



# HORIZON EUROPE

## THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME

2021 – 2027

### EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS UNDER HORIZON EUROPE

Information session on the candidate  
European Partnership  
on Social Transformations and Resilience  
(STR)

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Research and  
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# European Partnerships – what and why

European Partnerships are strategic instruments which enable long-term collaborations between the Union and public and/or private partners to tackle common challenges through the co-design and implementation of joint R&I programmes



## STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

Foster directionality of funding in line with EU policy priorities



## CREATING CRITICAL MASS

- Avoid fragmentation and duplication of R&I efforts
- Achieve greater scale and impact



## FOSTERING ECOSYSTEMS

- Integrated value chains and ecosystems
- Integrative activities outside of funding



# New approach under Horizon Europe

New generation of objective-driven and more ambitious partnerships in support of agreed EU policy objectives

## Key Features

- **Strategic orientation**
- **Simple architecture and toolbox**
- **Common set of criteria for the entire life-cycle ([Horizon Europe regulation](#) Article 10 and Annex III)**

### CO-PROGRAMMED

Based on Memoranda of Understanding/contractual arrangements; implemented independently by the partners and by Horizon Europe

### CO-FUNDED

Based on a joint programme agreed and implemented by partners; commitment of partners for financial contributions and additional activities

### INSTITUTIONALISED

Based on long-term dimension and need for high integration; partnerships based on Art 185/187 of TFEU and the EIT legal acts for 2021-2027



# Overview of European Partnerships

## PILLAR II - Global challenges & European industrial competitiveness

## PILLAR III - Innovative Europe

CLUSTER 1: Health	CLUSTER 2: Culture, Creativity, Inclusive Societies	CLUSTER 4: Digital, Industry & Space	CLUSTER 5: Climate, Energy & Mobility	CLUSTER 6: Food, Bio-economy, Agriculture, Env...	EUROPEAN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS
Innovative Health Initiative	Resilient Cultural Heritage*	Chips (formerly KDT)	Clean Hydrogen	Circular Bio-based Europe	Innovative SMEs
Global Health Partnership	Social Transformations and Resilience*	Smart Networks & Services	Clean Aviation	R&I in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA, Art. 185)**	
Transformation of health systems		High Performance Computing	Single European Sky ATM Research 3	Biodiversa+	EIT
Chemicals risk assessment		European Metrology (Art. 185)	Europe's Rail	Climate Neutral, Sustainable & Productive Blue Economy	InnoEnergy
ERA for Health		AI-Data-Robotics	Connected and Automated Mobility (CCAM)	Water4All	Climate
Rare diseases		Photonics	Batt4EU	Animal Health & Welfare	Digital
One-Health Anti Microbial Resistance*		Made in Europe	Zero-emission waterborne transport	Accelerating Farming Systems Transitions	Food
Personalised Medicine		Clean steel – low-carbon steelmaking	Zero-emission road transport	Agriculture of Data*	Health
Pandemic Preparedness*		Processes4Planet	Built4People	Safe & Sustainable Food System	Raw Materials
Brain Health*		Global competitive space systems*	Solar Photovoltaics*	Forests and Forestry for a sustainable Future*	Manufacturing
		Innovative Materials for EU (IAM for EU)*	Clean Energy Transition		Urban Mobility
		Virtual Worlds*	Driving Urban Transitions		Cultural and Creative Industries*
		Textiles of the Future*			Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystem*
		Raw Materials for the Green and Digital Transition*			

■ Institutionalised Partnerships (Art 185/7)

■ Institutionalised partnerships / EIT KICs

■ Co-Programmed

■ Co-Funded

□ Proposed new candidate European Partnerships under the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027

\* Not yet launched

\*\* Direct continuation of a H2020 partnership

## CROSS-PILLARS I AND II

European Open Science Cloud

# Co-funded European Partnerships

- **Relevant predecessor instruments:** EJP Cofund, ERA-NET Cofund
- **Partners:** Typically national funding bodies/agencies, ministries, but also private entities, NGOs, etc.
- **Legal form:** Grant Agreement (based on a programme co-fund action) signed between a consortium of beneficiaries (the partners) and the Commission
- **Implementation:**
  - Partners design a common programme to be implemented under their responsibility pooling national funding/resources with co-funding from the Union
  - Funding rate 30% (in justified cases up to 50%)
  - EU top-up based on Horizon Europe eligible costs, including financial support to third parties
  - Calls and evaluations are organised centrally, beneficiaries in selected projects are funded at national level (on the basis of rules agreed by partners and national rules)

# What is a programme co-fund action?

Horizon Europe Regulation, Art.2(36):

'Programme co-fund action' means an action to provide **multi-annual co-funding to a programme of activities** established or implemented by **legal entities managing or funding R&I programmes**, other than Union funding bodies; such a programme of activities may support networking and coordination, research, innovation, pilot actions, and innovation and market deployment actions, training and mobility actions, awareness raising and communication, dissemination and exploitation, and provide any relevant financial support, such as grants, prizes and procurement, as well as Horizon Europe blended finance or a combination thereof. The programme co-fund action may be implemented by those legal entities directly or by third parties on their behalf.

→ Usually implemented through two streams of activities: **Joint calls** (i.e. financial support to third parties) and **additional activities**

# Important principles

- **EU co-funding is at a constant rate defined in the work programme** (typically 30%) per grant agreement and is generated by eligible costs
- Each consortium **agrees internally on how the EU co-funding is best used / distributed internally** (similar to ERA-NET Cofund / EJP Cofund actions in Horizon 2020)
- To create eligible costs for co-funding, the financial management of co-funded European Partnerships has to be in line with the **rules for financial management for any Horizon Europe action**

# Joint/cascaded calls

- Calls must be **published widely** (including on the Funding & Tenders Portal and the partners' websites) and remain open for at least 2 months
- Applicants to these calls (e.g. research institutions, companies) **apply for funding according to the national/regional funding rules** mentioned in the particular call
- Partners (e.g. national/regional research funders) provide financial support to third parties → end-recipients that are not party to the GA → '**cascaded funding**'
- Partners must ensure measures to avoid potential **conflicts of interest** or unequal treatment of applicants must be ensured (notably through appropriate communication / exchange of information channels and independent and fair complaints procedures)
- **Two-step selection procedure** (Eligibility check/review at national level; single international peer review based on the standard Horizon Europe award criteria)



# Additional activities

- **Any activity that is distinct from and complements the financial support to third parties/external calls**, i.e. typically “in-house activities”. This can relate to e.g. the coordination and implementation of existing in-house activities, access to data and services, data collection and monitoring efforts, training programmes, awareness raising and communication events
- **No pre-defined ‘menu’ for additional activities** → activities must fit into the **eligible cost categories** listed in the MGA to be reimbursable (personnel costs, subcontracting costs, purchase costs, travel and subsistence, equipment, other costs (e.g. FSTP))
  - The EU top-up is calculated based on eligible, actually incurred costs
- **Not to be confused with “in-kind contributions”** as defined in the [Financial Regulation](#)/the [Horizon Europe MGA](#)

# Further resources

- [Co-fund application template](#) (F&T Portal)
- [Co-fund evaluation template](#) (ERA Learn)
- [Horizon Europe Annotated Model Grant Agreement](#) (F&T Portal)
- [European Partnerships website](#) on europa.eu
- [ERA Learn](#)
  - Large variety of detailed information on the financial management of European Partnerships, guidelines on SRIA development, etc.
  - [Workshop on additional activities under co-funded partnerships](#)
  - [Horizon Europe legal and financial management of grants \(EC\)](#)
- [RTD-EUROPEAN-PARTNERSHIPS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:RTD-EUROPEAN-PARTNERSHIPS@ec.europa.eu)



# Thank you!

