ENKORE

Safe and sustainable by design (SSbD) packaging and single use device solutions for healthcare products

Opportunities in the Innovative Health Initiative [IHI]: The Public-Private Partnership

2026 – Call 13 projects

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Pfizer Research & Development

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ENKORE consortium is…

…. committed to develop innovative eco-design solutions for single-use medical devices and sustainable packaging.

PARTNERS

41

11 Industry + 30 Public

Leads

Industry: MedTronic

Public: UPM

TOTAL BUDGET

€ 19.6M

IHI: € 7.7M

Industry IKC: €11.9M

DURATION

4 years

Jan'25 – Dec'28

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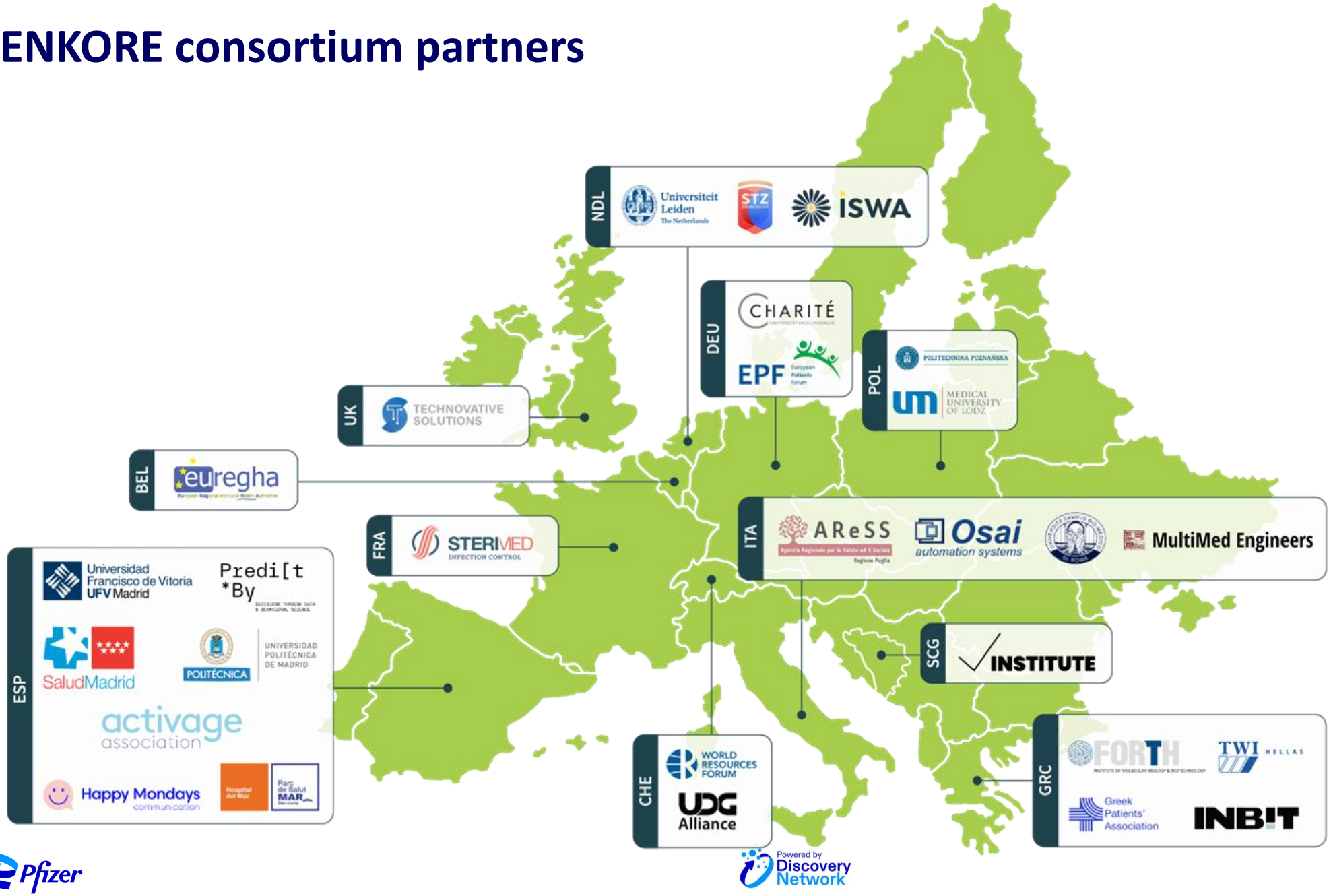
ENKORE consortium partners



PHARMACEUTICS & MED-TECH

Boehringer Ingelheim
Lilly
FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE
DePuy Synthes
Johnson & Johnson
Medtronic
novo nordisk
Pfizer
Takeda
DUPONT
Baxter

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ENKORE Overview

GAPS IN HEALTHCARE SUSTAINABILITY

- High waste from single-use plastics
- Limited recycling in hospitals
- Safety concerns over recycled materials
- Lack of coordinated EU strategy

HOW ENKORE WILL TACKLE THESE GAPS?

ENKORE
ECO HEALTHCARE

- Development of recyclable and bio-based materials for devices and packaging
- New sorting, decontamination, and recovery infrastructures
- Comprehensive testing and risk assessment ensuring compliance and patient safety
- Evidence-based eco-design framework applicable across healthcare system

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Main outcomes

1 Eco-Design framework

for single-use medical devices and packaging, integrating circular economy principles across the full lifecycle.

2 Practical tools

to support sustainability, including catalogues of sustainable materials and end-of-cycle solutions, as well as tools to assess environmental and social impact.

3 Policy guidance

to help update regulatory frameworks and enable wider adoption of sustainable healthcare solutions.

4 Real-World validation

to prove that circular, eco-designed solutions can be implemented safely in healthcare settings (e.g. devices, packaging, hospital systems).

5 Reduce environmental impact

including lower waste, reduced carbon footprint, and improved resource efficiency – while maintaining patient safety and regulatory compliance.

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Importance of PPPs and Pfizer engagement

WHY PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS MATTER

Collaboration is essential to solve complex, regulated challenges within ENKORE

- **Complex, regulated challenge:** Circular healthcare requires aligned action across industry, healthcare, academia, and regulators
- **Integrated capabilities & collaboration:** IHI combines cross-sector expertise while enabling trusted data and knowledge sharing
- **Scale and impact at EU level:** PPPs enable real-world validation and accelerate adoption across healthcare systems

WHY PFIZER IS INTERESTED IN ENKORE

- **Driving sustainable innovation:** Advancing scalable solutions without compromising safety or quality
- **Shaping policy and standards:** Contributing to future EU frameworks and regulatory alignment
- **Accelerating innovation through partnerships:** Leveraging cross-sector collaboration to stay at the forefront

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Reinventing Pfizer packaging [IKAA]: Our drive towards sustainability

Multi-site engagement

- Active collaboration across Pfizer sites: **Ascoli, Newbridge, Freiburg**
- Cross-functional teams (Packaging, Engineering, Quality, Procurement)
- Coordinated approach to accelerate sustainable solutions for blisters

Strategic focus areas

- Transition toward **recyclable and mono-material solutions**
- Evaluation of **innovative materials and technologies**
- Integration of sustainability **early in product design**

Effort & Challenges (focus on Ascoli)

- Significant investment in **trials, testing and validation**
- Balancing **sustainability targets** with **real operational feasibility**
- Verifing compatibility with **current equipments and toolings**
- Addressing **stability and product protection requirements**

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Thank You

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