

Q&A catalogue  
following the live webinar

## **"Quick guide for planning your Horizon Europe applications"**

February 11, 2021

<https://www.emdesk.com/>

Jeanne Collin, Head of projects / Public and European funds

<https://www.welcomeurope.com/>

#	ORIGINAL PARTICIPANT QUESTION	ANSWER BY WELCOMEUROPE
1	Does the Financial Viability analysis remain unchanged for Horizon Europe?	<p>Yes, Financial capacity will be verified for the coordinator if the requested funding from the Union for the action is equal to or greater than EUR 500 000. However, if there are grounds to doubt the financial capacity or if there is a higher risk due to the participation in several ongoing actions funded by HEU, the EC can verify the financial capacity of other applicants or coordinators below the threshold.</p> <p>If the financial capacity is structurally guaranteed by another legal entity, the financial capacity of the latter shall be verified. In case of weak financial capacity, the Commission or funding body may make participation of the applicant conditional on provision of a declaration on joint and several liability by an affiliated entity.</p> <p>Horizon Europe is extending the Participants' Guarantee Fund (renamed Mutual Insurance Mechanism). As a reminder, the MIM is a safeguard mechanism which mitigates the risks associated with the amounts due and not reimbursed by defaulting participants. Beneficiaries shall make a contribution of 5 % of the Union funding for the action. On the basis of periodic evaluations, this contribution may be raised by the Commission up to 8% or may be reduced under 5%. The beneficiaries' contribution to the Mechanism is offset from the initial pre-financing and is paid on behalf of the beneficiaries. The contribution is returned at the payment of the balance.</p>
2	Are the WP drafts available already or only the drafts?	The draft versions of the WorkProgrammes (WPs) are available on some websites. You can also reach out to NCPs in order to gather more informations about their publication. The final versions of the WPs should be available in Spring 2021.
3	The HE calls seem to have evolved in an Expected Outcome-Scope structure, where Expected Impact are presented in the destination's introduction, did I understand this correctly?	<p>Indeed, the new WorkProgrammes' organization is slightly different: Expected Impacts (effects on society, the environment, the economy and science...) will be identified at sub-programme or Cluster level. Destinations refer to groupings of actions through which each Work Programme part will be designed. Hence, they will provide the policy narrative and make the link with the expected impacts.</p> <p>Each Destination will be implemented through calls for proposals and topics. Each topic will be presented with: Specific conditions, Expected Outcome, Scope and Budgets.</p>
4	Where can I find the calendar of the Calls?	The call publication dates and deadlines will be available in the final versions of the WorkProgrammes. In the Draft versions, some indications on the opening months or years are available.
5	Can you please give the link where one can find the WorkProgrammes?	Drafts are currently online, so they should be available with a little Googling. Please note that Drafts remain officially non-public, given the fact that there could be changes before official publication. However, as we believe that unequal distribution of information would disadvantage grant applicants, we can mention the Science Business website. NCPs can be contacted for more information.

#	ORIGINAL PARTICIPANT QUESTION	ANSWER BY WELCOMEUROPE
6	Regarding the key impact pathways, it has been announced that EU will come up with specific measurable indicators. Do you have any info regarding progress on the indicators?	The Key Impact Pathways are organized around 9 key story lines. Each Pathway consists of a storyline, a short-medium and long term indicator and data needs. Additional guidance can be found in Annex 4 of the following <a href="#">guidance</a> .
7	Where can I find the corporate model grant agreement?	The Corporate Model Grant Agreement can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
8	I heard that there were going to be changes in the number of pages in the applications, specifically that the page limit was going to be reduced, is it right?	Changes regarding the expected length of applications (reduce length of proposals to 50 or 30 pages) is not yet officially confirmed. However, it is expected that application will remain around 45 pages (2nd stage).
9	Can you please share the link to the Key Impact Pathways document?	<p>You can find relevant information here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-EC (2017), Interim Evaluation of Horizon 2020, SWD (2017) 220</li> <li>-EC (2018a), Impact Assessment accompanying the Commission proposal for Horizon Europe, the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, SWD (2018) 307</li> <li>-EC (2018b), Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council establishing Horizon Europe - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination</li> <li>- Bruno, N. and Kadunc, M. (forthcoming), Impact Pathways: Tracking and communicating the impact of the European Framework Programme for research and innovation. Paper presented at the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union Conference on Impact of Research and Innovation Policy at the Crossroads of Policy Design, Implementation and Evaluation in Vienna, Austria.</li> </ul>
10	Would you be able to tell us anymore about how the complementarity between proposals submitted will be evaluated	<p>Complementarity can be understood at different levels.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Programme/ Calls Level: complementarity is sought with regional, national and international initiatives, as well as between EU programmes: no overlap in funding and covering of different activities / objectives in a given topic (e.g. between COSME scaling-up instrument for mainstream companies deployed through InvestEU, and the actions of the EIC for innovative companies).</li> <li>2) Project level: complementarity is sought between other funded (or to be funded) projects. Moreover, for Missions (Pillar II), the evaluation will no longer suppose an analysis of isolated projects, but an analysis of a portfolio of projects integrated into the same mission (how, if selected, they can contribute to reaching a critical mass / the highest expected impacts, thanks to their complementarity with the other selected projects).</li> </ol>

#	ORIGINAL PARTICIPANT QUESTION	ANSWER BY WELCOMEUROPE
11	What is about the "Partnerships" type of action which is also applicable in Pillar 2? Where can we find quite more info on this new action even is based upon the past FW?	The partnerships provided in the Horizon Europe Framework Programme are initiatives where the EU and the Member States engage with private and public actors to jointly support the development and implementation of a programme of research and innovation activities. Partnerships are possible within the framework of defined clusters of Pillar 2 (Digital Health, Industry and Space Climate, Energy and Mobility Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment) but there are also cross-cutting partnerships (EIT KICs, Innovative SMEs; European Open Science Cloud Partnership).
12	Is the FTI scheme not going to continue in the new perspective, at least not in the known form?	The former FTI Instrument is discontinued under Horizon Europe. 3 other instruments, under the European Innovation Council (Pillar 3) are now targeting ground-breaking and disruptive research and scale-up, market uptake : the EIC Accelerator, Pathway and Transition.
13	Is a project sheet a template?	The "Project Sheet" is not a compulsory template. It is a working-tool that you can use internally, to get ready and start the application process.
14	When will the new NCP be announced?	The calendar depends on each MS.
15	Are there limitations in applying multiple times (multiple years) with a same/similar proposal (e.g., in MSCA-IF)?	There will be new regulations for the MSCA Cofund, still under discussion / pilot phase. The only other limited programme is the ERC.
16	Do you know if the financing rates will be maintained the same as H2020?	The cofunding rates should remain the same as Horizon 2020.
17	What do you mean by "project sheet" - in the slide just before the "analyse potential weaknesses and threats" slide	You can think of answering the following basic questions: why, when, for whom, what, how much, with who?
18	We haven't seen the draft of the Mission in Oncology. How would you recommend looking for topics in this area?	The Final version of the WorkProgramme of the Missions are not yet available. You can find information <a href="#">here</a> , the Interim report of the mission board for cancer.
19	Is it possible to hire external company to help in writing the project application and further cooperation with regard to, for example, administrative tasks, or that is not possible in Horizon and that won't be co-financed?	It is possible to seek external assistance in the application drafting process. However, these costs are not eligible in the HEU project. Subcontracting, during the implementation of the project, some activities linked to administrative and financial reporting tasks are eligible, if the partner does not have the necessary resources in house.  You can also note that some MS, National Funding Agencies or other funders are proposing a financial assistance to project coordinators, so as to assist them in the building of their consortium and drafting their application (e.g MRSEI by the ANR for Academics, or Diag EU by BPIfrance).
20	Is there a rule on the number of countries that need to be involved?	The eligibility conditions under Horizon Europe do not change. They depend on the type of action you are applying to (e.g for IA and RIA: 3 partners min). This information should be checked when analysing the opportunity.

#	ORIGINAL PARTICIPANT QUESTION	ANSWER BY WELCOMEUROPE
21	For registering on the Partner Search - is this a single profile per institution, or can this be tailored specifically per call topic?	When registering on the Funding and Tenders Portal, you create a general profile for your organisation. You can then link the profile to a specific topic, and expressed interest in being contacted.
22	Which executive Agencies will implement Horizon Europe programme? What changes are to be expected (replacement of EASME, new EIC Agency)?	<p>The following five agencies are established from 1 April 2021 until 31 December 2028:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA, former INEA) &gt; HEU pillar II cluster 5 (Climate, energy and mobility) and LIFE program</li> <li>2. European Research Executive Agency (EREA, former REA)&gt; Horizon Europe pillar I MSCA and research infrastructures, pillar II cluster 2 (culture, creativity and inclusive society), cluster 3 (Civil security for society), and cluster 6 (Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment), and the horizontal programmes (Reforming and enhancing the European R&amp;I system and Spreading excellence and widening participation).</li> <li>3. European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (former EASME)&gt;&gt; Horizon Europe pillar III European Innovation Council (EIC) and European Innovation Ecosystems</li> <li>5. European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA)&gt;&gt; Horizon Europe pillar I European Research Council (ERC).</li> <li>4. European Education and Culture Executive Agency (former EACEA)&gt;&gt; Creative Europe and Erasmus</li> <li>6. European Health and Digital Executive Agency (NEW) &gt;&gt; HEU pillar II cluster 1 (health) and cluster 4 (Digital, industry and space research), the EU4Health programme, the Digital Europe Programme, and the Connecting Europe Facility.</li> </ol> <p>The Executive Agency for Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food (CHAFEA) will be closed.</p> <p><i>For more details: Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/173 of 12 February 2021.</i></p>
23	You recommend requesting the hourly rates from the partners, but in HE, we will have daily rates. Can you elaborate a bit on your recommendation?	For the application phase, you can request whatever rate that will help you assess the standard cost for a Person Month, and allow-you to estimate the provisional personnel costs for each WorkPackage. However, for the reporting phase, each partner will need to use the MGA methods (daily rates and conversion guidances).
24	Do you know how many months from the publication of the WPs until the deadline of the calls?	Usually, there are a few month between the official opening and the deadline. The time between the publication of the WP and the deadline depends on the finalisation of the WPs.
25	What is the connection between the “European Partnerships in climate, energy and mobility” and the “Horizon Europe”?	The EU partnerships, as the European Partnerships in climate, energy and mobility, are co-funded by Horizon 2020/ Horizon Europe.

#	ORIGINAL PARTICIPANT QUESTION	ANSWER BY WELCOMEUROPE
26	Where can I find the link to join as a partner?	To register on the PartnerSearch Tool, log on the <a href="#">Funding and Tender Portal</a> , under "How to Participate", and look for guidance on.
27	Will the SWAFS continue? In which sub programme? Will there be a separate WP?	Yes, under the 4th Transversal Pillar.
28	Will there be much repetition of what we would have provided to H2020? Is there potential to "cut and paste"?	There is always a way to capitalise on previous H2020 applications. You will have to be careful to position the project in relation to the Cluster Expected Impact and the topic's specific requirements.
29	Is there any estimate on the official launch date of the first Horizon EU call?	The first Horizon Europe call to be launched will be under the ERC programme. It was launched on February 25, with a budget of 619 million euros and with the deadline of April 8.
30	Is there an easy way to know if the European Commission already financed projects in on specified subject?	The European Commission has created a website, CORDIS, which brings together the various projects financed by the Framework Programme.