



## D1.5 Overview of foreseen activities to develop synergies with the JA

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## Document information

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## List of abbreviations and definitions

Abbreviation	Definition
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CRD(s)	Chronic Respiratory Disease(s)
EC	European Commission
JARED	Joint Action on Respiratory Diseases
LH4L	LungHealth4Life
MEP	Member of the European Parliament
NCD(s)	Non-Communicable Disease(s)
SOLACE	Strengthening the Screening of Lung Cancer in Europe (EU project)
UN	United Nations
WHO	World Health Organization
WP(s)	Work Package(s)

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## Executive Summary

This document provides an overview of the objectives, approach, and expected outcomes of the collaboration between the LungHealth4Life (LH4L) project and the Joint Action on Chronic Respiratory Diseases (JARED). Both initiatives, funded under the European Commission's Healthier Together Initiative, share the common goal of improving prevention, diagnosis, and management of chronic respiratory diseases (CRDs) across the EU. Additionally, it highlights other key initiatives at the EU and global levels that set the broader context for the work carried out under LH4L and JARED.

Recognising their shared objectives, this report identifies key synergies between the two projects, summarising discussions held on the topic up till the end of February 2025. Those conversations highlighted opportunities for policy alignment, joint advocacy, healthcare system improvements, and knowledge exchange. The plans outlined in this document will continue to evolve as further areas for synergy and collaboration are identified, with updates reflected in the "Report on the First Period of Activities to Build and Strengthen Synergies with the Joint Action" and the "Final Report on Synergies and Sustainability with the Joint Action".

The identified areas of collaboration focus on:

- Strengthening the policy framework for CRDs by integrating LH4L's recommendations into JARED's national respiratory programs
- Enhancing prevention strategies by supporting smoking cessation, air quality monitoring, and workplace health initiatives
- Improving healthcare system efficiency through joint lung function screening efforts and shared best practices for asthma and COPD management
- Expanding outreach efforts by integrating LH4L's school-based initiatives into JARED's broader public health interventions
- Advancing research and data collection by aligning findings on environmental determinants and ensuring data consistency across both projects



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To implement the outlined actions, both projects will engage in:

- Stakeholder engagement at EU and national levels, including with policymakers and networks at national and international levels
- Operational coordination, including regular collaboration meetings and resource-sharing
- Knowledge exchange - through joint training modules, shared platforms, and policy adaptation support

By fostering close collaboration and continuing strategic alignment, the partnership between JARED and LH4L will enhance the effectiveness of both initiatives, reinforcing the European Commission's broader objectives in tackling CRDs across the EU.



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## 1. Introduction

This document outlines the planned activities to develop synergies between the EU-funded project LungHealth4Life (LH4L) and the Joint Action on Chronic Respiratory Diseases (JARED). Given the shared objectives of these initiatives in addressing chronic respiratory diseases (CRDs), multiple areas of collaboration have been identified to enhance the impact and sustainability of both projects. This report summarises key discussion points and action items identified during the conversations held during the JARED kick-off meeting on January 30, 2025, which included a dedicated discussion on synergies.

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## 2. Background

The European Commission's *Healthier Together – EU Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Initiative* was launched back in 2021 to support EU Member States in identifying and implementing effective policies to reduce the burden of major non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including among 5 key strands – CRDs.

To reinforce these efforts, in 2022 the EC has launched targeted action grants under the Healthier Together initiative, specifically focusing on CRDs. These grants were aimed to strengthen prevention and management strategies by supporting the implementation of public health policies, the development and transfer of best practices, the creation of public health guidelines, and the rollout of innovative approaches. Additionally, they would facilitate projects that enhance patient pathways and support Member States' initiatives.

LH4L is the stakeholder project that was awarded funding under this stream, bringing together lung function testing, health promotion and disease prevention in schools.

Specific actions under LH4L were designed to complement the Joint Action on Respiratory Diseases (JARED), a three-year collaboration led by Hungary and involving



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14 EU Member States, along with Iceland, Ukraine, and Moldova. JARED focuses on improving outcomes for CRDs through digital health innovations, enhanced access to diagnostic tools, and initiatives to improve health literacy.

Aligning LH4L activities with JARED's objectives is crucial to maximise the impact of its initiatives, ensuring a comprehensive, coordinated, and sustainable approach to tackling CRDs across the EU.

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### 3. Identified synergies and collaborative actions

Leveraging the strengths of EU-funded initiatives on CRDs, LH4L and JARED have identified several key areas for collaboration. By integrating policy frameworks, strengthening prevention strategies, improving healthcare systems, and enhancing data collection, these projects can create a more coordinated and sustainable approach to CRD management across Europe. The following section outlines specific opportunities for synergy between the two initiatives, detailing the work packages (WPs) involved and the expected outcomes of joint efforts.

#### **Strengthening the Policy Framework for CRDs**

- JARED aims to develop a prototype document for national respiratory programs that can be adapted to different national contexts, aligning with the joint WHO ERS CRD Report planned for 2025.
- There is an opportunity to integrate LH4L's policy recommendations into the national frameworks developed within JARED.
- Joint advocacy efforts can be pursued through the UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs (September 2025), with LH4L and JARED jointly contributing insights and influence towards the political declaration and its follow up implementation in the EU



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- JARED and LH4L could explore the possibility later on in the cycle of both projects to do a joint webinar in the EU's Health Policy Platform to inform policymakers and health stakeholders on the outcomes of the actions carried out in both projects.

*These activities require collaboration under JARED's WP1 & WP4 and LH4L's WP3, WP4 and WP5.*

#### **Prevention Strategies and Public Health Initiatives**

- Collaboration in smoking cessation, particularly targeting pregnant women and future generations, in synergy with the LH4L education on smoking prevention (delivering educational programs and interventions aimed at reducing smoking rates among youth and at-risk populations).
- Indoor air pollution and workplace exposure prevention through integration with LH4L's tools.

*These activities require collaboration under JARED's WP5 and LH4L's WP3, WP4 and WP5.*

#### **Healthcare System Strengthening**

- Integration of LH4L support programs into JARED's work on asthma management, considering the linkage between childhood asthma and COPD risk in adulthood.
- Collaboration on lung function screening methodologies and referral pathways for COPD patients, aligning JARED's research with existing LH4L frameworks.

*These activities require collaboration under JARED's WP6 and LH4L's WP3, WP4 and WP5.*

#### **Support for Schools and Vulnerable Populations**



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- Synergies between LH4L's school-based health programs and JARED's work on protecting children from respiratory hazards such as asbestos, diesel exposure, and air pollution.
- Prioritising vulnerable populations, particularly in low-resource settings, for more comprehensive interventions and outreach programs as part of the JARED framework. By integrating LH4L's experience in supporting children in at-risk environments, JARED can enhance its outreach efforts and ensure that interventions are both inclusive and tailored to the specific needs of these populations.
- Potential for the LH4L and JARED projects to jointly advocate for policy changes and increased funding for CRD-related interventions in schools and for vulnerable groups.

*These activities require collaboration under JARED's WP7 & WP8 and LH4L's WP3, WP4 and WP5.*

#### **Data Collection and Research Enhancements (WP3, WP6)**

- Sharing best practices on lung function screening protocols.
- Strengthening collaboration on data gaps and updates to recently published data sources (e.g. Lung Facts) ensuring alignment between JARED and LH4L's evidence base.

*These activities require collaboration under JARED's WP3 & WP6 and LH4L's WP3, WP4 and WP5.*

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## **4. Next steps and implementation**

#### **Facilitating Stakeholder Engagement**



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- Coordination of a dedicated session on synergies at the JARED kick-off meeting.
- Engagement with Members of European Parliament (MEPs) to promote materials emerging from LH4L and JARED and discuss findings at relevant EU parliamentary events.
- Strengthening ties with international networks to ensure alignment of policy recommendations.
- Proactively engaging with related European and international initiatives by identifying and aligning with relevant projects and activities to maximize the impact of the JARED and LH4L synergies.

### **Operational Coordination**

- Establishing regular coordination meetings to ensure smooth collaboration between JARED and LH4L.
- Identifying funding and resource-sharing opportunities within project budgets to maximise efficiency.
- Monitoring progress through mid-project review meetings to assess the impact of synergies.

### **Facilitating Knowledge Exchange**

- Developing joint training modules and knowledge-sharing platforms to integrate findings from both projects.
- Supporting national partners in adapting JARED's prototype respiratory program document to their local healthcare systems. This includes providing guidance on integrating the document into national respiratory policies, with a particular emphasis on the needs of hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations. Additionally,



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leveraging LH4L's experience in working with children and vulnerable groups will help ensure that the adaptation process is inclusive and contextually relevant.

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## 5. Conclusion

The collaboration between JARED and LH4L, along with their alignment with other high-level lung health and respiratory initiatives, represents a significant opportunity to amplify efforts in chronic respiratory disease prevention, policy development, and healthcare system strengthening. By aligning work streams, leveraging existing tools, and engaging in joint advocacy, both projects can amplify their impact at the European level. Moving forward, close coordination, stakeholder engagement, and structured implementation will be key to ensuring the success of these synergies.

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## 6. Annexes

### Annex 1 Short summary LH4L - LungHealth4Life and WPs structure

LH4L: LungHealth4Life is an EU4Health-funded project that brings together lung function testing, health promotion and disease prevention in schools.

Led by Lungs Europe, a consortium of 6 partners plans to explore the concept that lung function testing is an innovative way to protect lung health at a population level.

Collectively, these observations indicate that lung function is a global health marker, providing a window of opportunity to intervene with health promotion and disease prevention activities, particularly in childhood.

 **Project Coordination:** A consortium of 6 partners coordinated by Lungs Europe

 **What's the Goal?** To assess whether lung function testing and education about health risks (e.g. smoking, air pollution) in childhood could be an effective non-communicable disease (NCD) prevention intervention by providing an opportunity to identify, address and prevent societal and health inequalities.

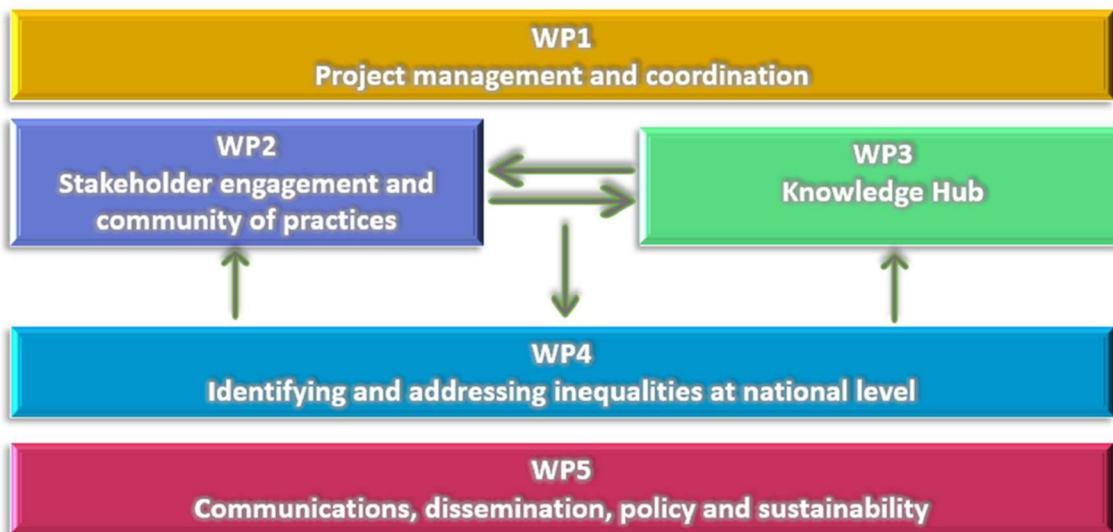


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 **Timeline:** September 2024 - August 2027.

**WP structure:**



## Annex 2 Short summary JARED- Joint Action on Chronic Respiratory Diseases and WPs structure

The JARED project aims to reduce the impact of chronic respiratory diseases (CRDs) in Europe.

The project takes a collaborative approach, involving various healthcare stakeholders. By combining innovative digital health technologies, improved diagnostic tools, and health literacy efforts, JARED seeks to effectively manage CRDs. The project emphasises inclusivity, ensuring vulnerable populations receive attention. Through strategic use of digital health solutions, JARED aims to revolutionise treatment approaches and improve health outcomes for CRD patients across Europe.

 **Project Coordination:** A consortium of partners across Europe, led by the National Koranyi Institute of Pulmonology in Hungary.

 **What's the Goal?** In the short term, JARED will establish evaluation frameworks, enhance CRD management knowledge, and engage key stakeholders. Mid-term goals include strengthening healthcare capacities and influencing public health policies. Over the long term, JARED aims for sustained CRD reduction, better patient quality of life, and integration of findings into lasting health policies.

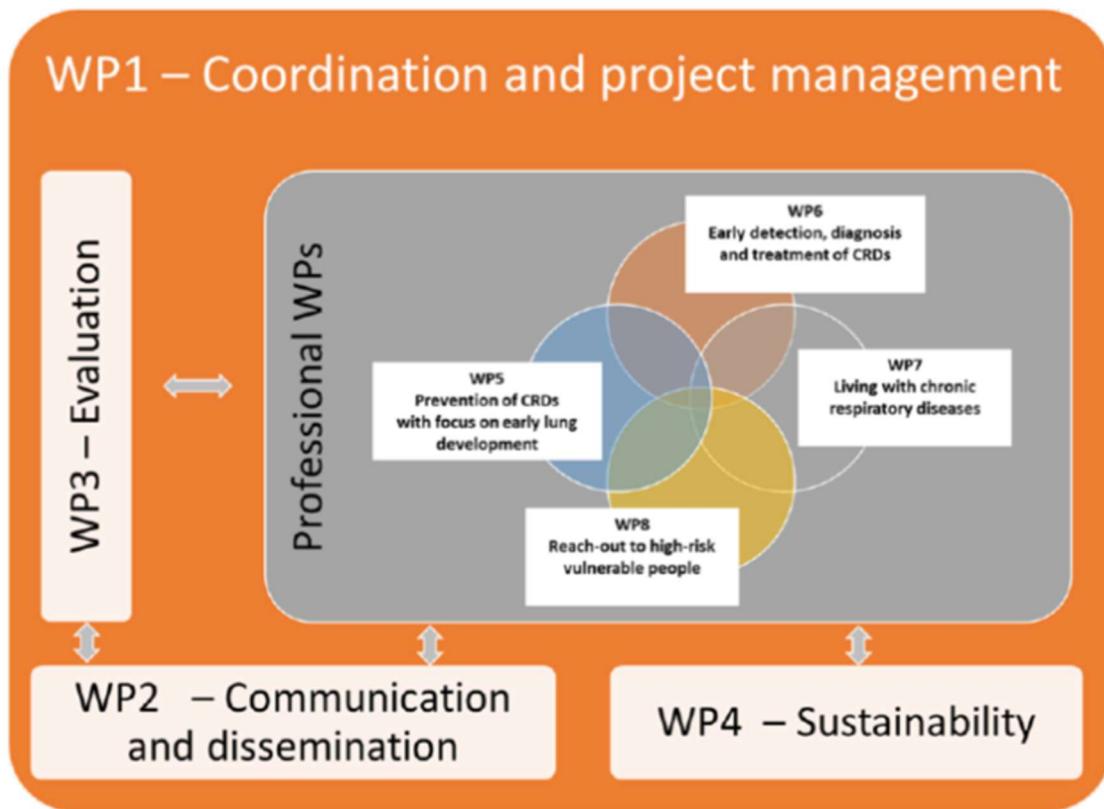
 **Timeline:** The project will run for 3 years starting from Jan 2025.



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**WP structure:**



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## Annex 3 Agenda of the synergy meeting between JARED and LH4L representatives at JARED kick-off meeting



*JARED Kick-off meeting, Budapest, Hungary  
29- 30 January 2025*

*Novotel Budapest Danube\*\*\*\* - Budapest(HU), Bem rakpart 33-34.*

### AGENDA

#### DAY 1 - 29 January

8:30-9:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Arrival, registration</li></ul>
<b>Welcome and introduction</b> (1st floor - Danube and Buda rooms)	
9:00-10:45	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Welcome and project overview</b> Ildiko Horvath, JARED Coordinator, Hungary</li><li>▪ <b>Welcome from the Interior Ministry of Hungary</b> Peter Takacs, State Secretary for Health, Hungary</li><li>▪ <b>How to maximize the impact? The synergies between EU funded projects</b> Bernadett Petri, Ministerial Commissioner responsible for directly managed EU funds / Managing Director at Hungarian Development Promotion Office</li><li>▪ <b>Welcome from the National Koranyi Institute for Pulmonology</b> Krisztina Bogos, Director General, Hungary</li><li>▪ <b>JARED and the Health Pillar of DG Sante</b> - online Antonio Parenti, Director, Directorate B 'Public Health, Cancer and Health Security'</li><li>▪ <b>Grant Management</b> Hülya Okuyan, Project Officer, European Health and Digital Executive Agency</li><li>▪ <b>Getting started</b> Katalin Dudas Koszo, JARED Project Manager, Hungary</li></ul>
10:45 -11:00 GROUP photo	
11:00 - 11:15 Networking coffee break	



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<b>Vitality and vital capacity</b> (1st floor – Danube and Buda rooms)	
11:15-12:00	Sustaining lung health, prevention, better care for better life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Life with chronic respiratory disease</b> – a patient view</li> <li>▪ <b>Helping more to those needing more</b> Gabor Pogany, President, Hungarian Alliance of Patient Organisations (BEMOSZ-HAPO), Hungary</li> <li>▪ <b>Importance of chronic respiratory diseases in Europe</b> Joanna Chorostowska-Wynimko, National Institute of TB and Pulmonology, Poland</li> <li>▪ <b>Vital capacity is really vital</b> Ildiko Horvath, NKIP, Hungary</li> </ul>
12:00-12:30	Icebreaking session - Who will be my colleagues for the next 3 years? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Interactive introduction session: get to know each other</b> Katalin Dudas Koszo, JARED Project Manager, Hungary</li> </ul>
12:30-13:30	Lunch break
<b>What are we aiming at? - KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE</b> (1st floor – Danube and Buda rooms)	
13:30 -18:00	Thematic presentations from Work Package (WP) leaders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Indoor air quality and health interventions - WP5</b> Ilze Straume, CDPC, Latvia</li> <li>▪ <b>Optimizing patient pathways and care models – WP6</b> Antti Saarinen, Filha, Finland</li> <li>▪ <b>Living with Chronic Respiratory Diseases - A Life-Span Approach- WP7</b> Andrea Vukic Dugac, UHCZ, Croatia</li> <li>▪ <b>Reach-Out to High-Risk Vulnerable People – WP8</b> Brigid Unim, ISS, Italy</li> </ul> <i>including networking coffee break</i>





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on REspiratory  
Diseases

**DAY 2 – 30 January**

<b>Steering Committee meeting</b> (1st floor - Parliament room)	
8:30-9:15	1st meeting for the Steering Committee members only
<b>Coordination and Project Management – WP1</b> (1st floor – Danube and Buda rooms)	
9:15-10:00	<b>All we need to know about smooth project and financial management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Timelines</li><li>▪ Management structure</li><li>▪ Administration and financial framework</li><li>▪ Risk management</li><li>▪ Collaboration tools</li></ul> Katalin Dudas Koszo, JARED Project Manager, Hungary
<b>Dissemination, communication – WP2</b>	
10:00-10:30	<b>Why and What? How to communicate about and within the project?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Communication, Dissemination &amp; Visibility</b> Hülya Okulyan, Project Officer, HADEA</li><li>▪ <b>Dissemination, communication – WP2</b> Ampalasopoulou Anastasia, 1st DYPE ATTICA, Greece</li></ul>
10:30-11:00	Networking coffee brake
<b>Evaluation – WP3</b>	
11:00-11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Evaluation committee</li><li>▪ Interactions, timelines</li><li>▪ In-built quality control</li></ul> Ibon Eguíluz, SAS, Spain
<b>Sustainability – WP4</b>	
11:30-12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Sustaining networking, beyond the scope of the project Ildiko Horvath, NKIP, Hungary</li></ul>
<b>Synergy meeting with LH4L project</b>	
12:00-13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Overview of the Lung health for Life project</li><li>▪ Identification of synergies</li><li>▪ How to strengthen close collaboration between the projects Vlatka Matkovic, LungsEurope, Brussels, Belgium</li></ul>



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Closing remarks	
13:00-13:30	<b>What's next?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ What do I take home?</li><li>▪ Final comments</li></ul> Ildiko Horvath, JARED Coordinator, Hungary
13:30-14:30	Lunch



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