



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Compared to Horizon 2020, support for Slovak participation in new Horizon Europe partnerships will be less fragmented and focus more on inter-sectoral cooperation. The available funding is expected to increase mainly through EU structural funds, which in Horizon 2020 did not match the interest from potential participants. A significant increase of the interest from the universities, business sector and relevant state authorities that want to participate in new Horizon Europe partnerships has been observed. Many actors are already participating in the preparatory phases. There is a strong national political support for increased participation in Horizon Europe partnerships. There is also an increasing focus on capturing synergies, for example through co-funding the participation of Slovak institutions from EU structural funds during the new programming period.

36 H2020
public
partnerships (*)

Or
36%
of total
(99 partnerships)

38 H2020
public
partnerships (*)
participations

Or
1.8%
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.

€4.5 million

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

Or **0.2%** of total

€296

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

Slovak participation in the Horizon Europe partnerships will be aligned with the new updated Slovak smart specialisation strategy, RIS3 SK 2021+, which includes the following priority domains: vehicles for the 21st century, industry for the 21st century, digital Slovakia and creative industry, population health and medical technology, and healthy food and the environment.



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	22.32 %	0.19 %	13.52 %	8.38 %
Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials	3.53 %	0.00 %	0.00 %	8.20 %
Europe in a changing world - inclusive, innovative and reflective Societies	0.00 %		8.68 %	16.02 %
Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research	0.58 %	74.14 %		11.46 %
Future and Emerging Technologies	9.70 %		0.00 %	2.33 %
Health, demographic change and wellbeing	61.48 %	0.00 %		6.62 %
Information and Communication Technologies		11.17 %	72.52 %	15.00 %
Secure, clean and efficient energy	2.39 %	0.00 %	5.29 %	18.40 %
Smart, green and integrated transport	0.00 %	14.51 %		13.60 %
	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

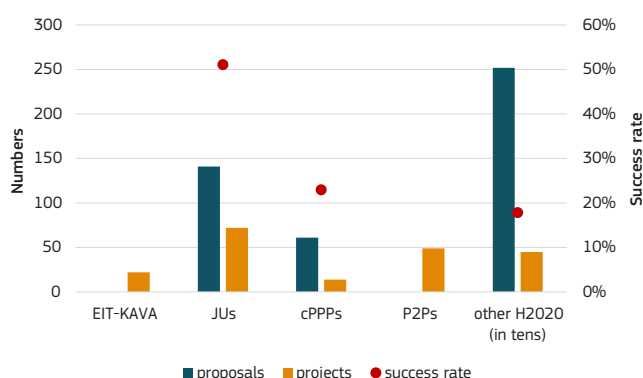
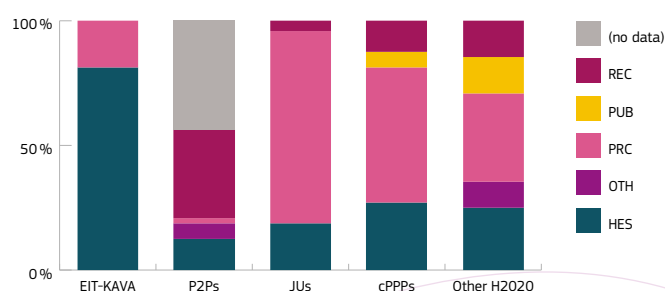


FIGURE 2: Types of project beneficiaries (%)



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

Some Horizon 2020 partnerships were co-funded by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic (e.g., ENIAC-ECSEL, EUROSTAR52, Neurodegenerative Disease Research), or different state authorities (e.g., EMPIR). The Slovak Academy of Sciences provided support for ERA-NETs.

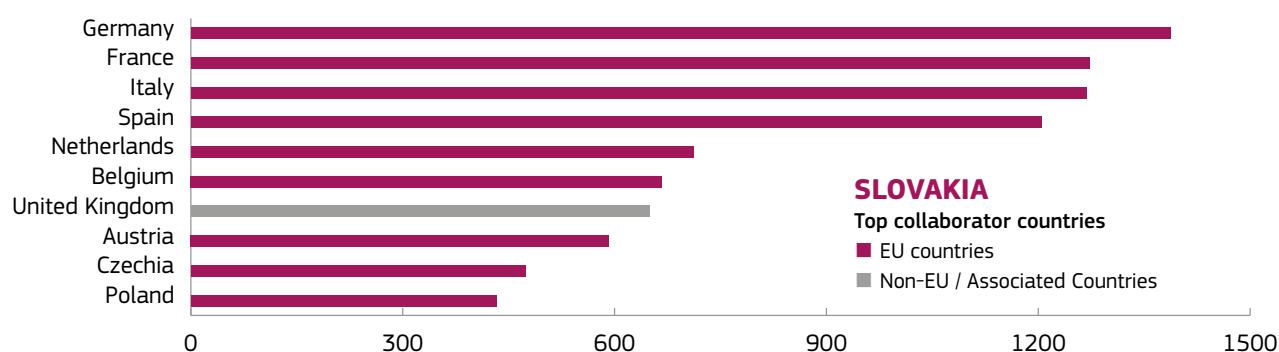
To increase participation in European Partnerships under Horizon Europe, a national programme supporting the preparation of Horizon Europe project proposals and a dedicated call to co-fund the participation of Slovak institutions in European Partnerships were designed. This scheme will be administrated by the Slovak Research and Development Support Agency.

COMPLEMENTARY AND CUMULATIVE FUNDING

In Horizon 2020 no specific synergies with other EU programmes were supported. To increase the participation of Slovak institutions in Horizon Europe partnerships, the focus will be on synergies with EU structural funds. The participation of Slovak institutions in European Partnerships and the co-funding of partnerships calls will be supported from EU structural funds. ESIF calls are expected to increase the participation of Slovak institutions in Horizon Europe (none were implemented during Horizon 2020).

During Horizon 2020 no ESIF calls were implemented to support the participation in the new programming period. However Slovakia expects ESIF calls to increase the participation of Slovak institutions in Horizon Europe.

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



Source: eCorda; Showing the top-10 collaborator countries



SUCCESS STORIES

- ✦ Support to increase the participation of Slovak institutions in new partnerships was recognised as a priority and was included in all major strategic documents on R&I support including the updated RIS3SK 2021+ Strategy and the Slovak Recovery and Resilience Plan.
- ✦ Impact on national coordination mechanism: Support for the participation in partnerships was endorsed by the Council for the European R&D Policies in Slovakia, which consists of representatives of relevant ministries, the Slovak Academy of Sciences, universities and business associations.
- ✦ However Slovakia are yet to finalise the coordination and monitoring mechanism for partnerships.