

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

France has been strongly committed to European Partnerships in H2020, thanks to solid research and innovation communities, and to the commitment of national institutions, notably its national research funding agency and national thematic research organisations. Transnational collaboration is considered as a key policy and partnerships allow researchers to take part in transnational collaborative projects through the procedures of national funding agencies. This approach will continue to be promoted with the new European Partnerships in Horizon Europe, in line with developments at the national level (e.g. national strategies in a number of defined areas within PIA4).

89 H2020
public
partnerships (*)

Or
90%
of total
(99 partnerships)

145
H2020 public
partnerships (*)
participations

Or
6.7%
of total

23 H2020
public
partnerships (*)
coordinations

Or
23%
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

€230 million

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

Or **10.6%** of total

€778

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

France has been strongly involved in partnerships addressing societal and technological challenges, such as in health, transport and ICT areas. This will continue to be a priority, notably in the context of the establishment of the national strategies funded by PIA4 at the national level. Moreover, partnerships also promote interdisciplinarity, which is considered as essential to address grand challenges.



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	7.13 %	1.78 %	4.64 %	8.52 %
Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials	18.16 %	0.37 %	1.25 %	4.92 %
Europe in a changing world - inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies	2.45 %		10.37 %	5.55 %
Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research	17.66 %	6.45 %		5.98 %
Future and Emerging Technologies	5.07 %		2.13 %	7.51 %
Health, demographic change and wellbeing	45.83 %	11.15 %		14.23 %
Information and Communication Technologies		19.74 %	78.84 %	15.89 %
Secure, clean and efficient energy	2.87 %	2.61 %	2.76 %	11.52 %
Smart, green and integrated transport	0.82 %	57.90 %		25.88 %
	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

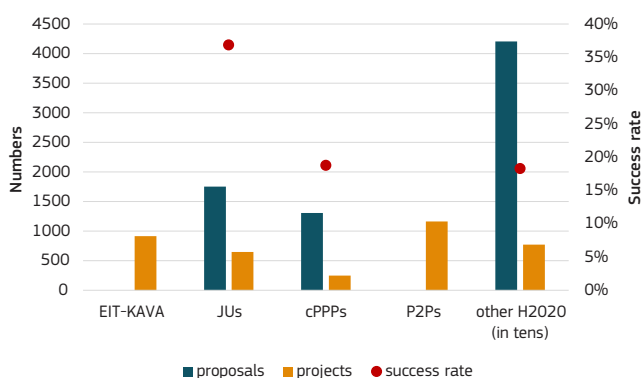
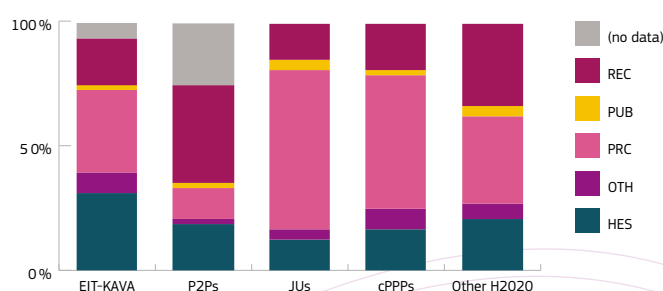


FIGURE 2: Types of project beneficiaries (%)



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)



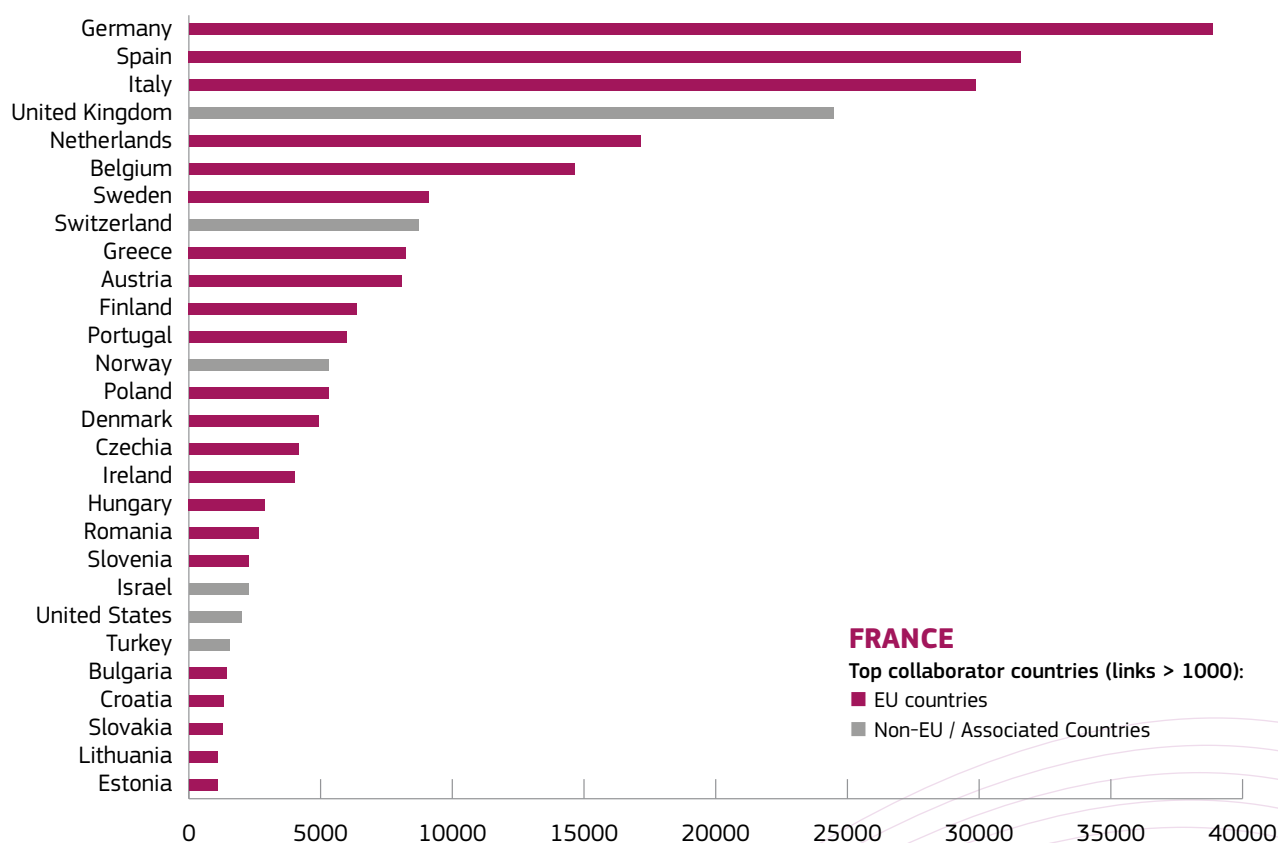
ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS TRIGGERED

French RPOs and RFOs, notably the National Research Agency (ANR), have often participated in additional activities carried out by the networks (joint calls, knowledge hubs), showing the interest of national communities in being part of these transnational activities beyond the EU contribution.

COMPLEMENTARY AND CUMULATIVE FUNDING

France's national contribution to European partnerships has been mainly through national public funds for R&I, notably through the ANR for joint calls. In some cases, such as for ECSEL, it has also allowed the pooling of other national funds dedicated to this area at the national level to ensure complementarity with the European level.

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



Source: eCorda; Showing countries where links >1 000



SUCCESS STORIES

- ✦ In the area of quantum technologies, structuring at the European level, notably through the QuantERA network, has been key for support at the national level, and this domain is now well positioned in terms of national priorities.
- ✦ French teams have successfully participated in networks and partnerships targeting developing countries (LeapAGRI, Water JPI, PRIMA, etc.), which have helped to pull the European Research Area towards the Global South. Numerous success stories during H2020 show how these projects have had an impact on research policies in these countries.
- ✦ In the area of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), it has been shown that France's participation in joint initiatives, in particular JPI AMR, has led to an increase of projects in this area at the national level, demonstrating impact in terms of topic alignment between European and national research activities.
- ✦ The implementation of partnerships (such as ERA-NETs, JPIs etc.) has led to the development of coordinating structures at national level (e.g. mirror groups), which has gradually made it more and more normal to have a structuring approach at the national level in order to be more efficient. In this context, the five national thematic alliances (made up of national research organisations and universities) have had an important role in terms of programming.
- ✦ Some topics have first benefited from structuring actions at European level (networks/partnerships) before being strongly supported at national level, e.g. quantum technologies.
- ✦ Many partnerships have been coherent with national strategies in corresponding areas, including at the level of sectoral ministries, and the input to sectoral policy making is important (recommendations, policy papers, etc.).