Getting Started and Finding Partners
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If you are from another sector (e.g. Charity, Government, NHS) please copy both Jo and Tristan into your email

Please sign up our UK Horizon Europe Health newsletter for the latest Horizon Europe health funding opportunities news
Agenda

- National Contact Points
- Project types
- Eligibility criteria, associated countries, international participation
- Building a consortium
- Finding partners
- Tips
What is a National Contact Point (NCP)?

**UK NCP network:** Team of sector specific public servants whose role it is to provide free support to UK participants to Horizon Europe

**International NCP network:** support in Europe and the rest of the World

NCP services vary in each country/sector, but typically include:

- **Informing, awareness raising** – on Horizon Europe and other EU programmes
- **Assisting, advising and training** – to improve the quality of Horizon Europe proposals
- **Signposting and cooperation** – direct to relevant support and work with each other to support consortium development

Sign up to the UK NCP newsletters for the latest Horizon Europe health funding opportunities news
Main Project Types (in Health Cluster)

Research and innovation actions (RIA)
- Activities aiming primarily to **establish new knowledge or to explore the feasibility** of a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution.
- May include basic and applied research, technology development and integration, testing, demonstration and validation on a small-scale prototype in a laboratory or simulated environment.

Innovation actions (IA)
- Activities directly aimed at **producing plans and arrangements or designs** for new, altered or improved products, processes or services
- Possibly including prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication.

Coordination and support actions (CSA)
- Activities contributing to the objectives of the Horizon Europe Programme, excluding R&I activities (with some exceptions – see the General Annexes to the Work Programme)
- Pre-commercial procurement actions (PCP)
- Public procurement of innovative solutions actions (PPI)

From the [Work Programme 2023-24 General Annexes](#) (page 12)
Eligibility

Eligibility for funding is usually (unless otherwise stated in the call):

• Any type of legal entity established in EU Member State (MS) or ~16 Associated Countries (AC)
• Legal entities from ~115 Low & Middle Income Countries (LMICs) if country listed here
• International European research organisations
• You can also get funding for organisations in other higher income countries occasionally:
  • If it is specified in your call topic, or
  • If their participation is essential for the project.
• US organisations funded in Health Cluster only

Eligibility for participation is usually (unless otherwise stated in the call):

• legal entities from outside EU MS/AC (known as ‘third countries’) can often participate too, although they would normally need to fund their own participation (unless one of the above exceptions applies)
• Work Programme 2023-24 General Annexes has info on China, Russia, Belarus and parts of Ukraine (p7-8)
High income countries outside Europe/AC

For higher income countries outside of Europe (which are not associated countries):

- there are often national contact points who will be able to advise if any local funding is available to enable them to participate. Sometimes the local funding is available to allow their researchers to participate in all calls, sometimes just for specific call topics, and sometimes funding is not available locally.
- For some countries the European Commission has info online

Switzerland: Switzerland is not associated to Horizon Europe

- For 2023 calls, Swiss entities can participate in collaborative projects (including RIAs and IAs) as an ‘Associated Partner’
- Funding is guaranteed from national funding (rather than from the European Commission, so Swiss organisations should not request funding on Horizon Europe proposals)
- Dedicated website including FAQs: https://www.horizon-europe.ch
- More details on Euresearch dedicated web page
- Specific experts support on each thematic area
- Guide on How to Add Associated Partners in your Horizon Europe proposal
Consortia Size

Minimum consortium size

- **Collaborative projects**: Usually a consortium must have a minimum of 3 independent legal entities, each established in different EU Member States (MS) or Associated Countries (AC), **with at least 1 of them established in a MS**

- **Coordination & Support Actions**: One or more legal entities, which may be established in a MS, AC, or in exceptional cases and if provided for in the specific call conditions, in another third country.
What do ideal partners look like?

- Expert in their area
- Enthusiastic and committed
- Responsive to coordinator’s requests, able to communicate well (think about languages too?)
- Trustable
How to start building a consortium?

• What expertise is needed for the project? (Read the call topic very carefully)
• Which sectors and disciplines are needed? (Academia, Industry, stakeholders, patient groups…?)
• Are there people you have worked with before or know with suitable expertise? Friends of friends?
• What expertise is still needed? Where might you find good partners with this expertise?
• How will people/organisations be involved? Partners? Advisory groups? To feed in/disseminate to?
• Think about ‘European Added value’
• Good to have some partners/orgs. with EU/collaborative experience (Especially as coordinator?)
Formal consortium building mechanisms

Some also have other tools/partner databases (e.g. EEN/EDGE, Innovative Health Initiative)

**Participant portal** – Every topic has a ‘Partner Search’ function where you can upload your profile and review others that have done so

**Brokerage events** – European Commission, Enterprise Europe Network, Innovate UK KTN, NCPs from around Europe, Technology Platforms etc will virtual hold events with e.g., Meeting Mojo, B2Match

**Partner Search** – under the How to participate tab on the EU funding and tenders portal where you can search for past projects and organisations

**Horizon Europe 2024 Two-Stage Health Calls** – Brokerage Website registration open (until 24 April)

Additional virtual health brokerage event - participants and marketplace

**CORDIS** – a more useful way of finding past projects and participants and allows you to contact them

Searching the formal consortium building mechanisms is a bit like looking for a needle in a haystack – they all look like needles so finding the ones for you can be difficult
Infoday and Partnering Events

• Hold the date – European Commission Infoday – 1 June 2023 tbc

• Online brokerage event – 2 June 2023 tbc

• Meanwhile there is a brokerage website for the 2024 two-stage calls, registration currently open until 24 April (organised by the Health NCPs, European Commission, Enterprise Europe Network and NCP Wideranet)

• On the marketplace tab you can see who have entered info for each topic – you will need to turn on the ‘project cooperation’ toggle, then can tick topics

• Expect current brokerage to close on 24 April

And new one to be set up around that time
Infoday and Partnering Events

- On the **participants** tab you can also see which organisations are interested in each call topic and can also search by country or organisation type (may include some organisations extra not on the ‘marketplace’ tab)
Demo

Example...

Partner search announcements

Searches of partners to collaborate on this topic

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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.
EU Participant Portal – Call Topic pages

Example...

**GOLEM - GESELLSCHAFT FUR INTEGRIERTE MIKROELEKTRONISCHE KOMPLETTLÖSUNGEN GMBH**

GOLEM.AT offers excellent Use Cases cutting-edge AI-BigData-IoT-driven rapid prototyping of Digital Twins personal & multi-patients studies & impacts, automatic collecting bio/physiology/mental/env.sensor/wearables measurement data, linking with various env, social, climate, energy, other models, calculating diverse KPIs, health homeostasis and sustainability status, supporting real-time & predictive holistic monitoring analytics living/working in a health-promoting environment.

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<th>Type of request</th>
<th>Expertise offer</th>
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<td>Status</td>
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UKRI webpage with guidance on how to use the partner search tool
Potential filters:

Collection:
Projects

Programme:
Horizon Europe
+ Horizon 2020
BreathSpec A rapid, non-invasive, cost-effective, analytical device for bacterial or viral infection diagnosis through ultra-high sensitivity breath analysis.

ID: 755667

From: 1 May 2017 to: 31 July 2019

The world faces a growing epidemic of antimicrobial resistance (AMR); however, only two new classes of antibiotics have been brought to the market in the last 30 years. The discovery and development of new antibiotics is essential to maintain medical advances but poses...

Coordinated in: United Kingdom

Programme: PRIORITY 'Societal challenges, Horizon 2020 Framework Programme, PRIORITY 'Industrial leadership'

Last update: 17 August 2022

Demo: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/755667
A rapid, non-invasive, cost-effective, analytical device for bacterial or viral infection diagnosis through ultra-high sensitivity breath analysis.

Objective

The world faces a growing epidemic of antimicrobial resistance (AMR); however, only two new classes of antibiotics have been brought to the market in the last 30 years. The discovery and development of new antibiotics is essential to maintain medical advances but poses significant scientific, clinical, and financial challenges, particularly for antibiotics active against Gram-negative bacteria (such as E. coli). Such bacteria have effective barriers against drugs, making treatment difficult, resistance likely and development costs and risks high. In addition, any new antibiotics brought to the market would likely be used cautiously to delay the development of resistance, adding an additional financial challenge in recouping the development costs. The O’Neill Report on AMR identifies diagnostics as critical to the battle against antibiotic resistance.
Cluster 1 (Health) NCP partnering form

Partnering form
- Can be circulated at any time
- Some countries/NCPs use this
  - contact your NCP for a copy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Department</th>
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Organisation type
- Research Organisation
- University
- Company
- Other

Is your company a Small and Medium Sized Enterprise (SME)?
- YES
- NO

Your enterprise is an SME if:
- it is engaged in an economic activity
- it has less than 250 employees
- it has either an annual turnover not exceeding €50 million or a balance sheet total not exceeding €43 million


Short introduction of key area of innovator’s research:

Former participation in an FP European project:
- YES
- NO

Project title / Aims:
Activities performed:

Expertise / Commitment offered:
- Description of your expertise:
- Keywords specifying your expertise:

I agree with the publication of my contact data:
- YES
- NO
The best ways to form winning teams

Being an **effective networker** is much more useful than submitting a profile into a portal and awaiting contacts. Don’t wait to be invited to the party, push yourself forward

- Use your existing professional networks – if you don’t know who the sector leaders are in Europe then you should find out
  - Use LinkedIn to connect to people from possible consortium partners
- Search [CORDIS](https://cordis.europa.eu) for previous, related projects and contact the participants. All projects must disseminate their results and often hold workshops, etc.

- **Join the relevant networks, associations and partnerships**
  - Be an *active* member – say ‘hi’ when you join the virtual room. Ask questions, support others’ opinions, act as if you are already well known to all in the virtual room
  - Volunteer to draft working papers, take notes, send in useful information – be helpful
  - Speak up at workshops – demonstrate Thought Leadership
  - Show that you would be a valuable partner for collaborative projects and that without you they won’t win – you have the secret sauce that is necessary for their success
What constitutes a winning consortium?

One that can **deliver** the expected outcomes within the stated scope and budget (and give the evaluators confidence that they can)

There is no ‘typical’ or ‘model’ consortium structure/membership, it depends what is needed for the call topic.
- Any type of organisation can be funded by Horizon Europe. It is common to see universities, big business, small business, research and technologies organisations, local/national authorities, patient groups, charities, policy makers all within the one consortium.

Useful to include exploitation partners – someone who is going to take the outputs of the project and actually implement them (e.g. in policy/industry/hospitals/patient care/civil society/cultural and creative sectors) to show immediate impact. Many Health cluster call topics mention involving patient groups too.

Useful to include the end user community, possibly as an advisory board or associate partners (not direct beneficiaries but costs e.g. travel can be included in ‘other costs’), again to demonstrate their involvement in the design of your project so it suits their needs, and also to show a route to your project having impact.
Hints and Tips – Building a consortium

Questions to think about:
  Who has the best expertise/reputation?
  Who should you approach to be part of a consortium?

Not everyone has to have the same size role

Don’t include partners because you think it will look good or to pad the proposal out - each partner should have a clear and defined purpose.

Have a good balance of countries – more than ~30% if the budget going to one country might be of concern to the evaluators
Evaluation Criteria in Horizon Europe*

Work Programme 2023-2024 General Annexes (p21-22 and 24)

- Weighted equally for:
  - Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs)
  - Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs)
- Impact weighted at 1.5 for Innovation Actions (IAs)
- Scored 1-5
- Thresholds:
  - 3/5 for each criteria
  - 10/15 overall
- Two-stage calls: Excellence and Impact only, threshold of 4 for first-stage

* unless otherwise stated in the Work Programme
Priority Order

For each group of proposals with the same score:

1. Address aspects of the call not covered by more highly-ranked proposals
2. Ranked by scores for Excellence, then Impact.
   *Innovation Actions: Ranked by Impact then Excellence.
3. Gender balance of researchers
4. Geographical diversity, defined as the number of Member States or Associated Countries represented in the proposal, not otherwise receiving funds from projects higher up the ranking list (and if equal in number, then by budget).
5. Other factors relating to objectives of the call

Work Programme 2023-2024 General Annexes (p26)
Thank you

+ extra slides for reference
Horizon Europe – Cluster 1 ‘Health’

Some main ‘take aways’:

- Health cluster provides **grant-based funding mainly to collaborative research & innovation projects**, so-called RIAs (other types of funding are Coordination & Support Actions, Programme Co-fund Actions, Innovation Procurement Actions)

- Societal Challenge 1 on “Health; Demographic Change and Well-being” of the previous EU R&I programme, Horizon 2020 (2014-2020):
  - 80% of RIAs had between **7 to 18 participants** (13 in average)
  - 613 projects (RIAs) involving 8143 participants:
    - from EU Member States (87%), H2020 Associated Countries (7%)
    - other Third Countries (6%)
  - Type of organisations: Higher or Secondary Education Establishments (42%), Private for-profit entities (23%), Research Organisations (23%), Public bodies (6%), Other (6%).

- **Minimum size of consortia** to be eligible for Horizon Europe: at least {1 MS + 2 MS/AC}
- Participation is “open to the world”
- **EU funding is restricted** to entities from EU MS, AC (e.g. NO, IS), some Third Countries (e.g. LMI USA European Commission)
Horizon Europe – Pillar III – European Innovation Council (EIC)

‘Integrated, agile support across the full R&D spectrum from early stage research to scale-up’

EIC Pathfinder (TRL 1-4)
Pathfinder Open (bottom up, no pre-defined topics)
Advanced research to develop the scientific basis to underpin breakthrough technologies, oriented around ‘gatekeepers’:
• Radical technology vision
• Breakthrough target
• Novel interdisciplinary
Pathfinder Challenges (top-down in specific technology areas)
2023 topics include
• Precision Nutrition
• Responsible Electronics

EIC Transition (TRL 3-6)
Transition Open (bottom up, no pre-defined topics)
Validate technologies and develop business plans for specific applications, builds on EIC Pathfinder projects and ERC Proof of Concept projects.
Transition Challenges (top-down in specific tech. areas) 2023 topics
• Medical Mico-Nano-Bio Devices

EIC Accelerator (TRL 6-9)
Accelerator Open (bottom-up, no predefined topics)
Accelerator Challenges 2023 topics:
• Biomarker – guided cancer treatment

Like more info? UK contact: Claire: Claire.Griffin@iuk.ukri.org
National Contact Points in other countries

UK based organisations can access the majority of the EIC (except the EIC Fund part of the EIC Accelerator). See: Commission Q&A on UK participation in Horizon Europe

EIC website / 2023 Work Programme