Horizon 2020 Programme

incoma

HORIZON 2020 - CONTENTS

1. Introduction: what's the Horizon 2020 programme?
2. Structure
3. Type of financed projects
4. Eligibility requirements
5. Identification of calls
6. Considerations related with the submission of proposals
7. Type of actions foreseen in H2020 and funding rates
8. Helpful tips
9. Practical sessions: identifying measures and calls, participation opportunities and PIC management
10. Links of interest

H2020 INTRODUCTION

Horizon 2020 (H2020) is the European Union programme for the **research & development** for the period 2014-2020. It is founded with 80.000 million € for all the implementation period, in addition to the private investment and co-financing required in certain measures.

Its objective is to guarantee that Europe is able to produce **internationally recognised science and technology to boost the economic growth**, contributing to reach the Europe 2020 Strategy objectives about **smart, sustainable and inclusive growth**.

Recommended readings about Europe 2020 Strategy:

* http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/europe-2020-in-a-nutshell/index_en.htm
* http://bookshop.europa.eu/en/europe-2020-pbNA0414862/?CatalogCategoryID=sciep2OwkgkAAAE.xjhtLxJz

HORIZON 2020 STRUCTURE

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Horizon 2020 programme is structured in 3 axes or prioritary areas:

1. **Excellent Science** – development, attraction and retention of researcher talents and improvement of research infrastructures.

2. **Industrial Leadership** – key technologies (microelectronics or advanced manufacturing) in existing and emerging sectors; R&D private investment attraction and support for SMEs.

3. **Societal Challenges** – R&D related with society and citizens (climate, environment, energy, transport, etc.) and development of innovating solutions as a result of multidisciplinary collaborations.

HORIZON 2020 STRUCTURE

Furthermore, H2020 also includes 2 specific objectives:

1.- Promotion of Excellence and widening participation

Measures to maximise R&D investment destinated to Member States with low performance, and that will be implemented in countries with larger needs in the framework of the Cohesion Policy for 2014-2020 period.

2.- Science with and for society

Reaching an effective cooperation between science and society, attracting new talents to science and matching scientific excellence with raising-awareness and social responsibility. Its objective is to increase the attractiveness of the society for innovation.

Excellent Science pillar

European Research Council – grants for interdisciplinary proposals and innovative ideas in emerging fields introducing unconventional approaches;

Future and emerging technologies – projects related with future technologies, emerging fields with the objective of creating a critical mass of European researchers in promising research areas and finding solutions to scientific and technological challenges;

Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions – research networks (support to innovative training networks); individual scholarships (support to researchers' transnational mobility); international and intersectorial cooperation through exchange of research and innovation staff, co-funding of regional, national and international programmes financing scholarships for international mobility; European Researchers Night;

Research Infrastructure – development of European research infrastructures, promotion of innovative potential of research infrastructures and its human ressources, strenghtening of European research policies and international cooperation infrastructures.

Industrial Leadership pillar

Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies – research and innovation to reinforce the European industrial capacity and business perspectives, public and private alliances, key enabling technologies, IT opportunities, contribution to resolve societal challenges and priority areas.

Access to Risk financing – support and promotion to have access to financing sources of capital and debt by innovative business, research centres and universities, public and private alliances, businesses and projects with special objectives, and joint businesses;

Innovation in SMEs – SME instrument (funding needs of SMEs oriented to international market to implement innovation ideas of high risk and potential).

Societal Challenges pillar

Activities to join research and market with a new focus based on activities related to innovation, such as testing, proofs, bank of proofs and the support to public procurement and market entry.

Links to Work Programmes.

Other funding possibilities in H2020:

- Transversal activities ((Industry 2020 in the Circular Economy, Internet of Things, and Smart and Sustainable Cities)
- Fast Track to Innovation
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology
- Euratom Programme
- Smart Cyber-Physical Systems.

HORIZON 2020 REQUIREMENTS

This programme is open to all researchers over the world.

Participants:

- **Programme countries** – Member States of the European Union and countries and overseas territories attached to these Member States.

- **Associated countries** – they can participate under the same conditions of the programme countries: Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Israel, Moldavia, Swizerland, Feroe Islands, Ucraina, Tunisia and Georgia.

- **Third Countries** – except when the call clearly indicates that their participation is not allowed.

HORIZON 2020 REQUIREMENTS

The updated list of participating countries should be regularly consulted.

The participation of **public and private institutions** as well as researchers individually is eligible. However, the requirements and guidelines of each call should be consulted.

Researchers can participate **individually** in Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions, and in the European Research Council.

HORIZON 2020 CALLS

Each H2020 pillar is composed by different **thematic areas (calls)** and each of them is in turn comprised by several **topics**, whose projects will allow to reach the specific objectives related with the referred thematic area.

The monitoring of funding opportunities will be achieved through the Participant Portal for the Research and Innovation, the webpage where the calls are published and the most important documents of each opportunity are available.

On the other side, it is important to keep in mind that H2020 is structured in Multiannual Work Programmes, depending on the Commission priorities for the referred period. This allows to carry out in advance the identification of the thematic areas inside each pillar and the opportunities that will be published in each area. 2018-2020 programme to be published in October 2017.

HORIZON 2020 CALLS

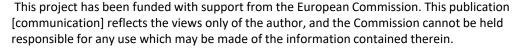Each topic includes information about:

- Kind of procedure (only one step or two steps);

- Kind of action (important for the funding rate);

- List of eligible countries;

- Eligibility requirements;

- Evaluation criteria for the proposal;

- The indicative chronogram of the evaluation's proposal and the signature of the grant agreement;

- The document models to be used (access to the application system after the opening date and PDF document with a non-edit example of the form);

- Other important documents (as the Work Programmes) related with the call.

HORIZON 2020 CALLS

It is important to always check the following issues:

- [List of eligible countries](#);

- [Standard admisibility requirements](#) – documents to be provided;

- [Standard eligibility requirements](#) – minimum number of partners;

- [General introduction](#) to the work programme 2016-2017;

- [General annexes](#) to work programme 2016-2017;

- Information about [exploitation, dissemination and evaluation](#);

- Information about [evaluation of proposals](#);

- Information about the [specific work programme](#) of the pillar or specific objective (2016-2017).

HORIZON 2020 APPLICATION

All applications must be submitted online through the [Participant Portal](#) for Research and Innovation, using the electronic system ➡ All partners should have a **PIC** (*Participant Identification Code*).

The access to the electronic system of the application is carried out through the webpage dedicated to each funding opportunity (topic), using the EU login of the institution (previously known as ECAS account) to sign in.

The European Commission facilitates a template in PDF as a helping tool to prepare the writing of a proposal. We include an example of the [form](#) for the innovation actions (IA) and research and innovation (RIA).

HORIZON 2020 ACTIONS AND FUNDING

MARCO POLO

Research and Innovation Actions (RIA)

- Development of new knowledges and/or exploring the viability of new and updated technologies, products, process, services or solutions.
- Funding rate: 100%.

Innovation Actions (IA)

- Producing plans and design of new, modified or improved products, processes or services.
- Funding rate: 70% (excluding non-lucrative entities, which is a 100%).

Coordination and support actions (CSA)

- Complementary measures (standardisation, dissemination, raising-awareness and communication, networking, coordination and support services, politic dialogue and exercises and mutual learning studies).
- Funding rate: 100%.

The other type of actions are described in the general annexes.

MARCO POLO

- H2020 proposals are quite competitives, so the partnership must be sure that they comply with all **formal requirements** (number of partners, documents to be provided) **and/or related with documents and project wording** (using correct formats, not exceeding the pages limit, writing all questions). Furthermore, the **project idea** must be clear and sufficiently developed to facilitate its success.

- It must be taken into account that the **working language** will be English, both in the proposal wording and in the Project execution/implementation.

- It is essential to respect the **maximum lenght foreseen in the proposal**, as evaluators will only take into account the text included in the admitted limit. The limit is usually 70 pages, although sometimes is 50. On the other hand, it is equally important not to change the document formats facilitated by the European Commission.

- It is important to identify the **type of procedure** in the call, as there are differences regarding the required documentation.

For example, in a two stages procedures it won't be necessary bringing a draft dissemination and exploitation plan. However, it will be necessary to provide this document if it is a single stage procedure.

I.- Identification of participation opportunities

Tools for partners and opportunities search (European Commission):

- National Contact Points in EU Member States and other countries;
- Contact Points in the Enterprise Europe Network (SMEs' support);
- Enterprise Europe Network Database;
- International Cooperation opportunities in the framework of H2020;
- CORDIS database;
- IDEAL-IST database (especially in IT area);
- NMP database (nano-sciences, nano-technology, production materials and technologies);
- Fit for Health database (health and life sciences);
- ETNA database (means of transportation);
- C-Energy 2020 network database (safe, clean and efficient energy);
- NCPs CaRE database (climate action, environment, ressources efficience and row materials).

Furthermore, it is recommended to turn to the network of the researchers who are interested in participating in H2020 and other international calls.

Likewise, the <u>creation of a database with the researchers of MARCO POLO Universities</u> interested in participating in the proposals' development of international projects could be launched.

HORIZON 2020 PRACTICAL SESSIONS

II.- Identification of measures and calls

Part 1 – Checking the Work Programme 2018-2020 of the most relevant axis or measure

http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-sections

Part 2 – Consult the Participant Portal for Innovation and Research and enter in an open call – axis Excellence Science:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/index.html

HORIZON 2020 PRACTICAL SESSIONS

Access to the Participant Portal and H2020 Calls.

HORIZON 2020 PRACTICAL SESSIONS

Using the available filters to find the most relevant topics.

Access to a call and check the different topics.

Access to a call and identify relevant information.

III.- How to create a form and have access to the technical annex template

→ Through the webpage dedicated to each funding opportunity.

In the case of RIA (Research and Innovation Actions) and IA (Innovation Actions) actions, the proposal is composed of **2 parts**:

- Part A – **Administrative information** to directly fill in the Participant Portal – it is recommended to access in advance and prepare a document template to compile all necessary partner data for this section.

- Part B – **Technical annex** (similar to the "detailed description" annex in the Capacity Building projects) in Word, that can be downloaded, filled in and attached before sending it.

Here you have a form example for RIA and IA actions (adminitrative information and technical annex) and technical annex template (sections 1-3 and 4-5).

Furthermore, it is necessary to attach all the necessary annexes, for example, documents providing evidences of the operational capacity of the institutions.

- CV or description of the researchers/staff members linked to the proposal;
- A list of up to 5 publications, products, services or other important achievements for the call;
- A list of up to 5 previous projects related with the topic or relevant for the proposal;
- A description of the infrastructures or technical means for the proposed work;
- A description of third entities not beneficiaries of the Project but linked to it (for example suppliers).

HORIZON 2020
PRACTICAL SESSIONS

Example of questions included in the technical annex:

- Proposal's objectives and link with the Work Programme;

- Working methodology;

- Innovation potential of the proposal;

- Expected impact and barriers or assumptions to be reached;

- Description of the dissemination and exploitation activities (even after the end of the Project);

- Organisation of the activities in Working Packages, identification of main products and risks, summary of the needed ressources;

- Description of the project management's structures and strategies;

- Justification of the partnership (and the involvement of non-European partners);

- Description of the partnership (entities, researchers and staff profile, previous experience and projects, ressources).

After checking the form...

➡️ Exercise: analyse the call objectives "**Education and skills: empowering Europe's Young innovators**" (Pillar: Societal Challenges) and develop a project idea.

➡️ Exercise: based on the idea developed in the previous exercise, answer the questions of the technical annex (part B), listing the main points to tackle.

HORIZON 2020
LINKS OF INTEREST

- Participant Portal for Research and Innovation

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html

- Publication of H2020 calls

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/

- Online manual

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/index_en.htm

- Frequent asked questions

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/faq.html

Thank you for your attention!

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