

# Venice Stakeholder Event

## INVITATION

We have great pleasure to invite you to participate in our Venice Stakeholder Event.

The event will be an opportunity to discuss what needs to be done to make effective use of Structural Funds for health. This discussion is important in order to: maximize health gains from SF investments; consider what regions need to do to be able to improve health-related investments in their area.

This event will address the different perspectives and priorities of key stakeholders working at (i) policy level (EU, national, regional) (ii) managing Structural Funds at national and regional levels (Operational Programme Managing Authorities and Programme Secretariats), as well as the end-users (organizations and intermediary bodies who seek access to SF for health-related investments).

More details of the event can be found in the attached invitation letter, the preliminary programme and the project brochure.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely

Prof Jonathan Watson Italian Partner

Learning lessons from health investments in Structural Funds to inform regions in the 2007-2013 period and beyond

25-26 Feb 2010  
VENICE, ITALY



REGIONE DEL VENETO



[www.euregio3.eu](http://www.euregio3.eu)

## BACKGROUND

Within the European Union in recent years there has been growing recognition of the importance of sustainable regional development and the contribution of health to achieving it. This means health development leading to growth in social and human capital and the multiplier effect this can have in contributing massively to economic growth. This is reflected in the EU's Cohesion Policy and the 2007-2013 round of Structural Funds which explicitly included health sector investment.

In the newer Member States and Convergence regions across Europe governments, politicians and policy makers see SF as an important funding source for supporting the modernisation of health services.

But, the health sector is starting behind other sectors in using Structural Funds, and also faces the consequences of the current economic climate and financial instability. In this evolving operating environment it is likely that Member States will increasingly look to SF as a source of support for health sector investment and health gains. This event is part of a critical conversation between key stakeholders and EUREGIO III about to respond to these challenges effectively and sustainably.

