



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

HOW TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF TALENTED NEWCOMERS IN NMP

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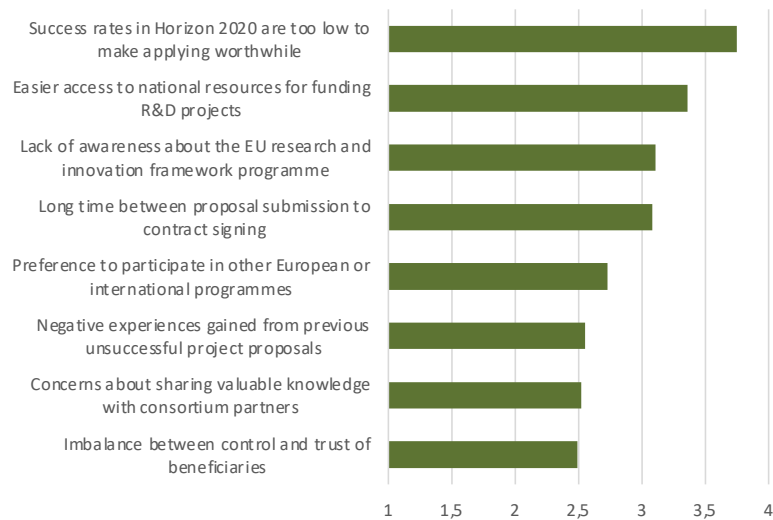


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BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION OF NEWCOMERS IN NMP

Motivation barriers



Barriers to readiness



Values range from 1 = unimportant to 5 = extremely important



TYPES OF POLICY MEASURES

FUNDING
INSTRUMENTS

TRAINING

CONSULTANCY

BUILDING
NETWORKS

CAPACITY
BUILDING





FUNDING INSTRUMENTS

BARRIERS ADDRESSED

- Limited financial resources to prepare a proposal
- Inability to get co-funding for Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe projects
- Long time between proposal submission to contract signing

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Cascade grants
- Hop-on mechanism
- ERA-NET Cofund
- Seal of Excellence
- Grants for project preparations (kick-start grants)
- Incentives for newcomers in project selection procedure
- Proof of Concept grants for HE project results

Support to International Cooperation Projects in Research and Innovation	 LATVIA
<p>The aim of this policy measure implemented by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia is to promote the development of bilateral and multilateral cooperation projects of the ERA and participation in international research, networking and twinning activities.</p>	
<p>If the project proposal/application of SME or research organisation receives quality rating higher than the threshold of the respective call, then the applicant can receive reimbursement of expenses spent for preparation of the application. In case, if the Latvian applicant is coordinator of the project, then the reimbursement is 9 000 EUR. In case, if the Latvian applicant is partner of the project, then the reimbursement is 6 000 EUR.</p>	
<p>According to the NCP estimation, such support motivates participants to increase quality of the project proposals.</p>	



TRAINING

BARRIERS ADDRESSED

- Limited in-house internal skills on drafting proposals or project management
- Lack of awareness about the EU research and innovation framework programme

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Mutual-learning communities
- NCP mutual-learning projects
- E-learning platforms
- Targeted training programmes

Mentoring scheme for grant applicants in HORIZON 2020



SLOVAKIA

This mentoring scheme is implemented by the Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information. Via introduction of experienced mentors in the project proposal preparation process the scheme aims to:

- Enhance the skills of Slovak applicants in preparation of Horizon 2020 project proposals
- Increase the quality of project proposals in Horizon 2020 submitted by Slovak applicants

The scheme has been active since June 1st 2019. The mentoring can be provided in two forms: mentoring provided to applicant to enhance his/her project proposal and mentoring in a form of a speaker/trainer on specific targeted workshops.



CONSULTANCY

BARRIERS ADDRESSED

- Limited in-house internal skills on drafting proposals or project management

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Pre-proposal check
- Quality check of proposals
- Administrative support and guidance
- Professional grant offices

Supporting awareness of open calls and services of Open Innovation Test-beds (OITB) and Digital Innovation Hubs (DIH) for the benefit of local SMEs/mid-caps



CZECHIA

The aim of this activity was to facilitate access of companies to technologies and services provided by networks of pilot lines and demonstration facilities and additional services (e.g. coaching of business development) and in certain DIHs also to financial support provided by the DIH consortia through their open calls.

The starting point was the promotion of OITB/DIH information events linked to open calls on the dedicated Technology Centre web, targeted information dissemination to potential applicants to these calls. This was followed by matching of open calls and potential applicants based on known focus of OITB/DIHs and profiles of individual companies.



BUILDING NETWORKS

BARRIERS ADDRESSED

- “Closed clubs” (e.g. EU public-private partnerships)
- Newcomers seeking funding without well-developed networks
- Imbalance between control and trust of beneficiaries
- Concerns about sharing valuable knowledge with consortium partners

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Visibility and attractiveness of potential newcomers
- Brokerage events
- Leveraging cluster initiatives
- Match-making

International Online Brokerage Events Organised in Cooperation with the European Commission and Thematic NCP Networks



POLAND

The Institute of Fundamental Technological Research of the POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (IPPT PAN) as Polish NCP and partner of the SEREN4 project organised online brokerage events addressed to all EU and Associated Countries. These international brokerage events related to the last Secure Societies Calls under H2020 fully online.

The first brokerage event (7 April 2020): Almost 750 participants from 46 countries, 738 bilateral meetings with 584 participants. 30 participants from Poland (6 of whom from universities) who attended 121 B2B meetings took part in the whole event.



CAPACITY BUILDING

BARRIERS ADDRESSED

- Irrelevance of programme topics and goals to own research agenda
- Preference to participate in other European or international programmes
- Negative experiences gained from previous unsuccessful project proposals

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Demonstrating impact of FP projects
- Secondment of national experts to Horizon Europe
- Systematic mapping of potential newcomers
- Strategic partnerships

Instrument for support the potential applicants for NMPB Calls of Horizon 2020



UKRAINE

The objective of this policy instrument is to provide the potential applicants and those research teams who demonstrated their capability in the NASU competitive programmes relevant to NMP themes with:

- the actual information on the open thematic calls,
- the results of evaluation procedure and main results of the corresponding thematic current and completed projects,
- consulting on preparation and submission of project proposal.



		Level of implementation			
		HEU programme level	NCPs and other intermediaries	National/regional authorities	Institutional management
Type of policy intervention	Funding instruments	Cascade grants Incentives for newcomers Hop-on mechanism ERA-NET Cofunds		Seal of excellence schemes Grants for project preparations (kick-start grants) PoC grants for FP results	Grants for project preparations
	Training	Mutual-learning communities NCP projects	E-learning platforms Targeted training programmes Mutual-learning communities	Mutual-learning communities	Mutual-learning communities
	Consultancy	Pre-proposal check	Quality check of proposals Administrative support and guidance		Professional grant offices
	Building networks	Match-making	Brokerage events Leveraging cluster initiatives	Visibility and attractiveness of potential newcomers	Strategic partnerships
	Capacity building	Demonstrating impact of FP projects	Systematic mapping of potential newcomers Demonstrating impact of FP projects	Secondment of national experts to Horizon Europe	

CONCLUSIONS

It is useful to implement the different tools at several levels, namely at the HEU programme level, at the national/regional level, at the level of NCPs and other intermediaries, and also at the institutional level.

The effects of these measures can be expected to increase if the proposed measures are implemented at all the levels mentioned.



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