

Opportunities for Researchers & Innovators through Horizon Europe (Africa Initiative II & Mediterranean Initiative) & the AU-EU Innovation Agenda

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@EUScienceInnov | #EUResearchArea | #ResearchImpactEU | #HorizonEU



Overview



- Horizon Europe
- International Cooperation in Horizon Europe: Med Initiative & Africa Initiative II
- Real-life examples
- Evaluation of proposals





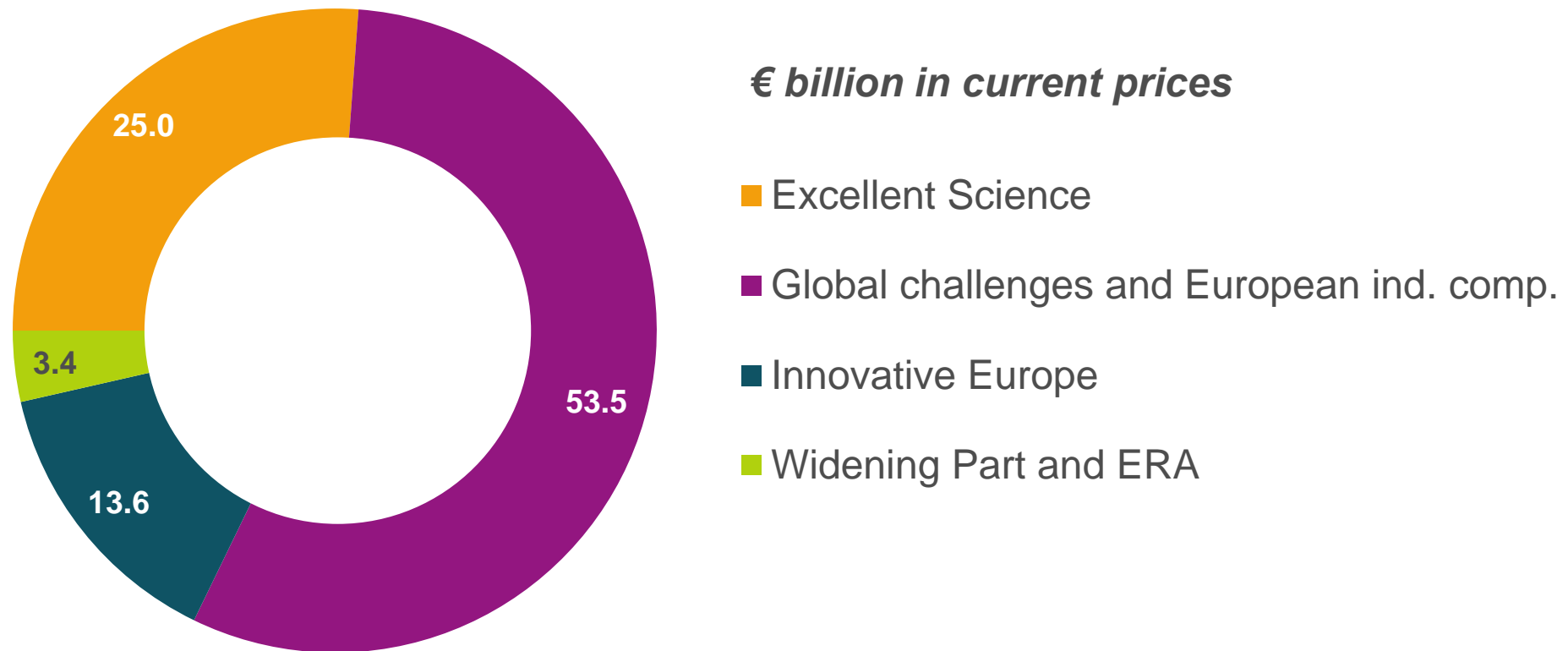
HORIZON EUROPE

THE EU
RESEARCH &
INNOVATION
PROGRAMME 2021 – 27



Horizon Europe Budget: €95.5 billion (2021-2027)

(including €5.4 billion from NGEU – Next Generation Europe – programme of EU for Recovery from COVID-19 crisis)



4

- Implemented through **Work Programmes** which set out funding opportunities mainly through **calls for proposals**.



International Cooperation in R&I

Global approach to Research and Innovation

WHAT IS THE AIM OF THE GLOBAL APPROACH TO RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (R&I)?

To preserve openness in research and innovation international cooperation while promoting a level playing field and reciprocity underpinned by fundamental values.

To strengthen multilateral partnerships to deliver new solutions to green, digital, health and innovation challenges.



HOW WILL THIS BE ACHIEVED?

Modulating bilateral cooperation in line with European interests and values and EU's open strategic autonomy.

Accelerating sustainable and inclusive development, and the transition to resilient, knowledge-based societies and economies in low and middle-income countries.

Using a *Team Europe* approach, with actions by the EU, its financial institutions and Member States.



Guiding principles:

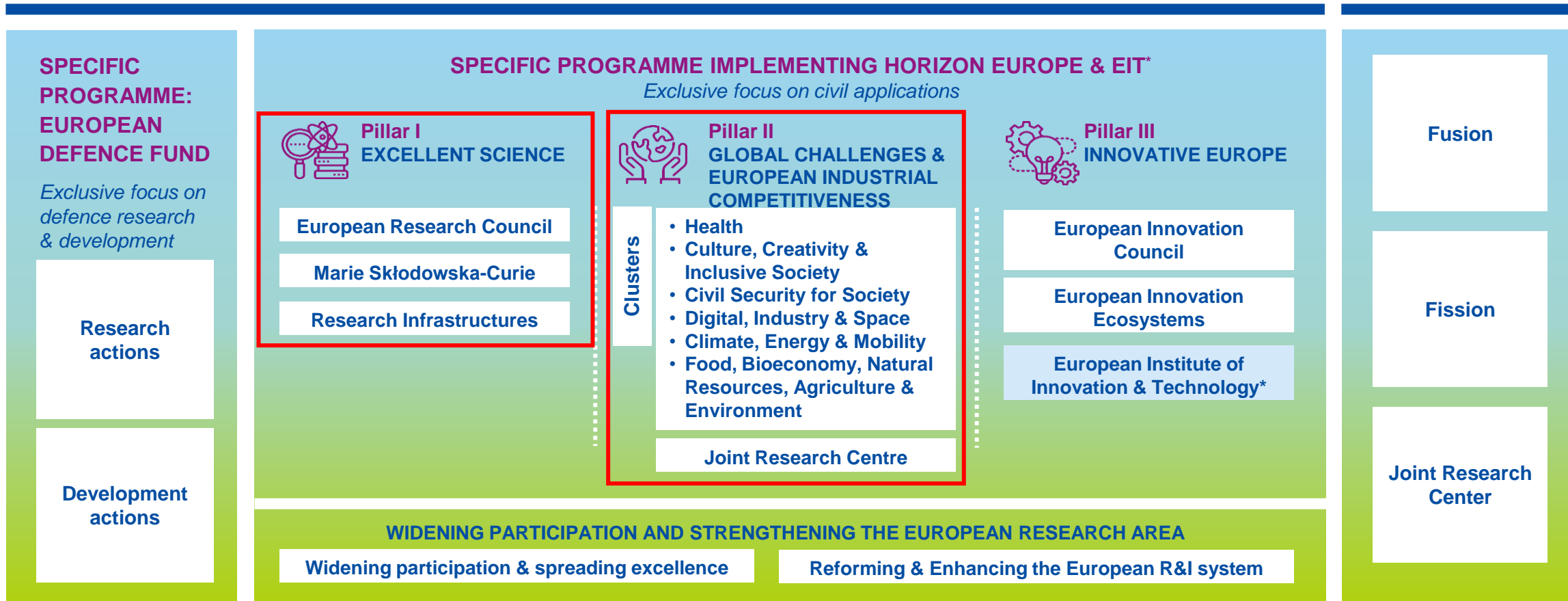
- Commitment to openness
- Values & Principles
- Pursuit of a level playing field and reciprocity
- Pool global efforts to tackle global challenges



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

HORIZON EUROPE

EURATOM



* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

Horizon Europe Work Programme

- Horizon Europe is implemented through **work programmes** which set out funding opportunities mainly through **calls for proposals**.
- A call for proposal will normally contain one or more **topics** with a common deadline. The budget of the call is distributed among topics. Where topics share a budget envelope, proposals for these topics will be competing against each other and will result in a single ranking list.
- Applicants **apply to a specific call and topic**.
- Each topic to which applicants can apply will include:
 - The topic **scope**
 - The topic **expected outcome**
 - The **expected impact** of the destination to which the topic belongs
 - The **type of action**
 - The topic **budget** (or budget shared by group of topics)



Horizon Europe – Who is eligible for funding?



EU COUNTRIES

- **Member States (MS)** including their outermost regions.
- The Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the MS.



NON-EU COUNTRIES

- **Countries associated to Horizon Europe (AC).**
- **Low and Middle Income Countries:** see [HE Programme Guide](#).
- **Other countries when announced in the call** or exceptionally if their participation is essential.



SPECIFIC CASES

- Affiliated entities established in countries eligible for funding.
- EU bodies
- International organisations (IO):
 - International European research organisations are eligible for funding.
 - Other IO are not eligible (only exceptionally if participation is essential)
 - IO in a MS or AC are eligible for funding for Training and mobility actions and when announced in the call conditions.



International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Targeted international cooperation actions

- Flagging of call topics specifically relevant for International Cooperation in the Work Programmes, e.g. in:
 - Strategic thematic areas (topics)
 - Geographical areas (countries/regions)
 - Multilateral initiatives
 - Collaboration with key partners
- WP 23-24: **22% International Cooperation-flagged topics**; see [Funding & Tenders Portal](#)
 - filter for International Cooperation
- Cooperation with Africa and MED under the HE ‘**Africa Initiative**’ and new ‘**Mediterranean Initiative**’.



International cooperation in Horizon Europe Work Programme 2023-24

| Clusters | Topics total | Topics (ex. Other Actions) | Topics for which International Cooperation is encouraged | |
|---|--------------|----------------------------|--|------------|
| | | | No. | % |
| Cluster 1: Health | 53 | 44 | 7 | 16% |
| Cluster 2: Culture, creativity and inclusive society | 66 | 56 | 15 | 27% |
| Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society | 44 | 42 | 9 | 21% |
| Cluster 4: Digital Industry and Space | 159 | 130 | 22 | 17% |
| Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility | 219 | 191 | 38 | 20% |
| Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural resources, agriculture, and environment | 189 | 179 | 51 | 28% |
| Total | 730 | 642 | 141 | 22% |

Mediterranean Initiative

*In the Work Programme of Horizon Europe 2023
- 2024*



- The Horizon Europe work programme 2023-2024 includes **37 topics** with a budget of **~€350 MEUR** under Calls for Proposals that are **particularly relevant for cooperation with the Mediterranean region**.
- This contributes to the R&I Roadmaps on the three priorities for EU-Mediterranean cooperation in research and innovation adopted at the **Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) R&I Ministerial of 27 June 2022** on:



HEALTH



**CLIMATE
CHANGE**



**RENEWABLE
ENERGY**

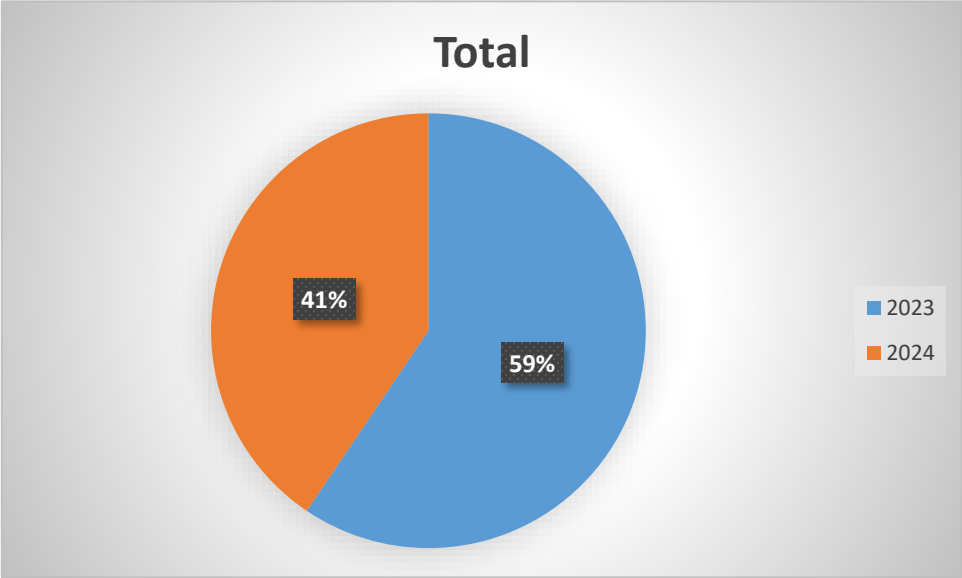
- The calls for proposals, open in different Work Programme parts, **encourage the participation of Mediterranean entities**.

Mediterranean Initiative

In the Work Programme of Horizon Europe 2023-2024



Photo source: en.wikipedia.org



Open by January 2023

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Climate Change | 16 |
| Health | 2 |
| others | 2 |
| Renewable energy | 2 |
| Grand Total | 22 |

1. Health



| Topic Identifier | Opening | Deadline | Topic Title | ToA |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|---|----------------------------------|
| HORIZON-HLTH-2023-CARE-08-01 | 12-01-2023 | 13-04-2023 | European Partnership on Personalised Medicine | Horizon Programme Cofund Actions |
| HORIZON-HLTH-2023-DISEASE-07-01 | 12-01-2023 | 19-09-2023 | European Partnership on Rare Diseases | Horizon Programme Cofund Actions |



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2. Renewable energies



| Topic Identifier | Opening | Deadline | Topic Title | ToA |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|---|-------------|
| HORIZON-CL5-2023-D2-01-01 | 13-12-2022 | 18-04-2023 | Technologies for sustainable, cost-efficient and low carbon footprint downstream processing & production of battery-grade materials (Batt4EU Partnership) | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL5-2023-D3-01-04 | 13-12-2022 | 30-03-2023 | Solar Systems for Industrial Process Heat and Power | HORIZON-IA |
| HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-01-13 | 12-09-2023 | 16-01-2024 | DC and AC/DC hybrid transmission and distribution systems | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-06 | 7-05-2024 | 5-09-2024 | Innovative, Community-Integrated PV systems | HORIZON-IA |
| HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-07 | 7-05-2024 | 5-09-2024 | Resource Efficiency of PV in Production, Use and Disposal | HORIZON-CSA |



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2. Climate Change



| Topic Identifier | Opening | Deadline | Topic Title | ToA |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|---|-------------|
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-BIODIV-01-17 | 22-12-2022 | 28-03-2023 | Interlinkages between biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystems and the emergence of zoonotic diseases | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-BIODIV-01-3 | 22-12-2022 | 28-03-2023 | Interdisciplinary assessment of changes affecting terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems, building on observation programmes | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-CircBio-01-4 | 22-12-2022 | 28-03-2023 | Land-based bioprospecting and production of bioactive compounds and functional materials for multiple bio-based value chains | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-CircBio-01-6 | 22-12-2022 | 28-03-2023 | Bio-based solutions for humanitarian applications | HORIZON-CSA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-CLIMATE-01-2 | 22-12-2022 | 12-04-2023 | Improve the reliability and effectiveness of alternative water resources supply systems and technologies | HORIZON-IA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-CLIMATE-01-3 | 22-12-2022 | 12-04-2023 | Ocean and coastal waters carbon- and biodiversity-rich ecosystems and habitats in Europe and the Polar Regions | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-CLIMATE-01-6 | 22-12-2022 | 12-04-2023 | Analysing fossil-energy dependence in agriculture to increase resilience against input price fluctuations | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-FARM2FORK-01-15 | 22-12-2022 | 12-04-2023 | Fostering resilient European food systems in a changing world | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-FARM2FORK-01-17 | 22-12-2022 | 12-04-2023 | EU-African Union cooperation – linking the activities of the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership and those of the Pan-African Network for Economic Analysis of Policies (PANAP) | HORIZON-CSA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-FARM2FORK-01-18 | 22-12-2022 | 12-04-2023 | Support for the implementation of a sustainable platform for the EU-African Union cooperation under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership | HORIZON-CSA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-FARM2FORK-01-19 | 22-12-2022 | 12-04-2023 | Support to the markets and trade of agroecological food products under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership | HORIZON-IA |

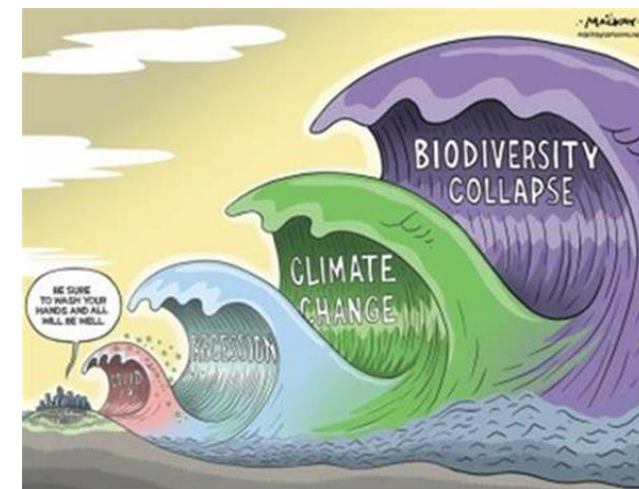


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2. Climate Change



| Topic Identifier | Opening | Deadline | Topic Title | ToA |
|---|------------|------------|--|----------------------------------|
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-FARM2FORK-01-20 | 22-12-2022 | 12-04-2023 | EU-Africa Union – food safety | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-ZEROPOLLUTION-01-2 | 22-12-2022 | 28-03-2023 | Integrated assessment and monitoring of emerging pollutants in the marine environment | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2023-ZEROPOLLUTION-01-7 | 22-12-2022 | 28-03-2023 | Strategies to prevent and reduce plastic packaging pollution from the food system | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-MISS-2023-OCEAN-SOIL-01-01 | 17-01-2023 | 20-09-2023 | Mission Ocean and Waters and Mission A Soil Deal for Europe – Joint demonstration of approaches and solutions to address nutrient pollution in the landscape-river-sea system in the Mediterranean sea basin | HORIZON-IA |
| HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-04 | 17-01-2023 | 20-09-2023 | Innovations to prevent and combat desertification | HORIZON-IA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01-8 | 17-10-2023 | 22-02-2024 | Conservation and protection of carbon-rich and biodiversity-rich forest ecosystems | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2024-CLIMATE-01-6 | 17-10-2023 | 22-02-2024 | Ocean models for seasonal to decadal regional climate impacts and feedbacks | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-10 | 17-10-2023 | 22-02-2024 | EU-African Union cooperation on agroforestry management for climate change adaptation and mitigation | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-11 | 17-10-2023 | 22-02-2024 | EU-African Union – towards climate-neutral, social just fair trade food systems | HORIZON-RIA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-02-6-two-stage | 17-10-2023 | 17-09-2024 | Minimising climate impact on fisheries: mitigation and adaptation solutions for future climate regimes | HORIZON-IA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-02-7-two-stage | 17-10-2023 | 17-09-2024 | Minimising climate impact on aquaculture: mitigation and adaptation solutions for future climate regimes | HORIZON-IA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2024-ZEROPOLLUTION-01-1 | 17-10-2023 | 22-02-2024 | Demonstrating how regions can operate within safe ecological and regional nitrogen and phosphorus boundaries | HORIZON-IA |
| HORIZON-CL6-2024-ZEROPOLLUTION-01-2 | 17-10-2023 | 22-02-2024 | Best available techniques to recover or recycle fertilising products from secondary raw materials | HORIZON-CSA |
| 16 HORIZON-CL6-2024-GOVERNANCE-01-1 | 17-10-2023 | 28-02-2024 | Additional activities for the European Partnership for a climate neutral, sustainable and productive Blue Economy | Horizon Programme Cofund Actions |



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EU-Africa cooperation in Research & Innovation (R&I)

- As a strategic partner, the EU seeks to **enhance cooperation with Africa** to promote actions targeted to finding locally adapted solutions to global challenges, that often hit Africa hardest.
- The [Comprehensive EU strategy with Africa](#) and the [Global Approach to Research & Innovation \(R&I\)](#) are the EU's most recent policy initiatives that **prioritise R&I** as a key dimension of **sustainable development**.
 - The *Comprehensive EU Strategy with Africa* proposes to **scale up the EU's academic and scientific cooperation with Africa**, with a view to creating **prosperous knowledge societies** in both continents.
 - The *EU Global Approach to R&I* foresees **special openness vis-à-vis African countries** that wish to thrive as knowledge-based economies and accelerate their **sustainable and inclusive development**.
- The [AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue \(HLPD\) on Science, Technology and Innovation \(STI\)](#) (est. 2010) is the **policy forum** where regular exchanges on R&I policy take place and where **long-term priorities** to strengthen cooperation are established. Under its aegis, the **first ever AU-EU R&I Ministerial Meeting** took place in **July 2020**, establishing the **4 joint priorities** of the AU-EU cooperation in R&I:



Public Health



Green Transition



Innovation & Technology

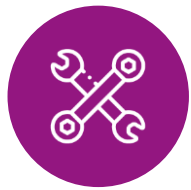


Capacities for Science

EU-Africa: Global Gateway Investment Package.

#GlobalGateway #AfricaEU #TeamEurope

- Announced during the **6th EU-AU Summit – A joint vision for 2030** of February 2022, it aims to support Africa for a **strong, inclusive, green and digital recovery**.
Budget: **150 BEUR**.
- **3 flagship initiatives** foreseen for **Science, Technology and Innovation**:
 - (1) AU-EU Innovation Agenda
 - (2) Earth observation and Space
 - (3) Regional Centres of Excellence in the area of Green Transition



The Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda

For building stronger value chains for sustainable growth and decent jobs

- [Working document](#) of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda drafted through a comprehensive concerted “**Team Africa-Europe**” work, involving AU and the EU Member States and Commissions, under the **AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)**.

4 objectives:



Make it real

- **Translate innovative capacities and achievements into tangible outputs**, supporting sustainable growth and jobs, in particular for the youth



Generate impact by design

- **Foster - strengthen innovation ecosystems** to enhance socio-economic impact



Strengthen people, communities & institutions

- **Develop sustainable, long lasting and mutually beneficial higher education and R&I partnerships**



Learn, monitor, and scale it up

- **Scale-up instruments** that can take forward existing successful programmes and projects, enable - strengthen the knowledge triangle of education, R&I & place special focus on **public participation, transparency, and inclusion**



Short-, medium- and long-term set of actions, according to four joint priority areas:



- Public Health
- Green Transition
- Innovation & Technology
- Capacities for Science + the additional
- Cross-cutting issues



Mapping of gaps & needs for each priority area

- Published on **14 February 2022**, under public consultation until **30 June 2022**, further discussed with Stakeholders over a ‘**Stakeholder Dialogue Process**’ throughout the year 2022, culminated in the [AU-EU Innovation Agenda Stakeholder Event](#) in November 2022 in Nairobi.
- **Final version** of the Agenda prepared through a continued concerted “**Team Africa-Europe**”, building on the feedback and input received from Stakeholders. Currently in the **process of adoption**.



The joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda: when Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) stand for Sustainable Tangible Impact

AUTHORS

Vincenzo Lorusso, Piero Venturi, Lukovi Seke, Mahlet Teshome, Monica Ebele Idinoba, Hambani Masheleni, Nienke Buisman, Jens Hoegel

AU-EU Innovation *Festival*

Cape Town
15th June 2023

#AUEU #InnovationFestival
#InnovationAgenda #MakingItHappen
#PositiveAgenda

CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER
(CTICC)

<https://au-eu-innovationfestival.service-facility.eu/>

 **Global
Gateway**

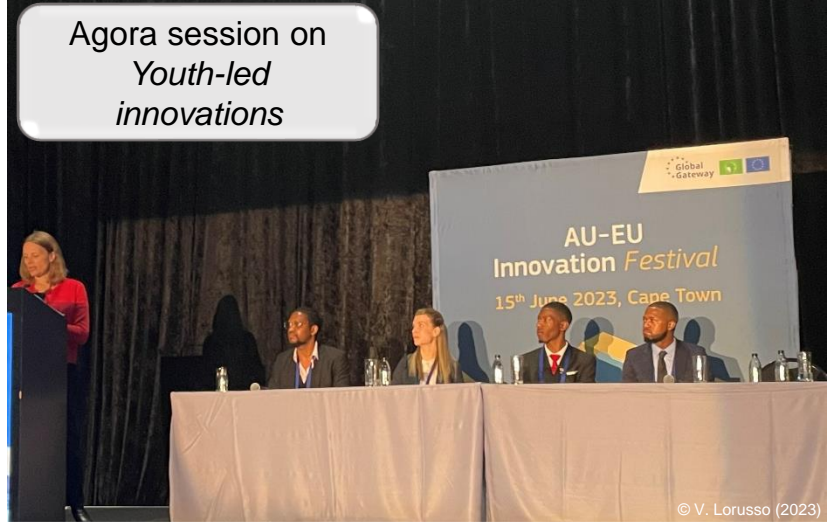


High-level institutional opening



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Agora session on Youth-led innovations



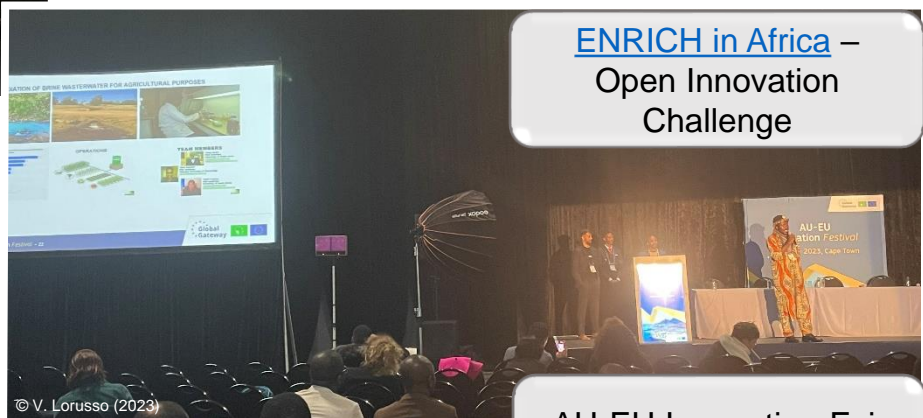
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Agora session on Women-led innovations



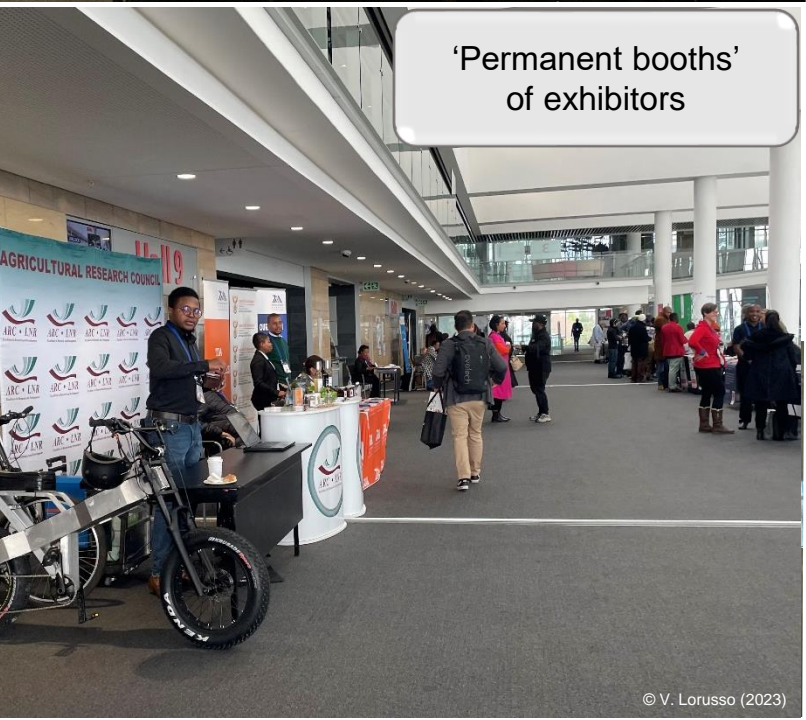
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ENRICH in Africa – Open Innovation Challenge



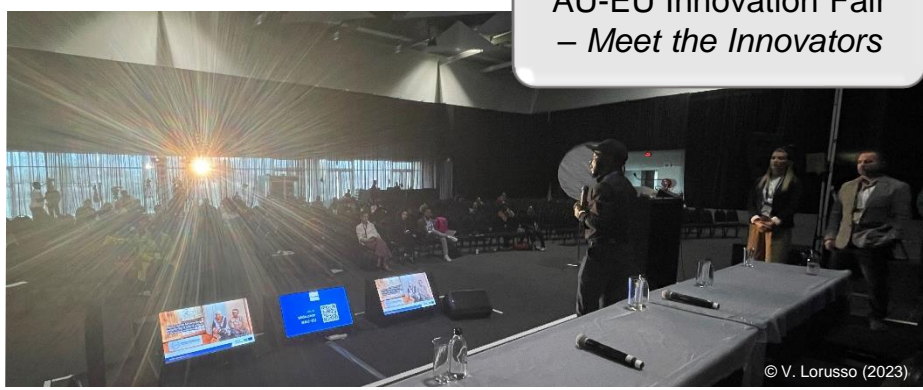
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'Permanent booths' of exhibitors



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AU-EU Innovation Fair – Meet the Innovators



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AU-EU Innovation Agenda

Main Next Steps Ahead

- Full **adoption** of the Agenda by September 2023.
- Starting of the **implementation** thereafter.
- **Large virtual event** to include training, experience-sharing, matchmaking, networking before the end of the year (**Nov-Dec. 2023**) in continuity with the AU-EU Innovation Festival.
- **Launch and roll-out of several initiatives** to contribute to the implementation of the Innovation Agenda.
- **Several follow-up communication actions** stemming from last year's Stakeholder Event and this year's AU-EU Innovation Festival.
- Stay updated and engage through our [website](#).

Africa Initiative II

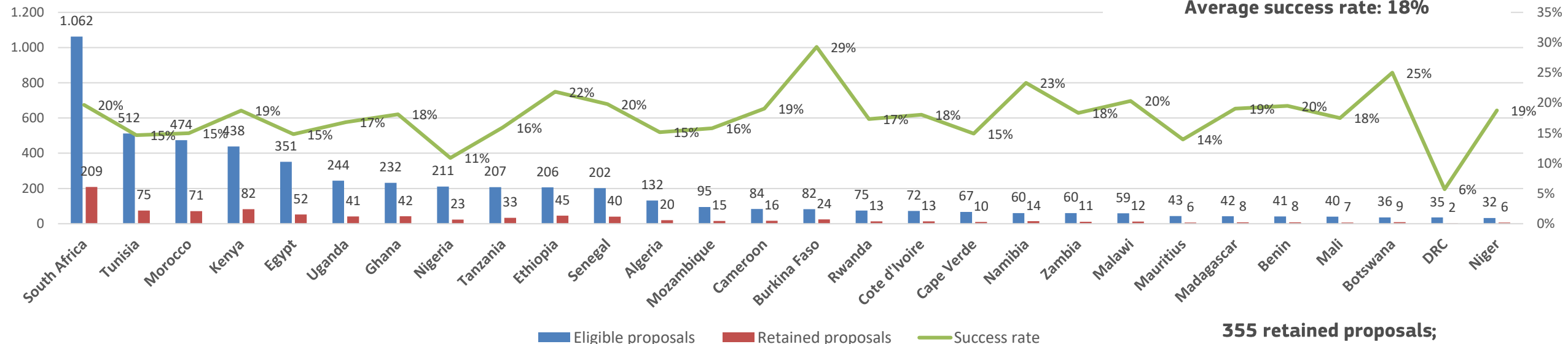
In the 2nd Work Programme of Horizon Europe
2023-2024



- Building on the positive outcome of the **Africa Initiative I** of Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022.
- A total budget of **~300 MEUR** through **~30 topics** under **calls for proposals** to boost **EU-Africa cooperation on Research & Innovation (R&I)**.
- Enabling the implementation of the **short-term and medium-term actions** of the **AU-EU Innovation Agenda**, aiming to **translate R&I into tangible positive impact on the ground**, particularly in the areas of ¹:
 1. **Green Transition** (260 MEUR) 
 2. **Innovation & Technology** (35 MEUR) 
 3. **Capacities for Science** (9 MEUR) 
- Adoption of **Horizon Europe Work Programme: 6 December 2022**
  **[EU funding & tenders' portal → calls for proposals from “Africa Initiative”](#)**

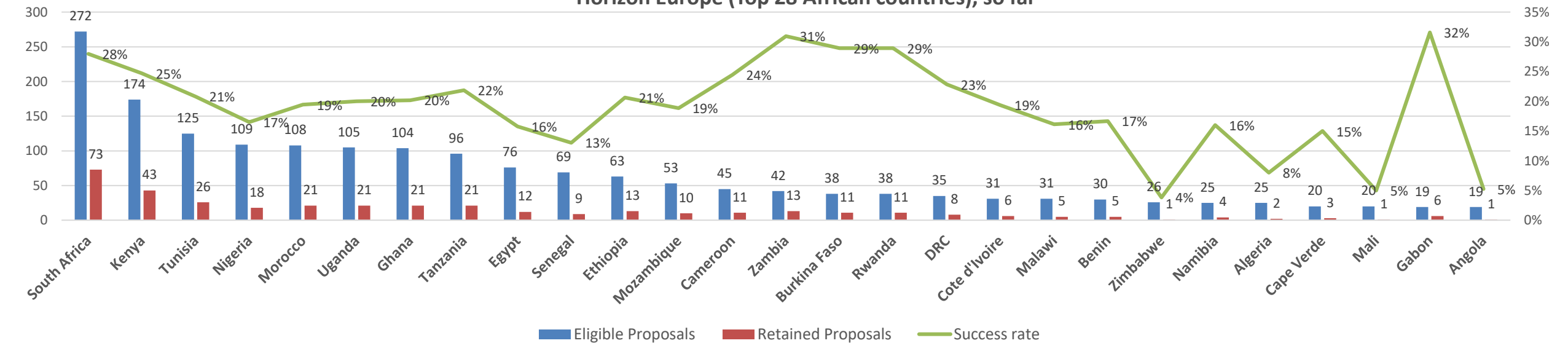
Horizon 2020 (Top 28 African countries)

**907 retained proposals;
Average success rate: 18%**



Horizon Europe (Top 28 African countries), so far

**355 retained proposals;
Average success rate: 19%**



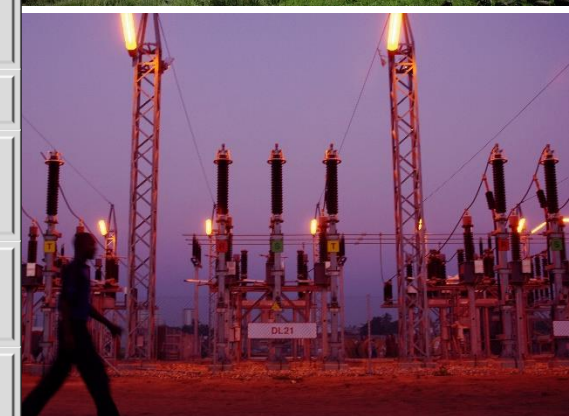
Capacities for Science + Innovation & Technology



| Horizon Europe Thematic Cluster | Topics | Action type | Budget (MEUR) | Year | AU-EU R&I Cooperation Priority Area |
|---|---|-------------|---------------|------|--|
| Research infrastructure | 1. Strengthen the bilateral cooperation on research infrastructures with Africa | CSA | 1.5 | 2024 | Capacities for Science / Innovation & Technology |
| European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE) | 2. The African Union-European Union Innovation Platform | CSA | 2.5 | 2024 | |
| Digital, Industry and Space (Cluster 4) | 3. R&I cooperation with Sub-Saharan Africa | CSA | 2 | 2023 | |
| | 4. Promoting EU standards globally | CSA | 3 | 2023 | |
| | 5. Earth Observation platform, products and services for raw materials | IA | 20 | 2023 | Innovation & Technology |
| | 6. Designing space-based downstream applications with international partners | RIA | 6 | 2023 | |

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Green Transition, 1 of 2



| Horizon Europe Thematic Cluster | Topics | Action type | Year | Budget (MEUR) |
|--|--|----------------|------|---------------|
| Climate, Energy and Mobility (Cluster 5) | 7. Needs-based adaptation to climate change in Africa | RIA | 2023 | 10 |
| | 8. Next generation low-emission, climate-resilient pathways and NDCs for a future aligned with the Paris Agreement | RIA | 2024 | 14 |
| | 9. Technologies for sustainable, cost-efficient and low carbon footprint downstream processing & production of battery-grade materials (Batt4EU Partnership) | RIA | 2023 | 21 |
| | 10. Hybrid electric energy storage solutions for grid support and charging infrastructure (Batt4EU Partnership) | IA | 2023 | 12 |
| | 11. Non-Li Sustainable Batteries with European Supply Chains for Stationary Storage (Batt4EU Partnership) | IA | 2024 | 21 |
| | 12. Development of microalgae and/or direct solar fuel production and purification technologies for advanced aviation and /or shipping fuels | RIA | 2023 | 8 |
| | 13. Accelerating the green transition and energy access in Africa | IA | 2023 | 20 |
| | 14. Africa-EU CO-FUND action | Co-fund Action | 2024 | 10 |
| | 15. Improvement of light harvesting and carbon fixation with synthetic biology and/or bio-inspired//biomimetic pathways for renewable direct solar fuels production | RIA | 2024 | 8 |
| | 16. Frugal zero-emission vehicles concepts for the urban passenger challenge (2ZERO Partnership) | IA | 2023 | 12 |
| Missions | 17. Mission Ocean & waters and Mission Soil Deal for Europe – Joint demonstration of approaches and solutions to address nutrient pollution in the landscape-river-sea system in the Mediterranean sea basin | IA | 2023 | 16 |

Green Transition, 2 of 2



| Horizon Europe Thematic Cluster | Topics | Action type | Year | Budget (MEUR) |
|--|---|----------------|------|---------------|
| Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment (Cluster 6) | 18. European partnership on sustainable food systems for people, planet and climate | Co-fund Action | 2023 | 45 |
| | 19. EU-African Union cooperation – linking the activities of the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership and those of the Pan-African Network for Economic Analysis of Policies (PANAP) | CSA | 2023 | 4 |
| | 20. Support for the implementation of a sustainable platform for the EU-AU cooperation under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership | CSA | 2023 | 4 |
| | 21. Support to the markets and trade of agroecological food products under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership | IA | 2023 | 7 |
| | 22. EU-Africa Union – food safety* | RIA | 2023 | 10 |
| | 23. Reinforcing science policy support with IPBES and IPCC for better interconnected biodiversity and climate policies | CSA | 2023 | 4 |
| | 24. EU-African Union cooperation on agroforestry management for climate change adaptation and mitigation | RIA | 2024 | 18 |
| | 25. EU-African Union – towards climate-neutral, social just fair trade food systems | RIA | 2024 | 9 |
| | 26. Supporting the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance and Declaration | CSA | 2024 | 4 |
| 27. Bio-based solutions for humanitarian applications | CSA | 2023 | 3 | |

Example from Horizon Europe Funding & Tenders' portal



[EU funding & tenders' portal → calls for proposals from “Africa Initiative”](#)

Needs-based adaptation to climate change in Africa

HORIZON-CL5-2023-D1-01-11

Call for proposal **Grant**

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Programme | Horizon Europe (HORIZON) | Status | Open for submission |
| Type of action | HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions | Deadline model | single-stage |
| Opening date | 13 December 2022 | Deadline date | 18 April 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time |

Searches of partners to collaborate on this topic

37

[View / Edit](#)

LEARs, Account Administrators or self-registrants can publish partner requests for open and forthcoming topics after logging into this Portal, as well as any user having an active public Person profile.

Start submission

To access the Electronic Submission Service, please click on the submission-button next to the **type of action** and the **type of model grant agreement** that corresponds to your proposal. You will then be asked to confirm your choice, as it cannot be changed in the submission system. Upon confirmation, you will be linked to the correct entry point.

To access existing draft proposals for this topic, please login to the Funding & Tenders Portal and select the My Proposals page of the My Area section.

Please select the type of your submission:

HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions [HORIZON-RIA], HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

[Start submission](#)

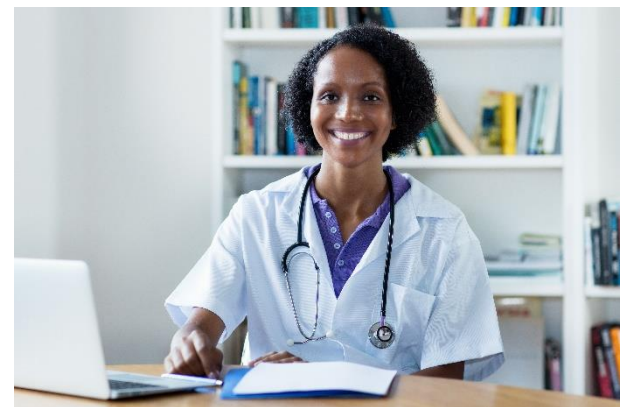
[Need help?](#)



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

- The EU flagship programme for **researchers' mobility and training** through the development of excellent **doctoral programmes, collaborative research and fellowship schemes**, contribute to excellent research and a highly skilled research-based human capital.

See: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions>



#HorizonEU



Examples of successful EU-AU R&I Partnerships



Public Health

- The **European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)**: 
 - Main initiative AU-EU cooperation in global health research, tackling poverty-related infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa
 - Joint investment of 1.4 BEUR, 417 projects funded until EDCTP2 + 1.6 BEUR for the ongoing **Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking** (0.8 BEUR from EU, 0.4 BEUR from the EDCTP Association and 0.4 BEUR from other contributing)
 - 14 EU and 20 AU countries; 178 EU and 321 AU partners involved



Green Transition

- R&I Partnership on **Food Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA)** channeled a joint investment of 710 MEUR for over 300 projects thus far, on four priorities:
 - 1) Sustainable intensification
 - 2) Agriculture and food systems for nutrition
 - 3) Expansion and improvement of agricultural trade and markets
 - 4) Cross-cutting topics
 - 27 EU and 47 AU countries, 875 EU and 557 AU partners involved
- R&I Partnership on **Climate Change Sustainable Energy (CCSE)**, with an investment of 106 MEUR for climate services, renewable energy and energy efficiency which will support adaptation and mitigation efforts in various sectors for Africa and implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.
 - 11 projects funded thus far. 11 EU and 20 AU countries, 150 EU and 105 AU partners involved.



Innovation & Technology

- **ENRICH in Africa (EiA) - Horizon 2020 project** (2021-2023) developing a network of innovation incubators and accelerators: 10 from Africa and 10 from Europe.
 - Over 100 entrepreneurs supported thus far, exploring the needs of companies willing to expand into Africa or Europe.
 - Over 350 members of the EiA community: 227 companies (60% from Africa and 40% from Europe), 80 investors, 51 business support organisations, a EiA Centre opened in Cape Town, South Africa.

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182 PhD Funded Positions in all Research Fields at The University of Messina in Italy

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Research Fellows for the ERC VOICES Project Trinity College Dublin

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University of Messina is located in Messina, Italy and is featured in the best 1000 universities in the world, according to the most well-known international university rankings. Find out its position in each of these rankings or see what other universities made the ranking lists. Public competition

4 Jul 2023

[ARISTOS Postdoctoral Program. Now recruiting! \(1 July 2023 - 30 September 2023\)](#)

ARISTOS is a strategic program in Biomedicine and Health Sciences, led by CIBER (Consorcio Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red) in Spain, that offers 27 postdoctoral positions for three years each. The program's goal is to provide highly-qualified postdoctoral researchers with opportunities for

30 Jun 2023

[Technical Assistance Facility to Support Sustainable Infrastructure Development in South Africa](#)

Procedure type Restricted Contract type Services TED publication date 14 October 2022 Time limit for requests to participate 14 November 2022 15:00 Programme Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Geographical zones South Africa Main CPV code 71356200 - 71356200 Additional CPV code 71356200 - Technical

29 Jun 2023

[Research Fellows for the ERC VOICES Project Trinity College Dublin](#)

VOICES is a research project funded by a European Research Council Advanced Grant to Professor Jane Ohmeyer in the School of Histories and Humanities, TCD. It aims to recover the voices and interrogate lived experiences of women in early modern Ireland by drawing on a 'digital windfall' of diverse



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Topics and Calls for Proposals

Some real-life examples





Glossary of terms

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Impact | <u>Wider long term effects on society (including the environment), the economy and science, enabled by the outcomes of R&I investments (long term)</u> . 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. |
| Objectives | <u>The goals of the work performed within the project</u> , in terms of its research and innovation content. This will be translated into the project's results. These may range from tackling specific research questions, demonstrating the feasibility of an innovation, sharing knowledge among stakeholders on specific issues. The nature of the objectives will depend on the type of action, and the scope of the topic. |
| Outcomes | <u>The expected effects, over the medium term, of projects supported under a given topic</u> . 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. |
| Pathway to impact | <u>Logical steps towards the achievement of the expected impacts of the project over time, in particular beyond the duration of a project</u> . <u>A pathway begins with the projects' results, to their dissemination, exploitation and communication</u> , contributing to the expected outcomes in the work programme topic, and ultimately to the wider scientific, economic and societal impacts of the work programme destination. |
| Research output | Results generated by the action to which access can be given in the form of <u>scientific publications, data or other engineered deliverables and processes such as software, algorithms, protocols and electronic notebooks</u> . |
| Results | <u>What is generated during the project implementation</u> . 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'. |

Types of actions

Research and innovation action (RIA)

Activities to **establish new knowledge** or to **explore the feasibility** of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution.

This may include **basic and applied research**, technology development and integration, testing, demonstration and validation of a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment.

Innovation action (IA)

One step forward, the in R&D process, compared to RIA – Activities to produce **plans and arrangements** or **designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services**.

These activities may include **prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication**.

Coordination and support actions (CSA)

Activities that contribute to the objectives of Horizon Europe. This excludes R&I activities, except those carried out under the ‘Widening participation and spreading excellence’ component of the programme (part of ‘Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area’).

Also eligible are bottom-up coordination actions which promote cooperation between legal entities from Member States and Associated Countries to strengthen the European Research Area, and which receive no EU co-funding for research activities.

EU-African Union cooperation on agroforestry management for climate change adaptation and mitigation

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-10

Grant

General information

Programme

Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call

[Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption \(HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01\)](#)

[See budget overview](#)

Type of action

HORIZON-RIA HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions

Type of MGA

HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Forthcoming

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

17 October 2023

Deadline date

22 February 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time

Call

Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption (HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01)

Topic description

Expected Outcome:

In line with the European Green Deal priorities and the farm to fork strategy for a fair, healthy and environment-friendly food system, and in support of the climate objectives of the African Union (AU) and the EU, the successful proposal will contribute to the AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation, and its priority on Green Transition (and the respective R&I partnerships on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change and Sustainable Energy), as well as to the implementation of the short-term actions outlined in the working document of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda, aiming to translate R&I efforts into tangible business, development and employment opportunities in Africa and Europe.

Projects results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Improved availability of qualitative and quantitative data pertaining to the contribution of agroforestry to climate change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity preservation, and to sustainable agriculture;
- Improved management of agroforestry systems (conventional, agroecological and/or organic), including agro-pastoral systems, in Africa;
- Enhanced capacities to evaluate the socioeconomic and environmental performance of agroforestry for climate change resilience;
- A strengthened agroforestry innovation ecosystem for better user acceptance and implementation of agroforestry in the African Union (AU).

Scope:

Achieving sustainable agricultural production that fosters both climate change mitigation and adaptation and biodiversity preservation and enhancement is a policy objective that implies finding a balance with farm productivity, socio-economic viability and wider sustainability goals. Agroforestry systems include both traditional and modern land-use systems where trees are managed together with crops and/or animal production systems in agricultural settings. These systems have the potential to increase ecosystem services – including soil carbon sequestration, water retention, erosion control, soil nutrients, pollination, pest- and disease-control – and biodiversity, while improving farming productivity, profitability and sustainability of farmers' incomes. Implementation of agroforestry in the EU and the AU needs to be boosted in order to maximise this potential. The management of agroforestry systems is critical for their positive impact on climate and the environment as well as to ensure a balance with productivity and profitability for farmers. This is essential to promote the uptake and long-term sustainability of agroforestry.

Proposals should address the following:

- Identification of the most suitable plant and animal species and breeds to be used in agroforestry for different geographic regions in Africa, generating sustainable ecosystems with positive impact on local communities, and on women, looking for models where this impact is greater. In vegetation management systems preference should be given to local species, to avoid potential unintended consequences linked to the introduction of alien species;
- Assessment of local multi-purpose agroforestry species and breeds with benefits for food, pharmaceutical uses as well as ecosystem functions for the soil, biodiversity and their functions in a vegetation mosaic;
- Assessment of specific agroforestry management measures aiming at preserving/enhancing biodiversity;
- Assessment of the potential of carbon farming^[1] as a possible future business for farmers and foresters, and analysis of its potential to contribute to reaching climate-neutrality in a few decades;
- Identification of the structural needs of agroforestry crops and animals in different geographical regions in Africa, including the analysis of production burdens, suggesting solutions and addressing traceability of all steps in the production chain to measure the effectiveness of solutions;
- Supporting this new value chain with knowledge and capacity building to be efficient, fair, and easily adopted, or not abandoned, by landowners and farmers;
- Establishing local agroforestry pilot plots.

Proposals must implement the "multi-actor approach" including a wide range of actors to ensure that knowledge and needs from various sectors, such as research, farmers/foresters, advisory services, are brought together.

This topic should involve the effective contribution of SSH disciplines.

Proposals should include a dedicated task, appropriate resources and a plan on how they will collaborate with other projects funded under this topic, as well under topic HORIZON-CL6-2021-CLIMATE-01-08: 'Agroforestry to meet climate, biodiversity and farming sustainability goals'.

Specific Topic Conditions:

Activities are expected to achieve TRL 3-5 by the end of the project – see General Annex B.

[1] https://ec.europa.eu/clima/eu-action/forests-and-agriculture/sustainable-carbon-cycles/carbon-farming_en

Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

Where a topic description refers to a TRL, the following definitions apply, unless otherwise specified:

- **TRL 1** – basic principles observed
- **TRL 2** – technology concept formulated
- **TRL 3** – experimental proof of concept
- **TRL 4** – technology validated in lab
- **TRL 5** – technology validated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
- **TRL 6** – technology demonstrated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
- **TRL 7** – system prototype demonstration in operational environment
- **TRL 8** – system complete and qualified
- **TRL 9** – actual system proven in operational environment (competitive manufacturing in the case of key enabling technologies; or in space)

Destination

Fair, healthy and environment-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption (2023/24)

National, EU and global food systems are facing sustainability challenges, from primary production to consumption that could jeopardise food and nutrition security. The farm to fork strategy, and its follow-up initiatives, aim to address these challenges and supports transition to more resilient and environmentally, socially and economically sustainable food systems on land and at sea that provide healthy diets for all and respect planetary boundaries. It is key to ensuring that the fit for 55 package[[<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52021DC0550&from=EN>] and the European Green Deal[[[EUR-Lex - 52019DC0640 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52019DC0640)]] are successful and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)[[[THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development \(un.org\)](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/)]] are achieved. Research and innovation (R&I) under this destination will steer and accelerate the transition to sustainable, safe, healthy and inclusive food systems from farm to fork, ensuring food and nutrition security for all and delivering co-benefits for the environment, health, society and economy.

Sustainable, climate neutral and biodiversity friendly farming systems provide economic, social (including health), environmental and climate benefits, and are the main prerequisite for food and nutrition security. For farmers, who are the backbone of food systems and principal managers of natural resources, the new common agricultural policy (CAP) and the European Green Deal set ambitious targets and objectives concerning the sustainability and safety of feed, food and non-food production. These targets and objectives are included in the core European Green Deal policy priorities, in particular the farm to fork strategy, the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, zero pollution ambitions and climate action, and their follow-up initiatives. R&I in line with the strategic approach to EU agricultural research and innovation[[<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/news/final-paper-strategic-approach-eu-agricultural-research-and-innovation>]] will be key enablers for achieving these ambitious targets and objectives.

The **partnership on 'Accelerating farming systems transition: agroecology living labs and research infrastructures'** will unlock the potential of agroecology to make agri-food systems environmentally friendly and regenerative, climate-neutral, inclusive, competitive and resilient. It will enable farmers and value chain actors to successfully apply agroecology principles thanks to: i) a stronger R&I system integrating science and practice; ii) increased knowledge on the benefits, challenges and potential of agroecology for farming, food and society; iii) improved sharing of and access to knowledge, place-based tailored solutions and innovations; and iv) improved and transformative governance and policies.

Besides the partnership, R&I under the destination will help farmers in monitor and manage natural resources (e.g. soil, water, nutrients, biodiversity, etc.) in innovative, sustainable ways by, among other things, boosting organic food and farming in line with the action plan for the development of organic production[[https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:13dc912c-a1a5-11eb-b85c-01aa75ed71a1.0003.02/DOC_1&format=PDF]]. New knowledge and innovative solutions will also promote plant health, reduce farmer's dependency on pesticides and reverse biodiversity loss.

Through the **partnership on 'Animal health and welfare'**, farmers and other actors will be better equipped to protect animals against infectious diseases, including zoonoses, and to improve animal welfare, while reducing the dependency on antimicrobials, maintaining productivity, improving food safety and quality, and protecting the environment and public health. In addition to the partnership, sustainable livestock production will be enhanced by improved knowledge on nutritional requirements and innovative on-farm practices and technologies for optimised production and use of local feedstuffs. A common EU approach to optimise the management of the co-existence of outdoor livestock systems and wildlife will be implemented by integrating science, local knowledge and practice on the preservation, protection and valorisation of wildlife and agro-pastoral systems.

Synergies will be created with other destinations and instruments. Under the Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe', 100 living labs and lighthouses will be established to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030 [[https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/soil-health-and-food_en]]. Thanks to R&I, farming systems will also maximise the provision of a wide range of ecosystem services from more sustainably managed EU agro-ecosystems and landscapes and help reverse the loss of biodiversity while ensuring resilient primary production (Destination 'Biodiversity and ecosystem services'). R&I under the Destination 'Land, ocean and water for climate action' will better equip farmers to make a significant contribution to climate-neutrality and become more resilient to climate change. Farmers will be empowered and interconnected by means of advanced digital and data technologies (e.g. AI, IoT, and robotics) that support sustainable farming approaches (Destination 'Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal'). New sustainable business models and strengthened EU quality schemes will improve the position of farmers in value chains and enable them to seize opportunities provided by the green transition (Destination 'Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities'). Effective agricultural knowledge and innovation systems (AKIS) will speed up innovation and the uptake of R&I results from farm to fork (Destination 'Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal').

Better evidence-based knowledge and analytical capacity will help policymakers develop and implement effective policies, in particular the CAP post 2027, the contingency plan and sustainable food systems framework law, enabling farmers to transition to sustainable and resilient farming and food systems (Destination 'Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal'). Furthermore, knowledge and innovative solutions generated under Horizon Europe will be circulated and tested in local innovation projects and networks that are financed by rural development programmes, and which are managed by the European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI).

Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture contribute directly to environmentally friendly, resilient, inclusive, safe and healthy food production by providing highly nutritional proteins, lipids and micronutrients for a healthy diet. Sustainable aquatic production can and should account for a much bigger proportion of our overall food consumption. Following the farm to fork strategy, production methods should make the best use of nature-based, technological, digital and space-based solutions, optimising the use of inputs (e.g., nutrients and antimicrobials), therefore increasing climate-neutrality and resilience and safeguard aquatic biodiversity. R&I in fisheries and aquaculture will contribute to the relevant Food 2030 pathway for action 'food from oceans and freshwater resources'[[<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/86e31158-2563-11eb-9d7e-01aa75ed71a1>]]. It will support the 'strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for the period 2021 to 2030', that propose specific actions on, e.g. i) access to space and water, ii) human and animal health, iii) environmental performance, iv) climate change, v) animal welfare, vi) the regulatory and administrative framework, and vii) communication on EU aquaculture. In addition, the new EU algae initiative - to unlock the full potential of sustainable algae-based food and alternative feed sources - can support the transition to sustainable food systems. R&I will also contribute to the success of the common fisheries policy and deliver compliant, inclusive, diversified ecosystem-based fisheries approaches to allow fisheries management to adapt to different realities, including in the international context. The destination will also support the new policy initiative on the sustainable blue economy and its offshoot initiatives, including the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership.

R&I will help fisheries and aquaculture become more precise, technologically advanced, and fully embedded in the natural and socio-ecological context including by reducing the footprint on aquatic biodiversity. It will better equip fisheries and aquaculture to become more resilient to the adverse consequences of climate change and to make a significant contribution to climate neutrality. It will enable the European aquaculture industry to achieve its full potential to ensure global food security in terms of volume, methods, variety of species, aquatic species welfare, safety and quality of products and services.

R&I will help to provide a better understanding of the impacts of climate change in terms of habitat change and ecological functioning and the consequent repercussions on stock shifts, species composition, health, and altered growth and reproduction rates. This will help in the adaptation of fishing vessels, fishing gear and catch methods to reduce their carbon footprint as well as help in their adaptation to the changing climate regime. It will also enable aquaculture to: i) become more sustainable – by using resources in a highly efficient manner - and climate-neutral; and ii) adapt to a changing climate and its consequences, such as temperature rise, acidification, altered water quality and availability, extreme weather events, and other emerging risks, notably in geographical areas particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts such as the EU's outermost regions (defined in article 349 TFEU).

Sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems rely on systemic, cross-sectoral and participatory, multi-actor approaches and on integration between policy areas at all levels of governance. Food systems are to be understood as covering, 'from farm to fork', all the sectors, actors and disciplines relevant to and connecting i) environment protection requirements, ii) natural resources, iii) primary production on land and at sea, iv) food processing and packaging, v) food distribution and retail, vi) food services, vii) food consumption, viii) food safety, ix) nutrition and public health, and x) food waste streams. An important driver for transforming food systems should be the integration of sectors, actors and policies[[Scientific Advice Mechanism, [Towards a sustainable food system - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](#)]]. This should occur in order to better understand the multiple interactions between the actors and components of current food systems, the lock-ins and potential leverage points for synergistic changes and of the interdependencies of outcomes (linkages between nutritional climate and sustainability outcomes). Such implementation/approaches can provide solutions that maximise co-benefits with respect to the four priorities of the Commission's Food 2030 R&I initiative:

- nutrition and health, including food safety;
- climate and environmental sustainability;
- circularity and resource efficiency;
- innovation and empowering communities.

This destination will deploy solutions to the 10 Food 2030 pathways for action[[<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/86e31158-2563-11eb-9d7e-01aa75ed71a1>]] and will help build innovation ecosystems to bring together relevant public and private sector actors, researchers and society. R&I will provide food-related businesses, including those involved in food processing and packaging, retail, distribution, and food services, with opportunities and incentives to stimulate environmentally friendly, healthy, circular and diversified practices, products and processes that are biodiversity-friendly, climate-neutral and less reliant on fossil fuels. It will also help devise tools and approaches that enable the shift to healthy, sustainable diets and responsible consumption for everyone, boosted also by social innovation, technology, behavioural change and marketing standards, and by inclusively engaging with different consumers, citizens and communities. R&I will accelerate the transition to sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems by:

- eradicating micronutrient deficiencies in vulnerable population groups;
- developing new high quality, healthy, minimally processed and sustainable food products and processes;
- assessing innovative and novel foods based on sustainable alternatives sources of proteins;
- preventing and reducing food loss and waste to tackle environmental and climate challenges, including through improved marketing standards;
- unlocking and maximising the potential of the microbiome to improve food safety, fight food waste and develop alternative sources of proteins;
- networking and exchanging knowledge on food fraud and food safety and exploring the influence of climate change on food safety;
- developing new strategies and detection methods on products derived from new genomic techniques, and strengthening the resilience of European food systems;
- promoting citizen science and creating smart tools to improve diets.

R&I will also:

- reduce the environmental impacts of and pollution from food value chains (see Destination '*Clean environment and zero pollution*'); and
- help transform urban food systems, including via the use of nature-based solutions in the context of the New European Bauhaus initiative (see Destination '*Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities*'); and
- improve the governance of food systems and further develop digital and data-driven innovation ecosystems for sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems (see Destination '*Innovative governance, environmental observations digital solutions in support of the Green Deal*').

In addition, R&I under the **partnership on 'Sustainable food systems for people, planet and climate'** will accelerate the transition towards sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems in Europe and beyond via EU-wide targeted research and innovation. It will help to close knowledge gaps, increase health and food literacy, and deliver innovative solutions, e.g. social innovation, which provide co-benefits for nutrition, the environment, climate, circularity and communities. It will also leverage investments and align multiple actors towards common goals and targets and help further build up the European Research Area in order to support the transformation of sustainable food systems at various scales from local to global.

The EU also aims to promote a **global transition to sustainable food systems**. It's relationship with Africa is a key priority. Targeted R&I activities, in particular under the EU-Africa Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) and global initiatives involving international research consortia, will help achieve this ambition and contribute to the AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation.

In line with the farm to fork strategy, and its promotion of global transitions on sustainable food systems, a comprehensive and integrated response to current and future challenges benefiting people, nature and economic growth in Europe and in Africa will be provided. Advances will be made particularly in the following key areas: agroecology, including agroforestry, food safety and fair trade.

In encouraging multi-actor approaches and to be more effective in achieving impact, the proposals in this destination shall, where relevant, be complementary or build on synergies with the activities of the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities, such as EIT Food.

Where appropriate, proposals are encouraged to cooperate with actors such as the European Commission Knowledge Centre for Global Food and Nutrition Security[[https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/global-food-nutrition-security_en]] and the Africa Knowledge Platform[[<https://africa-knowledge-platform.ec.europa.eu/>]], also for the purpose of dissemination and exploitation of results.

EU-African Union cooperation on agroforestry management for climate change adaptation and mitigation

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-10

Call

[Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption \(HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01\)](#)

Expected impact

Proposals for topics under this destination should set out a credible pathway contributing to **fair, healthy, safe, climate- and environment-friendly, sustainable and resilient food systems from primary production to consumption, ensuring food and nutrition security for all within planetary boundaries** in Europe and across the world.

More specifically, proposed topics should contribute to one or more of the following impacts:

- enable **sustainable farming systems** that i) provide consumers with affordable, safe, healthy and sustainable food, ii) increase the provision of ecosystem services, iii) restore and strengthen biodiversity, iv) minimise pollution and pressure on ecosystems and greenhouse gas emissions, v) foster plant, animal and public health, vi) improve animal welfare, and vii) generate fair economic returns for farmers;
- enable **sustainable fisheries and aquaculture**, in marine and inland waters, increasing aquatic multi-trophic biomass production in a way compatible with the protection of aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity, and the diversification of fisheries and aquaculture products, for fair, healthy, climate-resilient and environment-friendly food systems with a lower impact on aquatic ecosystems and improved animal welfare;

accelerate the transition to **sustainable, healthy and inclusive food systems**, delivering co-benefits for climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental sustainability and circularity, sustainable healthy diets and nutrition, food poverty reduction, empowered citizens and communities, and flourishing food businesses, while ensuring food safety and the economic sustainability of EU food systems during the transition.

Topic conditions and documents

Call

[Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption \(HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01\)](#)

General conditions

1. **Admissibility conditions:** described in [Annex A](#) and [Annex E](#) of the Horizon Europe Work Programme General Annexes

Proposal page limits and layout: described in Part B of the Application Form available in the Submission System

2. **Eligible countries:** described in [Annex B](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).

3. **Other eligibility conditions:** described in [Annex B](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

The following additional eligibility criteria apply: due to the specific challenge of this topic, in addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, consortia must include at least three independent legal entities established in Africa.

International organisations with headquarters in a Member State or associated country are exceptionally eligible for funding.

Due to the scope of this topic, legal entities established in all African Union member states* are exceptionally eligible for Union funding. * "African Union member states" includes countries whose membership has been temporarily suspended.

The following additional eligibility criteria apply: the proposals must apply the multi-actor approach. See definition of the multi-actor approach in the introduction to this work programme part.

The following additional eligibility criteria apply: the places of establishment of at least two of these legal entities must be in the same geographical region of Africa (as defined by the African Union: https://au.int/en/member_states/countryprofiles2).

4. **Financial and operational capacity and exclusion:** described in [Annex C](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

5. **Evaluation and award:**

- **Award criteria, scoring and thresholds** are described in [Annex D](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes
- **Submission and evaluation processes** are described in [Annex F](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes and the [Online Manual](#)
- **Indicative timeline for evaluation and grant agreement:** described in [Annex F](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

6. **Legal and financial set-up of the grants:** described in [Annex G](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

Specific conditions

7. **Specific conditions:** described in the specific topic of the Work Programme

Call

[Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption \(HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01\)](#)

Specific conditions

7. **Specific conditions:** described in the specific topic of the Work Programme

Documents

Call documents:

Standard application form — call-specific application form is available in the Submission System

[Standard application form \(HE RIA, IA\)](#)

Standard evaluation form — will be used with the necessary adaptations

[Standard evaluation form \(HE RIA, IA\)](#)

MGA

[HE General MGA v1.0](#)

Additional documents:

[HE Main Work Programme 2023–2024 – 1. General Introduction](#)

[HE Main Work Programme 2023–2024 – 9. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment](#)

[HE Main Work Programme 2023–2024 – 13. General Annexes](#)

[HE Programme Guide](#)

[HE Framework Programme and Rules for Participation Regulation 2021/695](#)

[HE Specific Programme Decision 2021/764](#)

[EU Financial Regulation](#)

[Rules for Legal Entity Validation, LEAR Appointment and Financial Capacity Assessment](#)

[EU Grants AGA — Annotated Model Grant Agreement](#)

[Funding & Tenders Portal Online Manual](#)

[Funding & Tenders Portal Terms and Conditions](#)

[Funding & Tenders Portal Privacy Statement](#)

Partner search announcements

50 Searches of partners to collaborate on this topic

[View / Edit](#)

LEARs, Account Administrators or self-registrants can publish partner requests for open and forthcoming topics after logging into this Portal, as well as any user having an active public Person profile.

Start submission

The submission system is planned to be opened on the date stated on the topic header.

Topic related FAQ

There are no FAQ related to this topic.

Get support

Please read carefully all provisions below before the preparation of your application.

[Online Manual](#) is your guide on the procedures from proposal submission to managing your grant.

[Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#) contains the detailed guidance to the structure, budget and political priorities of Horizon Europe.

[Funding & Tenders Portal FAQ](#) – find the answers to most frequently asked questions on submission of proposals, evaluation and grant management.

[Research Enquiry Service](#) – ask questions about any aspect of European research in general and the EU Research Framework Programmes in particular.

[National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) – get guidance, practical information and assistance on participation in Horizon Europe. There are also NCPs in many non-EU and non-associated countries ('third-countries').

[Enterprise Europe Network](#) – contact your EEN national contact for advice to businesses with special focus on SMEs. The support includes guidance on the EU research funding.

[IT Helpdesk](#) – contact the Funding & Tenders Portal IT helpdesk for questions such as forgotten passwords, access rights and roles, technical aspects of submission of proposals, etc.

[European IPR Helpdesk](#) assists you on intellectual property issues.

[CEN-CENELEC Research Helpdesk](#) and [ETSI Research Helpdesk](#) – the European Standards Organisations advise you how to tackle standardisation in your project proposal.

[The European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for their recruitment](#) – consult the general principles and requirements specifying the roles, responsibilities and entitlements of researchers, employers and funders of researchers.

[Partner Search Services](#) help you find a partner organisation for your proposal.

Call

[Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption \(HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01\)](#)

Topic information

ID
EU-African Union cooperation on agroforestry management for climate change adaptation and mitigation

Topic
HORIZON-CL6-2024-FARM2FORK-01-10

Forthcoming

Expertise offers

48

Expertise requests

2

Go back

Published

Search by name, description...

Expertise request, Expertise offer

Search

50 items found



Sort by



CONSULTECH TECHNOLOGIEBERATUNG GMBH

Organisation

Contact

Experienced EU project manager. We are specialized in R&D projects in the field of life sciences and support EU projects from the initial idea to successful project implementation. We are looking for a consortium that needs professional project management and/or support in the application process. Our current EU-projects (we are the management partner): www.imipaincare.eu; BeeGuards. We also provide comprehensive support for the proposal preparation.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Organisation type | Small or medium-size enterprise | Type of request | Expertise offer |
| Country | Germany | Request date | 04 May 2023 |
| Status | Published | | |

BIONEXUS BIYOTEKNOLOJI ARASTIRMA GELISTIRME INOVASYON VE UYGULAMA LIMITED SIRKETI

Organisation

Contact

BioNexus is a start-up spin off of IAAD (PIC 925001604) established to capitalise on IAAD successful projects proposals (2020): Cities2030, DIVAGRI (Africa) and RURALITIES (Africa). Together with top EU players on large scale projects, BioNexus contributes to grant writing and takes part as partner on a series of topics addressing water, energy, food and ecosystem (WEFE). BioNexus develops on Social Sciences and Humanities especially. Contact: bruno.bionexus@gmail.com

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Organisation type | Small or medium-size enterprise | Type of request | Expertise request |
| Country | Türkiye | Request date | 03 Mar 2023 |
| Status | Published | | |

Global Youth Development Program

Organisation

Contact

GDYP is an Ngo that focuses to empower & educate the youth & women on the social & economic development of deprived communities in rural & urban areas by helping them create businesses, tap access to energy, adapt to climate change to increase their independence, improving entrepreneurial skills, Agriculture, we help them in transition to ICT & digital transformation and employability rate. We are looking for projects and consortia to provide our expertise. Email us on globalyouth4d@gmail.com

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Organisation type | Non-governmental organization | Type of request | Expertise offer |
| Country | Kenya | Request date | 02 Mar 2023 |
| Status | Published | | |

Strengthen the bilateral cooperation on research infrastructures with Africa

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-INFRA-2024-DEV-01-02

Grant

- General information
- Topic description
- Destination
- Conditions and documents
- Partner search announcements
- Submission service
- Topic related FAQ
- Get support
- Go back

General information

Programme
Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call
[Developing, consolidating and optimising the European research infrastructures landscape, maintaining global leadership \(2024\) \(HORIZON-INFRA-2024-DEV-01\)](#) [See budget overview](#)

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Type of action HORIZON-CSA HORIZON Coordination and Support Actions | Type of MGA HORIZON Lump Sum Grant [HORIZON-AG-LS] | Forthcoming |
| Deadline model single-stage | Planned opening date 06 December 2023 | Deadline date 12 March 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time |

General information

Programme

[Horizon Europe Framework Programme \(HORIZON\)](#)

Call

[Developing, consolidating and optimising the European research infrastructures landscape, maintaining global leadership \(2024\) \(HORIZON-INFRA-2024-DEV-01\)](#)

 See budget overview

Type of action

HORIZON-CSA HORIZON Coordination and Support Actions

Type of MGA

HORIZON Lump Sum Grant [HORIZON-AG-LS]

Forthcoming

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

06 December 2023

Deadline date

12 March 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time

Strengthen the bilateral cooperation on research infrastructures with Africa

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-INFRA-2024-DEV-01-02

Topic description

ExpectedOutcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to all the following expected outcomes:

- contribution to the new Commission strategy with Africa, notably to the following specific objectives: rapidly enhance learning, knowledge and skills, research and innovation capacities (with attention to female and young researchers);
- enhanced research capacities in Africa;
- enhanced Euro-African cooperation in R&I.

Scope:

This topic aims at fostering EU-Africa cooperation in Research Infrastructures, sharing of good practices and experiences to facilitate the development of a strategic approach for structuring RI capacities at pan-African level in fields other than those addressed by topic HORIZON-INFRA-2021-DEV-01-02.

Proposals should build on existing cooperation activities between African and European countries and take into account the outcomes of previous and ongoing initiatives. The potential contribution to ongoing global initiatives, where relevant, should be taken into account.

Destination**Developing, consolidating and optimising the European research infrastructures landscape, maintaining global leadership (INFRADEV) (2023/24)**

Over recent years, the European Commission, Member States (MS) and Associated Countries (AC) have been closely collaborating, in particular within the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI), to develop an integrated and efficient ecosystem of research infrastructures (RIs) in Europe, which encompasses single-sited facilities, distributed facilities integrating resources across the European Research Area, as well as networks of national facilities and which serves researchers and engineers in all S&T fields, from basic to applied research. To facilitate integration and pooling of resources for the development of new capacities, a legal instrument has also been developed at European level, the European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) that provides favourable conditions for the establishment and operation of large European infrastructures supported jointly by several MSs and ACs as well as by third countries. While Member States remain central in the development and financing of public RIs, the Union and ESFRI play a catalysing and leveraging role in driving the integration between national efforts.

The challenges for the near future are to consolidate and optimise the European Research Infrastructure landscape and enhance its capacity to support frontier research and address the emerging and new scientific and societal objectives associated with the transition towards a sustainable and resilient Europe. In addition, there is the need to define and implement an effective and sound RI strategy in Europe, in close cooperation with ESFRI, MSs and ACs, which is complemented by and interlocks with the long-term ambition of creating an integrated Technology Infrastructure (TI) landscape, the latter is supported in Pillar II of Horizon Europe Programme (HE). Such a strategy would also help in exploiting synergies between RI and TI financed from Horizon and massive investments in infrastructures from ERDF.

This destination aims to create a world-leading coherent, responsive, sustainable and attractive RI landscape in Europe, by reducing its fragmentation at European, national and regional level, ensuring coordination of efforts and fostering alignment of priorities among MSs and ACs, connecting RIs to the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), and which is able to support national and regional R&I ecosystems. The support to a European strategy for Research Infrastructures as well as activities to enhance the role of RIs for international cooperation and science diplomacy will also be covered under this destination.

Expected impact

Proposals for topics under this destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to one or several of the following impacts:

- Disruptive research and breakthrough science and innovation through cutting-edge, interconnected and sustainable Research Infrastructures;
- Strengthened scientific excellence and performance and efficiency of the European Research Area, increasing its attractiveness to researchers from all over the world;
- Coordinated research infrastructure capacity among countries and regions, also by exploiting possibilities given by the smart specialisation processes;
- Reinforced R&I capacities enabling systemic changes needed for a truly transformative societal and economic recovery and a strengthened resilience of critical sectors, as outlined in the Recovery Plan;
- Improved European response, in cooperation with international players, to emerging socio-economic and related scientific and technological challenges at global level.

Topic conditions and documents

General conditions

1. Admissibility conditions: described in [Annex A](#) and [Annex E](#) of the Horizon Europe Work Programme General Annexes

Proposal page limits and layout: described in Part B of the Application Form available in the Submission System

2. Eligible countries: described in [Annex B](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

A number of non-EU/non-Associated Countries that are not automatically eligible for funding have made specific provisions for making funding available for their participants in Horizon Europe projects. See the information in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).

3. Other eligibility conditions: described in [Annex B](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

Legal entities established in non-associated third countries may exceptionally participate in this Coordination and support action.

The following additional eligibility criteria apply: in order to achieve the expected objectives of the action, the consortium must include, as beneficiaries or associated partners, at least two legal entities established in two different African Union member states["African Union member states" includes countries whose membership has been temporarily suspended.].

Due to the scope of this topic, legal entities established in all African Union member states["African Union member states" includes countries whose membership has been temporarily suspended.] are exceptionally eligible for Union funding.

4. Financial and operational capacity and exclusion: described in [Annex C](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

5. Evaluation and award:

- **Award criteria, scoring and thresholds** are described in [Annex D](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes
- **Submission and evaluation processes** are described in [Annex F](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes and the [Online Manual](#)
- **Indicative timeline for evaluation and grant agreement:** described in [Annex F](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

6. Legal and financial set-up of the grants: described in [Annex G](#) of the Work Programme General Annexes

Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum as defined in the Decision of 7 July 2021 authorising the use of lump sum contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) – and in actions under the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2021-2025). [[This [decision](#) is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal, in the reference documents section for Horizon Europe, under 'Simplified costs decisions' or through this link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/lis-decision_he_en.pdf].

General information

Programme

Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call

Developing, consolidating and optimising the European research infrastructures landscape, maintaining global leadership (2024)
(HORIZON-INFRA-2024-DEV-01)

Strengthen the bilateral cooperation on research infrastructures with Africa

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-INFRA-2024-DEV-01-02

 See budget overview

Documents

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Standard application form – call-specific application form is available in the Submission System

Standard application form (HE CSA)

Standard evaluation form – will be used with the necessary adaptations

Standard evaluation form (HE CSA)

MGA

Lump Sum MGA v1.0

Lump Sum MGA v1.0

RAO decision authorising the use of lump sum funding

Explanatory slides for applicants on the specificities of lump sum funding

Excel table for detailed estimation of Lump Sum costs

Additional documents:

HE Main Work Programme 2023–2024 – 1. General Introduction

HE Main Work Programme 2023–2024 – 3. Research Infrastructures

HE Main Work Programme 2023–2024 – 13. General Annexes

HE Programme Guide

HE Framework Programme and Rules for Participation Regulation 2021/695

HE Specific Programme Decision 2021/764

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Partner search announcements

27

Searches of partners to collaborate on this topic

[View / Edit](#)

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Strengthen the bilateral cooperation on research infrastructures with Africa

TOPIC ID: HORIZON-INFRA-2024-DEV-01-02

Start submission

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Topic related FAQ

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Get support

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[Partner Search Services](#) help you find a partner organisation for your proposal.

HORIZON EUROPE FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

Topics and Calls for Proposals

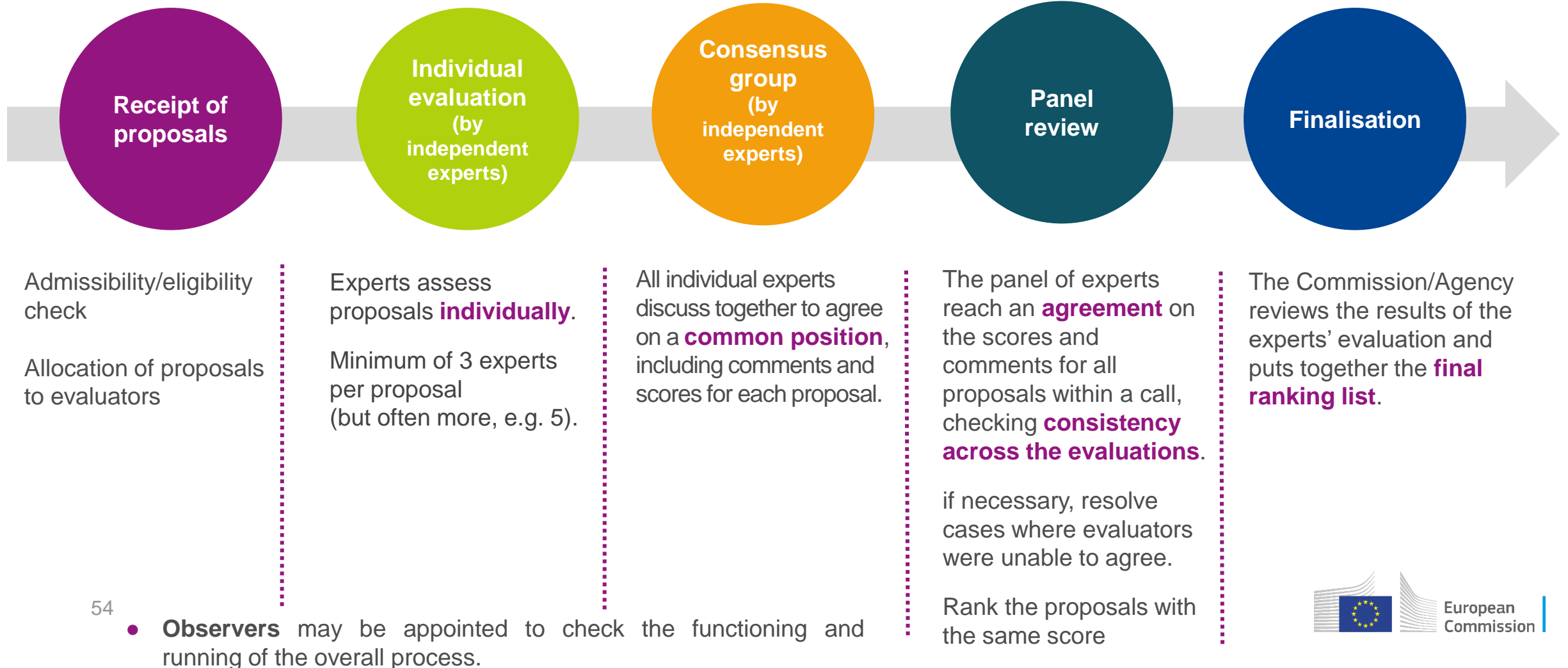


The Evaluation Process





Standard evaluation process





Admissibility, eligibility checks and additional requirements

Admissibility is checked by EU staff.

- Applications must be **complete** and contain all parts and mandatory annexes and supporting documents.
- Applications must be **readable, accessible and printable**.
- Applications must include a **plan for the exploitation and dissemination of results including communication activities** (n/a for applications at the first stage of two-stage procedures or unless otherwise provided in the specific call conditions).
- Specific **page limits** per type of action normally apply (specified in the topic conditions and controlled by IT tool).

Eligibility is checked by EU staff. If you spot an issue, please inform the EU staff.

- Eligible activities are the ones described in the call conditions.
- Minimum number of partners as set out in the call conditions (at least one independent legal entity established in a MS, and, at least two other independent legal entities established either in a MS or AC).
- For calls with deadlines in 2022 and onwards participants that are public bodies, research organisations or higher education establishments from Members States and Associated countries must have a **gender equality plan (GEP)** in place.

 The GEP is not part of the evaluation criteria, evaluators should not look into it. The existence of a GEP is checked internally by staff.

- Other criteria may apply on a call-by-call basis as set out in the call conditions. In few cases, the call conditions in the topic can modify the interpretation of criteria.



Evaluation (award) criteria

Three evaluation criteria:

1. Excellence
2. Impact
3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation

- Evaluation criteria are **adapted** to each **type of action**, as specified in the Work Programme
- Overall minimum score of 13/15.
- Each criterion includes the '**aspects to be taken into account**'. The same aspect is not included in different criteria, so it is not assessed twice.
- **Open Science** practices are assessed as part of the scientific methodology in the excellence criterion.

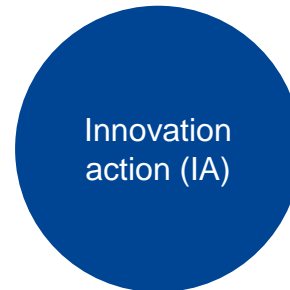


Evaluation criteria (RIAs and IAs)



Activities to establish new knowledge or to explore the feasibility of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution.

This may include basic and applied research, technology development and integration, testing, demonstration and validation of a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment.



Activities to produce plans and arrangements or designs for new, altered or improved products, processes or services.

These activities may include prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication.

EXCELLENCE

- ✓ Clarity and pertinence of the **project's objectives**, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state-of-the-art.
- ✓ Soundness of the proposed **methodology**, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, interdisciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the **gender dimension** in research and innovation content, and the quality of **open science practices** including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.

IMPACT

- ✓ Credibility of the **pathways** to achieve the expected **outcomes and impacts** specified in the work programme, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project.
- ✓ Suitability and quality of the **measures to maximize expected outcomes and impacts**, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.

QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan**, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.
- ✓ Capacity and role of each **participant**, and extent to which the **consortium** as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.



Evaluation criteria (CSAs)

Coordination and support actions (CSA)

Activities that contribute to the objectives of Horizon Europe. This excludes R&I activities, except those carried out under the 'Widening participation and spreading excellence' component of the programme (part of 'Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area').

Also eligible are bottom-up coordination actions which promote cooperation between legal entities from Member States and Associated Countries to strengthen the European Research Area, and which receive no EU co-funding for research activities.

EXCELLENCE

- ✓ Clarity and pertinence of the **project's objectives**.
- ✓ **Quality of the proposed coordination** and/or support measures, including soundness of methodology.

IMPACT

- ✓ Credibility of the **pathways** to achieve the expected **outcomes and impacts** specified in the work programme, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project.
- ✓ Suitability and quality of the **measures to maximize expected outcomes and impacts**, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.

QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan**, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.
- ✓ Capacity and role of each **participant**, and extent to which the **consortium** as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.



Evaluation criteria (CoFund)

Programme
co-fund
actions
(CoFund)

A programme of activities established or implemented by legal entities managing or funding R&I programmes, other than EU funding bodies. Such a programme of activities may support: networking and coordination; research; innovation; pilot actions; innovation and market deployment; training and mobility; awareness raising and communication; and dissemination and exploitation.

It may also provide any relevant financial support, such as grants, prizes and procurement, as well as Horizon Europe blended finance¹³ or a combination thereof. The actions may be implemented by the beneficiaries directly or by providing financial support to third parties.

EXCELLENCE

- ✓ Clarity and pertinence of the **project's objectives**, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state-of-the-art.
- ✓ Soundness of the proposed **methodology**, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, interdisciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the **gender dimension** in research and innovation content, and the quality of **open science practices** including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.

IMPACT

- ✓ Credibility of the **pathways** to achieve the expected **outcomes and impacts** specified in the work programme, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project.
- ✓ Suitability and quality of the **measures to maximize expected outcomes and impacts**, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.

QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan**, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.
- ✓ Capacity and role of each **participant**, and extent to which the **consortium** as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.



Evaluation criteria (PCPs and PPIs)

Pre-commercial procurement actions/ (PCP)

Activities that aim to help a transnational buyers' group to strengthen the public procurement of research, development, validation and, possibly, the first deployment of new solutions that can significantly improve quality and efficiency in areas of public interest, while opening market opportunities for industry and researchers active in Europe.

Eligible activities include the preparation, management and follow-up, under the coordination of a lead procurer, of one joint PCP and additional activities to embed the PCP into a wider set of demand-side activities.

Public procurement of innovative solutions actions (PPI)

Activities that aim to strengthen the ability of a transnational buyers' group to deploy innovative solutions early by overcoming the fragmentation of demand for such solutions and sharing the risks and costs of acting as early adopters, while opening market opportunities for industry.

Eligible activities include preparing and implementing, under the coordination of a lead procurer, one joint or several coordinated PPI by the buyers' group and additional activities to embed the PPI into a wider set of demand-side activities.

EXCELLENCE

- ✓ Clarity and pertinence of the **objectives**, and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state-of-the-art in terms of the degree of innovation that is needed to satisfy the procurement need.
- ✓ Soundness of the proposed **methodology**, taking into account the underlying concepts and assumptions.

IMPACT

- ✓ Credibility of the **pathways** to achieve the expected **outcomes and impacts** specified in the work programme.
- ✓ Suitability and quality of the **measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts**, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation (*) plan, including communication activities.

(*) For PCP actions and PPI actions, the exploitation of results by the beneficiaries means primarily the use that is made of the innovative solutions by the procurers/end-users. The manufacturing and sale of the innovative solutions are performed by the suppliers of the solutions, which are not beneficiaries but subcontractors.

QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan**, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.
- ✓ Capacity and role of each **participant**, and extent to which the **consortium** as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.



Evaluating the Excellence criterion (1/2)

Assess the project's objectives:

- Are they clear and pertinent to the topic?
- Are they measurable and verifiable?
- Are they realistically achievable?
- Is the proposed work ambitious and goes beyond the state-of-the-art?
- Does the proposal include ground-breaking R&I, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models?
- Is the R&I maturity of the proposed work in line with the topic description?

Please bear in mind that advances beyond the state of the art must be interpreted in the light of the positioning of the project. For example, expectations will not be the same for RIAs at lower TRL, compared with Innovation Actions at high TRLs.

Following questions are adapted to RIA and IA type of actions (ToA). Similar questions will be asked for other ToAs, in line with the instructions in the specific applications forms.



Evaluating the Excellence criterion (2/2)

Following questions are adapted to RIA and IA type of actions (ToA). Similar questions will be asked for other ToAs, in line with the instructions in the specific applications forms.

Assess the scientific methodology:

- Is the scientific methodology (i.e. the concepts, models and assumptions that underpin the work) clear and sound?
- Is it clear how expertise and methods from different disciplines will be brought together and integrated in pursuit of the objectives? if applicants justify that an inter-disciplinary approach is unnecessary, is it credible?
- Has the gender dimension in research and innovation content been properly taken into account?
- Are open science practices implemented as an integral part of the proposed methodology?
- Is the research data management properly addressed?
- For topics indicating the need for the integration of social sciences and humanities, is the role of these disciplines properly addressed?



Open Science

Check [support video](#) in the portal!

Open Science

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.

Open science practices include:

- Early and open sharing of research (for example through preregistration, registered reports, pre-prints, or crowd-sourcing).
- Research output management including research data management (RDM).
- Measures to ensure reproducibility of research outputs.
- Providing open access to research outputs (e.g. publications, data, software, models, algorithms, and workflows) through deposition in trusted repositories.
- Participation in open peer review.
- Involving all relevant knowledge actors including citizens, civil society and end users in the co-creation of R&I agendas and contents (such as citizen science).

Mandatory OS practices

- **Mandatory in all calls:** Open access to publications; RDM in line with the FAIR principles including data management plans; open access to research data unless exceptions apply ('as open as possible as closed as necessary'); access and/or information to research outputs and tools/instruments for validating conclusions of scientific publications and validating/re-using data.
- Additional obligations specific to certain work programme topics.

Reflect both in lower score when not sufficiently addressed

Recommended OS practices

- All open science practices beyond mandatory

Evaluate positively when sufficiently addressed

When OS practices (mandatory and recommended) are duly justified as not appropriate for the project, do not lower score for not addressing those practices

Detailed guidance for proposers and evaluators in the HE Programme Guide



Check [support video](#) in the portal!

Gender dimension in R&I content

Gender dimension

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

Under Horizon Europe the **integration of the gender dimension** into R&I content is **mandatory**, unless it is explicitly mentioned in the topic description as for example:

“In this topic the integration of the gender dimension (sex and gender analysis) in research and innovation content is not a mandatory requirement.”

Why is gender dimension important? It brings added value of research in terms of excellence, rigor, reproducibility, creativity and business opportunities It enhances the societal relevance of research and innovation

- 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?
- 64. • 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?

Detailed guidance for evaluators and proposers is provided in the **Horizon Europe Programme Guide**



Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)

Social Sciences and Humanities

Assessing the effective contribution of social science and humanities disciplines and expertise as part of the scientific methodology of the project.

When the **integration of SSH is required**, applicants have to show the roles of these disciplines or provide a justification if they consider that it is not relevant for their project. A proposal without a sufficient contribution/integration of SSH research and competences will receive a lower evaluation score.

Why integrating social sciences and humanity matters?

Many societal challenges that need to be addressed through research and innovation are too complex to be overcome by a single scientific discipline. Technical solutions are often preconditions for new policy outcomes, but in themselves insufficient to have a meaningful impact. The lasting societal impacts that policy-makers seek are often equally reliant on insights from social sciences and the humanities. A few examples:

- **Social sciences** (law, ethics, psychology, political sciences...) are an essential component of the research responses to public health emergencies.
- **Economics and political science** are major components of projects focusing on socio-economic evaluation of climate-change impact.
- **Psychology, cultural considerations, ethics and religion** are essential to improve the support to palliative care patients.
- **Linguistics, cultural studies and ethics** are an important part of projects aiming to develop AI enhanced robotic system and improve human/robot interaction.
- **Economics and social sciences** are essential to devise effective measures of recovery after the Covid-19 pandemic.



Do no significant harm principle (DNSH)

European Green Deal

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



Evaluating the impact criterion (1/2)

Following questions are adapted to RIA and IA type of actions (ToA). Similar questions will be asked for other ToAs, in line with the instructions in the specific applications forms.

Assess the proposed pathways towards impact:

- Is the contribution of the project towards the 1) expected outcomes of the topic and 2) the wider impacts, in the longer term, as specified in the respective destinations of the WP, credible?
- Are potential barriers to the expected outcomes and impacts identified (i.e. other R&I work within and beyond Horizon Europe; regulatory environment; targeted markets; user behavior), and mitigation measures proposed? Is any potential negative environmental outcome or impact (including when expected results are brought at scale, such as at commercial level) identified? Is the management of the potential negative impacts properly described?
- Are the scale and significance of the project's contribution to the expected outcomes and impacts estimated and quantified (including baselines, benchmarks and assumptions used for those estimates)?
 - Scale' refers to how widespread the outcomes and impacts are likely to be. For example, in terms of the size of the target group, or the proportion of that group, that should benefit over time;
 - 'Significance' refers to the importance, or value, of those benefits. For example, number of additional healthy life years; efficiency savings in energy supply.



Evaluating the impact criterion (2/2)

Following questions are adapted to RIA and IA type of actions (ToA). Similar questions will be asked for other ToAs, in line with the instructions in the specific applications forms.

Assess the measures to maximise impact –

Dissemination, exploitation and communication:

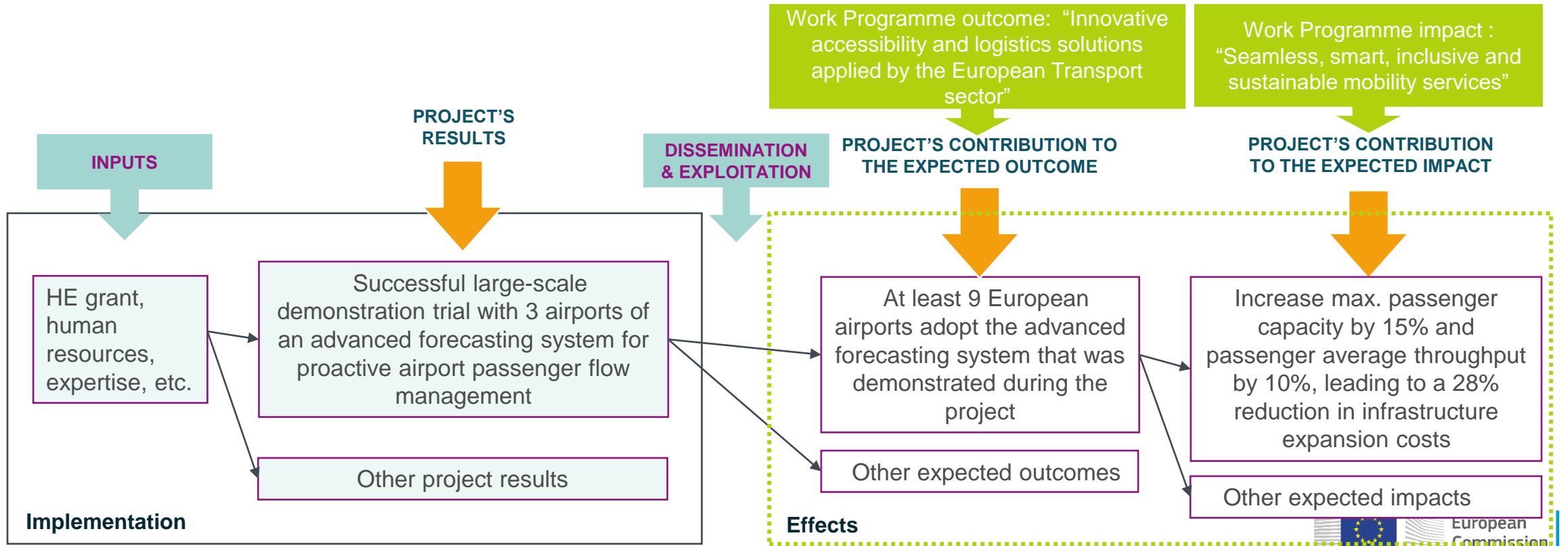
- Are the **proposed dissemination, exploitation and communication measures** suitable for the project and of good quality? All measures should be proportionate to the scale of the project, and should contain concrete actions to be implemented both during and after the end of the project.
- Are the **target groups** (e.g. scientific community, end users, financial actors, public at large) for these measures identified?
- Is the **strategy for the management of Intellectual Property** properly outlined and suitable to support exploitation of results?
 - If exploitation is expected primarily in non-associated third countries, is it properly justified how that exploitation is still in the Union's interest?



How applicants describe the impact

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.





Management of intellectual property (IP)

*Each Horizon Europe beneficiary shall use its best efforts to **exploit the results it owns**, or to have them exploited by another legal entity, in particular through the transfer and licensing of results. In this respect beneficiaries are required to **adequately protect their results – if possible and justified** – taking account of possible prospects for commercial exploitation and any other legitimate interest.*

The provision of a **results ownership list** is mandatory at the end of a project.

The strategy for IP management in a proposal

- Should be comprehensive and feasible and should include protection measures whenever relevant.
- Should be commensurate with the described pathways to outcomes and impacts and therefore underpins the ‘credibility’ of these pathways.
- Should consider ‘freedom to operate’ regarding the background owned by consortium members and/or third parties outside the consortium.
- Should give due thought to balancing between publication of results and plans to protect IP, e.g. in terms of timing the respective activities, involvement of IP experts.
- If exploitation is expected primarily in non-associated third countries, it must include justifications on how that exploitation is still in the Union’s interest.
- if required in the call conditions, it must consider additional exploitation obligations in relation to IP.



Evaluating the Quality of implementation (1/2)

Following questions are adapted to RIA and IA type of actions (ToA). Similar questions will be asked for other ToAs, in line with the instructions in the specific applications forms.

Assess the proposed work plan, and the effort and resources:

- Is the work plan of good quality and effective?
- Does it include quantified information so that progress can be monitored?
- Does it follow a logic structure (for example regarding the timing of work packages)?
- Are the resources allocated to the work packages in line with their objectives and deliverables?
- Are critical risks, relating to project implementation, identified and proper risk mitigation measures proposed?

Do not penalize applicants that did not provide detailed breakdown of costs as they are not required.

Exception: In the case of lumps sums, there is a requirement of a detailed budget table.



Evaluating the Quality of implementation (2/2)

Assess the quality of participants and the consortium as a whole:
(Note that important information on role of individual participants and previous experience is included in part A of proposal)

- Does the consortium match the project's objectives, and bring together the necessary disciplinary and inter-disciplinary knowledge.
- Does the consortium include expertise in open science practices, and gender aspects of R&I, as appropriate?
- For topics flagged as SSH relevant, does the consortium include expertise in social sciences and humanities?
- Do the partners have access to critical infrastructure needed to carry out the project activities?
- Are the participants complementing one another (and cover the value chain, where appropriate)
- In what way does each of them contribute to the project? Does each of them have a valid role, and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role (so they have sufficient operational capacity)?
- Is there industrial/commercial involvement in the project to ensure exploitation of the results?

Following questions are adapted to RIA and IA type of actions (ToA). Similar questions will be asked for other ToAs, in line with the instructions in the specific applications forms.

Participants' previous publications, in particular journal articles, are expected to be open access and existing datasets FAIR and 'as open as possible, as closed as necessary'. Evaluate positively if this is sufficiently addressed.

Bringing it all together:

- Read all sections of the call (topic description included) thoroughly – every word matters!
- Alignment with EU policies, values and principles of multilateral dialogue on R&I
- International cooperation to tackle common challenges, developing mutually beneficial solutions
- Gender dimension
- Open Science
- Multi-disciplinary and multi-actor approach
- Clear objectives; methodology / implementation plan; pathway to and assessment of impact
- Clear role for each project consortium member:
 - What added value does each member bring?
 - Resources allocation need to specific and well-justified

Follow us, engage and keep up to date via:

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- [AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation](#)
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Thank you!

@EUSciencInnov

#EUAfrica #HorizonEU

#AfricalInitiative2

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