



## **EUROPEAN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS**



Online Info Session

**16 February 2023** from 9.30 AM to 12 PM



THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME 2021 - 2027

#### **MODERATED BY**

## Daniel Gassmann

**Head of Sector, EISMEA I 01.1** 





#### AGENDA

Time	Topic
09:30 AM	Introduction and Opening
09:45 AM	Policy Context: the European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE) work programme
10:00 AM	International cooperation in Horizon Europe
10:20 AM	2023 Call for proposals presentations
11:00 AM	Lump sum funding in Horizon Europe
11:15 AM	Q&A via Sli.do
11:50 AM	Conclusions



## Opening

Birgit Weidel

Head of Department, EISMEA I





### Results from Innosup

- Study on the effectiveness of public innovation support for SMEs in Europe
- Overview of Innosup projects in the area of blockchains
- Handbook of service design for Innovation Agencies, building on results of Innosup05, peer learning of Innovation Agencies

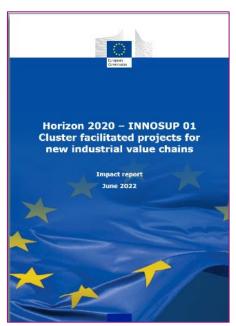




## Results from Innosup

- Study about results of two projects in the area of SME segmentation experiments, Innosup07
- Experimental innovation policy for SMEs, Innosup06
- Third edition of the Innosup01 "new cluster facilitated value chains" impact report

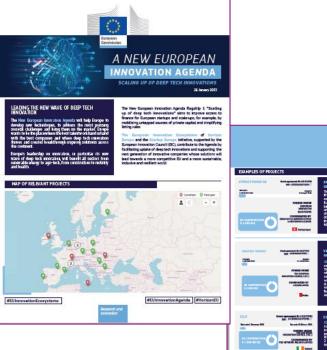








### New European Innovation Agenda fact sheets





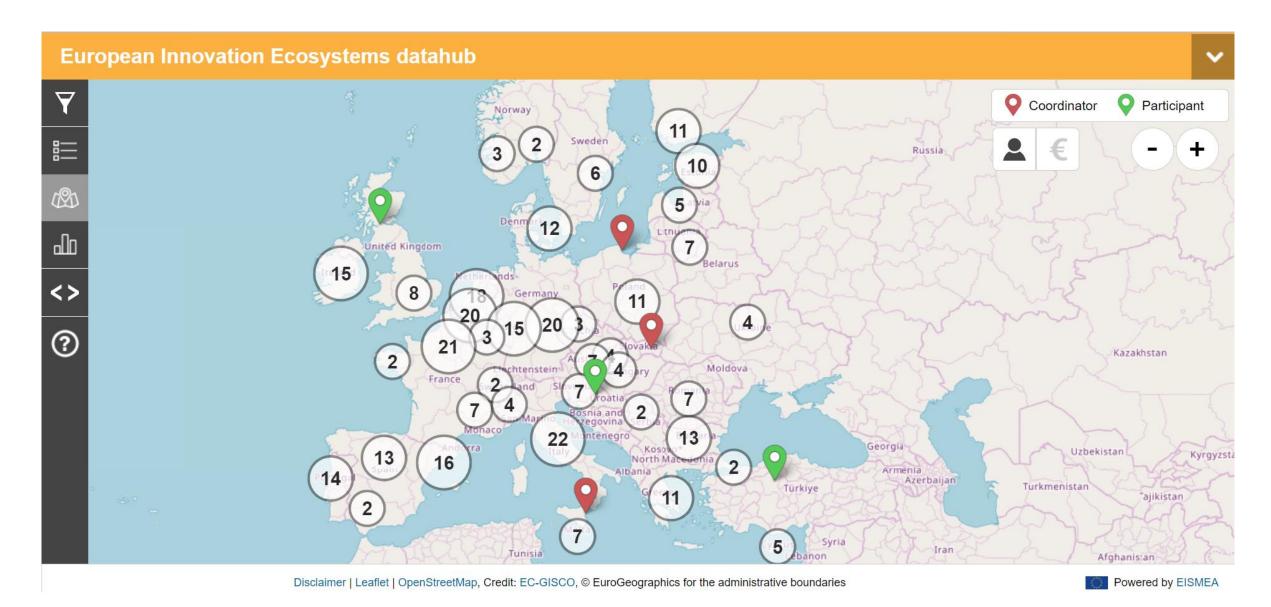








## EIE Data hub launched on 26/01/2023



## Policy context of the EIE Work Programme

Jekaterina Novikova

Deputy Head of Unit, DG RTD A5







## **Horizon Europe**



Horizon Europe is implemented through work programmes which set out funding opportunities.

#### HORIZON EUROPE

#### **EURATOM**

European

**Innovation** 

Support to

potential

innovations with

market creating

breakthrough and

Council

Fusion

**Fission** 

**Joint** 

Research

Center

## European innovation ecosystems

 Connecting with regional and national innovation actors

## European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

Bringing key actors (research, education and business) together around a common goal for nurturing innovation



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



#### Pillar 3 – Innovative Europe:

stimulating market-creating breakthroughs and ecosystems conducive to innovation



#### **EIE WP 23-24: Overview**



#### Connected & efficient innovation ecosystems

- Support the scaling of companies
- Encourage innovation
- Stimulate cooperation among national, regional & local innovation actors



#### **Expected impacts**

- ✓ Interconnected, inclusive & efficient innovation ecosystems across Europe
- ✓ Elevated scalability potential of business
- ✓ Innovative SMEs growth accessing markets & embedding in global value chains



Mostly CSAs and Co-fund actions, biannual WPs



EUR 527 million (2021-2027)



All ecosystem actors



#### **EIE WP 2023-2024**

- Policy context/political priorities:
  - New European Innovation Agenda
  - Stakeholder inputs
- Lessons learned from the implementation of the 2021-2022 WP
- Continuity between the EIE WP 2021-2022 and 2023-2024
- Compliance with the legal base and Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021-2024
- Synergies with other relevant programmes



## The NEW European Innovation Agenda: Leading the new wave of deep tech innovation

Innovation and particularly deep tech innovation is an answer to:



Improve Europe's competitiveness



Contribute to the green and digital transition



Narrow the innovation divide



Reinforce Europe's open strategic autonomy



### Europe's assets

Europe can lead the new wave of deep tech innovation based on its assets

- 1. Leadership in science
- 2. Strong industrial base
- 3. Increasingly vibrant start-up ecosystem
- 4. Ambitious framework conditions conducive to innovation in the internal market
- 5. Strong talent base
- 6. Stable institutions and democratic societies



### Today's challenges

#### Main challenges include:

- A persistent innovation divide between and within Member States
- Insufficient transfer of new technologies from research to market
- Lack of risk finance for companies to scale up fast
- Fragmentation of the internal market and regulatory burden
- A business environment and culture that is more risk-averse and less conducive to innovation



#### **New European Innovation Agenda: five flagships**



Improving policy making tools



Enabling deep tech innovation through experimentation spaces and public procurement

Accelerating and strengthening innovation in European Innovation Ecosystems across the EU and addressing the innovation divide

Fostering, attracting and retaining deep tech talent



## EIE actions in support of the New European Innovation Agenda

Funding for deep tech scale-ups

Improving policy making tools



Enabling deep tech innovation through experimentation spaces and public procurement

-Stimulating Experimentation Practices

-Specialist Advisory Services to build capacities on innovation procurement

Accelerating and strengthening innovation in European Innovation Ecosystems across the EU and addressing the innovation divide

-Preparatory action for setting up joint programmes among innovation ecosystems actors

Fostering, attracting and retaining deep tech talent

- Organisation of the Women TechEU Scheme



## International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## Mary Kavanagh

Senior Expert, International Cooperation, DG RTD F1









## Global approach to Research and Innovation: Europe's strategy for international cooperation in a changing world

## 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.



#### **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.







#### **International Cooperation in Horizon Europe**

#### **Guiding principles:**

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

#### Hallmarks of Horizon Europe:

- ✓ Openness
- ✓ Access to EU funding (for some third countries)
- ✓ Targeted international cooperation actions
- ✓ Safeguarding EU interests





### **Horizon Europe: Openness**

- ✓ Horizon Europe is in principle open to almost all countries
- ✓ Researchers and innovators of any nationality can apply for grants (MSCA, ERC...) and participate in collaborative research projects
- ✓ Association to the programme:
  - 16 Countries associated to HE: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine
  - In the "process of Association": Morocco, UK
  - Negotiations under way: New-Zealand, Canada...
     list-3rd-country-participation\_horizon-euratom\_en.pdf





## International Cooperation: Access to Horizon Europe funding

- ✓ Automatically eligible for EU funding ("Beneficiaries")
  - Low- and middle-income countries (see <u>list</u>).
  - Countries associated to Horizon Europe
- ✓ Non-associated third countries not eligible for EU funding ("Associated partners")
  - Exceptions on a case-by-case basis + specified in topic calls
- ✓ Co-funding mechanisms
  - E.g. Canada, Monaco, China, Switzerland... (Guide CFM on F&T Portal)





## **International Cooperation: Coordination and support actions**

- CSAs are only open to participation by <u>Member States and</u>
   <u>Associated Countries</u> unless otherwise mentioned in the Work Programme
- ✓ Third country entities can only be Associated Partners (non-funded) in CSAs, unless it is stated in the Work Programme that they may be beneficiaries (or affiliated entities).





## Targeted International Cooperation actions in EIE (1)

## EIE-2024 Connect 01-02: The African Union-European Union Innovation Platform

- Support the implementation of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda by providing a convening platform and a forum for discussion and planning of the implementation of the actions foreseen under the Agenda.
  - **Eligibility:** Must include at least 3 independent entities from different African Union Member States
  - **Funding:** African Union Countries may participate as beneficiaries (i.e. receive funding)





## Targeted International Cooperation actions in EIE (2)

#### Targeted international cooperation actions EIE (2)

- *EIE-2023:InnovSMEs- 01-01: European Partnership on Innovative SMEs* (continued support and expansion of the activities of the <u>existing</u> Partnership):
  - Additional Eurostars and Innowide calls leading to International collaborative research and innovation projects.
  - To spur internationalization of European SMEs and to identify and exploit new international markets
  - Third countries are welcome to participate in line with standard criteria (same rules as Eurostars2)



#### For more info:

- Commission Communication on the Global Approach to research and innovation: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_21\_2465">https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_21\_2465</a>
- Horizon Europe:
   <u>https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe\_en</u>
- Commission's website on international R&I cooperation:
   <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/international-cooperation\_en">https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/international-cooperation\_en</a>

#### Follow us:

- Commissioner Mariya Gabriel: @GabrielMariya
- DG Research and Innovation: @EUScienceInnov







## The European Innovation Ecosystems Calls for proposals





#### **DISCLAIMER**

# Call text prevails over the present slides!





## HORIZON-EIE-2023-CONNECT-01-01 Organisation of Women TechEU 2023-2024

Natalia Nowińska Project Adviser, EISMEA I-01





#### What is Women TechEU?

- New EU scheme pilot call launched in 2021
- Supporting early-stage, deep-tech startups founded and led by women
- Providing grants of € 75k, as well as mentoring & coaching
- 2021 call
  - Budget € 3,75 M
  - 392 applications, 50 projects funded
- 2022 call
  - Budget € 10 M
  - 467 applications, 130 projects to be funded
- 2023 call
  - Organisation of the Women TechEU is implemented under Financial support to third parties (FSTP) scheme



#### Coordination and support action (CSA)

#### Who can apply?

- This is not a call for early-stage deep-tech start-ups led by women we are looking for a consortium who will take over organization of the Women TechEU scheme.
- This action requires the participation of **at least three (3) independent legal entities**, of which at least one (1) is established in a 'moderate' or 'emerging' innovator region and at least one (1) in a 'strong' or 'innovation leader' innovator region.

#### **Duration**

• The applicants should consider a project duration of two (2) years.

#### **Budget**

- EUR 15 million
- At least 75% of the total proposed budget to financial support to third parties.



The consortium selected under this call is expected to organise the Women TechEU scheme, covering the following activities:

- Ensure the sound design, organisation, and management of the Women TechEU scheme, ensuring continuity of the scheme as implemented by EISMEA in 2021 and 2022;
- Ensure smooth connection with the EIC Business Acceleration Services (BAS) for the mentoring and coaching support activities to selected applicants;
- Communicate and promote the scheme in order to secure quality applications;
- Organise landmark events, building a network of Women TechEU grantees, and help them to connect with the overall EIC community;
- Promote cooperation and networking activities among the community of women entrepreneurs in the deep tech field;
- Ensure proper geographical distribution and technological areas to be covered by the scheme;
- Report on the implementation of the scheme (key data on applications, start-ups funded, demographics of end-beneficiaries of the scheme, etc.) to European Commission services.



#### Which companies can be supported under FSTP?

- Early-stage deep tech start-ups,
- Registered and established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country for at least six months at the time of the submission,
- Founded or co-founded by women, holding a top management position (chief executive officer (CEO), chief technology officer (CTO), chief scientific officer (CSO), or equivalent,
- All deep tech domains should be eligible,
- Emphasis being on overall gender balance and the position held by women in the start-up.

The initiative complements activities funded under the European Innovation Council (EIC), paving the way for the participation of women-led start-ups in future EIC calls.



Support provided by the consortium to eligible third parties under this initiative must be made up of the following components:

- Financial support to each selected company as an individual grant of EUR 75 000 supporting activities such as evaluating and refining products/services, design, user experience, upgrading the business model, updating the business plan and growth strategy, finding partners and investors, market validation, etc.;
- The possibility to participate in dedicated activities organised by InvestEU, the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), and other relevant networks;
- Mentoring and coaching will be provided by the EIC BAS, under the 'Women Leadership Programme', which includes dedicated networking and pitching events funded under a separate EIC budget.



#### **Expected Outcome**

- Support deep tech innovation as a basis for a modern, knowledge-driven, resource-efficient and competitive economy;
- Promote female leadership in the deep tech industry to build fairer, more inclusive, and more prosperous innovation ecosystems in the European Union (EU);
- Ensure a smooth continuation of the established Women TechEU scheme consistent with previous processes, outcomes, and branding;
- Foster cooperation and networking between women entrepreneurs in the deep tech field.



## How to apply?

- Applications to be submitted through the Funding & Tenders Portal.
- The structure of the CSA template must be followed when preparing your proposal.
- In the dedicated Annex: "Information on financial support to third parties" you are expected to provide information on how you will provide the financial support to third parties.
- You should make sure that the conditions for the provision of the financial support to the third parties are defined in accordance with the General Annexes to Horizon Europe, Financial Regulation as well as the future Annotated Model Grant Agreement.
- You should provide details regarding the elements as described in these documents and in particular:



# How to apply?

The proposal must clearly detail the objectives and the results to be obtained and include at least the following elements:

- The maximum amount of financial support for each third party; this amount may not exceed 75 000 EUR. If your project requires a higher amount per third party than the threshold amount set in the call conditions, justify and explain why this is necessary in order to fulfil your project's objectives,
- The criteria for calculating the exact amount of the financial support,
- The different types of activity that qualify for financial support.

"Activities such as evaluating and refining products/services, design, user experience, upgrading the business model, updating the business plan and growth strategy, finding partners and investors, market validation, etc."



# How to apply?

The proposal must clearly detail the objectives and the results to be obtained and include at least the following elements:

The persons or categories of persons that may receive financial support,

See the slide: Which companies can be supported

The criteria for giving financial support:

To be explained in the proposal (and in the open call text):

- For each evaluation criterion (e.g. Excellence, Impact, Implementation)
  - Sub criteria description,
  - Weighting,
  - Scores (e.g. between 0 and 5, with or without half points).
- In case of ex-aequo, the procedure you will apply,
- Technical and financial capacity check.



# Other important aspects to consider

Financial support to third parties in the form of grants after call for proposals must comply with the following conditions:

- Calls to be published widely and to adhere to EU standards of transparency, equal treatment, conflict of interest and confidentiality,
- Calls must be published on the F&T Portal and on the beneficiaries' websites,
- Calls must remain open for at least 2 months,
- If submission deadlines are changed, this must immediately be announced and registered applicants must be informed of the change,
- Projects must publish the outcome of the calls without delay incl. description of projects, date of the award, duration, the legal name & country,
- The calls must have a clear European dimension.



# Other important aspects to consider

If the action includes providing FSTP, the beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles:

- 12 (conflict of interest),
- 13 (confidentiality and security),
- 14 (ethics),
- 17.2 (visibility),
- 18 (specific rules for carrying out action),
- 19 (information) and
- 20 (record-keeping)

also apply to the third parties receiving the support (recipients)

The beneficiaries must also ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the recipients.

# Other important aspects to consider

- Open calls are very time demanding to manage (preparation, evaluation, contracting and monitoring): enough resources to be planned.
- Most proposals will arrive at the last minute. Make sure your platform can handle it during the last hour.
- Avoid submission deadlines in summer / Christmas period.
- Partners in the consortium cannot be the beneficiaries of the grants given to the third parties as FTSP.
- Evaluation:
  - External experts ensure neutrality,
  - Think about geographical and gender balance of experts,
  - Organise clear and concrete training for experts.
- Pay attention to data protection and IPR issues.
- Keep good communication with the awarded startups and accompany them throughout project implementation.
- Use the experience gained from the 1st call to re-adapt the conditions of the 2nd call (if applicable).



# HORIZON-EIE-2023-CONNECT-01-02

Preparatory action for setting up joint programmes among innovation ecosystems actors



Project Adviser, EISMEA I-01





CONNECT



Call: Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems (2023.1)

Open: 22/12/22 Close: 23/3/23

#### Topic 2: Preparatory action for setting up joint programmes among innovation ecosystems actors

Target group(s): Public innovation authorities + private actors + R&I actors/networks.

#### **Main expected outcome:**

More dynamic, inclusive, gender-diverse & connected innovation ecosystems, via co-planning, co-implementation & co-investments of activities in line with the <a href="New European Innovation Agenda">New European Innovation Agenda</a>;

<u>Scope</u>: to <u>prepare</u> joint action plans to strengthen their innovation performance/capacities/interconnection/ alignment with policies and jointly tackle challenges at all levels.

#### Applicants should:

- identify areas and activities of cooperation (networking, market access, training/skills, joint infrastructures, procurements)
- justify on the need for those joint activities that should be scalable at European level (EU added value)
- explain the potential for growth foreseen in the targeted sector and/or expected EU impact
- ensure <u>inclusiveness</u> and <u>diversity</u> (+private actors)
- enhance **complementarities** of funds and programmes (EU, national/regional/local) e.g. S3, PRI, startup-villages
- explain the **process** (open, clear, realistic and impact-oriented approach, +mechanisms, tools)
- present expected common knowledge assets, benefit of the intended beneficiaries, targeted milestones
- plan their long-term commitments (at least 3 years) & engage in joint cooperation activities

Type of Action	CSA
Total Indicative budget	6 m €
Expected EU contribution / project	0.5 m €
Expected grants to be signed	12
Estimated project duration	Up to 1 year
Additional eligibility criterion	<ul> <li>at least three (3) legal entities, of which:</li> <li>at least one (1) in a 'moderate' or 'emerging' innovator region and</li> <li>at least one (1) in a 'strong' or 'innovation leader' innovator region.</li> </ul>
Lump sum grant	Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum.



Call: Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems (2023.1)

Open: 22/12/22 Close: 23/3/23

#### Topic 2: Preparatory action for setting up joint programmes among innovation ecosystems actors

The proposals may include two (2) phases:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> phase: (exploratory)

- ✓ foster dialogue among stakeholders for strategy/partnership building
- ✓ mapping and analysis

(existing innovation agendas/strategies/policies/plans/activities, local pockets of excellence/innovation hubs, ways to motivate <u>inclusiveness</u> of relevant active/inactive actors, areas of competitive advantage, gaps, needs and opportunities)

→ consider existing tools, knowledge and expertise (e.g. from Partnerships from Regional Innovation – PRIs, EIT KICs, ..)

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> phase:

- ✓ concretise, set up, finalise action plans and allocation of the activities
- → The implementation of the proposed action plans is not part of this topic.



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Call: Interconnected Innovation Ecosystems (2023.1)

Open: 22/12/22 Close: 23/3/23

#### Topic 2: Preparatory action for setting up joint programmes among innovation ecosystems actors

How the topic is linked to the COFUND topic in 2024? (HE-EIE-2024-CONNECT-01-01)

- This topic (CSA): finance the <u>preparation</u> of joint action plans (co-explore areas/ways of cooperation, co-design);
- **COFUND topic (2024):** finance the <u>implementation</u> of joint action plans (mature, applicants already know what they want to achieve, e.g. areas of cooperation, activities, etc.).

Will successful projects of the topic get automatically funding for their implementation via the COFUND topic (2024)? No, operationally not feasible due to the close timeframe between the 2 calls. But maybe opportunities in future topics.

How the topic differs from the similar topic of 2021? (HE-EIE-2021-CONNECT-01-01)

- additional eligibility criteria (at least 3 entities from MS/AC, 1 in moderate/emerging region, 1 in strong/innovation leader region);
- reduction of the timeline from 2 years to 1 year;
- encouraging links of areas and activities of cooperation to the New European Innovation Agenda (NEIA) objectives.

Do the applicants need to form consortia of at least 3 partners from 3 different countries as in other HE calls?

According to eligibility conditions: consortia of at least 3 legal entities from at least 2 different MS/AC as beneficiaries.

(consortium of at least three (3) independent legal entities established in Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries, of which at least one (1) is established in a 'moderate' or 'emerging' innovator region and at least one (1) in a 'strong' or 'innovation leader' innovator region).

Read COFUND call !!!



# HORIZON-EIE-2023-CONNECT-02-01 Stimulating Experimentation Practices

### Daniel Gassmann

Head of Sector, EISMEA I-01





**CONNECT** 



Call: Stimulating Experimentation Practices (2023-02-01)

Open: 08/06/2023 Close: 21/09/2023

Target group(s): Public innovation authorities + EIT KICs + private actors (innovators, SMEs, Start-ups) + NGOs.

#### **Main expected outcome:**

Efficient testing of disruptive innovations and improve innovation framework conditions, in line with the New European Innovation Agenda;

#### Applicants should:

- identify an area where Innovative solutions emerge
  - Innovation areas which are <u>hampered by existing regulation</u>
  - Or Innovation areas which are <u>unregulated</u>
- Areas in which there is a need for testing before deployment to market (including smart specialisation)
- Propose an <u>action plan</u> for setting up an <u>experimentation space</u>
- <u>Implement</u> the experimentation space
- Identify potential legal, regulatory, fiscal, technical and operational pre-requisites or barriers for helping policy makers to foster further innovation

Type of Action	CSA
Total Indicative budget	4 M€
Expected EU contribution / project	1 M€
Expected grants to be signed	4
Estimated project duration	Not specified
Additional eligibility criterion	<ul> <li>at least three (3) legal entities, of which:</li> <li>at least one (1) in a 'moderate' or 'emerging' innovator region and</li> <li>at least one (1) in a 'strong' or 'innovation leader' innovator region.</li> </ul>
Lump sum grant	Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum.

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Call: Stimulating Experimentation Practices (2023-02-01)

Open: 08/06/2023 Close: 21/09/2023

### **Activities**

- <u>Identification of areas</u> where experimentation could facilitate the deployment of disruptive technologies by establishing a regulatory Sandbox, living lab or test bed.
- Awareness raising and enhanced knowledge on the existing experimentation frameworks for testing innovation
- Identify and scale up <u>best practice examples</u> of regulatory sandboxes, living labs and test beds
- Connect innovators with organisations that practice experimentation
- Creation or use of <u>networking and coordination structures and tools (EIT KICs listed as example)</u>
- Establishment of an experimentation space or cooperation with existing services
- Address the question of <u>intellectual property</u> right related to disruptive technologies



HORIZON-EIE-2023-CONNECT-02-02 Specialist Advisory Services to build capacities on innovation procurement

**Daniel Gassmann** 

Head of Sector, EISMEA I-01





CONNECT



Call: Specialist advisory services to build capacities on Innovation procurement (2023.1)

Open: 08/06/2023 Close: 21/09/2023

Target group(s): Public and private procurers + state owned enterprises + private actors (SMEs, Start-ups) + R&I actors/networks + EIT KICs

#### **Main expected outcome:**

Enhance the use of innovation procurement (on both the procurers and companies side) Develop the role of specialist advisory service providers

#### Expected from specialist advisory service providers:

- Specialised knowledge on one or more market sector(s) and a good awareness of the national, regional, or local innovative start-ups and SMEs which are active in their sector(s) of specialisation;
- Strong <u>awareness of market opportunities</u> that exist in their sectors of expertise
- Good understanding of both public <u>procurers needs</u> and <u>possible solutions</u> from suppliers
- Good <u>technical</u> background on their sectors
- Thorough knowledge of relevant procurement procedures
- Strong knowledge of and good connections to innovative SMEs and the start-up environment, including the European Innovation Council (EIC) and the EIT, as well as other EU and national networks (Enterprise Europe Network, Startup Europe, etc.).

Type of Action	CSA
Total Indicative budget	4 M€
Expected EU contribution / project	1 M€
Expected grants to be signed	4
Estimated project duration	Not specified
Additional eligibility criterion	<ul> <li>at least three (3) legal entities, of which:</li> <li>at least one (1) in a 'moderate' or 'emerging' innovator region and</li> <li>at least one (1) in a 'strong' or 'innovation leader' innovator region.</li> </ul>
Lump sum grant	Eligible costs will take the form of a lump sum.

**CONNECT** 

Call: Specialist advisory services to build capacities on Innovation procurement (2023.1)

Open: 08/06/2023 Close: 21/09/2023

#### **Activities**

- Awareness-raising and enhanced knowledge on innovation procurement legal frameworks for public procurers;
- Enhanced innovation knowledge and <u>skills in procurers</u>, raising awareness about <u>co-design processes</u>
   <u>between SMEs and procurers</u> (public and private) that may help to discover the most up-to-date innovative
   technological solutions, and assist in their development and further acquisition;
- Scale up examples of best practice on the definition of needs and design of procedures and long-term strategies in the field of innovation procurement;
- Create <u>more structured cooperation</u> between the ecosystems of procurers and financial investors for innovation procurements (incl. the setting up new expert networks by sharing best practices among them).



# Lump sum funding in Horizon Europe

Bénédicte Charbonnel Zabdyr

Programme Officer, DG RTD H3







# Why do we use lump sum funding?

### Reducing the financial error rate

- Following the ECA annual reports 2019 and 2020, there is wide agreement that the error rate in the R&I Framework Programmes must be reduced
- Lump sums are a key measure to achieve this in Horizon Europe

### Significant simplification potential

- Lump sums remove the obligation to report actual costs and resources
- Easier to use for beneficiaries with limited experience
- Funding based on reimbursement of real costs remains complex and error-prone. Little scope for further simplification

#### Focus on content

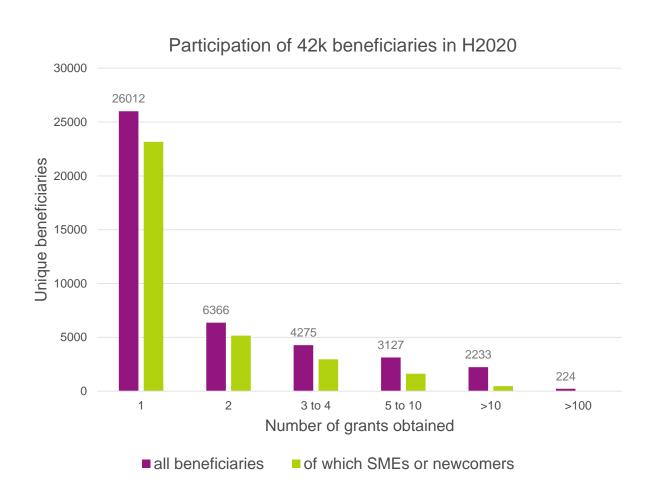
Focus less on financial management and more on content



# Why do we use lump sum funding?

### Easier access to the programme

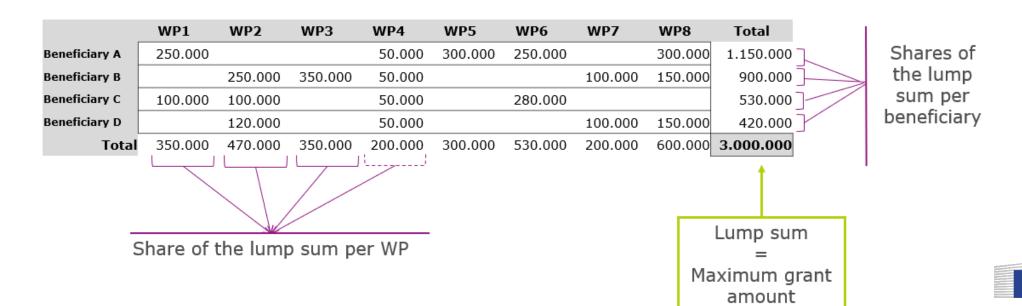
- Very small share of beneficiaries have more than 100 grants:
  - Large entities
  - Dedicated staff and procedures to deal with actual costs
- Vast majority of beneficiaries have only
   1 or 2 grants per programme
  - Most of them SMEs or newcomers
  - Little or no previous experience
  - Need a simple funding model





## **Basic principles**

- Lump sum grants follow the standard approach as much as possible same: templates, evaluation criteria, payment scheme, technical reporting
- One lump sum share per work package and beneficiary
- Very simple financial reporting
- Lump sum shares paid upon completion of work packages



European

## Writing a lump sum proposal

- To write a lump sum proposal, applicants:
  - Use the standard Horizon Europe application form
  - Present the objectives and methodology of their project and address the expected outcomes and impacts as in any Horizon Europe proposal
  - Describe in detail the activities covered by each work package.
- To define and justify the lump sum, applicants must provide a detailed budget table with cost estimations.
- The detailed budget table is an **Excel file**. Applicants download it from the online submission system, fill it and submit it as an annex to the Part B application form.



# Writing a lump sum proposal – detailed budget

- In the detailed budget table, applicants provide **cost estimations for each cost category** per beneficiary (and affiliated entity if any) and per work package.
- The cost estimations must be an approximation of their actual costs. They:
  - are subject to the same eligibility rules as in actual costs grants
  - must be in line with applicants' normal practices
  - must be reasonable / non-excessive
  - must be in line with and necessary for the proposed activities.
- The cost estimations are used to generate in the detailed budget table a breakdown of lump sum shares per work package and per participant.
- Details and instructions on how to fill in the lump sum detailed budget table are provided in the <u>Funding & Tenders portal</u>.

# Project design – Work packages

#### Work package distribution



As many as needed but no more than what is manageable

A work package (WP) is a major sub-division of the work plan of the project.

- A single activity is not a WP
- A single task is not a WP
- A % of progress is not a WP (e.g. 50 % of the tests)
- A lapse of time is generally not a WP (e.g. activities of year 1)

Work packages with a long duration may be split along the reporting periods (e.g., Management, Dissemination and Exploitation, etc.). In this way, the relevant activities can be paid at the end of the reporting period.

# **Evaluation of a lump sum proposal**

- Proposals will be evaluated by independent experts against the standard evaluation criteria: excellence, impact, and implementation.
- The cost estimations will be assessed against the proposed activities under the implementation criterion.
- Experts will:
  - ensure that the cost estimations are reasonable and non-excessive
  - evaluate whether the proposed resources and the split of the lump sum allow completing the activities described in the proposal.
- If the experts find overestimated costs, they make **concrete recommendations** on the budget that are recorded in the Evaluation Summary Report. This will be reflected in a modified lump sum amount in the grant agreement.
- Cost estimations that are clearly overestimated or underestimated lead to a decreased score under the implementation criterion.

### Resources available

One dedicated **lump sum page** on the Funding & Tenders Portal with:

# Guidance documents

- What do I need to know? & Quick guide
- Frequently asked questions
- Detailed guidance for applicants and beneficiaries
- Lump sum briefing slides for experts

# Reference documents

- Model Grant Agreement Lump Sum
- <u>Decision authorising the use of lump sum</u> contributions under the Horizon Europe Programme

### **Studies**

- European Commission assessment (October 2021)
- <u>European Parliament (STOA) study on lump sums in</u> <u>Horizon 2020 (May 2022)</u>

### **Events**

- Future events
- Past events and recordings

# Funding opportunities

List of Horizon Europe topics using lump sum funding



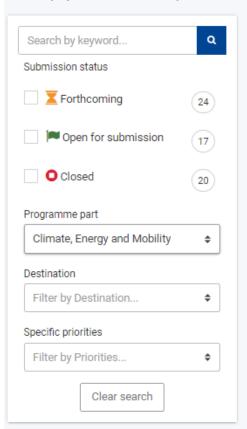


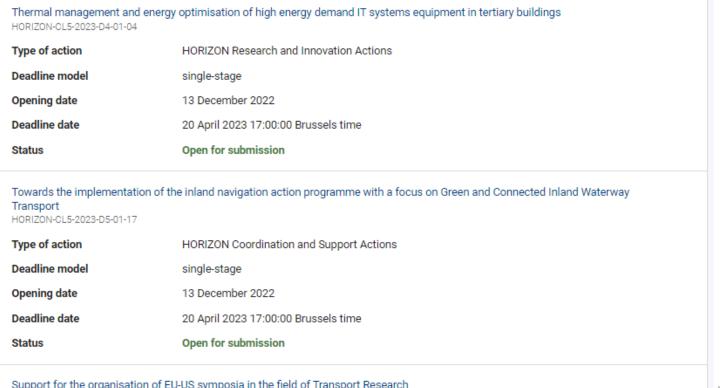
# Overview lump sum topics (search)

#### **Opportunities**

The search function below allows you to display and go to any lump sum topics published. By default all lump sum topics in Horizon Europe are displayed. You can apply filters to view specific subsets of lump sum topics. After applying your filters, the search results are updated accordingly.

Calls for proposals in Horizon Europe consist of one or more topics. If a topic uses lump sum funding, only lump sum proposals can be submitted, and all grants selected will be lump sum grants.







Support for the organisation of EU-US symposia in the field of Transport Research

HORIZON-CL5-2023-D5-01-19

## **Next steps**

### **Improvements**

- Higher page limit for lump sum proposals (from work programme 2023)
- Improved Excel tool for lump sum budget table
- Collection of best practices from lump sum beneficiaries (coming soon)

#### **General**

- Continuous monitoring of lump sum grants, adjustments if necessary
- Stepwise phasing in:
  - > 27 lump sum topics in 2022
  - First significant wave of lump sum topics in 2023-2024









# Thank you!

### # HorizonEU

http://ec.europa.eu/horizon-europe

