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The Telematic Report to the High Level Committee on Health and the German Expectations towards the future Co-operation in the EU

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Mission Statement

- ➔ Review the introduction of informations and communications technology (ICT) in the health care sector, the factors promoting or inhibiting its development and areas where Community legislation could be beneficial

Considering particular applications of ICT in health, namely health cards,and provision of health-related information to health professionals and patients.



Overlapping European Activities

- a eEurope Action plan 2002 (Feira Summit June 2000)
- b eEurope Action plan 2005 (Sevilla Summit 2002), including chapters on eHealth (establishment of ICT-infrastructures and regional networks in member States)
- c Commission Document on Legal Issues in eHealth
- d Sixth Framework Programme (Information Society Technologies - IST)
- e Communication and Decisions regarding the European Health Insurance Card
- f Communication on Quality Criteria for health related websites

Evolution of EUROPEAN UNION RTD Programmes in HEALTH TELEMATICS

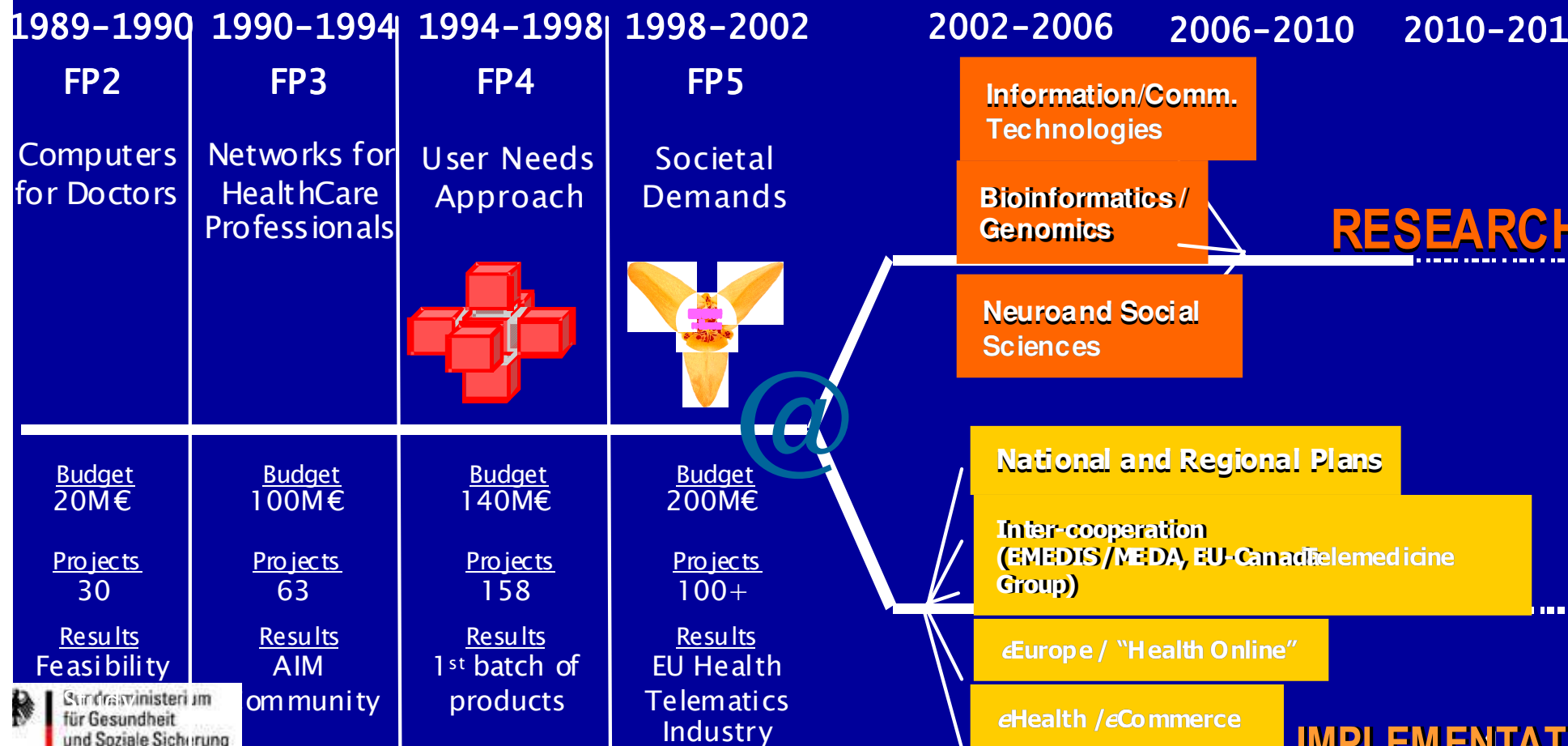
from *to*

PAST 10 years (1991-2000)

“**INFORMATION** for HealthCare”

FUTURE 10 years (2001-2011)

“**KNOWLEDGE** for Health”





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Information Requirements of the Health Sector

- ➔ Information for citizens
- ➔ Patient education services
- ➔ Health Management Information
- ➔ Personal Health Data
- ➔ Decision support systems for health care professionals
- ➔ Life long learning for health care professionals



The Vision of ICT:

- ➔ **Enabling new service models:**
- ➔ seamless care, shared care, tailored care, integrated care, mobile care, home hospitals, customer-centred care
- ➔ **and a new perspective for the patient:**
- ➔ at the center of a network of service providers „forming pathways of care“ as s/he moves between institutions and care providers.



Today's reality is ...

- ➔ that within Europe none of this is yet possible ...
- ➔ the form of communication in health care is expensive, takes time and gives rise to failures because of errors, inaccuracies and incomplete availability or loss of medical information



The Consequence for Actions.....

- ➔ „The cornerstone of a system for sharing information about patients between care providers is the electronic health record (EHR), supporting advanced systems of electronic prescribing and medication management“
- ➔ Interoperability
- ➔ „A secure platform is needed, incorporating the use of qualified electronic signatures and asymmetric encryption.“



The legal responsibility

- ➔ **Member states**
- ➔ **International standards bodies (CEN, ISO)**
- ➔ **European Union (Article 152 of the Amsterdam Treaty)**
 - „Community action in the field of public health shall fully respect the responsibilities of the Member States for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care“



Recommendations

- 1 Ongoing support for the development of new applications in health under the Sixth Framework Programme managed by DG Information Society. (*„In future, however, project selection should be better informed by health policy issues.“*)
- 2 Better means of assessing the cost-effectiveness of new technologies (also within the objectives of the new public health programme).
- 3 Exploring the possibility of developing European seals of approval for health-related web sites.
- 4 Concerted action at European and international level to achieve interoperable and secure IT systems within health care has to be coordinated, managed and resourced.
- 5 Forum in which Member States can meet and exchange experience in implementing ICT strategies in national health care systems.
- 6 ICT newsletter of the new public health programme.



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Description of key services

- ➔ The Electronic Health Record (EHR),
- ➔ archiving and legal rules.
- ➔ Electronic Prescribing and Medication Management.



Key Problems of Sharing Data

- ➔ Trust and confidentiality in an e-health environment
- ➔ Components in Security Systems
- ➔ Identifying the patient, the professional and the healthcare organisation as well as other service providers (Directive on a Community Framework for Electronic Signatures (99/93/EC)) (*alternative views of member states in patient identification and the use of biometrics*)
- ➔ Nomenclature: How to codify the data



Technological Solutions

- Migration from monolithic ad-hoc ICT architectures to an open environment
- Use of health cards as stand-alone carriers of health data, or as identification cards
- Recommendation of Card Enabled Networks (Combination of cards providing the means of accessing electronic networks)
- Documented standardized interfaces (on content, structures, formats and codifications)
- Open source

Europäische Gesundheitskarte (Barcelona)



eHealth Kongress 2003 in Dresden - 22.10.2003



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**EC, Health & Consumer Protection Directorate-General
Directorate G - Public Health**

G 3 - Health promotion, health monitoring and injury prevention



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Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit

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