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Answer given by Ms Kyriakides
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.7.2022)

According to Article 168(7) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU¹, the Member States are responsible for the management of health services and the allocation of the resources assigned to them. Therefore, the Commission does not collect data on regional or local investments in healthcare.

The Commission only has data on spending on capital formation at national level, under Eurostat's Classification of the Functions of Government² and data on Healthcare Resources³. Data on capital expenditure in the health sector is presented in the 'Health at a Glance: Europe 2020 report'⁴.

For the programming period 2014-2020, the European Regional Development Fund allocated EUR 4.1 million to health infrastructure for the Sicily region. For 2021-2027, the prioritisation of health investments will be increased. According to the Italian Partnership Agreement, the Cohesion Funds will invest EUR 375 million in a new national healthcare programme, focused on less developed regions, addressing equal access to services and vulnerable socio-economic population.

The Italian Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP)⁵ has EUR 16 billion earmarked to strengthen the response capacity of Italy's National Health Service to demographic and epidemiological trends. It will invest in infrastructure, in promoting research and innovation and developing the skills of the health staff. It will also contribute to improving the territorial health-care assistance network, notably by creating new structures for territorial assistance. The Commission will be closely monitoring the implementation of the RRP.

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:12012E/TXT&from=en>

² See https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Government_expenditure_by_function_%E2%80%93_COFOG

³ See <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main/data/database>

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/health/state-health-eu/health-glance-europe_en

⁵ Recovery and Resilience Plan Italy –adopted June 2021 : https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/recovery-coronavirus/recovery-and-resilience-facility/italys-recovery-and-resilience-plan_en