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# ***HORIZONT EUROPE***

***Investing to shape our future***

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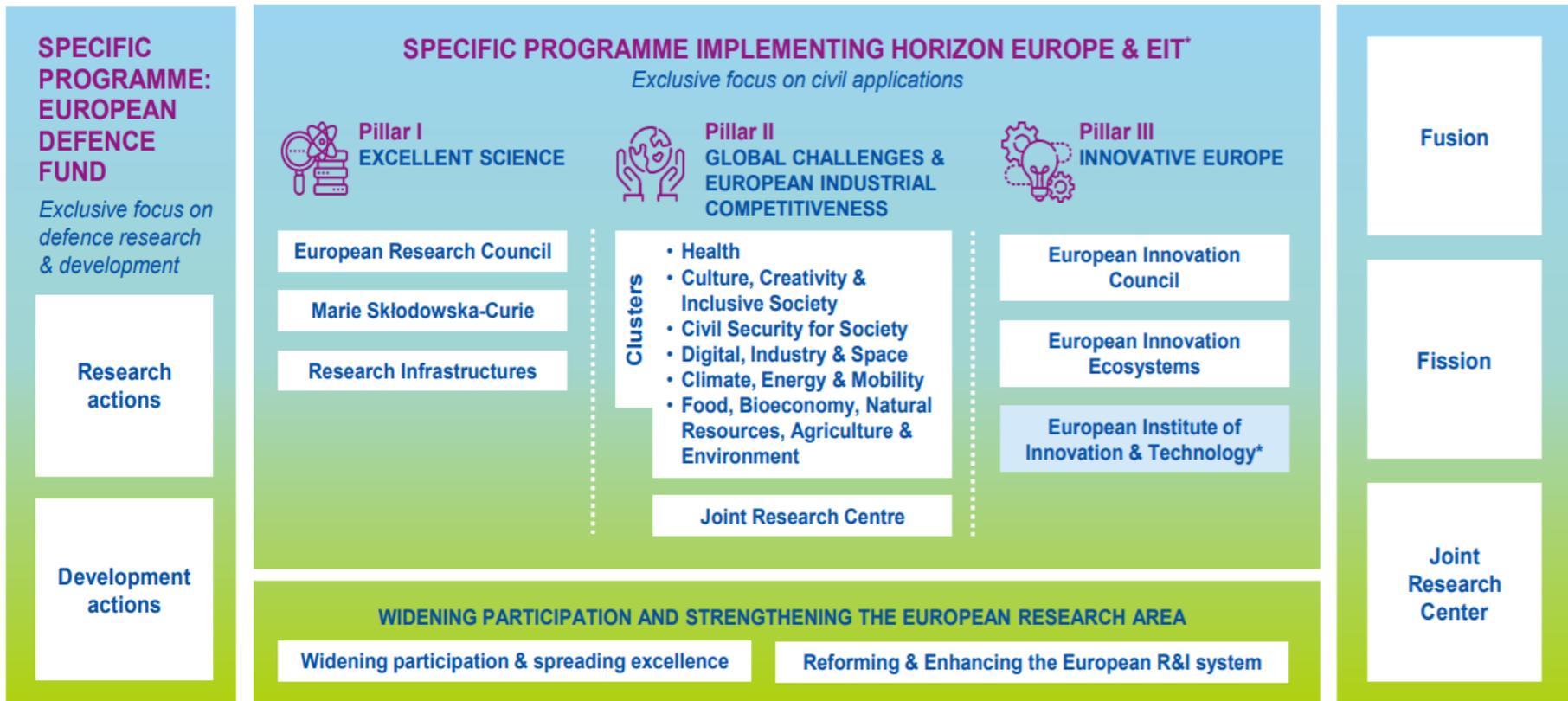
## ***The vision***

- Tackles climate change
- Helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals
- Boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth
- Facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges
- Supports the creation and better diffusion of excellent knowledge and technologies
- Creates jobs, fully engages the EU's talent pool, boosts economic growth, promotes industrial competitiveness and optimises investment impact within a strengthened European Research Area.



## HORIZON EUROPE

## EURATOM

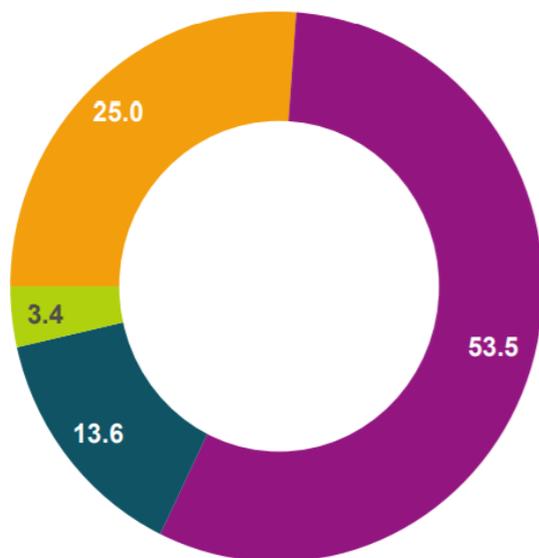


\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme



## Horizon Europe Budget: €95.5 billion (2021-2027)

(including €5.4 billion from NGEU – Next Generation Europe – programme of EU for Recovery from COVID-19 crisis)



### Political agreement December 2020

*€ billion in current prices*

- Excellent Science
- Global challenges and European ind. comp.
- Innovative Europe
- Widening Part and ERA



## ***Strategic Plan (1)***

- The implementation of the specific programme and the EIT's KICs shall be supported by a transparent and strategic planning of research and innovation activities, in particular for the pillar 'Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness' and cover also relevant activities in other pillars and the Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area part.
- The Commission ensures early involvement of the Member States and extensive exchanges with the European Parliament, complemented by consultation with stakeholders and the general public.
- The Strategic Planning shall ensure alignment with other relevant Union programmes and consistency with EU priorities and commitments and increase complementarity and synergies with national and regional funding programmes and priorities, thereby strengthening the ERA.
- The result of the Strategic Planning are set out in a multiannual Strategic Plan, for preparing the content in the work programmes covering a maximum period of four years, while retaining sufficient flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges, unexpected opportunities and crises.



## ***Strategic Plan (2)***

The Strategic plan contains:

- Key strategic orientations for R&I support, including a description of expected impacts, cross-cluster issues and intervention areas covered;
- Identification of co-programmed and co-funded European Partnerships;
- Identification of missions;
- Areas for international cooperation;
- Specific issues, such as the balance between research and innovation; the integration of Social Sciences and Humanities; the role of Key Enabling Technologies and strategic value chains; gender equality, including the integration of gender dimension in the R&I content; adherence to the highest ethics and integrity standards; priorities for dissemination and exploitation.



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## ***The first Strategic Plan***

The first Strategic Plan covers the years 2021-2024.

It follows a series of intense co-creation activities among European Commission services and co-design activities with representatives of the Member States, Members of the European Parliament, stakeholders and the general public over a period of 18 months.

The co-design activities with stakeholders and the public have taken the form of web surveys and interactive workshops during the 2019 and 2020 editions of the European Research and Innovation Days.

It was adopted in March 2021.



## ***Horizon Europe Work Programmes***

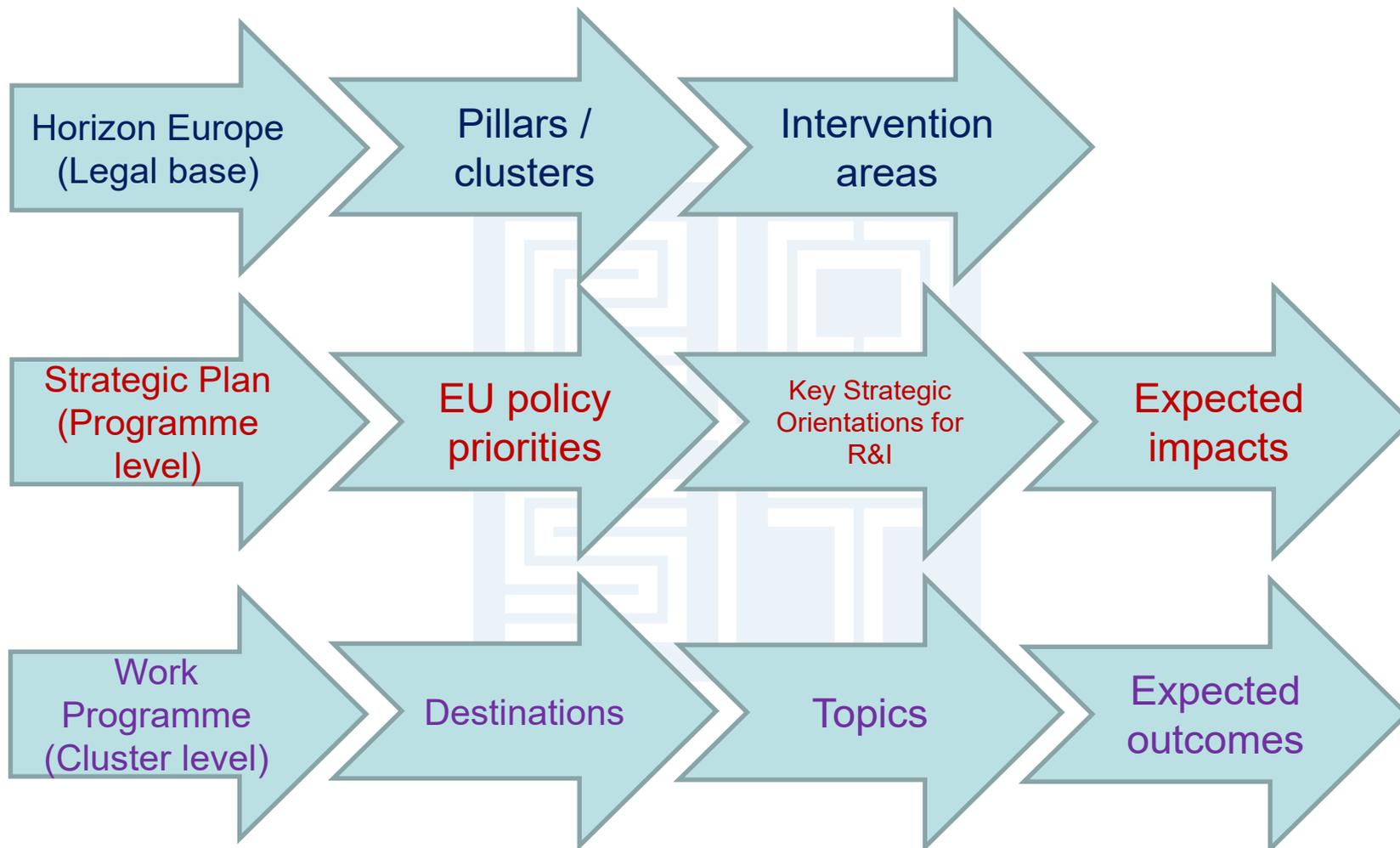
Horizon Europe supports research and innovation especially through Work Programmes, which set out funding opportunities for research and innovation activities.





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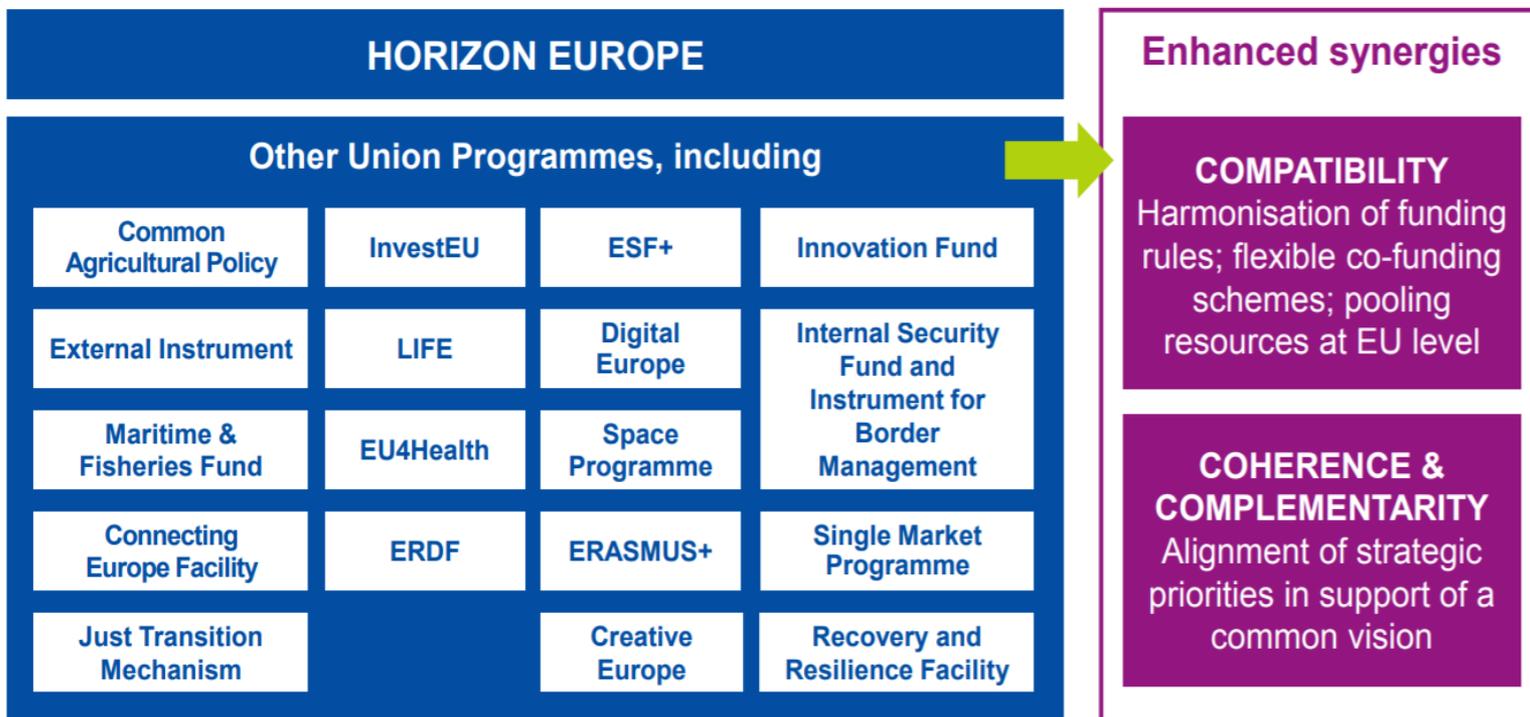
## ***Outputs / Outcomes / Impacts***

The distinction between outputs, outcomes and impacts, is a novelty introduced in Horizon Europe.

- **Output**, or research output, are results generated by the action to which access can be given in the form of scientific publications, data or other engineered outcomes and processes such as software, algorithms, protocols and electronic notebooks.
- **Outcomes** are the expected effects, over the medium term, of projects supported under a given topic. The results of a project should contribute to these outcomes, fostered in particular by the dissemination and exploitation measures. This may include the uptake, diffusion, deployment, and/or use of the project's results by direct target groups. Outcomes generally occur during or shortly after the end of the project.
- **Impacts** are the wider long term effects on society (including the environment), the economy and science, enabled by the outcomes of R&I investments (long term). It refers to the specific contribution of the project to the work programme expected impacts described in the destination. Impacts generally occur some time after the end of the project.

# Synergies

## Synergies with other Union programmes





# ***Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area***

## **Destination 1 - IMPROVED ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE**

Call: **Twining** (HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03)

Call Identifier: Call topic: HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-03-01

Type of action: CSA (Coordination and Support Actions)

Type of MGA (Model Grant Agreement): HORIZON Action Grant  
Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Budget: 149 000 000 EUR

Deadline: 18 January 2022

Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million): 0,8 -1,5 (at least 70% of the budget for research activities must be allocated to the coordinator from a widening country). Up to 3 years.

Number of projects expected to be funded: 100



**Policy objective:** strengthen a defined field of research in a university or research organisation by linking it with at least two leading research institutions in other Member States or Associated Countries in the chosen scientific domain.

**How:**

- CSA grant involving the coordinator established in an eligible country,
- comprehensive scientific strategy for stepping up and stimulating scientific excellence and innovation capacity in a defined area of research,
- clear outline of the scientific quality of the partners involved,
- dedicated work package or task focused on strengthening the research management and administration skills of the coordinating institution,
- research, consumables and small equipment costs are eligible.

**Scale of operation:** Set of activities include some of the following: short-term staff exchanges; expert visits and short term on-site or virtual training; workshops; conference attendance; organisation of joint summer school type activities; dissemination and outreach activities. As far as appropriate these activities should take into account the gender equality plans (GEP) of the participants.



Project results are expected to contribute **to all** of the following expected outcomes:

- Improved excellence capacity and resources in Widening countries enabling to close the still apparent research and innovation gap within Europe.
- Enhanced strategic networking activities between the research institutions of the Widening countries and at least two internationally-leading counterparts at EU level.
- Raised reputation, research profile and attractiveness of the coordinating institution from the Widening country and the research profile of its staff.
- Strengthened research management capacities and administrative skills of the staff working in institutions from the Widening country.
- Improved creativity supported by development of new approaches in R&I collaboration, increased mobility (inwards and outwards) of qualified scientists.



- Strengthening the **research management and administration skills** of the coordinating institution from the Widening country: a dedicated work package or task, placing emphasis to specific activities, in view of helping the staff of the coordinating institution to improve their proposal preparation and project management /administration skills. If not yet in place, setting up/upgrading a research management/administration unit within the coordinating institution would be beneficial. This will be achieved by fully utilising the experience and best practices of the internationally leading partners and is expected to be a concrete deliverable of the Twinning exercise.
- A research component not exceeding 30% of the total Horizon Europe grant may include **an exploratory research project**. This will open opportunities for integrating smaller research activities and by this strengthening the commitment and the engagement of the twinning partners.



The Twinning proposals should illustrate quantitatively and qualitatively the expected potential **impact** of the twinning exercise within the coordinating institution (and possibly at **regional/national level**) based on **indicators** such as:

- expected future publications in peer reviewed journals,
- collaboration agreements with businesses,
- intellectual property,
- new innovative products or services,
- number of international students,
- number of women scientists and their roles in the research institutions.



Specific attention should be paid to **gender** equality objectives, in line with the organisations' commitments through their **adopted** gender equality plans, and in line with ERA objectives, as far as appropriate.

(Can be useful: <https://caliper-project.eu/project-vision/>)

The **research part** of the project should be presented through a dedicated work package and plan including:

- the scientific objectives,
- tasks and
- roles of the partners.



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# ***Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area***

## **Destination 1 - IMPROVED ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE**

Call: **Excellence Hubs** (HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04)

Call Identifier: Call topic: HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04-01

Type of action: CSA (Coordination and Support Actions)

Type of MGA (Model Grant Agreement): HORIZON Action Grant  
Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Budget: 50 000 000 EUR

Opening Date / Deadline: 3 November 2021 / 15 March 2022

Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million): 3 - 5. Up to 4  
years.

Number of projects expected to be funded: 10



**Policy objective:** Foster innovation excellence in place based (local/regional) innovation ecosystems, improve science business linkages, regional dimension of widening, bottom-up approach

**Scale of operation:** Research institutions, firms, local/regional government, societal actors, local regional scale with cross border dimension

**How:**

- a CSA grant,
- consortium structure - group of 2 or 3 place based innovation ecosystems on a quadruple helix approach
- allowing innovation ecosystems in widening countries and beyond, to team up and create better linkages between academia, business, government and society.

Excellence hubs are part of the European excellence initiative.

**Potential synergies** with Cohesion policy funding; with European Innovation Ecosystems and the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT).



- ❖ Initiative to strengthen regional innovation excellence in place based innovation ecosystems by cross-border collaboration on a common strategy and/or alongside value adding chains.
- ❖ Quadruple helix approach
  - a) academic institutions (universities and/or non-university research centers or labs),
  - b) business entities (active established firms with relevant revenues),
  - c) public authorities or authorised agencies and
  - d) societal actors (civil society organisations, associations, citizens, end users, media, cultural actors etc.).
- ❖ European Excellence Initiative (EEI): targeted at academic sector. Aims to significantly strengthening cooperation between at least two organisations from academic sector in a Widening country (or different Widening countries), by linking it with at least two internationally leading institutions from two different Member States or Associated Countries.



- Participation as coordinators to the call is limited to legal entities established in Widening countries.
- Consortia must include **at least two different** place based R&I ecosystems in at least two different countries eligible to host the co-ordinator under the widening part of Horizon Europe.
- Each ecosystem needs to include four different categories of actors:
  - a) academic institutions (universities and/or non-university research centers or labs),
  - b) business entities (active established firms with relevant revenues),
  - c) public authorities or authorised agencies and
  - d) societal actors (civil society organisations, associations, citizens, end users, media, cultural actors etc.).

This quadruple helix approach needs to be presented in the proposal either by one or more umbrella organisations (e.g. clusters) or representative individual entities representing each of the four categories.



**Expected Outcome:** strengthen regional innovation excellence in place based innovation ecosystems by cross-border collaboration on a common strategy and/or alongside value adding chains. Place based innovation ecosystems are interconnected companies, research institutions, governmental bodies and societal actors that are mutually reinforcing each other in a territorial context and together raise the level of innovation excellence in their regional fabric.

Projects are expected to contribute to the following outcomes:

- Excellent and sustainable place based innovation ecosystems in Widening countries and beyond in relevant domains of cutting-edge science and innovation
- Long term joint R&I strategies underpinned by concrete action plans of European relevance
- Common investment plans for R&I including infrastructures leveraging national, regional and European funds as well as private capital in a synergetic manner





- R&I pilot projects alongside a joint strategy and in line with regional and national strategies, notably regional innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3)
- New competencies and skills for researchers, entrepreneurs and professionals in R&I intensive domains
- Strengthened linkages between science and business
- Poles of attraction for talents in catching up regions and countries
- Improved knowledge transfer and development of entrepreneurial skills.
- Uptake of innovative technologies
- New business opportunities especially for SMEs and new employment.



# ***Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area***

## **Destination 1 - IMPROVED ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE**

Call: **Hop On Facility** (HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-07)

Call Identifier: Call topic: HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-07-01

Type of action: RIA (Research Innovation Actions)

Type of MGA (Model Grant Agreement): HORIZON Action Grant  
Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Budget: 40 000 000 EUR

Opening Date / Deadline: 4 January 2022 / 22 Aprilie 2022 and 10  
November 2022

Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million): 0.2 – 0.5.

Number of projects expected to be funded: 80



Based on Article 20.3 of the HE Common Understanding providing that the Work Programme may foresee the possibility for legal entities from low R&I performing Member States to join already selected collaborative R&I actions, subject to the agreement of the respective consortium **and** provided that legal entities from such Member States are not yet participating in it.

**Policy objective:** at system level to:

- mobilise excellence in the Widening countries,
- increase visibility of the participants from the Widening countries,
- improve knowledge circulation, and
- reduce lack of participation of the Widening countries in specific thematic domains.

Contributes to achieving the Inclusiveness ambition of the future ERA policy by involving research institutions from Widening countries in Horizon Europe **Pillar 2** actions.



## **How:**

- Legal entities from low R&I performing Member States join already selected collaborative R&I actions, subject to the agreement of the respective consortium,
- Main selection criteria are excellence and added value of the new partner performing a relevant additional task in the project.

The proposal must be submitted by the co-ordinator of a consortium funded under Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe with a valid grant agreement that does not have any participant from a country eligible to host the co-ordinator under the Widening component (Widening country). The proposal must include the accession of one additional partner from a widening country.



The proposal will be evaluated by independent experts focussing on the **added value of the new partner** and the work-package or task assigned to this institution in the context of the ongoing project. **The ongoing project as such is not subject of the evaluation.** In case of proposals receiving equal score in the ranking procedure, a preference will be given to those proposals with a particular relevance to green or digital transitions of the economy.

Selected consortia will be invited to submit an amendment request for accession of a new partner, modification of the description of the action and upgrade of the budget.

The budget increase must be exclusively account at the benefit of the new partner with the exception of a coordination fee of up to 10% of the increased budget to be allocated to the coordinator of the consortium.



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# ***Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area***

## **Destination 2 - ATTRACTING AND MOBILISING THE BEST TALENTS**

Call: **ERA Chairs** (HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-01)

Call Identifier: Call topic: HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-01-01

Type of action: CSA (Coordination and Support Actions)

Type of MGA (Model Grant Agreement): HORIZON Action Grant  
Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Budget: 80 000 000 EUR

Deadline: 15 March 2022

Expected EU contribution per project (EUR million): 1.5 – 2.5. Up to 5  
years.

Number of projects expected to be funded: 32



**Policy objective:** to increase in number of R&I talents moving to host organisations in Widening countries and the research excellence of the institution in the specific field covered by the ERA Chair holder.

**How:**

- CSA grant involving the coordinator established in an eligible country,
- request for CV of candidates to ERA Chair positions in proposals,
- creation of a research group in the chosen scientific field under the authority of the ERA Chair with open recruitment procedures;
- research, consumables and small equipment costs are eligible.



- ❑ The composition, levels of remuneration and timeline of implementation of the ERA Chair holder research team should be indicated and the appointment of team members must follow an open, transparent and merit-based recruitment process with no more than 50% of the team appointees having previous contractual links with the coordinator.
- ❑ This measure of “brain gain” and creation of pockets of excellence will impact on the culture and performance of host institutions.
- ❑ Projects are expected to contribute to some of the following outcomes at organisation level:
  - Research excellence of the institution in the specific fields covered by the ERA Chair holder.
  - Increased attractiveness of the institution for internationally excellent and mobile researchers.
  - Creation of a permanent and excellent research group in the chosen scientific field with a spill-over effect on the institution;
  - Improved capability to succeed in competitive research funding in the EU and globally, at least, in the fields of choice;
  - Greater contribution to the knowledge-based economy and society.



- ❑ The institution in the Widening country shall be the coordinator and can opt between a joint application with the legal entity currently employing the future ERA Chair or submitting a proposal as a single applicant. For the former, partner institutions can be located in any country (including countries outside the EU) except the country of the coordinator and ERA Chair holders can be citizens of any country in the world.
- ❑ Proposals should include a CV in Europass form of the future ERA Chair holder and detail the scientific and technical support he/she will provide to the coordinator and how the proposed activities will upgrade from the current situation.
- ❑ Proposals should also describe any relevant investments of the coordinator in research projects, facilities and infrastructures and how those will be achieved and/or a better use of the installed research capacity.



- ❑ Existing or foreseen arrangements for compliance with ERA priorities including the European Charter for Researchers & Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers<sup>23</sup> are to be outlined in the proposal.
- ❑ The ERA Chair holder should also have a position within the organisation/university, allowing her/him to make appropriate resource allocation decisions, supervise team members and freely apply for research funding. When this is compatible with the nature of the coordinator, he/she is expected to take on some teaching duties.
- ❑ The ERA Chair holders might move on a temporary or permanent basis to the coordinator's premises.



- ❑ To ensure the sustainability of the action, the ERA Chair research team should have conditions to thrive after the end of the Horizon Europe funding. This should be clearly demonstrated in the proposal and include the appointment of the leader of the newly created research group on a permanent basis within the coordinator organisation (to which the ERA Chair holder might apply) during the initial 3 years of the duration of the grant. This is to be conducted through an open recruitment procedure to be monitored by the European Commission.
- ❑ Grants cover expenses related to the ERA Chair holder and a number of team members (e.g. their salaries, recruitment costs, administrative costs, travel and subsistence costs) and research costs up to 10% of the EU contribution. Costs to be claimed by a partner institution should be mainly linked to personnel seconded to the coordinator. The grant should also provide a contribution towards measures aimed at facilitating structural changes in the institution (e.g. costs for trainings, meetings, publications and managing Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)).
- ❑ Specific attention should be paid to gender equality objectives



## Comparison of key characteristics widening actions

Actions in WP	Consortium structure	Target group and scale of operation	Policy objectives
Teaming	Main beneficiary + 1 or 2 strategic advanced partners	Single centre of excellence to be modernised or created, relevant at national scale	Develop light houses and role models to stimulate reforms of national R&I system, increase level of excellence of national R&I system, mobilise new investments
Twinning	Main beneficiary and focused network of partnering organisations	Individual institutions and small network of advanced partnering institutions. Institutional scale with European outreach	Develop excellence in a chosen R&I domain for the main beneficiary with the help of twinning partners, increase visibility of main beneficiary and upskill its staff
ERA Chairs	Mono-beneficiary host organisation with optional single partner organisation	Excellent individuals and their teams, institutional scale	Excellent scientists and their teams to become game changers at institutional level, develop new research strands and raise level of excellence
Excellence hubs	Group of 2 or 3 placed based innovation ecosystems based on the quadruple helix approach	Research institutions, firms, local/regional government, societal actors, local regional scale with cross border dimension	Foster innovation excellence in place based (local/regional) innovation ecosystems, improve science business linkages, regional dimension of widening, <b>bottom-up approach</b>
Excellence Universities	Network of European Universities, co-ordinates by university from widening country	Universities at European Level	Support transformation of HE institutions towards excellence and international profile



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**Thank you for your attention!**