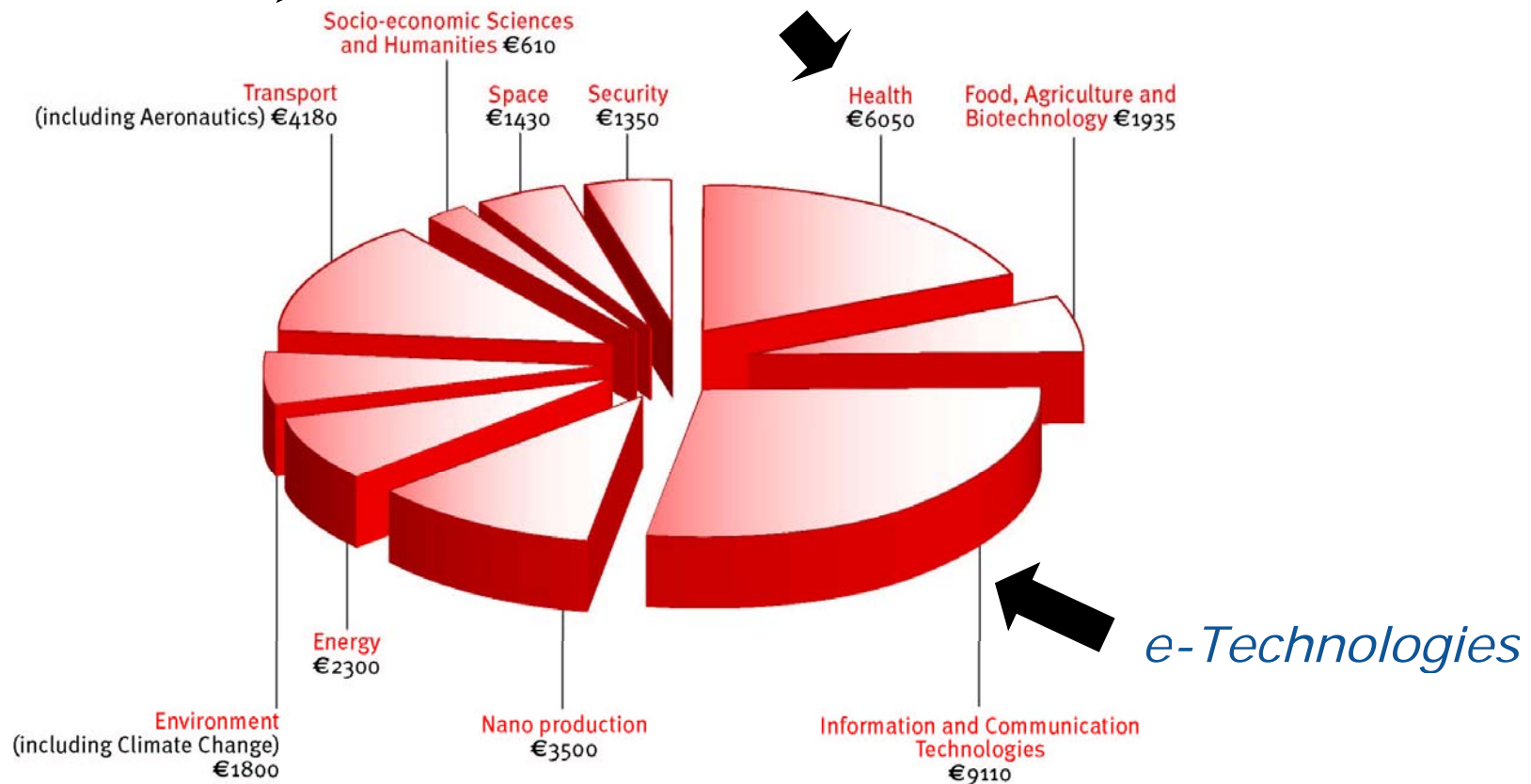
FP7 Co-operation: Support for Mental



Health

*Social cohesion, inclusion,
sustainable lifestyle,
social trends, demographic
change*

*Basic, clinical, 2011 call: ~ € 650 m
public health 2012 call: ~ € 620 m
research 2013 call: ~ € 780 m*





Main policy drivers:

- *Improving health of European citizens*
- *Increasing competitiveness of European health-related industries and businesses*
- *Addressing global health issues*
- *Supporting the aims of Europe 2020: the 'Innovation Union'*
 - Collaborative research: **FP7 projects**
 - Public-private partnerships: **Innovative Medicines Initiative**
 - Coordinating national research programmes: **ERA-net**





Collaborative research

- *120 collaborative projects **on the brain and its diseases** supported so far, for a value of €637 million, of which **€217 million (34%) devoted to mental health research.***
- *Research on brain diseases has one of the highest annual financial envelopes (€127 million) compared to other diseases (e.g. cardiovascular diseases, diabetes).*
- *Specific mental health funding is **€43.5 million/year** (comparable to other diseases).*





Collaborative research

FP7 research covered both adult and paediatric mental disorders and focused on:

- encouraging disease prevention, including developing tools for early diagnosis
- Understanding mechanisms of disease
- Improving therapy, including clinical trials

Pre-clinical bottlenecks slowing drug development were addressed through IMI in collaboration with industry (EFPIA)





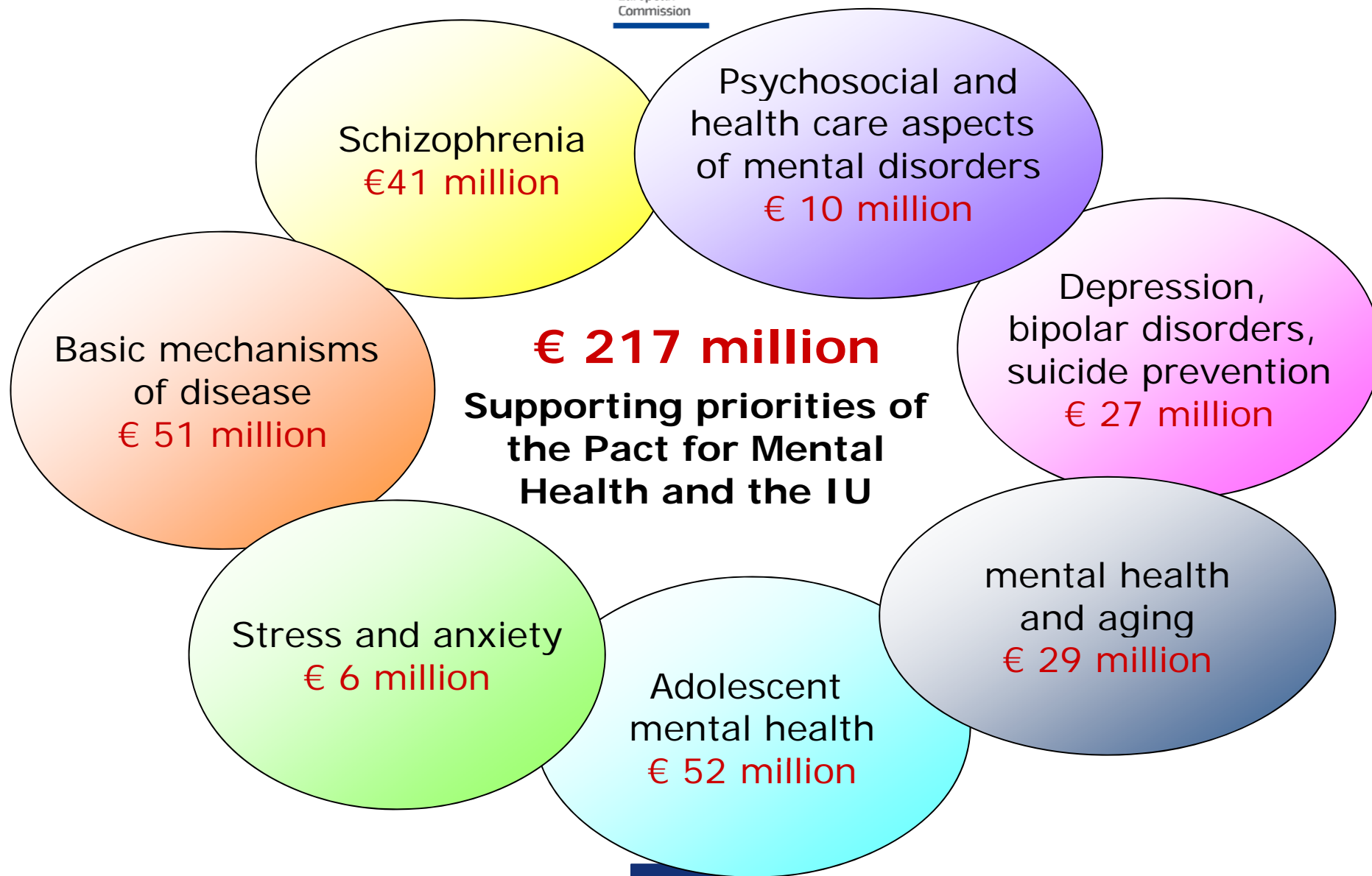
Private-public partnerships:

Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)

- *€54 million invested so far*
- *3 projects:*
 - **NEWMEDS**, developing new drugs for depression and schizophrenia.
 - **PHARMA-COG**, addressing the prediction of cognitive properties of new drug candidates for neurodegenerative diseases.
 - **EU-AIMS**, aiming at identifying new translational endpoints for autism.



Mental Health research in FP7



Mental Health projects: Examples



MOODINFLAME (€ 12 million)

- MOODINFLAME aims at validating new biomarkers of depression. In particular, it will assess whether changes in the immune response system have any prognostic value for depression

Schizophrenia platform:

EU-GEI (€ 11.5 million) and OPTIMISE (€ 11 million)

- EU-GEI wants to identify the interactive genetic, clinical and environmental determinants involved in the development, severity and outcome of schizophrenia
- OPTiMiSE aims at optimising treatments in schizophrenia and exploring novel therapeutic options



Mental Health projects: Examples



OSPI-EUROPE (€ 3 million)

- OSPI-Europe aims at providing EU member states with an evidence-based prevention strategy for suicidality, together with tools for running and evaluating these interventions.

SEYLE (€ 3 million)

- SEYLE is a pilot intervention study to assess 3 different health promoting / suicide prevention programmes in 11000 students across 11 European countries.

WE-STAY (€ 3 million)

- WE-STAY aims at reducing truancy rates in students by improving their mental health and well being, including fighting depression and suicidality.



The ERA-NETs



NEURON II:

ERA-NET linking European national and regional research funding programmes in the field of disease-related neuroscience.

15 national funding agencies from 12 countries.

Also address mental disorders

4 years

ERA-AGE 2:

*European Research Area in Ageing.
13 national funding agencies from as many countries.*

Post-doctoral fellowships programme for young scientists. New programme to be launched in 2010

3 years





To establish a commonly endorsed action framework on mental health, addressing:

- **Depression and Suicide**
- **Moving towards community-based mental health services**
- **Workplaces**
- **Schools**
- **Health in all Policies**





**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION**

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