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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(24.9.2025)

The Commission is committed to supporting Member States in their actions in full respect of their responsibilities for the organisation and delivery of health services under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union¹. The implementation of public health or environmental monitoring at local or regional levels is a national competence.

The Commission recognises the importance of addressing environmental pollution and helps EU countries through several funding mechanisms. A guide was prepared in this respect, which outlines relevant instruments that support environmental projects².

To ensure sound management of EU-funded projects, EU programmes envisage project checks, reviews and audits, which focus on the financial and budgetary implementation and cover technical aspects and compliance with the foreseen obligations³. The Granting Authority monitors closely the implementation of projects through the assessment of deliverables and reports. On-site audits can also take place on a case-by-case basis.

The EU4Health Programme⁴ supports Member States to set up and improve their cancer screening programmes, in line with the 2022 Council Recommendation on cancer screening⁵. The Joint Action EUCanScreen⁶ provides an EU contribution of EUR 31 million to 29 participating countries, including Italy, to support the full implementation of screening programmes for breast, colorectal and cervical cancer, and testing the feasibility of lung, prostate and gastric cancer screening.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:12012E/TXT:en:PDF>.

² <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/cba047ab-b6a6-11ef-91ed-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>.

³ <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/funding-tenders-opportunities/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=1867977>.

⁴ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/eu4health_en.

⁵ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_2022.473.01.0001.01.ENG.

⁶ https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/cancer/europes-beating-cancer-plan-eu4health-financed-projects/projects/eucanscreen_en.