



FIT-4-NMP

Strategic and targeted support
to incentivise talented newcomers
to NMP projects under Horizon Europe

FIT-4-NMP Support Service Jan 2021 – Dec 2023



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FIT-4-NMP's Main Objective



Increase the participation of **talented newcomers*** from **underrepresented regions**** in the Horizon Europe programme in nanotechnologies, advanced materials and advanced manufacturing and processing (NMP).

***Talented newcomers** = promising NMP innovation organisations (SMEs, MNEs, PROs, HEIs) which did not participate in a Horizon 2020 NMP project

**** Underrepresented regions** = regions in EU-13, EU-15 and Associated Countries (AC) which have NMP innovation capacities but had a low participation in Horizon 2020 NMP (i.e. about 75% of EU-13 regions, 10% of EU-15 regions, 35% of AC regions)



FIT-4-NMP's Research and Innovation Focus

Tailored towards four (4) key research and innovation orientations under Horizon Europe Pillar 2 Cluster 4:



Advanced Materials

New sustainable-by-design materials with enhanced functionalities and applications in a wide range of industrial processes and consumer products.



Manufacturing Technologies

Sustainable, flexible, responsive and resilient processes and factories, enabled by digitisation, AI, data sharing, advanced robotics and modularity.



Circular Industries

Reduction of waste, virgin raw materials and energy and water consumption, mainly by transforming underused waste materials into feedstock for the process industries.



Clean Industries

Reduced CO2 emissions and waste, enhanced durability, reparability and re-cycling of products/components, more efficient use of construction-generated data.



FIT-4-NMP's Support Services for Talented Newcomers



- Organise innovation workshops with Top Innovators
- Provide training on tech-transfer and proposal writing
- Support participation in conferences, networking and brokerage events and promotion
- Survey barriers to H2020 NMP participation and support policy development



Innovation workshops with Top Innovators



- “Top Innovators” are organisations that have been repeatedly successful in H2020 NMP e.g. CEA, VTT, TU Dresden, TU Delft, ...
- By partnering with “Top Innovators” in Horizon Europe proposals, talented newcomers can significantly increase their chances of success.
- FIT-4-NMP will organize six (6) innovation workshops
 - Each workshop hosted by a “Top Innovator”
 - Each workshop focused on a different NMP theme
 - Talented newcomers will be invited to attend (free entrance, limited number of travel grants will be available)
 - First workshop expected late 2021



Training on technology-transfer



- Lack of tech-transfer skills is often a bottleneck to collaboration between public research organisations/universities and private industry (especially in EU-13 and Associated Countries).
- FIT-4-NMP will organize six (6) tech-transfer training workshops
 - Workshops run by Association of European Science and Technology Transfer Professionals (ASTP)
 - Each workshop in a different underrepresented region
 - Talented newcomers will be invited to attend (free entrance, limited number of travel grants will be available)
 - First workshop expected early 2022



Training on proposal writing



- Lack of strong proposal writing skills is often cited as a barrier to submitting competitive NMP proposals.
- FIT-4-NMP will organize six (6) proposal writing workshops targeting:
 - Horizon Europe Pillar 2: Digital, Industry and Space (Cluster 4); Horizon Europe Pillar 1: MSCA ITNs; Horizon Europe Pillar 3: EIC Accelerator & EIC Fast Track to Innovation; ERA-NETs: M-ERA.NET and Manunet.
 - Each workshop in a different underrepresented region.
 - Talented newcomers will be invited to attend (free entrance, limited number of travel grants will be available).
 - First workshop expected late 2021.



Participation in conferences, networking and brokerage events and Promotion



- FIT-4-NMP will:
 - Provide limited number of travel grants to talented newcomers to attend NMP related conferences and Horizon Europe info-days.
 - Organise 20+ NMP related networking and brokerage events in underrepresented regions.
 - Profile and promote “Talented newcomer of the month” via the FIT-4-NMP website and social media.



Surveying barriers to H2020 participation and supporting policy development



- Talented newcomers face many barriers to participate in NMP projects.
- FIT-4-NMP has launched a survey
 - Gather information from talented newcomers and national research and innovation policy experts about the reasons for non-participation.
 - FIT-4-NMP online survey:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/FIT-4-NMP>
 - Formulate suitable policy measures to help tackle these barriers.





Are you a talented newcomer and interested to receive FIT-4-NMP support?

- Please register your interest by completing the FIT-4-NMP online survey: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/FIT-4-NMP>
- On the last page of the survey, enter your contact details in the form.



FIT-4-NMP CONSORTIUM





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