THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME
2021 – 2027

ISABEL VERGARA

INFO DAY - MISSIONS
18 JANUARY 2022
What is new in the submission process?
Admissibility & Eligibility

Proposal page limit: Substantial reduction in maximum length:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RIAs and IAs</th>
<th>CSAs</th>
<th>COFUND</th>
<th>First stage proposals</th>
<th>EIC Pathfinder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45 pages</td>
<td>30 pages</td>
<td>70 pages</td>
<td>10 pages</td>
<td>17 pages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Check for exceptions in your topics!!!

Consortium composition (collaborative projects)

- at least one independent legal entity established in a Member State (MS), and
- at least two other independent legal entities each established either in a different MS or an Associated Country (AC).
- CSAs: may be submitted by one or more legal entities, which may be established in a MS, AC or, in exceptional cases and if provided for in the specific call conditions, in another third country.

Gender Equality Plan (starts being applicable in calls with deadline in 2022)
Participants that are public bodies, research organisations or higher education establishments from Members States and Associated countries must have a gender equality plan, covering minimum process-related requirements.

Check the General Annexes of the WP for complete information.
# Associated Countries

**Countries for which association has started to take effect (status of 18 Jan 2022)**

1. Bosnia and Herzegovina  
2. Georgia  
3. Iceland  
4. Israel  
5. Moldova  
6. Montenegro  
7. North Macedonia  
8. Norway  
9. Serbia  
10. Turkey

**Countries with which association negotiations are being processed or where association is imminent (status of 18 Jan 2022) – transitional arrangement**

1. Albania  
2. Armenia  
3. Faroe Islands  
4. Kosovo  
5. Morocco  
6. Tunisia  
7. Ukraine  
8. United Kingdom

**Specific situation of CH**

- Legal entities established in Switzerland are currently not covered by the transitional arrangement.
Activities eligible for funding

Eligible activities are the ones described in the call conditions
Activities must **focus exclusively on civil applications** and **must not**:

- aim at human cloning for reproductive purposes;
- intend to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes heritable (except for research relating to cancer treatment of the gonads, which may be financed);
- intend to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research, or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer;
- lead to the destruction of human embryos.
Application form (proposal template)

Same structure

The proposal contains two parts:

- **Part A** (web-based forms) is generated by the IT system. It is based on the information entered by the participants through the submission system in the Funding & Tenders Portal.
- **Part B** is the narrative part that includes three sections that each correspond to an evaluation criterion. Part B needs to be uploaded as a PDF document following the templates downloaded by the applicants in the submission system for the specific call or topic.
New features in the Horizon Europe proposal

NEW FIELDS IN PART A
- Researchers table – needed to follow up researchers’ careers (HE indicator)
- Role of participating organisation
- Self-declaration on gender equality plan

FIELDS MOVED FROM PART B TO PART A
- Ethics self-assessment
- Security questionnaire (NEW! in all HE proposals)
- Information on participants’ previous activities related to the call

NEW IN PART B
- Glossary of terms.
- Consistency on the use of terminology is ensured in all project phases (from WP to proposal and reporting)
- Extensive explanations on what exactly should be included in each section.
What is new in the evaluation process?
Evaluation (award) criteria

Same criteria as in H2020

Same three award criteria: ‘Excellence’, ‘Impact’ and ‘Quality and efficiency of the implementation’. Excellence only for ERC.

Adapted following lessons learnt

- The number of ‘aspects to be taken into account’ have been reduced, ensuring that the same aspect is not assessed twice
- Open Science practices assessed as part of the scientific methodology in the excellence criterion
- New approach to impact: Key Impacts Pathways (KIPs)
- The assessment of the quality of applicants is assessed under ‘implementation’, rather than as a separate binary assessment of operational capacity
- Assessment of management structures has been removed.
Points to consider when writing a proposal in HE
Key principles

Your proposed work must be within the scope of a work programme topic

You need to demonstrate that your idea is ambitious and goes beyond the state of the art

Your scientific methodology must take into account interdisciplinary, gender dimension and open science practices.

You should show how your project could contribute to the outcomes and impacts described in the work programme (the pathway to impact)

You should describe the planned measures to maximise the impact of your project (‘plan for the dissemination and exploitation including communication activities’)

You should demonstrate the quality of your work plan, resources and participants
Policy and horizontal considerations

- Open Science across the programme
- Gender dimension in R&I content
- Pathway to impact
- Measures to maximise impact
- Artificial intelligence

These aspects must normally be considered in all Horizon Europe calls (unless explicitly mentioned in the topic description).

Specific calls may include other aspects to take into account.
Open science is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process. Including active engagement of society.

**Mandatory immediate Open Access to publications:** beneficiaries must retain sufficient IPRs to comply with open access requirements;

**Data sharing as ‘open as possible, as closed as necessary’:** mandatory Data Management Plan for FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) research data

- Work Programmes may incentivize or oblige to adhere to **open science practices** such as involvement of citizens, or to use the **European Open Science Cloud**
- Assessment of open science practices through the **excellence award criteria** for proposal evaluation. Under **quality of participants** previous experience on open sciences practices will be evaluated positively.
- Dedicated support to **open science policy actions**
- **Open Research Europe** publishing platform
Gender dimension in R&I content

Addressing the gender dimension in research and innovation entails taking into account sex and gender in the whole research & innovation process.

The integration of the gender dimension into R&I content is mandatory, unless it is explicitly mentioned in the topic description.

Why is gender dimension important?

- Why do we observe differences between women and men in infection levels and mortality rates in the COVID-19 pandemic?
- Does it make sense to study cardiovascular diseases only on male animals and on men, or osteoporosis only on women?
- Does it make sense to design car safety equipment only on the basis of male body standards?
- Is it responsible to develop AI products that spread gender and racial biases due to a lack of diversity in the data used in training AI applications?
- Is it normal that household travel surveys, and thus mobility analysis and transport planning, underrate trips performed as part of caring work?
- Did you know that pheromones given off by men experimenters, but not women, induce a stress response in laboratory mice sufficient to trigger pain relief?
- And did you know that climate change is affecting sex determination in a number of marine species and that certain populations are now at risk of extinction?
Describing the impact of your proposal

Project's pathway towards impact

...by thinking about the specific contribution the project can make to the expected outcomes and impacts set out in the Work Programme.

**INPUTS**
- HE grant, human resources, expertise, etc.

**PROJECT'S RESULTS**
- Successful large-scale demonstration trial with 3 airports of an advanced forecasting system for proactive airport passenger flow management
- Other project results

**DISSEMINATION & EXPLOITATION**

**PROJECT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE EXPECTED OUTCOME**
- At least 9 European airports adopt the advanced forecasting system that was demonstrated during the project
- Other expected outcomes

**PROJECT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE EXPECTED IMPACT**
- Increase max. passenger capacity by 15% and passenger average throughput by 10%, leading to a 28% reduction in infrastructure expansion costs
- Other expected impacts

**Work Programme outcome**: “Innovative accessibility and logistics solutions applied by the European Transport sector”

**Work Programme impact**: “Seamless, smart, inclusive and sustainable mobility services”

**Implementation**
### Link between policy priorities and project results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EU POLICY PRIORITIES</th>
<th>Overall priorities of the European Union (Green Deal, Fit for the Digital Age,…)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KEY STRATEGIC ORIENTATIONS</td>
<td>Set of strategic objectives within the EC policy priorities where R&amp;I investments are expected to make a difference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMPACT AREAS</td>
<td>Group of expected impacts highlighting the most important transformation to be fostered through R&amp;I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTED IMPACTS = DESTINATIONS</td>
<td>Wider long term effects on society (including the environment), the economy and science, enabled by the outcomes of R&amp;I investments (long term). It refers to the specific contribution of the project to the work programme expected impacts described in the destination. Impacts generally occur some time after the end of the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTED OUTCOMES = TOPICS</td>
<td>The expected effects, over the medium term, of projects supported under a given topic. The results of a project should contribute to these outcomes, fostered in particular by the dissemination and exploitation measures. This may include the uptake, diffusion, deployment, and/or use of the project's results by direct target groups. Outcomes generally occur during or shortly after the end of the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT RESULTS</td>
<td>What is generated during the project implementation. This may include, for example, know-how, innovative solutions, algorithms, proof of feasibility, new business models, policy recommendations, guidelines, prototypes, demonstrators, databases and datasets, trained researchers, new infrastructures, networks, etc. Most project results (inventions, scientific works, etc.) are 'Intellectual Property', which may, if appropriate, be protected by formal 'Intellectual Property Rights'</td>
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Measures to maximise impact

To include a draft plan in proposal is an admissibility condition, unless the work programme topic explicitly states otherwise.

All measures should be proportionate to the scale of the project, and should contain concrete actions to be implemented both during and after the end of the project.

Elements of the D&E&C plan

- **Planned measures** to maximise the impact of projects
- **Target groups** (e.g. scientific community, end users, financial actors, public at large) and **proposed channels** to interact
- **Communication measures** for promoting the project and its findings throughout the full lifespan of the project
- **Policy feedback** measures to contribute to policy shaping and supporting the implementation of new policy initiatives and decisions
- **Follow-up plan** to foster **exploitation/uptake** of the results
  - Comprehensive and feasible strategy for the **management of the intellectual property** (the provision of a results ownership list is mandatory at the end of the project)
  - If exploitation is expected primarily in non-associated third countries, give a convincing justification that this is still in the Union’s interest.
Artificial intelligence

Due diligence is required regarding the trustworthiness of all AI-based systems/techniques used or developed in projects funded under Horizon Europe.

Under Horizon Europe, the technical robustness* of the proposed AI based systems must be evaluated under the excellence criterion.

(*) Technical robustness refers to technical aspects of AI systems and development, including resilience to attack and security, fullback plan and general safety, accuracy, reliability and reproducibility.

AI-based systems or techniques should be, or be developed to become:

- **Technically robust, accurate and reproducible**, and able to deal with and inform about possible failures, inaccuracies and errors, proportionate to the assessed risk posed by the AI-based system or technique.
- **Socially robust**, in that they duly consider the context and environment in which they operate.
- **Reliable and function as intended**, minimizing unintentional and unexpected harm, preventing unacceptable harm and safeguarding the physical and mental integrity of humans.
- Able to provide a suitable explanation of its decision-making process, whenever an AI-based system can have a significant impact on people’s lives.
Do you need more information?
For more information…

… check recorded webinars:

- ‘A successful proposal for Horizon Europe: Scientific-technical excellence is key, but don’t forget the other aspects’ (21 April 2021). [Recorded session](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home).
- ‘All you need to know on D&E under Horizon Europe’ (9 June 2021). [Recorded session](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home).

Check the news section of the F&T Portal regularly: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home)
Thank you!

# HorizonEU

http://ec.europa.eu/horizon-europe
In line with the European Green Deal objectives, economic activities should not make a significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives (EU Taxonomy Regulation).

- Applicants can refer to the DNSH principle when presenting their research methodology and the expected impacts of the project, to show that their project will not carry out activities that make a significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives of the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

- However, evaluators will not score applications in relation to their compliance with the DNSH principle unless explicitly stated in the work programme (currently, this is the case only for actions in the European Innovation Council Work Programme 2021).

The six environmental objectives:

- Climate change mitigation
- Sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources
- Pollution prevention & control
- Climate change adaptation
- Transition to a circular economy
- Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems