



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Croatia's participation is linked with the following partnerships: JPI Oceans, PRIMA, ERA-NETs (BlueBio, ERA PerMed) and EuroHPC. The national strategic documents (e.g. Smart Specialisation Strategy) has indicated the importance of increasing R&I capacity and collaboration between research organisations and enterprises. The future participation in new European Partnerships will be more strategical and better aligned with national priorities. In this regard, the integration of research communities and the business sector is one of the main goals. This could be achieved within the partnerships and for this reason Croatia has expressed interest in participating in various partnerships within Horizon Europe. For the Croatian researchers and entities, the participation in joint calls organised by partnerships that may provide new skills that could contribute to increasing national participation in framework programmes.

19 H2020
public
partnerships (*)

Or
19.19%
of total
(99 partnerships)

22 H2020
public
partnerships (*)
participations

Or
1.02%
of total

0 H2020
public
partnerships (*)
coordinations

Or
0%
of total

Source: ERA-LEARN database (cut-off date June 2021), H2020 period (2014-2020) excluding EIT-KICs, EuroHPC and ECSEL

(*) Horizon 2020 public-public partnerships include ERA-NET Cofund, EJPs, Art 185 initiatives and JPIs. Partnership participations: number of partnerships a specific country takes part as participant – for certain countries more than one national organisation may take part. Thus the participations may be more than the number of partnerships a country is part of. Total partnership participations: number of partners from a specific country participating with any role (i.e. coordinator, participant, observer, other) in partnerships. Partnership coordinations: number of partnerships a specific country coordinates.

€2.88 million

in actual national contributions in public partnerships
during H2020 (2014-2020)

Or **0.13%** of total

€371

per researcher FTE (average between 2014-2019 based
on EUROSTAT data)

Source: ERA-LEARN database (cut-off date June 2021), H2020 period (2014-2020)

Actual national contributions is the funding given by each country to cover the participation of national science and technology groups in the funded projects of the joint transnational calls launched by the public partnerships. Actual contributions for each researcher are the total actual contributions by a country divided by the number of researchers in the country estimated in full-time equivalents (FTE) average between 2014-2019 based on EUROSTAT data.

KEY INTENTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

The Ministry of Science and Education (MSE) has established the intersectoral group for strategic support and collaboration on national level with the aim to increase national participation, empower operational and human capacities and enable synergies. Since Croatia was the most successful in the area of ICT, energy, food and maritime, Croatia will continue to prioritise those areas in the new Framework Programme. In this regard, MSE has implemented national measures supporting participation in EU programmes for R&I, especially strategic research areas such as ICT, health, energy and artificial intelligence.



TABLE 1: Distribution of funding under the different H2020 instruments (P2Ps, JUs, cPPPs and other H2020 projects, i.e. CSAs, RIAs, IAs, etc.) across thematic priorities

THEMATIC PRIORITIES	P2Ps PROJECTS	JUs PROJECTS	cPPPs PROJECTS	OTHER H2020 PROJECTS
Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Advanced Manufacturing and Processing, Biotechnology	0.00 %	12.08 %	0.00 %	4.29 %
Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials	0.00 %	0.00 %	10.95 %	9.75 %
Europe in a changing world - inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies	5.83 %		26.62 %	11.64 %
Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research	57.82 %	45.68 %		8.95 %
Future and Emerging Technologies	0.00 %		0.00 %	3.26 %
Health, demographic change and wellbeing	0.00 %	2.11 %		14.39 %
Information and Communication Technologies		6.39 %	62.43 %	11.20 %
Secure, clean and efficient energy	36.35 %	5.25 %	0.00 %	28.50 %
Smart, green and integrated transport	0.00 %	28.49 %		8.03 %
	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %

Source: ERA-LEARN database (cut-off date June 2021) based on actual national contributions for P2Ps; eCORDA based on net EU contribution; values are calculated as the share of investments of the specific instrument in the specific theme in the total investments under the specific instrument.

FIGURE 1: Eligible proposals, projects and success rates

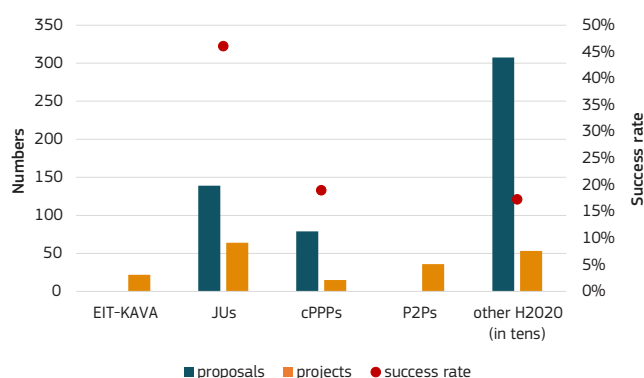
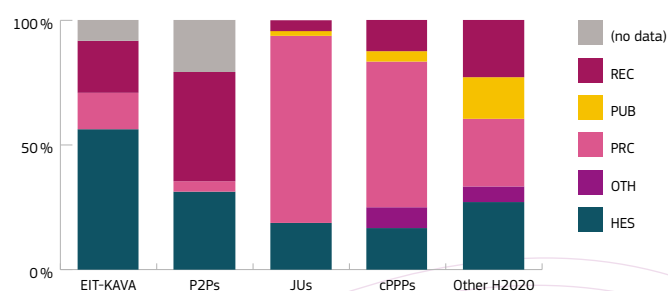


FIGURE 2: Types of project beneficiaries (%)



Source: ERA-LEARN database for P2Ps (cut-off date June 2021); eCORDA for EIT-KAVA. JUs. cPPPs. other H2020 projects (RIAs. CSAs. etc.)

No proposal data for P2Ps. EIT-KICs (Figure 1). EIT-KAVA: KIC Added Value Activities; HES: higher education; OTH: other; PRC: private for-profit companies; PUB: public bodies; REC: research organisations (Figure 2)



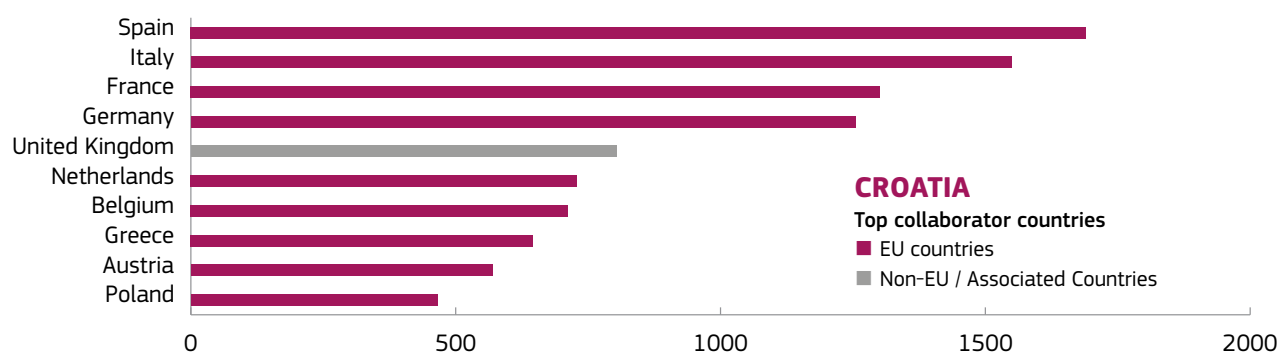
ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES TRIGGERED

Participation in additional joint calls leads to new knowledge and policy interventions envisaged under the S3 and are expected to enhance Croatia’s overall R&I performance and capacities. Croatia has developed the NCP network for applicants applying to joint transnational calls (JTCs) as well as a national scheme for co-funded projects. The aim is to encourage Croatian researchers to participate in Horizon Europe funding schemes and partnerships. Croatian participation in partnerships played a key role in increasing collaboration between academia and industry as well as enabling new opportunities for networking.

COMPLEMENTARY AND CUMULATIVE FUNDING

National funding agencies have not used other EU funds for co-funding JTCs during 2014-2020. All JTCs were financed from the national state budget. In this regard, for the Horizon Europe programme period Croatia will ensure instruments aimed at enabling synergies and complementarities between public sector R&D, industrial development and human capital development.

FIGURE 3: Top collaborators of Croatian researchers under Horizon 2020 projects (including JUs, cPPPs, P2Ps and other H2020 projects)



Source: eCorda; Showing top-ten collaborator-countries



SUCCESS STORIES

- ✦ National measures that aim to support participation in EU programmes for research and innovation.
- ✦ Establishing the thematic advisory working group to increase cooperation, ensure synergies and implement joint actions between different stakeholders and ministries.
- ✦ Croatian participation in partnerships was a valuable learning exercise for R&I stakeholders and for funding agencies seeking to develop new skills in programme coordination and implementation.
- ✦ Croatia, represented by the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb, is participating as a partner in EuroHPC, which has ensured stronger visibility for the Croatian research community and the further involvement of the Croatian Research Area in the European Research Area.