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Horizon 2020 calls for eHealth projects launched

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The European Commission is calling for new projects. They are to be funded under the Horizon 2020 program, worth more than €15 billion over the first two years. eHealth is well represented in this. Researchers and innovators in ICT for health and care are requested to apply before 21 April 2015.

Deadline:
21/04/2015

[1]

Horizon 2020 funding is intended to help boost Europe's knowledge-driven economy, and tackle issues that will make a difference in people's lives. This includes 12 areas [2] that will be a focus for action in 2014/2015, including topics such as personalised healthcare, digital security and smart cities.

eHealth mainly belongs to the 'Personalising Health and Care' (PHC) focus area. The following calls deal with the eHealth domain:

1. Calls that had 15 April 2014 as deadline to apply [3]:

- PHC-26-2014: Self-management of health and disease: citizen engagement and health (this call includes the mHealth topic);
- PHC-34-2014: eHealth interoperability.

2. Calls with 21 April 2015 as deadline to apply [4]:

- PHC-25-2015: Advanced ICT systems and services for integrated care;
- PHC-27-2015: Self-management of health and disease and patient empowerment supported by ICT;
- PHC-28-2015: Self-management of health and disease and decision support systems based on predictive computer modelling used by the patient him or herself;
- PHC-29-2015: Public procurement of innovative eHealth services;
- PHC-30-2015: Digital representation of health data to improve disease diagnosis and treatment.

These calls are all 'single stage' meaning only one evaluation round instead of two.

The challenge

The cost of healthcare in Europe will soon reach 10 per cent of GDP, and this figure is likely to go up as Europe's population is getting older and as chronic diseases are on the rise.

This is where the 'personalising health and care' focus area comes in. By better understanding the causes of health and disease and making best use of big data, we can develop better diagnostics (e.g. in vivo medical imaging), therapies (e.g. clinical trials for non-communicable diseases), health promotion and disease prevention strategies (e.g. environment and health based interventions) at personal and population level, as well as technologies to support healthy ageing (e.g. mHealth applications).

The personalising health and care call had a total budget of €549 million for 2014.

You can find an overview of all calls at the Participant Portal - funding opportunities [5].

See also the press releases:

- "Horizon 2020 - first calls" [2]
- "Horizon 2020 launched with €15 billion over first two years" [6]
- "€15 million up for grabs to support ICT entrepreneurship and web startups in first round of Horizon 2020 funding" [7]

And:

- Blog post Commissioner Neelie Kroes "Horizon 2020: Investing in our future" [8]
- Article with more info (including a 'Horizon 2020: What's new' guide) "ICT 2013: eHealth in the spotlights" [9]

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Links
[1] https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/sites/digital-agenda/files/newsroom/horizon2020_0_5682.jpg
[2] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-1122_en.htm
[3] http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/calls/h2020-phc-2014-single-stage.html
[4] http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/calls/h2020-phc-2015-single-stage.html

[5] http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/index.html
[6] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-1232_en.htm
[7] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-1154_en.htm
[8] https://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/kroes/en/content/horizon-2020-investing-our-future
[9] https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/news-redirect/12760
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