



HPV-Faster-Implement Newsletter

No.1

HPV-FASTER-Implement is a Horizon Europe project funded by the European Commission (Grant Agreement No. 101155975).

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Welcome

Dear friends,

The HPV-FASTER-Implement consortium has now completed its first year of activity. With 17 Work Packages and 14 partner institutions across Europe, the project has made strong progress in laying the foundations for a more equitable and effective approach to cervical cancer prevention, following its official kick-off meeting in Paris in early 2025.

Our shared aim is to integrate HPV vaccination and screening strategies in order to reach underserved and marginalised populations. Achieving this requires coordinated effort across research, public health, policy, and community engagement.

This first newsletter highlights key achievements from Year 1, introduces the work underway across the core Work Packages, and provides updates on important milestones, including the Kick-off Meeting in Paris and the upcoming First Annual Consortium Meeting in Dijon (27–28 January 2026).

Marc Bardou, Christiane Dascher-Nadel & Pia Kirkegaard

About the HPV-FASTER-Implement Project

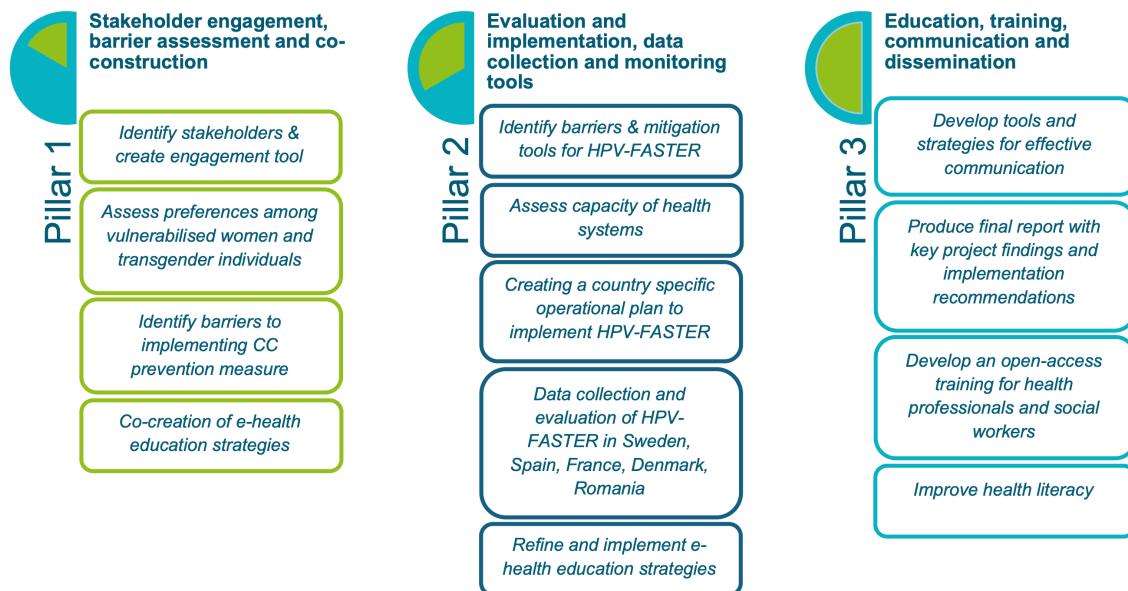
HPV-FASTER-Implement is a Horizon Europe project funded by the European Commission (Grant Agreement No. 101155975). The project aims to accelerate cervical cancer elimination through the HPV FASTER concept, which combines HPV vaccination and screening strategies, to reduce the unequal burden of disease across Europe.

By bringing together expertise in epidemiology, public health, health literacy, behavioural science, modelling, stakeholder engagement, and cancer screening, HPV-FASTER-Implement seeks to develop inclusive, evidence-based strategies that leave no population behind.

The project focuses on populations who are often excluded from standard prevention programmes. The pilot countries are France, Romania, Spain, Sweden and Denmark, and they cover several vulnerability groups, including:

- women, trans and non-binary people with a cervix,
- sex workers,
- women living with HIV,
- migrant communities,
- people experiencing poverty or social exclusion,
- people with drug or alcohol use disorder,
- women in detention.

The project has three main pillars:



Year 1 Progress Highlights

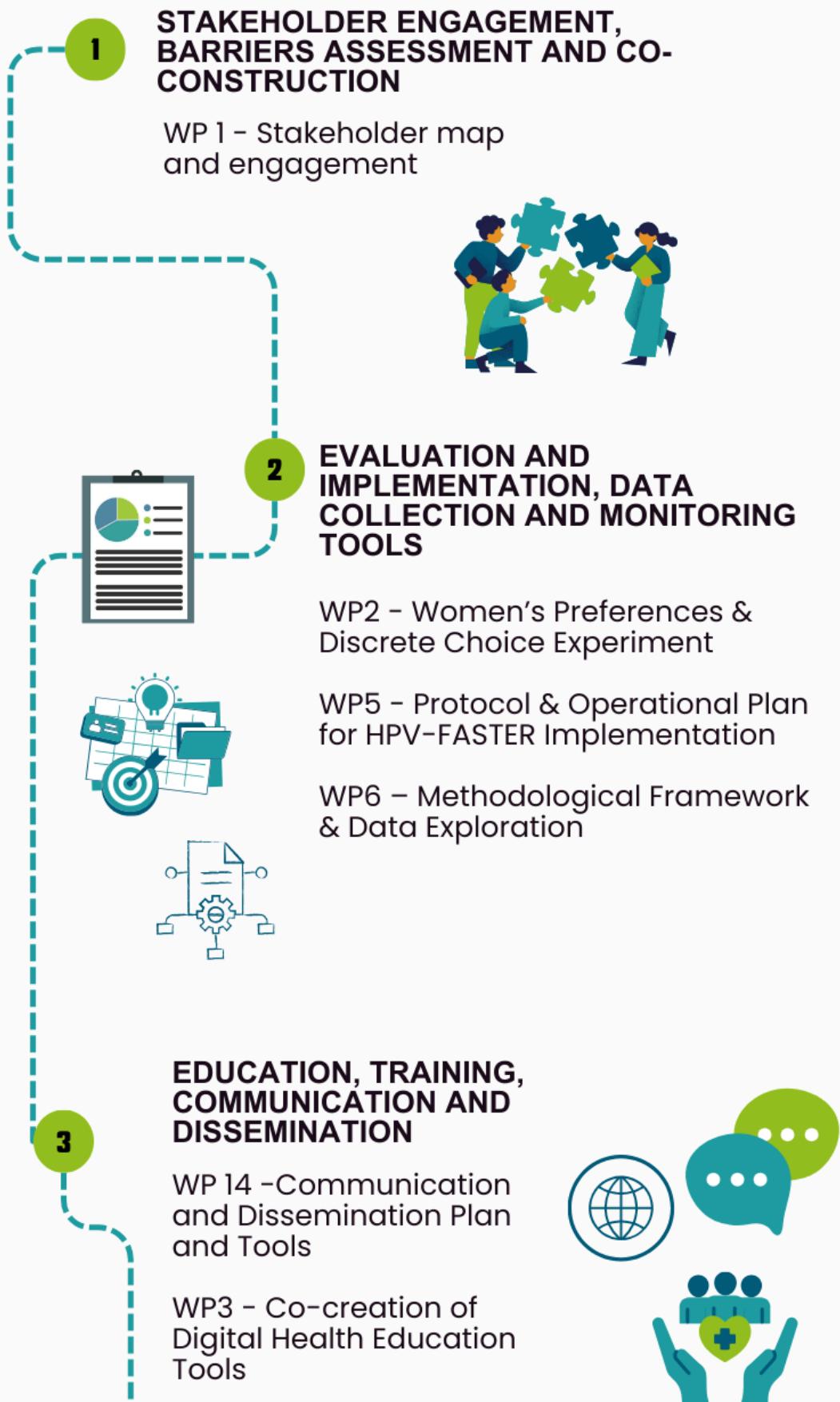
Over the next few years, HPV-FASTER-Implement will work on these aspects and contribute to the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health concern.

In its first year, the project has already made strong progress across multiple areas of work, as highlighted below.



HPV-FASTER-IMPLEMENT

Workpackes active in the 1st year



PROJECT COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

WP17 – Project Management & Coordination



Stakeholder engagement, barriers assessment and co-construction

WP1 – Stakeholder mapping & engagement

Lead: RHR (Pia Kirkegaard)

Work on stakeholder engagement progressed steadily throughout Year 1. The stakeholder survey is now in its final review phase, and the first round of Collaborative User Boards (CUBs) which combine the perspectives of multiple stakeholders, have been conducted or are underway in Spain, France, Romania, Sweden and Denmark.

WP1 progressed significantly, with:

- stakeholder survey in final review,
- CUBs have been conducted to inform interventions in the pilot countries.

Evaluation and implementation, data collection and monitoring tools

WP2 - Women's preferences & discrete choice experiment

Lead: Inserm B (Carine Franc)

Key target populations have been clearly defined, and attributes for the Discrete Choice Experiment (DCE) have been finalised. Questionnaires have been drafted, and ethics approval procedures are ongoing in France. The DCE is expected to be launched in January 2026.

Major progress includes:

- target populations defined,
- attributes for the Discrete Choice Experiment finalised,
- questionnaires drafted,
- ethical approval process initiated in France.
- finalise questionnaire and protocol (October),
- submit to ethics committee,
- launch DCE in January 2026.

WP3 - Co-creation of digital health education tools

Lead: UBB (Diana Taut)

Deliverable 3.1, focusing on digital health education and HPV-related health literacy, has been completed and submitted. Building on this work, manuscript preparation is underway, alongside continued development of culturally sensitive e-health materials designed in collaboration with vulnerabilised populations.

- Deliverable 3.1 (literature review) submitted and uploaded.
- Work on manuscript underway.
- Focus remains on co-creation of culturally sensitive e-health materials tailored to vulnerabilised groups.

WP4 - Barriers & mitigation tools for implementation

Lead: UTARTU (Anneli Uusküla)

A systematic review examining barriers to HPV prevention has progressed significantly. PROSPERO registration has been completed, literature searches finalised, and data abstraction is complete. Interviews with authors of relevant studies are currently ongoing to strengthen the evidence base.

Key developments:

- PROSPERO registration completed,
- literature search and data abstraction finalised,
- interviews with study authors ongoing.

WP5 - Protocol & operational plan for HPV-FASTER Implementation

Lead: KI & IARC (Joakim Dillner, Miriam Elfström, Isabel Mosquera)

As part of the capacity assessment of health services to deliver the HPV-FASTER approach, facility visits have been completed in the five intervention countries and barriers and facilitators for implementation have been identified for each. Fact sheets presenting key facts on cervical cancer prevention (HPV vaccination and cervical cancer screening) for the five countries have been published, and work on a generic HPV-FASTER implementation protocol is progressing. Spain and Sweden have been identified as early implementers, building on existing national initiatives such as targeted vaccination programmes.

Year 1 achievements include:

- facility visits in 5 countries completed
- fact sheets on cervical cancer prevention in each country published
- generic protocol drafting in progress
- Spain and Sweden were identified as "early implementers" because relevant activities already exist nationally (e.g. sex-worker vaccination in Spain)

WP6 - Methodological framework & data exploration

Lead: ICR & UPS (Sébastien Lamy, Niamh Redmond)

Data collection on vulnerable and underserved populations has been completed, and questionnaire results are currently under analysis. Partners are jointly developing a conceptual and methodological framework to support consistent definitions of vulnerability across the project and inform future implementation activities.

Progress includes:

- vulnerability questionnaire analysed,
- conceptual framework in development,
- diverse definitions of vulnerability identified across partners.

Education, training, communication and dissemination

WP14 - Communication & dissemination

Lead: EIWH (Heidi Siller)

The HPV-FASTER-Implement [website](#) was launched in June 2025, You can find it [here](#), alongside an active social media presence on [LinkedIn](#), [BlueSky](#), [Instagram](#), [Mastodon](#) and [YouTube](#). The Communication and Dissemination Plan (Deliverable 14.1) has been submitted, and regular partner spotlight posts are being rolled out.

The first HPV-FASTER-Implement mini-monograph, produced in collaboration with HPV World, is currently in its final review phase and will focus on equity in cervical cancer elimination, reaching underserved populations, and lessons from national contexts.

Throughout Year 1, the consortium has been active at conferences, meetings and stakeholder events, supporting visibility of the project and strengthening engagement with key communities and organisations.

Our social media and digital media efforts

Our aim is to reach a diverse audience. We seek to engage policy makers, decision-makers, healthcare professionals, organisations representing key interest groups (including sex workers, trans and non-binary individuals, women

living with HIV, and migrants), research and higher education institutions, as well as the interest groups themselves.

Additionally, we focused on establishing communication and dissemination strategies and plans within the consortium to ensure a comprehensive and structured communication. This includes our wonderful logo, as well as drafting tracking sheets for communication activities done by all partners.

In the first year, we submitted the communication and dissemination plan (Deliverable 14.1) and posted regularly on social media and updated the website.

See here a few impressions of our project partner spotlights and the website!



Mini-Monograph

The first HPV-FASTER-Implement monograph, produced with HPV World, is now in final review. It includes sections on:

- equity in cervical cancer elimination,
- reaching underserved populations,
- lessons from Sweden and Spain,
- the HPV-FASTER and EVEN FASTER concepts.

WP17 - Project management & coordination

Lead: Inserm-Transfert (Christiane Dascher-Nadel)

Project governance structures are fully established, with confidentiality agreements signed across partners. A first project amendment has been submitted, and preparation is underway for a second amendment related to the MSD vaccine donation. The coordination team is currently preparing for the upcoming consortium meeting in Dijon (January 2026) and the project's first periodic report.



Kick-off meeting in Paris, June 2025

Synergies and networks

HPV-FASTER-Implement has joined the Network of Interest of the EQUICARES project!

EQUICARES: Community-driven Healthcare Access and Mental Health Promotion for Inclusive, Equitable, and Resilient European Societies (Project ID: 101156500)

<https://equicares-project.eu/>



Communication and dissemination activities in HPV-FASTER-Implement

HPV-FASTER-Implement has already been very active. We were present at several events, meetings and conferences to discuss the idea behind the project and the steps taken in the future



Cancer Summit, 19-20 November 2025, Brussels, Belgium



IGHN Event, 14-15 November 2025, Dublin, Ireland



EQUICARES Sister projects meeting, 10 December 2025, online

Upcoming events

First Annual Consortium Meeting - Dijon

17 27–28 January 2026

The consortium

France

Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM)

International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)

Inserm Transfert SA (IT)

Institut Claudius Regaud (ICR)

Université Paul Sabatier Toulouse III (UPS)

Denmark

Regionshospitalet Randers (RHR)

Estonia

Tartu Ülikool (UTARTU)

Romania

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai (UBB)

Universitatea de Medicină și Farmacie „Iuliu Hațieganu” - Cluj-Napoca (UMFIH)

Sweden

Karolinska Institutet (KI)

Spain

Institut Català d'Oncologia (ICO)

HPV World (HPVWorld)

Ireland

European Institute of Women's Health limited (EIWH)

United Kingdom

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Royal Charter (LSHTM)



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Disclaimer: Views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA). Neither the European Union nor HaDEA can be held responsible for them.



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