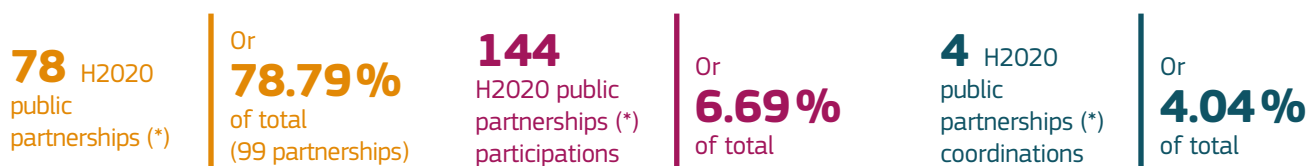




KEY HIGHLIGHTS

In comparison to H2020 partnerships, where a bottom-up approach was used, for Horizon Europe the identification of themes where a partnership was needed followed a more strategic and top-down approach. In parallel with the definition of Horizon Europe, Italy defined its own National Research Programme 2021-27, taking into account the national priorities and needs and the new European Framework Programme as well. National participation in European Partnerships has been included in this overall strategic planning, providing the possibility to also align participation in European Partnerships with national strategies and, therefore, to sensibly increase Italy's financial participation.



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.

€158.80 million

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

Or **7.3%** of total

€1 113

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

Considering the dimension of its research and innovation landscape, Italy will be participating in almost all partnerships. However, a stronger focus will be given to themes connected to sustainable blue economy, health and health systems-oriented research, the clean energy transition and digital technologies.



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	11.04 %	1.81 %	4.52 %	12.44 %
Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials	10.85 %	0.06 %	3.70 %	6.98 %
Europe in a changing world - inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies	1.69 %		8.92 %	7.81 %
Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research	28.97 %	11.09 %		7.13 %
Future and Emerging Technologies	2.52 %		1.43 %	7.90 %
Health, demographic change and wellbeing	42.21 %	10.37 %		11.81 %
Information and Communication Technologies		15.43 %	77.30 %	15.41 %
Secure, clean and efficient energy	0.76 %	6.56 %	4.14 %	12.26 %
Smart, green and integrated transport	1.96 %	54.69 %		18.25 %
	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

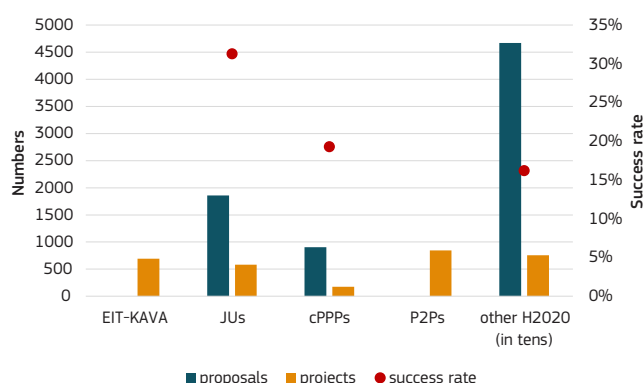
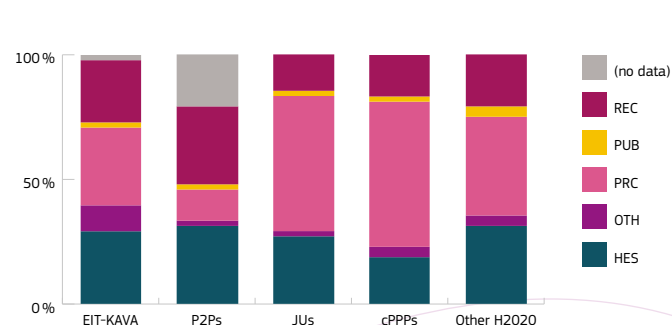


FIGURE 2: Types of project beneficiaries (%)



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)

Preliminary data on participation in partnerships projects show an increased level of coordination between research and industrial actors, as well as a good participation by SMEs with respect to large enterprises.

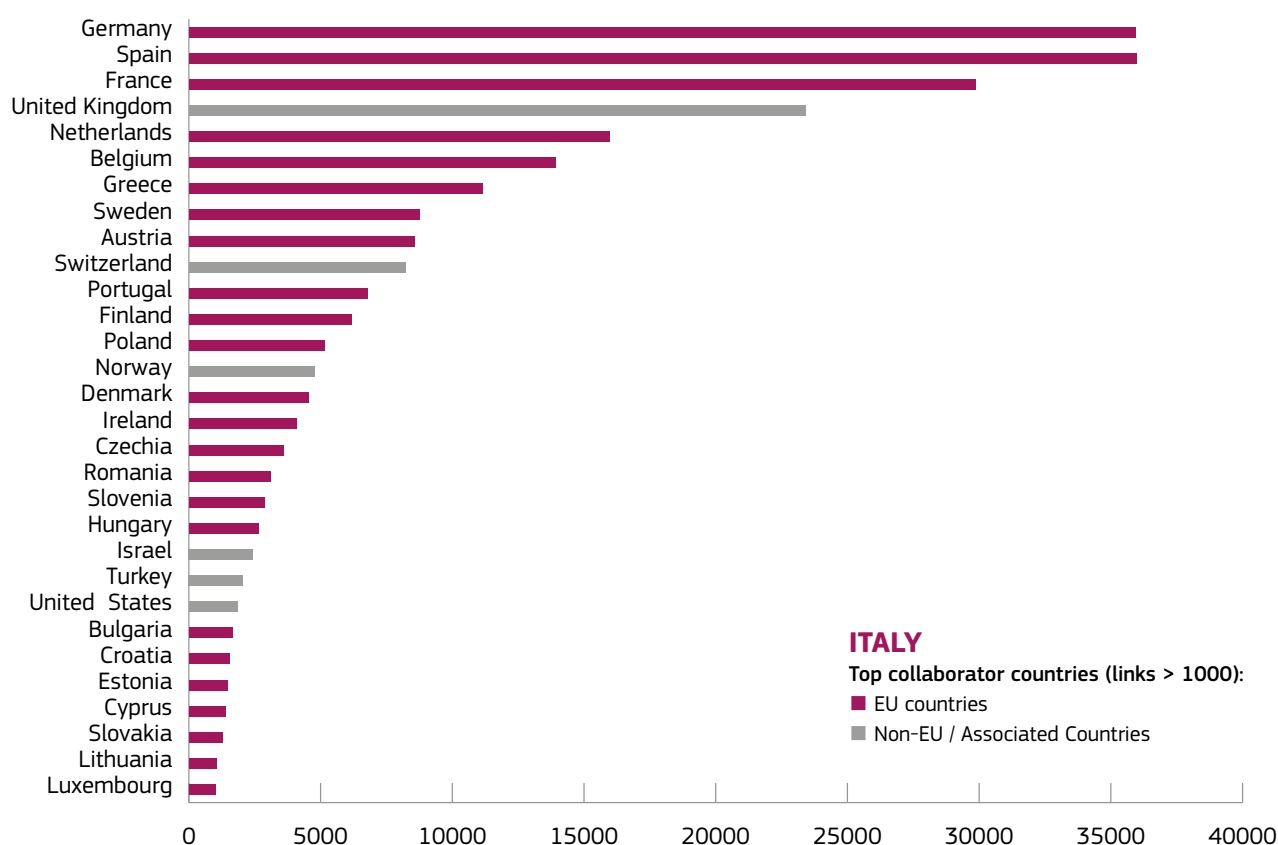


COMPLEMENTARY AND CUMULATIVE FUNDING

Partnership are stimulating an increased and synergic cooperation among different ministries, including some who have been involved only marginally in European research activities in the past. This will result in additional investments either directly in co-funding research projects and in supporting new or improved additional activities.

Partnerships are triggering a synergic use of different funds, like for example national/regional funds, cohesion funds and recovery and resilience funds, with the aim to create more opportunities for Italian researchers to participate to European projects.

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



Source: eCorda; Showing countries where links >1 000.



SUCCESS STORIES

- ✦ The positive results of H2020 partnerships pushed the Ministry of Universities and Research into creating a dedicated Directorate-General in charge of the internationalisation of universities and research.
- ✦ A new funding law, approved in December 2021, simplifies participation in European Partnerships and supports the research projects selected by these initiatives.
- ✦ Under EuroHPC, Italy is hosting the LEONARDO supercomputer. LEONARDO will be operational at the end of 2022 and is located on the premises of Tecnopolo di Bologna.

Impact on alignment

- ✦ Thanks to the opportunities provided by the partnerships, dialogue and coordination among different ministries has increased, even if a complete alignment is still far from being achieved, mainly due to the different sources of funding.