## **Respiratory Disease** in Croatia



307.7

thousand

healthy life years lost

to respiratory diseases

thousand people living with

respiratory diseases

societal economic cost of respiratory diseases

## Introduction

The IRC, a coalition of respiratory clinicians, patients and industry partners, aims to transform post-pandemic respiratory care and reduce mortality by a third globally by 2030 - in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The IRC is calling on governments and policy makers to establish funded national strate-

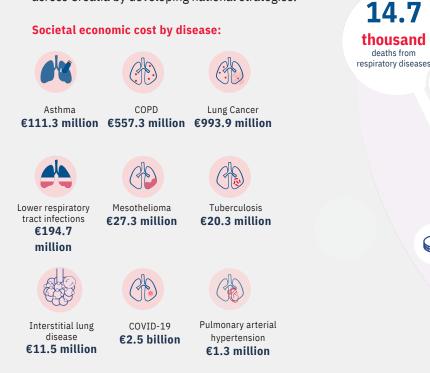
gies, which include prevention, new models of care, ambitious measurable targets, and accountable leadership to improve lung health by focusing on:

## Better...

- Prevention of respiratory diseases 1.
- 2. Access to the right treatment at the right time
- 3. Action on reducing inequalities
- 4. Prioritisation of research, data and insight to improve care

As a part of Croatia's wider national health strategy, the country implemented in October 2020 the first early lung cancer screening programme in the EU that is both targeted to relevant populations and fully reimbursed. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, there remain a vast number of neglected and undiagnosed cases which put serious burden on health system, with COPD notably remaining one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality.

The IRC welcomes the Croatian Health Ministry's work on this initiative and is also committed to collaborating with all relevant stakeholders in promoting lung health across Croatia by developing national strategies.



This initiative is made possible with the contributions of the partner organisations who all support the IRC's goals: Expertise and time were provided by the European Respiratory Society, European Lung Foundation and Global Allergy and Airways Patient Platform; funding, expertise and time were contributed by AstraZeneca, Chiesi Group, GSK, Sanofi and Regeneron; additional funding was provided by Boehringer Ingelheim.

deaths from

Data taken from IRC Lung Facts https://international-respiratory-coalition.org/lung-facts/diseases/