Welcome and House Keeping

Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, and Welsh Government / Croeso gan yr Adran Gwyddoniaeth, Arloesi a Thechnoleg a Llywodraeth Cymru

HORIZON EUROPE WALES ROADSHOW
28 JANUARY 2025
CARDIFF

In conversation with Welsh Government and The European Commission

Chair: Abi Phillips, Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru
Panellist: Cyril Robin-Champigneul – Delegation of the European Union to the United Kingdom

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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

UKRI Innovate UK

Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

Introduction: Navigating the Horizon Europe Programme

Cyflwyniad: Llywio Rhaglen Horizon Ewrop
Jo Frost, UK National Contact Point

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Introduction to Horizon Europe + Support Available for Welsh Organisations

28 January 2025
(Slides will be available afterwards)

Sign up to our newsletter:

Jo Frost (ncp-health@iuk.ukri.org) - UK Health National Contact Point

What is Horizon Europe?

Horizon Europe is the EU's Research and Innovation funding programme and runs calls from 2021 until 2027

It is the largest international R&I funding programme with a **budget of €95.5 billion***

The UK has Associated to Horizon Europe, which means that UK researchers and innovators can fully participate in Horizon Europe (including leading projects)

- **Horizon Europe funds all types of organisation** (including academia, SMEs, large companies and others)
- **It funds all R&I sectors**
  - some calls specify the R&I to be done
  - other calls leave that up to the applicants to decide

*Plus Associated Country contributions. Associated Countries have signed an agreement with the EU which means that organisations from the Associated Country can receive Horizon Europe funding, and can take part in and lead projects.
** Only exceptions:
- European Innovation Council Fund (equity part of EIC Accelerator); and
- very exceptional cases if the eligibility for individual funding calls is limited in the Work Programme to EU Member States or certain other countries.
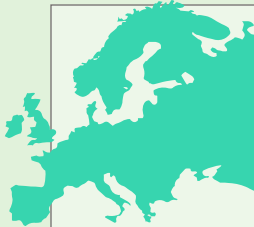
Types of Countries in Horizon Europe

Automatically eligible to receive EU funding

EU Member States
and their overseas territories

Associated Countries
(**Overall list** + **Info on UK Association**)

Many 'Third Countries':
116 **Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs)**
(most LMICs except BRIC, Mexico, Chile...)

List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe contains information about countries eligible for funding

Types of Countries in Horizon Europe

Automatically eligible to receive EU funding

EU Member States
and their overseas territories
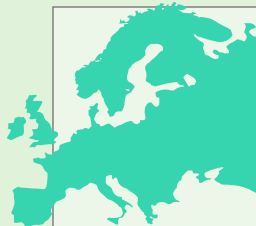
Associated Countries
(**Overall list** + **Info on UK Association**)

Many 'Third Countries':
116 **Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs)**
(most LMICs except BRIC, Mexico, Chile…)

Can participate with own funding
(only funded by Horizon Europe in exceptional cases*)

Third countries:
Developing economies (Brazil, India, China**, Mexico, Chile,…)
and industrialised countries (Japan, US*,…)

* for example US organisations
- *are eligible for automatic Horizon Europe funding in most topics in the main Health Work Programme*
- *are not eligible for automatic Horizon Europe funding from IHI, the Cancer Mission and most other parts of Horizon Europe*

**See Work Programme 2023-25 General Annexes for rules about China, Russia, Hungary, Belarus and parts of Ukraine (p7-8)

List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe contains information about countries eligible for funding

Types of Countries in Horizon Europe

EU Horizon Europe Programme

- ☐ Countries associated to Horizon Europe
- ■ EU Countries
- ■ Low to Middle Income Countries

Consortium Eligibility

At least one independent legal entity established in a member state; and

at least two other independent legal entities each established in either a different member state or an associated country.
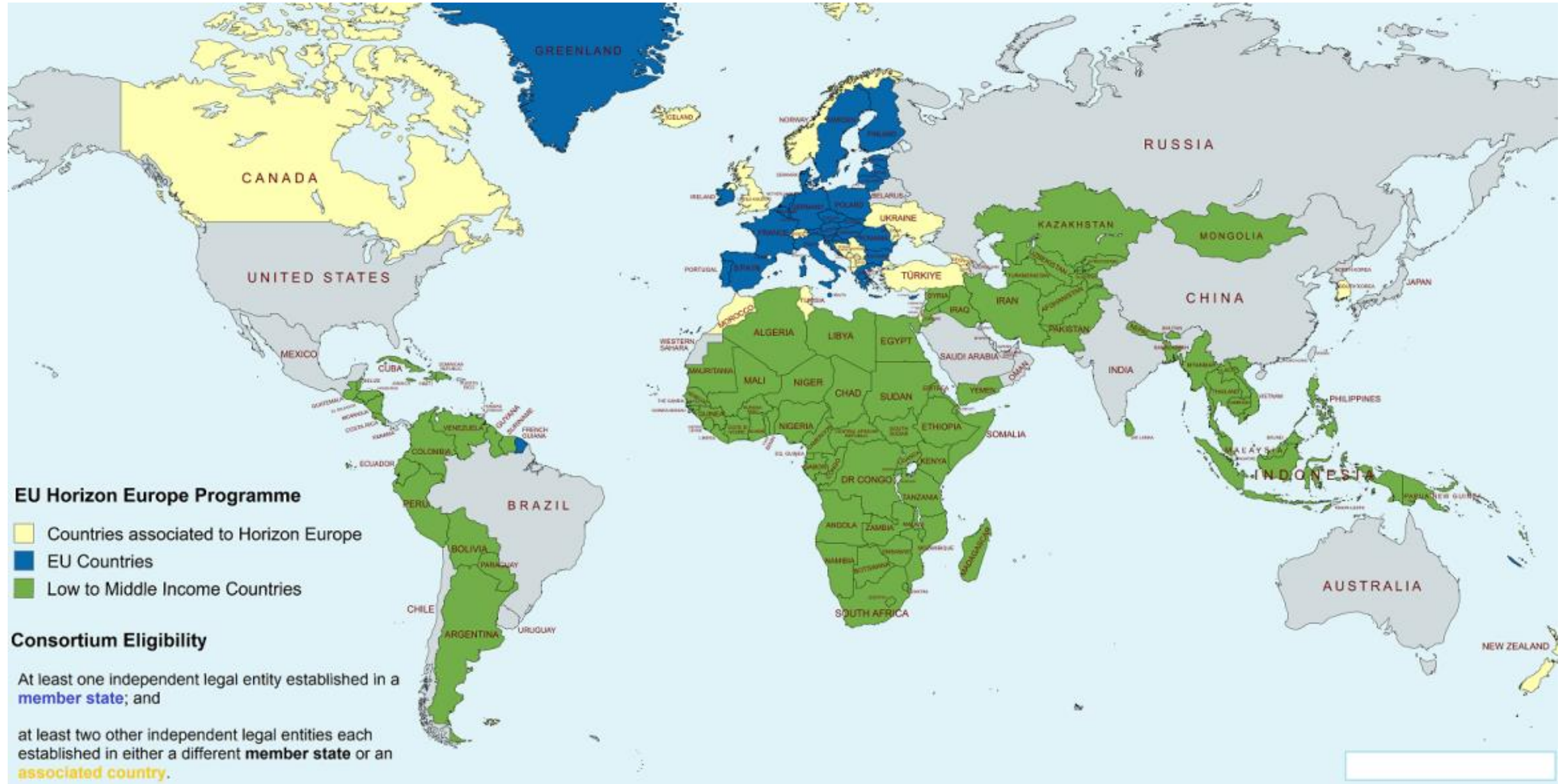
UK Success in Horizon 2020 & Funding Won

14.75% success rate **(EU average 11.91%)** → 16,303 participations → 9,802 signed grants **(~33% of EU total)** → €7.41B EU contribution

2,845 SME participations → €933M EU contribution

- Other, 2.2
- Public bodies, 2.3
- Private for profit, 17.8
- Research organisation 8.9
- Higher education, 68.7

UK Research and Innovation
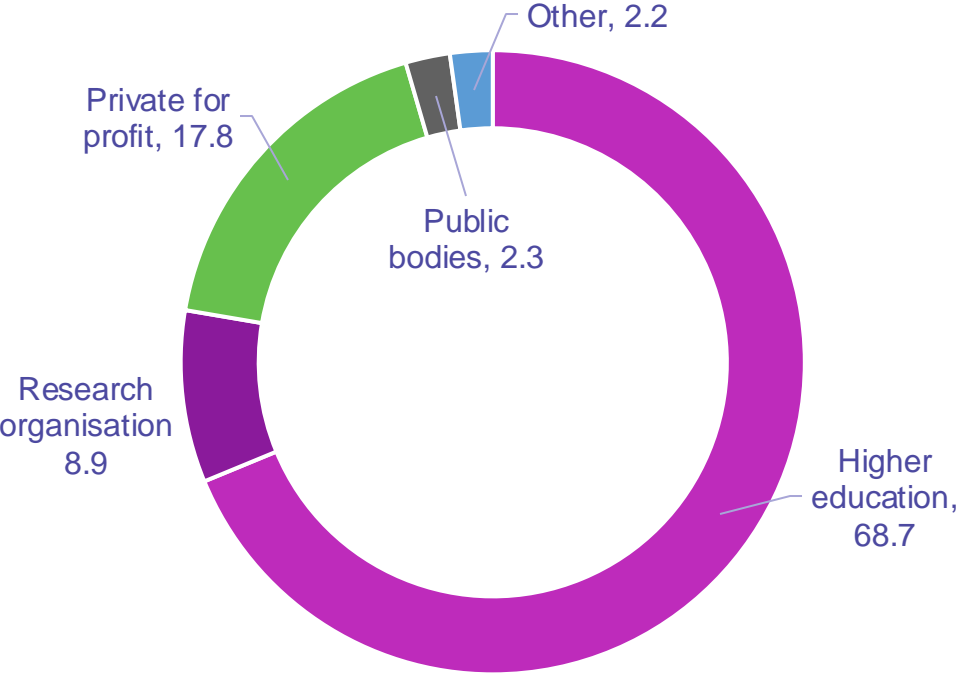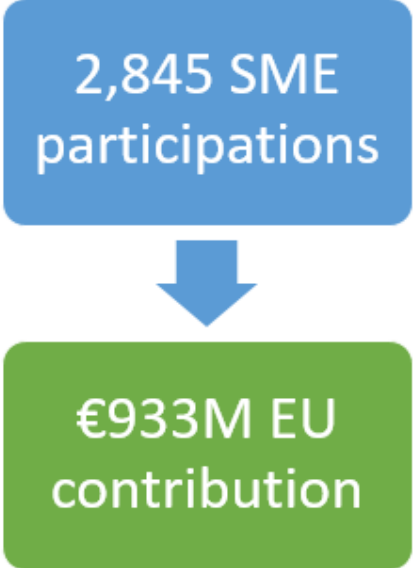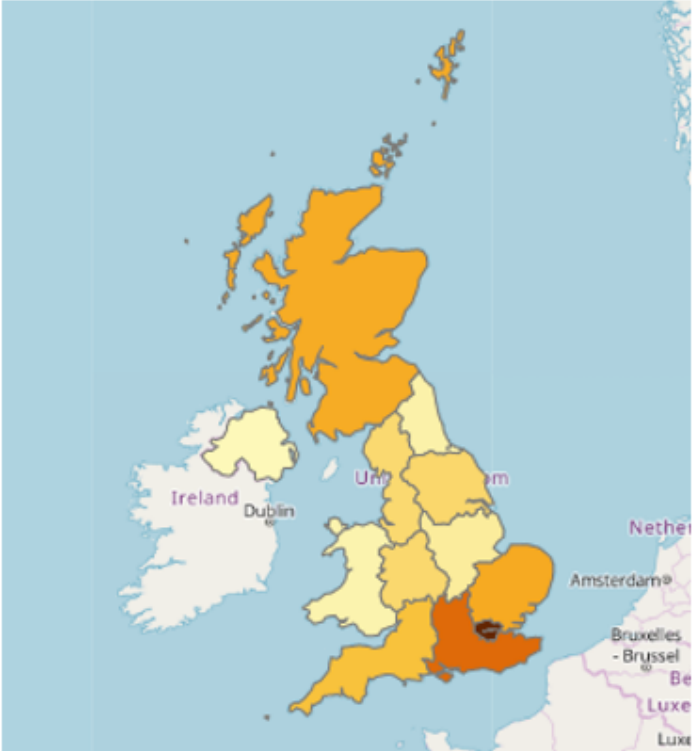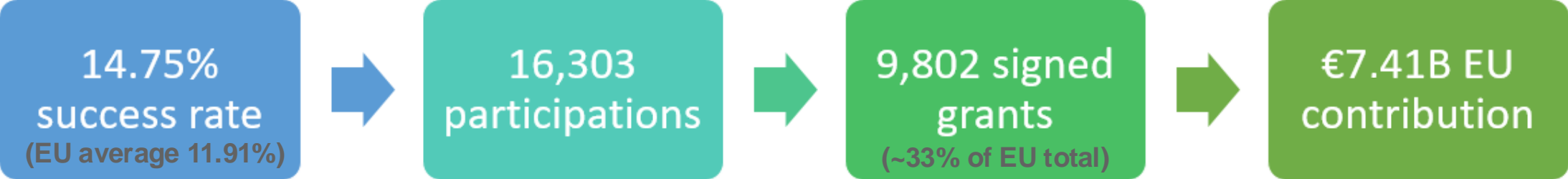
HORIZON EUROPE

Horizon Europe Structure

€53.8bn

€24.9bn

€13.4bn

Pillar I
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar II
GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters
- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre**

Pillar III
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

- European Innovation Council
- European innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation & Technology*

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

- Widening participation & spreading excellence
- Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

UK Research and Innovation

(Budgets shown are for 2021-2027.
Budgets will be higher than above once the UK and other Associated Country contributions are included)

Key:

Open to all research and innovation fields

Challenge driven – must solve the problem posed – not bottom-up idea driven

Pillar I

Pillar I
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures

UK Research
and Innovation

European Research Council (ERC)
Long term funding of 'frontier research'. Funds a Principal Investigator (PI) and their team, in all fields of research. Funding schemes:
- **Starting Grants**
- **Consolidator Grants**
- **Advanced Grants**
- **Synergy Grants**
- **Proof of Concept**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)
The EU's flagship funding programme for doctoral education & postdoctoral training of researchers. Funds all fields of research & all types of organisations. Funding schemes:
- **Doctoral Networks**
- **Postdoctoral Fellowships**
- **Staff Exchanges**
- **Cofund**
- **MSCA & Citizens** which funds "**European Researchers' Night**"

Like to know more? The Pillar I breakout session this afternoon will cover the ERC and MSCA

Research Infrastructures (RIs)
- **Does not fund:** building RI, funding capital costs (with some exceptions)
- **Does fund:** trans-national & virtual access to RI, planning for future major infrastructure, international cooperation of facilities and more…
- You can either apply to a call in the Horizon Europe RI Work Programme
- And/ Or check out **Research Infrastructures** which already have Horizon Europe funding to allow transnational/virtual researchers or users
- The UK National Contact Point is **RINCPUK@stfc.ac.uk**

Pillar II - Clusters

Pillar 2
GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters
- Health
- Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry and Space
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Joint Research Centre

- **Challenge driven – must solve the problem posed by the European Commission (so not bottom-up idea driven)**

- **'Work Programmes' list specific call topics**, each with recommended
    - Scope
    - Expected outcomes
    - Budget

- Most (but not quite all) funding calls in the 2024 Work Programmes have closed

- **The 2025 Work Programmes and call topics are currently expected to be published ~March/April 2025**

- **Mainly funds consortium projects** with at least 3 different legal entities from 3 different Member States and/or Associated Countries.
At least one organisation must be from an EU Member State.

- **Consortium partners often very varied** –you should have the right people for the tasks and from any type of legal entity

- Project size for each varies from less than €1m to a few million

Like to know more? Pillar II breakout sessions this morning.

Pillar II - Further Opportunities

Horizon Europe Partnerships
European Commission and private and/or public partners jointly develop and then run a research and innovation programme called a 'partnership'
- There are ~48 "Partnerships" in Pillar II of Horizon Europe (Diagram listing partnerships)
- Most partnerships run calls for proposals
  - **Each call for proposals run by a partnership can have different rules**
  - **Check call documents to see which countries and types of organisation are funded**
  - **Some partnerships do NOT use standard Horizon Europe eligibility rules!**

Horizon Europe 'Missions'

The New European Bauhaus (NEB) is an EU policy and funding initiative launched that fosters sustainable solutions for transforming the built environment and lifestyles under the green transition.

Pillar III

European Innovation Council (EIC)

The EIC is Europe's flagship innovation programme to identify, develop and scale up breakthrough technologies and game changing innovations. Three main schemes:

- **Pathfinder**
- **Transition**
- **Accelerator**

See the **EIC's 2025 Work Programme** for further details

European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)

- Funding to help support connected and efficient innovation ecosystems

Eureka has various funding schemes, including

- **Eurostars** - the largest international funding programme for SMEs wishing to collaborate on R&D projects that create innovative products, processes or services for commercialisation. It funds transnational, market-oriented, collaborative R&I projects. Projects must be initiated and driven by Research and Development performing SMEs.

Like to know more? The Pillar III breakout session this afternoon will explain more.

Pillar III
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation Council

European innovation ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation & Technology*

UK Research and Innovation

Pillar III (cont'd)

Pillar III
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation Council

European innovation ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation & Technology*

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
The EIT is Europe's largest innovation network.

The EIT has funding opportunities in 9 areas:

- **Climate Change**

- **Cultural & Creative Sectors & Industries**

- **Digitisation**

- **Future of Food**

- **Health Innovation**

- **Sustainable Energy**

- **Added-Value Manufacturing**

- **Raw Materials**

- **Urban Mobility**

- **Water, Marine, and Maritime sectors and Ecosystems** (starting in 2026)

Like to know more? The Pillar III breakout session this afternoon will explain more.

UK Research and Innovation

Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area (ERA)

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence | Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

cost — EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

This part of Horizon Europe includes **COST** (European Co-operation in Science and Technology):

- **COST Open Call** (annual deadlines, **usually October**)
  - **Open to all areas of research and innovation** (bottom-up)
  - **Funding to set up interdisciplinary research and innovation networks in Europe and beyond**
    - Funding for organising meetings, training schools, short term scientific missions or other networking
    - Networks run for 4 years and help to build capacity.
  - Funds global networking of nationally-funded research.

- You can also join the many existing COST actions
  - e.g. European Network for Optimisation of Veterinary Antimicrobial Treatment – website / newsletter

Like to know more? The Pillar 1 breakout session this afternoon will also cover COST

UK Research and Innovation

Further info? COST website / eligible countries
UK contact point: cost.ukcnc@dsit.gov.uk / contact points in other countries

HORIZON EUROPE

Support Available: National Contact Points (NCPs)

The network of **National Contact Points in the UK** and **other countries** provide free guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in Horizon Europe.

- **Many NCPs are here today**

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

Informing and awareness raising
on Horizon Europe and other EU programmes

Assisting, advising and training
to improve the quality of Horizon Europe proposals

Signposting and cooperation
highlighting support avail. & supporting consortium development

UK Research and Innovation

Sign up to our UK NCP newsletter

Other Horizon Support for UK and Welsh Applicants

1) **Welsh Government's Horizon Europe Unit** offers general advice on the programme and "Agile Cymru" grants to facilitate access, covering training, consultancy, travel, events and more. **Horizon.Europe@gov.wales** / **Horizon.Europe@llyw.cymru**

2) **Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)** helps businesses innovate and find partners (**including in Wales**)

3) **Innovate UK: Travel Support to attend European Events**
   • Helps UK SMEs expand their networks and build consortia. Up to £700 to cover T&S to attend specific events.

4) **Innovate UK: Pump Priming Funding** (currently closed, do not know yet if it will reopen or not)
   • For individual UK SMEs to explore and access Horizon Europe collaborative research & innovation opportunities.
   • Currently offers up to £5,000 (excluding VAT). Support from UK NCPs + an Innovate UK Business Growth Specialist.

5) **British Academy Horizon Europe Pump Priming** (funded by UK Government)
   • Up to £10,000. Led by eligible PI (e.g. academic). For Pillar 2 Clusters only (but currently not Missions or Pillar 2 Partnerships).

6) **Other UK Help and Support** including the **UKRO - UK Research Office**
   • UK NCPs for the **European Research Council** and **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**.
   • Those based at **subscribing organisations** can also get support across Horizon Europe and can **register for updates**.

7) **EU Intellectual Property (IP) Helpdesk** very useful free to use helpdesk including helpline, training events and templates, guides and forms (including how to write an exploitation and dissemination plan).

Break / Egwyl am goffi

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Panel Session / Sesiwn gyda'r Panel

Experience of participating in Horizon Europe, lessons learned and advice / Profiad o gymryd rhan yn Horizon Ewrop, gwersi a ddysgwyd a chyngor

Chair: Abi Phillips, Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru
Dr Eva Sonnenschein, Swansea University, Professor Chris Hopkins, NHS,
Prof. Marc Pera-Titus, Cardiff University
Gash Bhullar, EFF

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Pillar 2: Thematic Breakout Sessions / Sesiynau Trafod Thematig Colofn 2 gyda Phwyntiau Cyswllt Cenedlaethol

UK National Contact Points

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- **Cluster 1: Health**
- **Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive society**
- **Cluster 3: Civil Security**
- **Cluster 4, including Digital, Industry, and Chips Joint Undertaking**
- **Cluster 5: Transport and Climate**

Lunch and Networking / Cinio a Rhwydweithio

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Catalonia's Road to Success in Horizon Europe / Ffordd Catalwnia i Lwyddiant yn Horizon Ewrop

Francesc Claret Traid, Generalitat de Catalunya: Cynrychiolydd Llywodraeth Catalwnia i'r DU ac Iwerddon

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Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

Catalonia's Road to Success in Horizon Europe

28 January 2025

Generalitat de Catalunya
Government of Catalonia

1

Catalonia's performance in
Horizon Europe

Spain has the third highest amount of funding of all countries in Horizon Europe

- Spain ranks as the third country receiving the highest funding during the first three years of Horizon Europe (2021-2023).

- Spain is the leading country in the coordination of collaborative R&D&I projects.

Total funds received from Horizon Europe
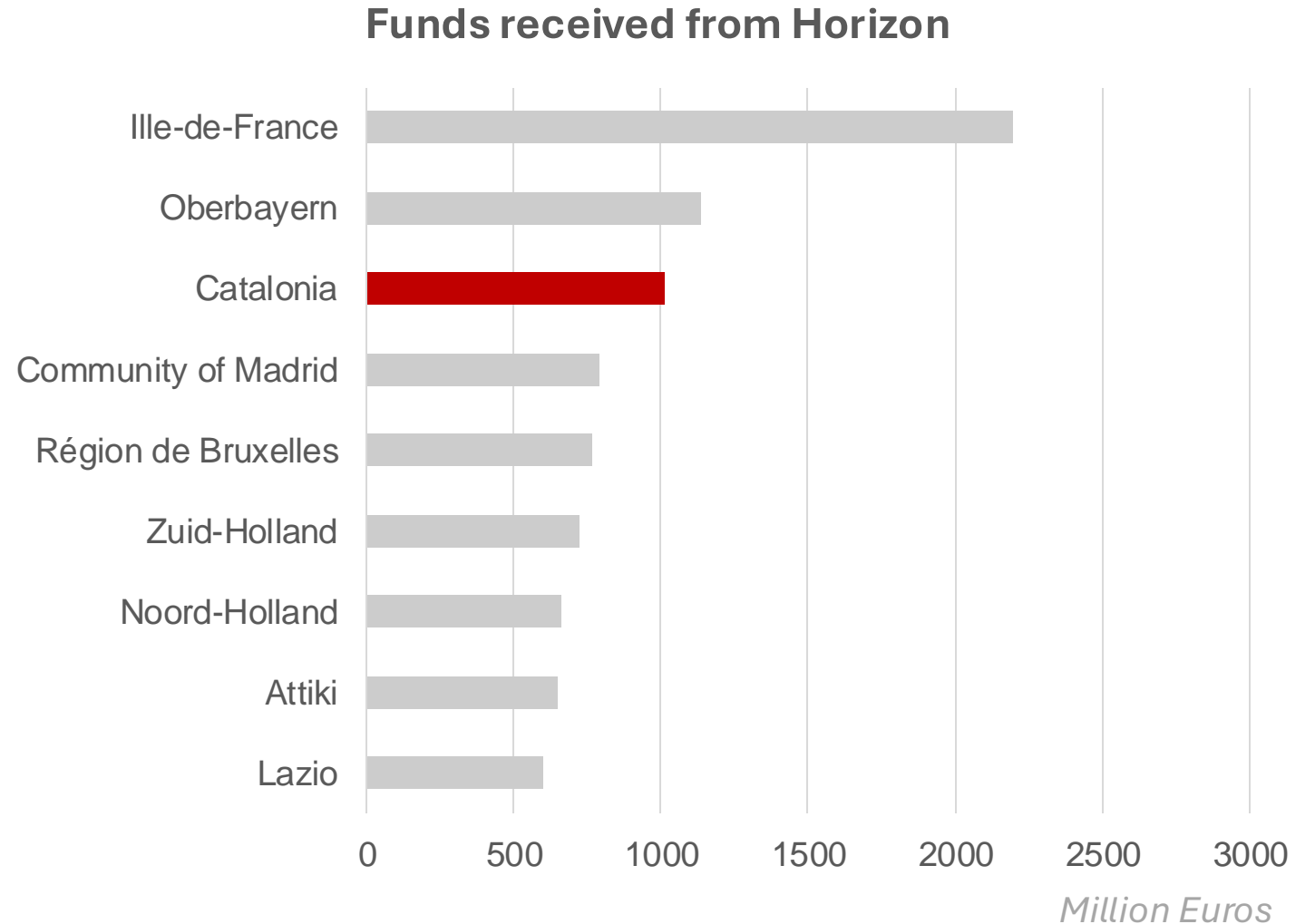

Million Euros
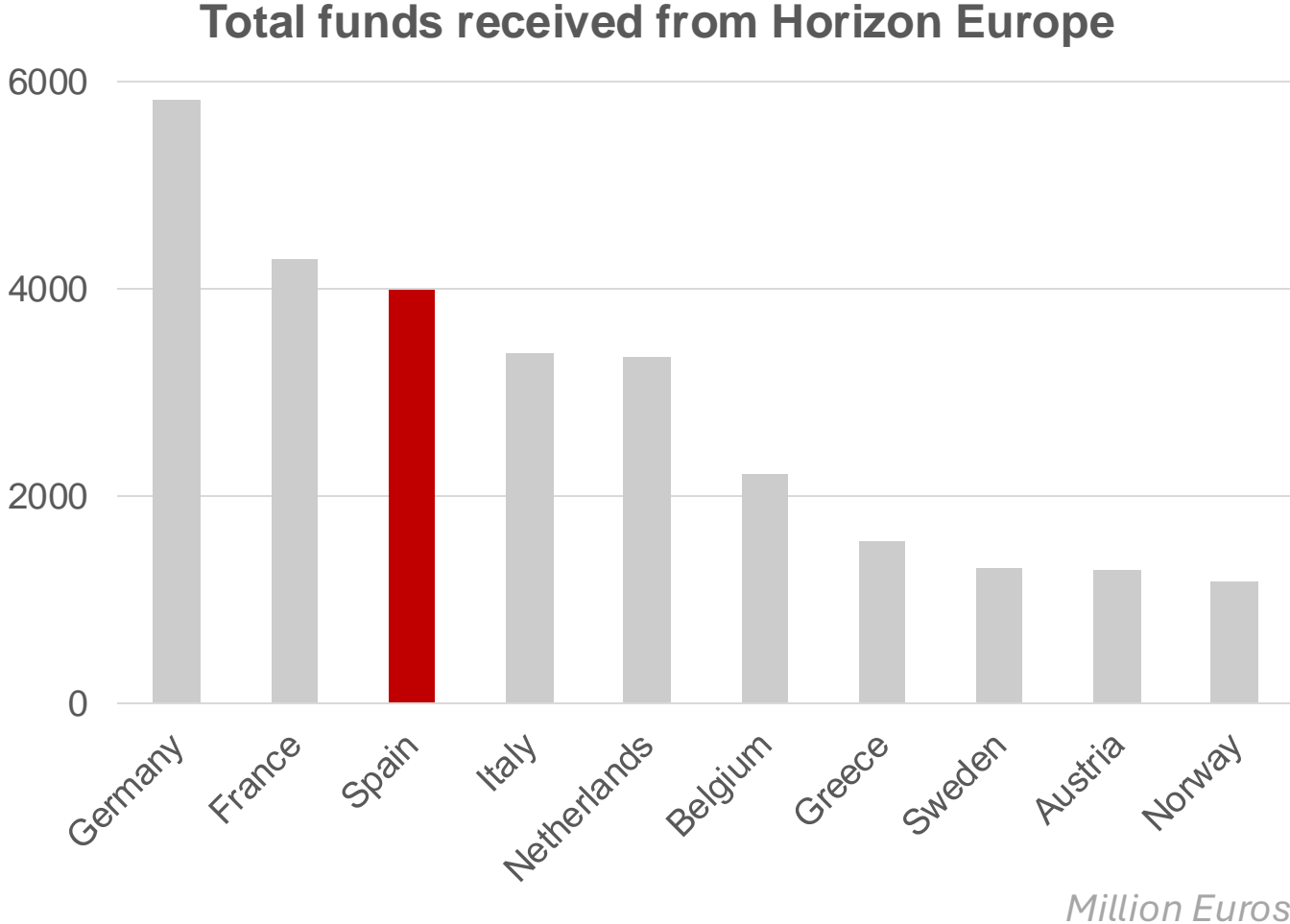
Catalonia is driving the Spanish success

Percentage of funds by region
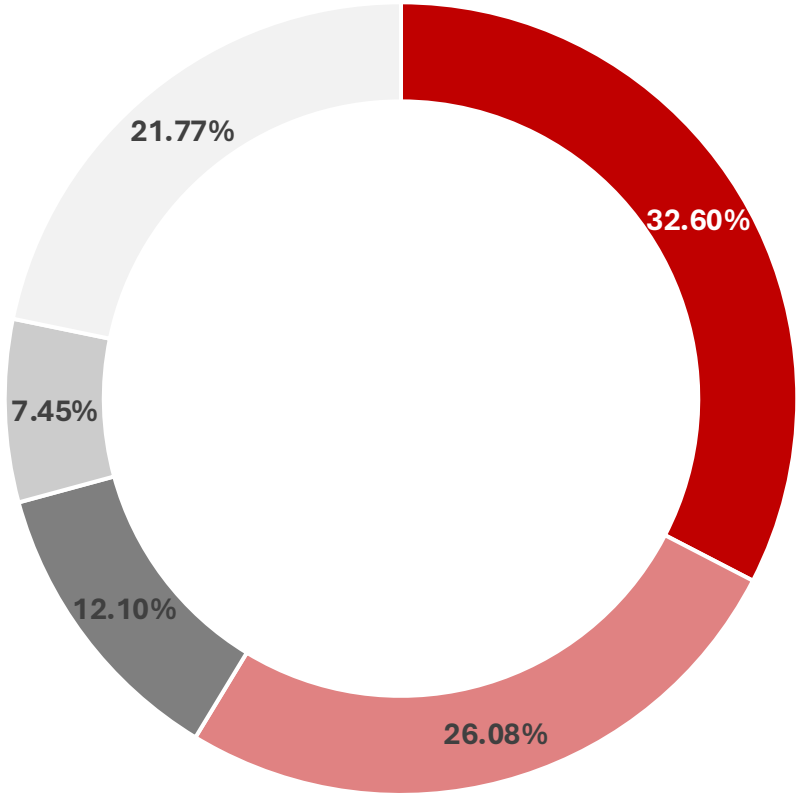
- Catalonia
- Madrid
- Basque Country
- Valencian Community
- Other regions

Catalonia among the top EU regions

- Catalonia ranks the third highest in terms of funding received from Horizon, with over a billion euros in funding.

- Catalonia's percentage share of the total European funds is twice what would be expected based on its population size.

- The European Commission has recognised Catalonia as a 'strong innovator'.

Funds received from Horizon

Region	
Ille-de-France	~2200
Oberbayern	~1150
Catalonia	~1020
Community of Madrid	~780
Région de Bruxelles	~760
Zuid-Holland	~720
Noord-Holland	~650
Attiki	~640
Lazio	~600

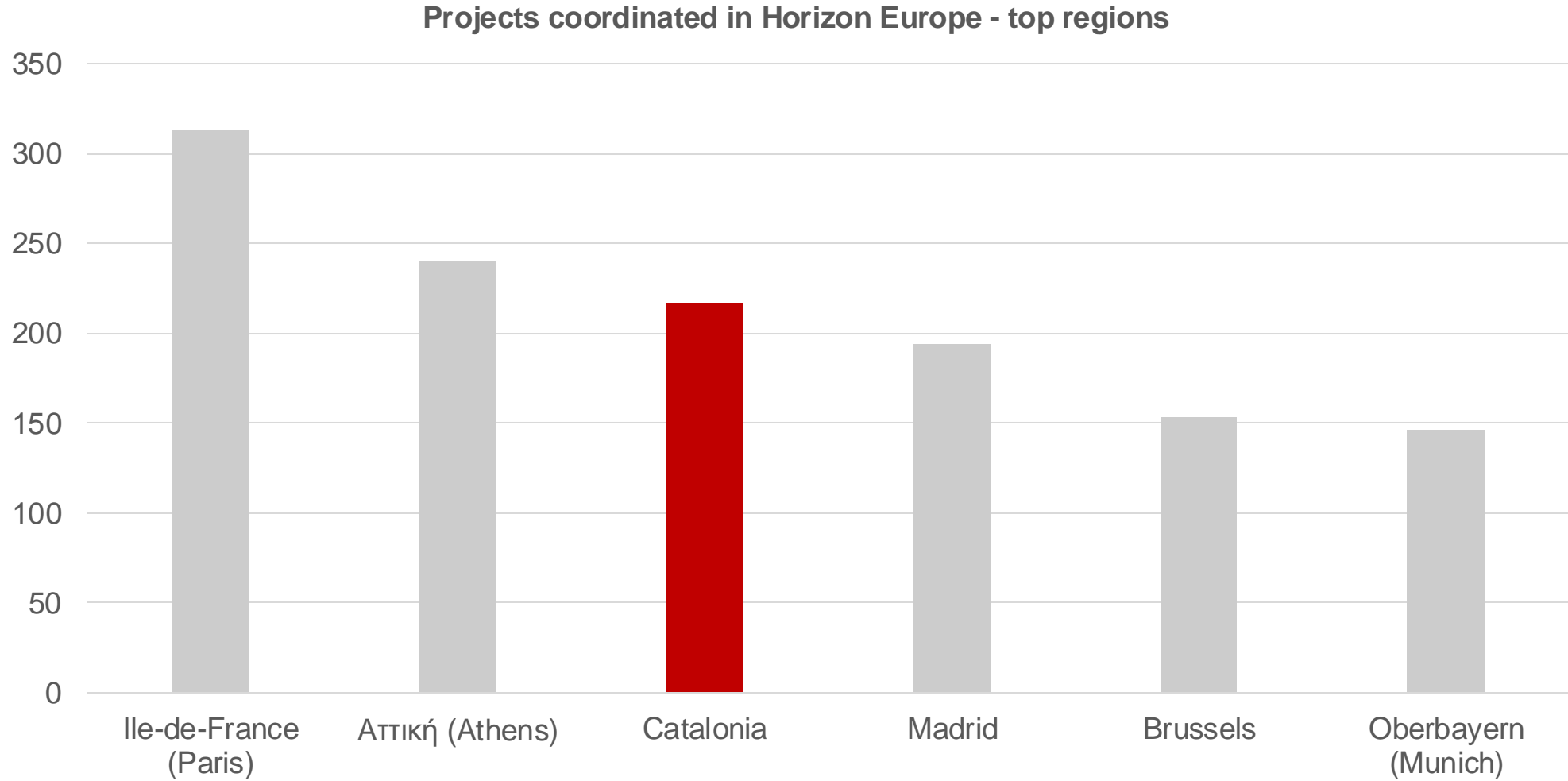0   500   1000   1500   2000   2500   3000

Million Euros

Sectoral Distribution of Funds

Over a third of Catalonia's funding comes from research organisations. The private sector receives around a third, followed by universities, with a quarter.

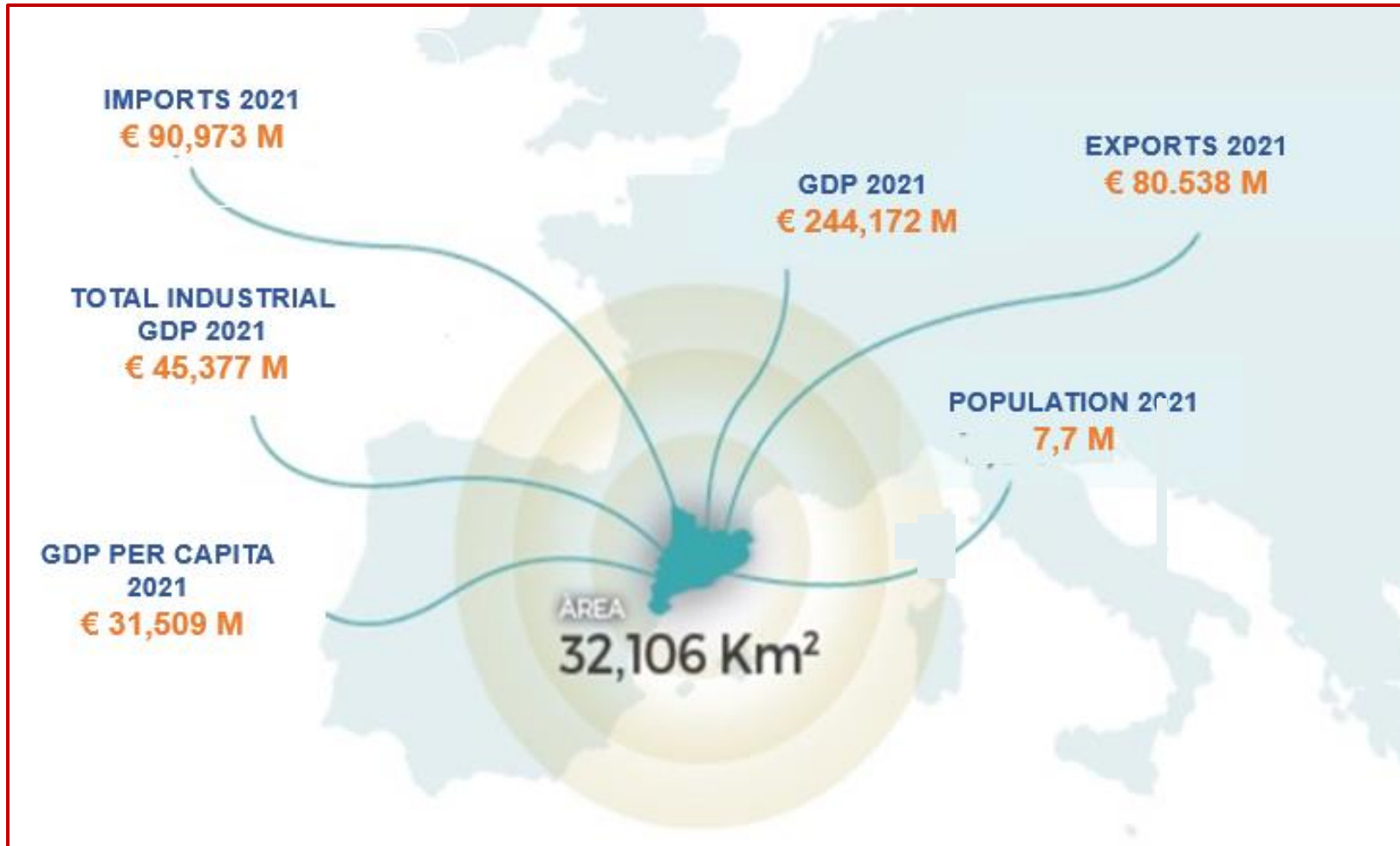**Distribution of Horizon Europe Net contribution by organization type**

Universities
25%

Research Organisations
37%

Private for-profit companies
33%
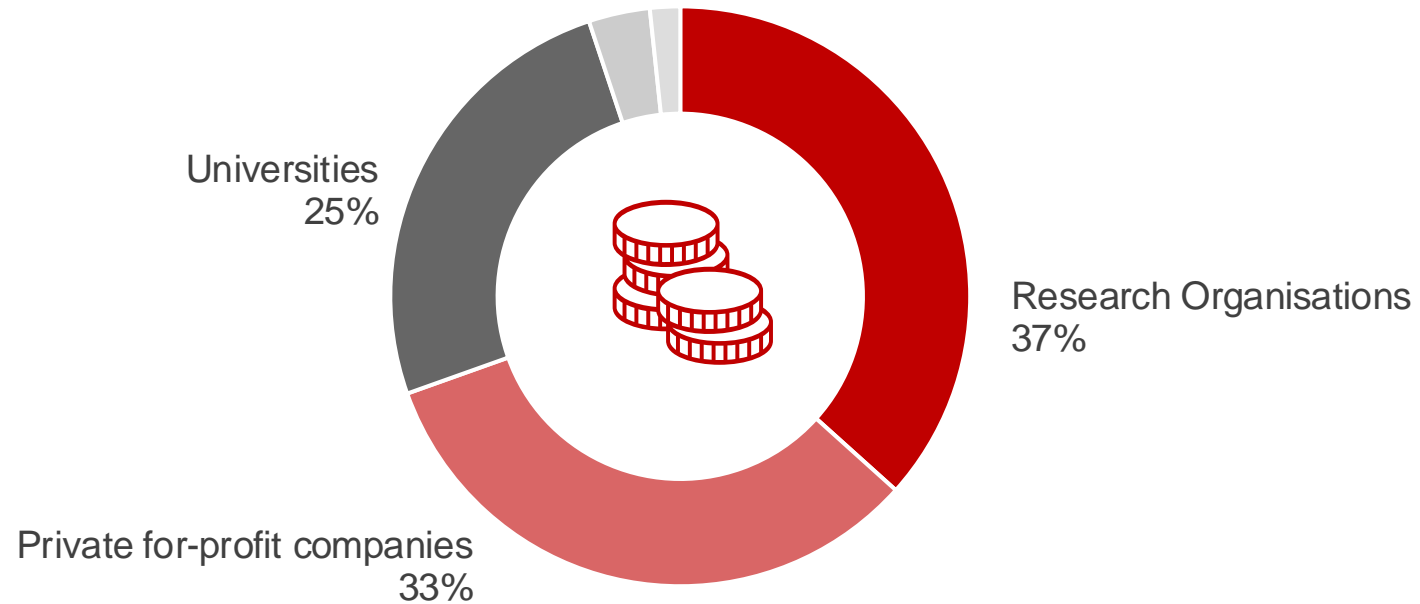
Catalonia is leading projects, not just participating

Projects coordinated in Horizon Europe - top regions

2

How has Catalonia achieved this?

Catalonia, a science and knowledge hub

IMPORTS 2021
€ 90,973 M

TOTAL INDUSTRIAL
GDP 2021
€ 45,377 M

GDP PER CAPITA
2021
€ 31,509 M

GDP 2021
€ 244,172 M

EXPORTS 2021
€ 80.538 M

POPULATION 2021
7,7 M

AREA
32,106 Km²

16% of Spain's Population

1,6% of EU's Population

4.1% of EU's scientific production

1.744 research groups
59 R&D centers

51.000 R&D jobs
#1 Startup hub in Southern Europe

How did we become a knowledge hub in Europe?

1985-1999
Landscape of Universities

1985-1987: University Access System
1990-1991: UPF, UdG, UdL, URV
1991:CESCA
1995: UOC
1996: CBUC (University Services Consortium of Catalonia) & AQU (Agency for the Quality of the University System of Catalonia)

2021-2030
Knowledge Society

-National Pact for the Knowledge Society
-All stakeholders and civil society working together for talent, research, teaching, infrastructures, transfer and funding.
-A new vision for Higher Education
-Regions of Knowledge programme
-Transfer of Knowledge Networks

1 TALENT FOR TERRITORY

2 FOCUS ON RESEARCH

3 NEED TO TRANSFER

4 HIGH ON IMPACT

2000-2014
New period: need for innovation with focus on research

-2000-2014 Complete the map of universities
-2000-2003: CERCA Research Centers
-2002: AGAUR
-2003: Serra Húnter Plan
-2003: Catalan teaching model; ICREA
-2006-2008: Adaptation to the European Higher Education Area
-2013: CSUC (CBUC+CESCA)

2015-2020
Knowledge Industry

-Boosting the flexibility of the Higher Education structure
-Industrial doctorates
-Knowledge industry program

A key to success: Catalonia's journey through EU Framework Programmes

2007-2013

FP7

Catalonia began to establish itself as a significant player in European research. Strong research infrastructures and international partnerships laid the groundwork for future success. Support to R&I Managers

2021-to date

Horizon Europe

Catalonia has continued to thrive in Horizon Europe, securing over €1,350 million from 2021 to 2024. Catalonia's strategic focus on innovation has been instrumental in achieving success.

2014-2020

Horizon 2020

Catalonia's efforts paid off. Secured over €1.77 billion in funding, participating in over 3,000+ projects. Excelled in health, ICT, and energy sectors.

These figures represent a 1.6 increase compared to the funding attracted in the previous programme during the same period

What's behind Catalonia's success?

- **Incentivisation plan** for the programme from the **Government of Spain**

- Plans from the **Government of Catalonia** to leverage Horizon Europe to drive technological innovation

- **Support instruments** to participate in European projects (funding offices, courses, mentoring activities, etc.):
  - ➤ AGAUR, agency supporting the academic sector
  - ➤ ACCIÓ, agency supporting Catalan companies

- A strong and active **network of R&D** managers.

- Research and Innovation funding and cooperation with industry

- Promote a culture of ambition, innovation and international outlook
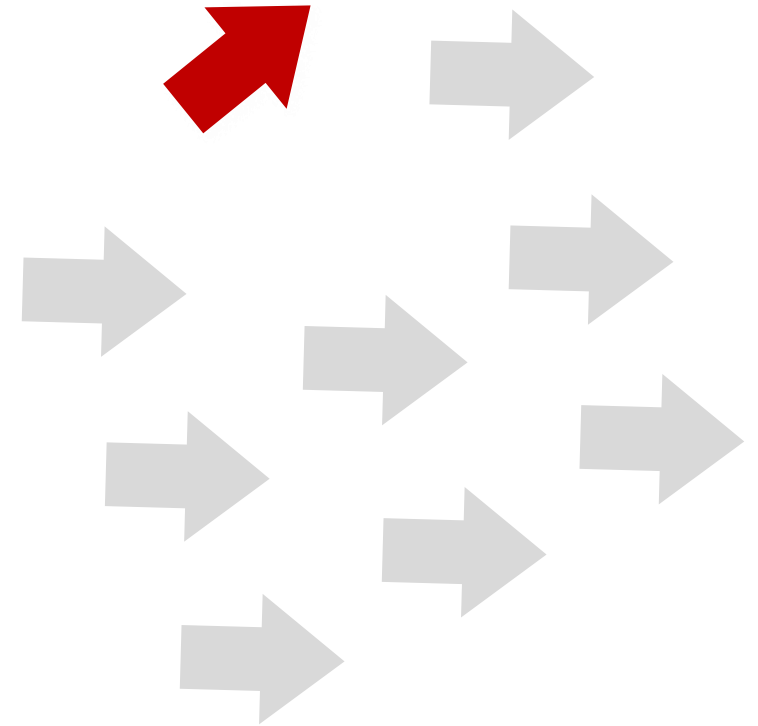
Leading Catalan Organisations in Horizon Europe

Catalonia is home to some of the leading institutions in
Horizon Europe:

- **Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya** with
  €86,065,039, a leading technical university specialising
  in engineering, architecture, sciences, and technology.

- **EIT KIC Urban Mobility** with €154,248,700, a pan-
  European partnership driving innovation for sustainable
  urban mobility solutions.

- **Barcelona Supercomputing Centre** with
  €64,730,966, Spain's premier supercomputing centre
  hosting the MareNostrum V supercomputer and
 specialising in high-performance computing.

3

Opportunities for collaboration

Local and Global Collaboration in EU programmes

- After Brexit, the United Kingdom has dropped to 8th place.

- New opportunities of collaboration between Catalonia and Wales since the United Kingdom rejoined Horizon.

Main Catalan partners

2007-2013   2014-2016   2016-to date

- collaboration   + collaboration
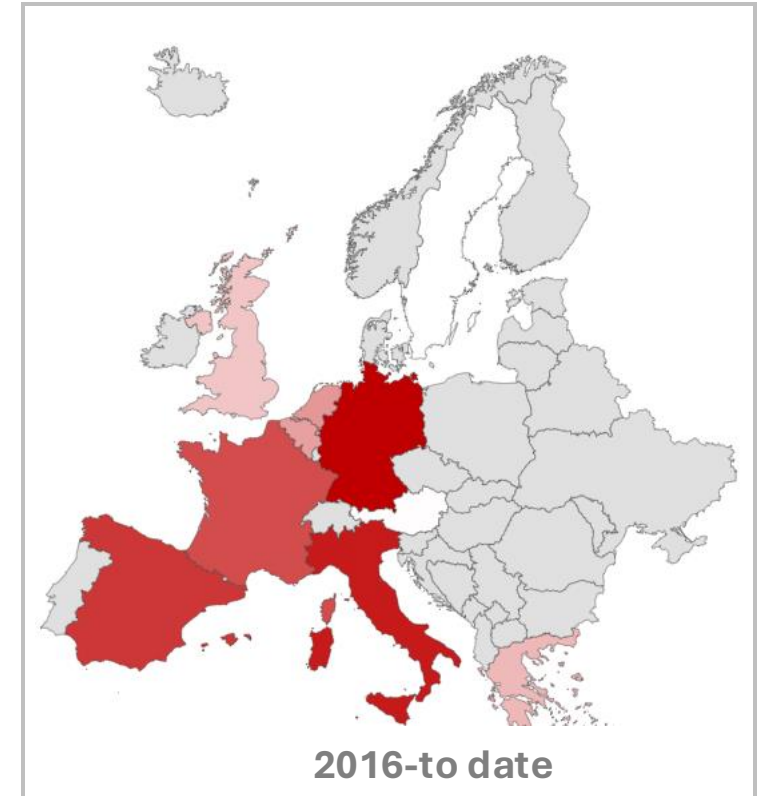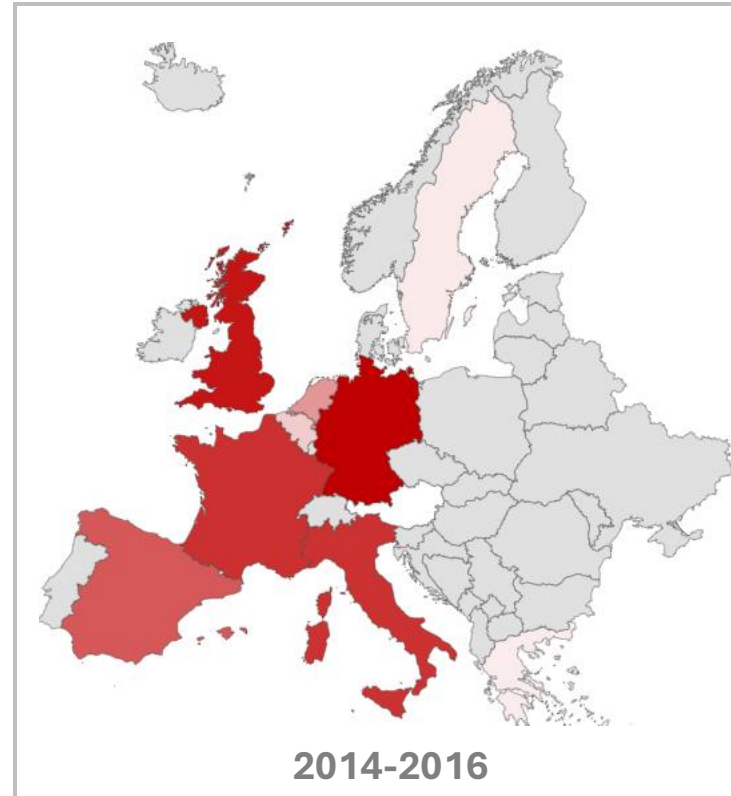
A history of collaboration with Wales

A New Frontier in Space Physics

The High Energy Physics Institute of Catalonia is working with Cardiff University to prepare for a new Einstein Telescope to observe gravitational waves.

Training in Simulation-based engineering

The Catalan International Centre for Numerical Methods in Engineering and Swansea University trained researchers on computer simulations for manufacturing, testing and decision-making.

### Treatment of autoimmune disorders

Vall d'Hebron hospital in Barcelona is working with Cardiff University using combinatorial therapies, biobanks and systems biology. The project is expected to reach pre-clinical proof of concept shortly.

Microscopes of Tomorrow

Cardiff University and the Catalan Institute of Photonic Science developed laser-based optical microscopy for better imaging of biomolecules.

Catalonia's business participation has been exceptional, with more than 34 million euros (4.5% of the European total) raised from the European Innovation Council (EIC) to explore and develop disruptive ideas with high economic and social impact

Potential areas of collaboration

Digital world

Health

Climate

Semicon-ductors

Mobility

Energy

Space

Culture
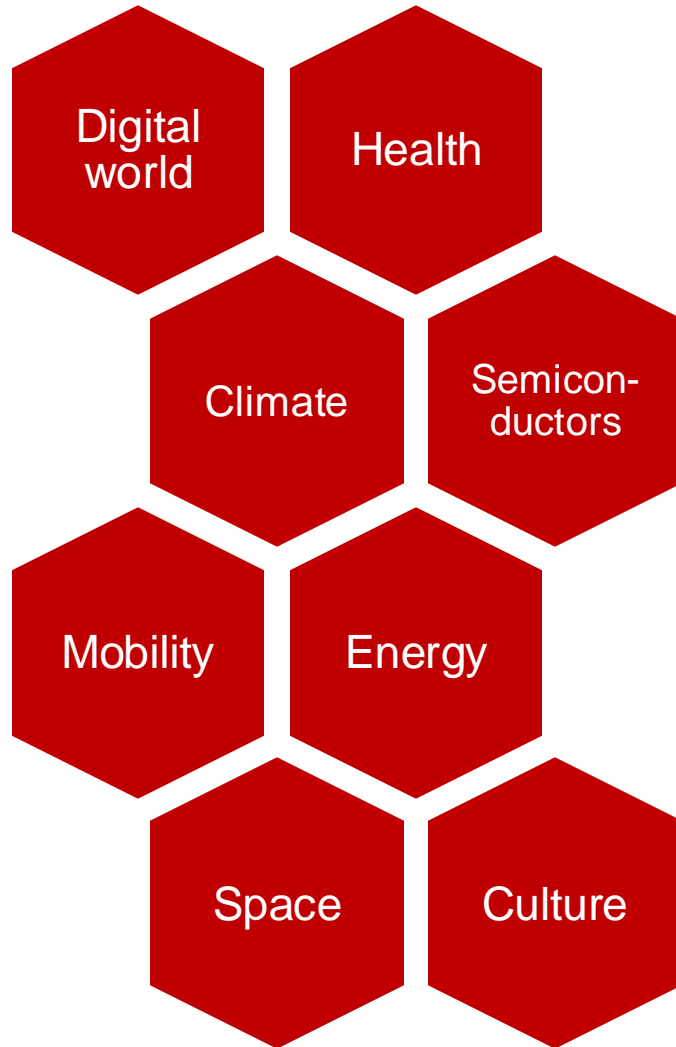
Barcelona's MareNostrum 5 supercomputer

Strengthening Our Future Together

- Catalonia's achievements in Horizon Europe highlight its commitment to excellence and collaboration.

- The deal between the UK and Horizon Europe opens up new opportunities for joint projects.

Strategies for Consortium Building / Strategaethau ar gyfer Adeiladu Consortiwm

Louise Mothersole, UK National Contact Point

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How to successfully network and build a Horizon Europe consortium with collaborative R&D partners

28 January 2025
Louise.Mothersole@iuk.ukri.org

Pillar 2 eligibility criteria

There are several types of eligibility, and it can be confusing:

- Eligibility to be part of a consortium/project

- Eligibility to receive funding as part of a consortium/project

- Eligibility to be one of the minimum number of participants necessary in a consortium/project

European Commission for Cluster 5: "*Never in the history of Horizon Europe has a proposal from a team of just newcomers to the programme been successful*"

Formal consortium building mechanisms

Participant portal – Every topic on the [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#) has a 'Partner Search' function where you can upload your profile and review others that have done so

Partner Search – under the '[How to participate tab](#)' on the EU Funding and Tenders Portal where you can also search for past projects and organisations

Brokerage events and tools – European Commission, Technology Platforms, Co-Programmed Partnerships, Enterprise Europe Network, Innovate UK Business Connect, NCPs from around Europe, etc will hold in-person and/or virtual events with e.g., Meeting Mojo, B2B and other tools

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

UK RI

Innovate UK

The best ways to join 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 (LinkedIn is a great resource)

- Attend networking events such as conferences and workshops.

- **Join the relevant technology platforms, networks, associations and partnerships ask your NCP for suggestions in your sector for events and associations**

  - 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

UKRI Innovate UK

Attending Network Events?

- For SMEs, travel grants of up to £700 available for many European events – check https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/news/travel-support-now-available/

- If your chosen event isn't listed, contact your NCP and ask if it can be added (we can't promise but we can try) at least 8 weeks before the event

- Prepare in advance and, once there, don't be a wallflower

UKRI Innovate UK

TOPIC NUMBER AND NAME

Proposed Approach

What is your understanding of the part of the problem you can solve?

What part of the Scope do you want to address? <mark>*Be specific*</mark>.

Organisational Capabilities

What skills, capabilities, facilities does your organisation have that will be vital for this project?

Is your organisation academic, SME, big business, etc (and explain the benefits to this project of whichever you are)

Experience

What previous, relevant, work or track record can you bring to the team?

Include your ability to attract the 'Big Names' in the sector (e.g. leading academics, major thought leaders)

Administrative Information

Are you planning on being the Coordinator or a Partner?

Your contact details including:
Name, email and phone number
What country are you from
Your organisation's PIC

UK RI — Innovate UK

How to find partners with a track record of success

- Search Cordis using key words for relevant projects already underway

  - E.g. searching for 'novel aviation composites' returns 15 projects

  - 1st listed is GENEX: New end-to-end digital framework for optimized manufacturing and maintenance of next generation aircraft composite structures

  - Gives project coordinator as INSTITUTO TECNOLOGICO DE ARAGON and **gives the opportunity to contact them and their partners**

  - Contact is to the Project Participant, not just a central administrative function

  - Write them a note explaining what you want/intend to do and how their participation would be a great idea

Coordinator

INSTITUTO TECNOLOGICO DE ARAGON

Address

MARIA DE LUNA 8
50018 Zaragoza
Spain

Region

Noreste > Aragón ... oza

Activity typ

Research O

Links

Contact the organisation ☒   Website ☒
Participation in EU R&I programmes ☒
HORIZON collaboration network ☒

Participants (16)

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)

Common to see universities, big business, small business, research and technologies organisations, consultancies, local authorities, national authorities all within the one consortium. There is no 'typical' or 'model' consortium structure/membership

Useful to include exploitation partners – someone who is going to take the outputs of the project and actually implement them (e.g. an automotive/aerospace/marine/rail/etc., industry) to show immediate impact

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 route to implementation

Summary

Get out there and network – getting into the winning team is as important as writing a good proposal

UKRI Innovate UK

Innovate UK

Questions?

Louise.Mothersole@iuk.ukri.org

International Participation

Some topics state international participation is **essential**, e.g. "In addition to the conditions described in General Annex B, the consortium must include at least three legal entities from three different African countries"

Some topics state international collaboration is **advised**, e.g. "In order to achieve the expected outcomes, international cooperation is advised, in particular with projects or partners from the US, Japan, Canada, South Korea, Singapore, Australia"

Some topics state **limitations** on international collaboration, e.g. "participation to the call is limited to legal entities established in Member States, associated countries, OECD countries, African Union Countries, and MERCOSUR, CARIFORUM, and Andean Community" and from the General Annexes: "Legal entities established in China are not eligible to participate in Horizon Europe Innovation Actions in any capacity."

Most countries around the world have Horizon Europe National Contact Points – find their details here and there is a full list of participating countries published too

GLOBAL approach to research & innovation
Europe's strategy for international cooperation in a changing world*

The gender dimension

Eligibility: Gender Equality Plan
Participants that are public bodies, research organisations or higher education institutions established in a Member State or Associated Country must have a gender equality plan in place, fulfilling mandatory process-related requirements

Award Criteria: Integration of the gender dimension (55 minutes into this video from EC)
Addressing the gender dimension in research and innovation content entails taking into account sex and gender in the whole research & innovation process

Ranking Criteria (for tied scores): Gender balance
Third criteria - Gender balance among personnel named in the proposal who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the research and/or innovation activities, and who are included in the researchers table in the proposal

The Horizon Europe Portal - 1

- The European Commission publishes everything you need to know on the [EU Funding & Tender Portal](#)

- The [Funding](#) tab is the one everyone uses most and the Calls for Proposals section is where you find your Topic (EU word for competition) and submit your application

Top Tips

- **Once you have identified your Topic, click through to <u>and read</u> every link**
- **If the Topic is open for submissions, click on the 'Submit' button, even if you aren't ready to take that step yet, as you will then be able to access a writable proposal template**

- There is a [Partner Search](#) section in the Funding tab and each Topic page has a 'Partner Search Announcement' button

Top Tip – don't waste your time with this, there are much more effective ways to find partners

The Horizon Europe Portal - 2

- The [Reference Documents](#) section (in the Guidance & documents tab) is <u>the</u> definitive text
  - Work Programmes for full competition definition
  - Guidance documents
  - Templates and forms – including for evaluation
  - Evaluator lists

Top Tip – scan the list of evaluators to see if you know any of them. If you do, contact them and ask them about <u>the process</u>

- The [Work as an Expert](#) tab includes material such as standard evaluator briefing slides

Top Tip – register as an Expert. It is a paid role (€450 per day) and would give you valuable insight into the evaluation process

UK RI Innovate UK

Pillars 1 and 3 Breakout sessions: Research Careers and Funds for Businesses / Sesiynau Trafod Colofn 1 a 3: Gyrfaoedd Ymchwil a Chronfeydd i Fusnesau

UK National Contact Points

HORIZON EUROPE WALES ROADSHOW
28 JANUARY 2025
CARDIFF

Horizon Europe

Pillar 1 Funding Opportunities

About UKRO

Mission

- Maximise UK participation in Horizon Europe
- Support UK research organisations involved in EU R&I

UKRO Portal

- Dedicated **news articles, events and factsheets** to support participation
- **Alerts** to upcoming opportunities and call updates
- Access to the **UKRO portal** is free with your *@institution* email address

National Contact Point services

MSCA, ERC, WIDERA and COST funding opportunities

Pillar 1
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council (ERC)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA)

Research Infrastructures

€ 24.9 bn

Pillar 2
GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

1. Health
2. Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
3. Civil Security for Society
4. Digital, Industry and Space
5. Climate, Energy and Mobility
6. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

€ 53.8 bn

Pillar 3
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation Council

European innovation ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation and Technology

€ 13.4 bn

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRANGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

Pillar 1
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council (ERC)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA)

Research Infrastructures

€ 24.9 bn

Pillar 2
GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

1. Health
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WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRANGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

UK Research Office Brussels

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Dr Anja Berndt

Interim MSCA NCP

mariecurie-uk@ukro.ac.uk

MSCA: A world reference for research and training

Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)

Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)

International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility

Attractive working and employment conditions

Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes

Strong collaboration with industry and SMEs

European Commission

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
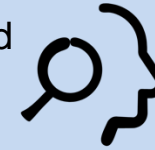
Doctoral Networks

Supporting programmes to train doctoral candidates in academic and non-academic organisations
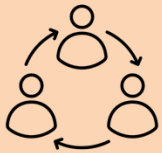
Next call opens on **28 May 2025**

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Supporting career perspectives and excellence of postdoctoral researchers

Next call opens on **9 April 2025**

Staff Exchanges

Encouraging collaborations between organisations through staff exchanges

Deadline on **5 Feb 2025**

COFUND

Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes

Deadline on **24 June 2025**

MSCA and Citizens

Bringing research and researchers closer to the public at large

Next call opens on **17 June 2025**
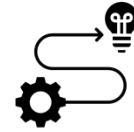
European Commission
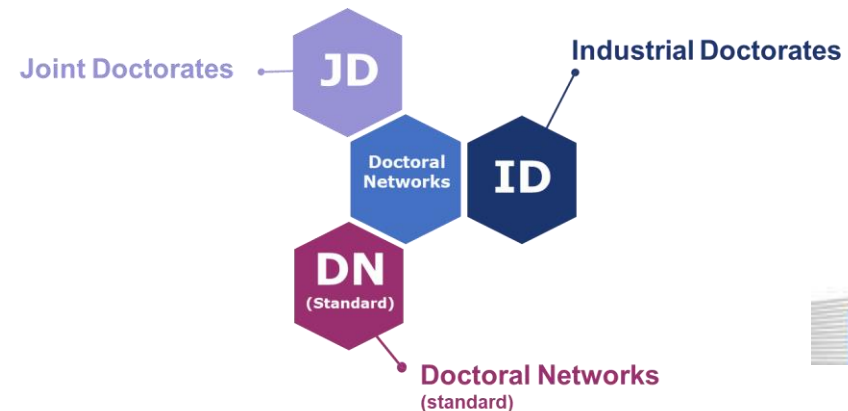
MSCA-Doctoral Networks (DN)

Objectives

- ✓ **Implement doctoral programmes** by partnerships of organisations from different sectors across Europe and beyond

- ✓ **Train highly skilled doctoral candidates**, stimulate their creativity

- ✓ **Enhance their innovation capacities**

- ✓ **Boost their employability** in the long-term

Implementation

- ✓ **One consortium** proposing a research project

- ✓ With **interlinked individual PhD research projects**

- ✓ For **doctoral candidates**

Joint Doctorates

JD

Industrial Doctorates

Doctoral Networks

ID

DN (Standard)

Doctoral Networks (standard)

European Commission

Doctoral Networks

Basic Features

- **Scope** | All areas of research may be funded

- **Project duration** | up to **4 years** (up to 5 years for JD projects)

- **Fellowship duration** | min 3 /**max 36 months** (between 3 and 48 months in the case of JD fellowships)

- **Secondments** | Worldwide, **up to 1/3** of the fellowship duration

Who can apply?

At least 3 independent legal entities:

- Each established in a different EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Country

- Minimum of 1 beneficiary from an EU Member State

All beneficiaries must recruit at least one doctoral candidate

No more than 40.0% of the EU contribution may be allocated to beneficiaries in the same country

---

(!)
- ✓ Specific eligibility conditions for Industrial and Joint Doctorates
- ✓ Re-submission restrictions for proposals scoring below 80%

European Commission

Doctoral Networks – What does the funding cover?

Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance** (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR **4010***	EUR **710**	EUR 660	EUR 4720 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit[1] x (1/number of months)	EUR 1600	EUR 1200

*A country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance in order to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers
** A family allowance to contribute to mobility-related costs of researchers with family obligations which can be granted during the project.

[1] The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.
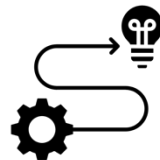
European Commission

MSCA-Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)

Objectives

- ✓ **Support researchers' careers** and foster excellence in research
- ✓ **For PhD wishing to carry out their research abroad,** acquire new skills and develop their careers
- ✓ **Help researchers gain experience in other countries,** disciplines and non-academic sectors

Implementation

- ✓ **Individual, bottom-up** research project - funds all research areas!
- ✓ For **individuals holding a PhD**
- ✓ Two types of implementation: *European* and *Global* Postdoctoral fellowships
- ✓ Fellowships **last between 12-36 months,** depending on the type of fellowship
- ✓ All fellowships **can include short stays, research trips, field work, secondments and placements** in the non-academic sector - *all are optional*

European Commission

2 types of MSCA Fellowships

European Fellowships
(12-24 months)

Any Country → Move to MS/AC → MS/AC

[EU flag] → Move Country → MS/AC
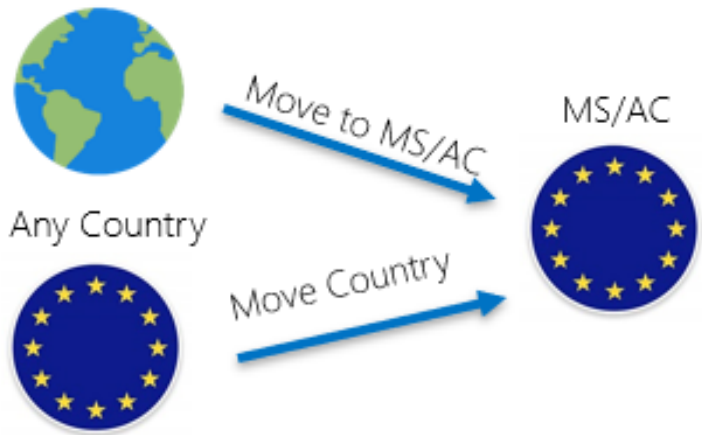
Mobility rule applies to the host organisation (the beneficiary)

Global Fellowships
(12-24 months) + (12 month return phase)

MS/AC → outgoing → Third Country → return → MS/AC

Mobility rule applies to the organisation hosting the **outgoing phase** (the associated partner)

applicants must be considered a long-term resident of one or more EU Member States (MS) or Horizon Europe Associated Countries (AC) of at least 5 consecutive years.

UK Research Office
Brussels

European Commission

Postdoctoral Fellowships – What does the funding cover?

Contributions for recruited researchers per person-month					Institutional unit contributions per person-month	
Living Allowance*	Mobility Allowance	Family Allowance**	Long-term Leave Allowance**	Special Needs Allowance**	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 5990	EUR 710	EUR 660	EUR 6700 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

- EC contribution to recruited researchers is the GROSS amount!

    - subject to all national deductions and can include employers' contributions

- Research and training related costs (including visa fees, NHS surcharges and relocation costs of recruited researcher)

UK Research Office Brussels

*multiplied by the country correction coefficient (CCC)
** can be applied at any time (as and when needed)

European Commission

The fellow | eligibility criteria

- **Must be in possession of a doctoral degree** (or have successfully defended one's doctoral thesis)

- Have a **maximum of 8 years full-time equivalent research experience***

- No nationality requirements

  - Global Postdoctoral Fellowship or researchers who wish to reintegrate to Europe must be nationals or long-term residents of MS or AC

- **Mobility rule:** *Cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host institution (European Fellowship), or host of the outgoing phase for a Global Fellowship) for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the call deadline*

  - Researchers wishing to reintegrate from a third country must have direct mobility to a MS or AC within the last 12 months before the call deadline

    *extensions possible for maternity leave, paternity leave, compulsory national service, times spent not working in research, long term sick leave

UK Research Office
Brussels

European Commission

The Supervisor

➢ **Appropriate level of supervision** depends on the career stage of both parties, and the expectations of the project

➢ **The best proposals are constructed where the Supervisor has an active role in their development!**

➢ Think about/explain how the relationship will work day-to-day.

➢ Can be built on an existing collaborative relationship, but justify this in the application

➢ For less experienced supervisors, highlight any **mentorship/ support** for the supervisor; justify their involvement

➢ Additional individuals can take on a mentor/co-supervisor role

➢ **Supervisor needs to be committed and involved for the full duration of the fellowship – evaluators must be convinced of this!**

➢ Check out the Guidelines for Supervision

UK **UK Research Office**
RO **Brussels**

Host Institutions

Why are they the best place to undertake the project?

Does the host have the necessary skills and experience to help meet the project objectives (research & training)?

Look beyond the potential supervisor – departmental & institutional level matters as well

How will you be integrated into the institution?

The institution needs to be aware of the submission!

Work closely with colleagues to set expectations and avoid surprises (during proposal development and project implementation)

UK Research Office
Brussels

European Commission

UK Research Office
Brussels

European Research Council

Dr Antonino Puglisi

ERC NCP

erc-uk@ukro.ac.uk

What is the ERC?

The ERC's mission

- encourage the highest quality research in Europe
- support investigator-driven frontier research *across all fields*
- fund projects *purely* on the basis of *scientific excellence*

What makes the ERC unique

- *Excellence* is the only criteria
- Funding split based on number of applications, *not* field/discipline/topic
- Freedom to work with and fund team members from anywhere in the world

BOTTOM-UP, CURIOSITY-LED EXCELLENT RESEARCH

ERC in Figures: After 15 Years, a Success Story

Over **13,000** top researchers funded since the ERC creation in 2007

Over **90,000** researchers and other professionals employed in ERC research teams

Over **2,400** patents and other IPR applications generated by ERC funding

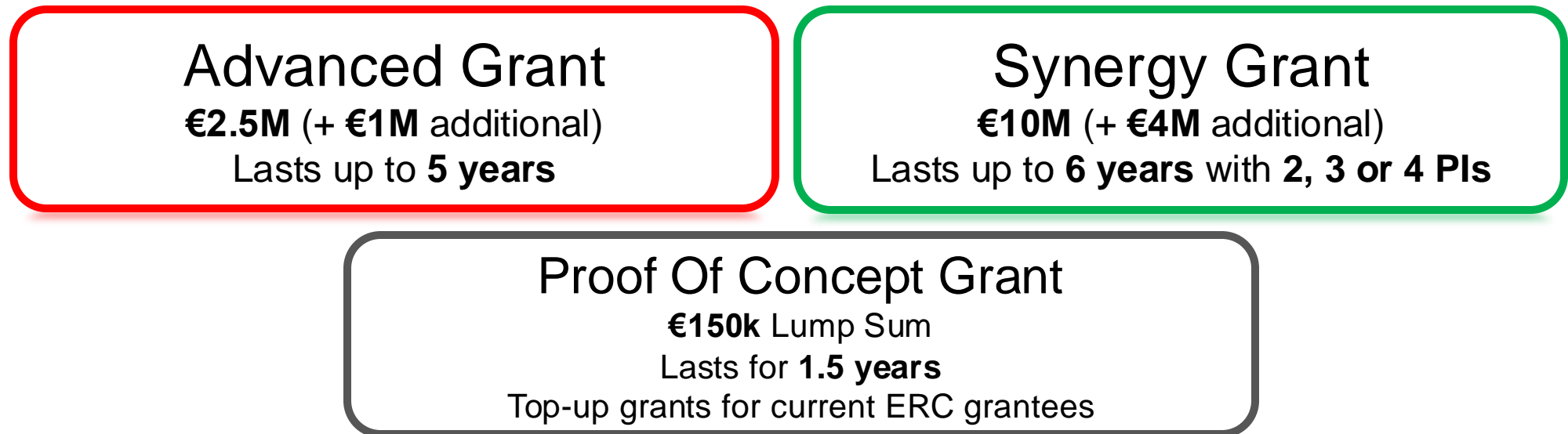Over **400** start-ups identified as founded or co-founded by ERC grantees

Over **250,000** articles from ERC projects published in scientific journals

Over **900** research institutions hosting ERC grantees – universities, public or private research centres in the EU or Associated Countries

93 nationalities of grant holders

12 Nobel Prizes, **6** Fields Medals, **11** Wolf Prizes and other prizes awarded to ERC grantees

erc

ERC Grant Opportunities

Years post-PhD

2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10   11   12

Starting Grant
€1.5M (+ **€1M** additional)
Lasts up to **5 years**

Consolidator Grant
€2M (+ **€1M** additional)
Lasts up to **5 years**

No PhD Requirements

Advanced Grant
€2.5M (+ **€1M** additional)
Lasts up to **5 years**

Synergy Grant
€10M (+ **€4M** additional)
Lasts up to **6 years** with **2, 3 or 4 PIs**

Proof Of Concept Grant
€150k Lump Sum
Lasts for **1.5 years**
Top-up grants for current ERC grantees
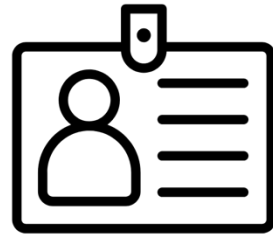
	StG	CoG	AdG	SyG
Identifier	ERC-2025-StG	ERC-2025-CoG	ERC-2025-AdG	ERC-2025-SyG
Call opens	10 July 2024	26 September 2024	22 May 2025	11 July 2024
Call deadline	15 October 2024	14 January 2025	28 August 2025	6 November 2024

Calls are on an annual basis
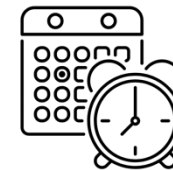
Principal Investigator Eligibility

Who?

No restrictions based on age, nationality, current location or current employment/contract status

Where?

Must have an institution **based in an EU member state or associated** country willing to host them

Principal Investigator & Team Members

- PI **leads** the research project - They are not collaborating as equals with their team

- PI has the **freedom to choose** how many team members are included in the project

- PI **names individuals or roles** that will be recruited in the proposal

- PI must **justify the team** and its composition and contribution

PI

TEAM MEMBERS
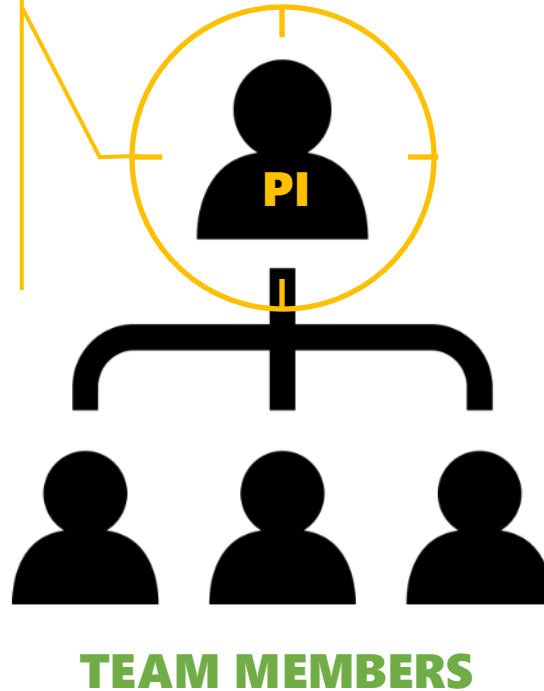
- Of any age, nationality or country of residence

- Can be based **at the Host Institution or any other organisation** in the world

- **Cannot be co-investigators**

- **Assigned to specific project outputs/tasks**

- Can be **research staff at any level** (including technicians and project managers)

- **EU funded** - Even outside member states or associated countries

UK**RI** **UK Research Office Brussels**

Funding rate

The ERC funds up to **100% of the total**

eligible costs + 25% of indirect costs

➢ Based on **actual costs**

+ 1 million of additional funding

- "Start-up" costs
- Purchase of major equipment
- Access to large facilities
- Other major experimental and field work costs

Excluding personnel costs

UK Research Office
Brussels

StG   Up to **1.5** million euros
up to 5 years

CoG   Up to **2** million **euros**
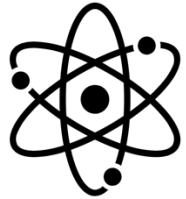up to 5 years

AdG   Up to **2.5** million euros
up to 5 years

SyG   Up to **10** million euros
up to 6 years

ERC Evaluation Panels

Physical Sciences & Engineering

PE1 Mathematics

PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter

PE3 Condensed Matter Physics

PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences

PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials

PE6 Computer Science and Informatics

PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering

PE8 Products and Processes Engineering

PE9 Universe Sciences

PE10 Earth System Science

PE11 Materials Engineering

Life Sciences

LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures & Functions

LS2 Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems

LS3 Cell Biology, Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration

LS4 Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing

LS5 Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System

LS6 Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy

LS7 Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases

LS8 Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution

**LS9** Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering

Social Sciences & Humanities

SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations

SH2 Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems

SH3 The Social World and its Interactions

SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity

SH5 Texts and Concepts

SH6 The Study of the Human Past

SH7 Human Mobility, Environment, and Space

SH8 Studies of Cultures and Arts

ERC Application – Your building blocks
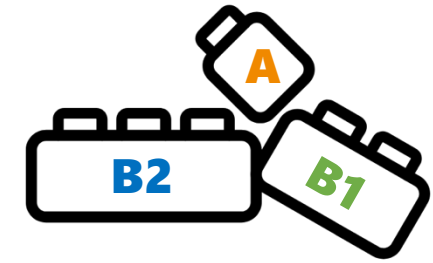
Part A

Administrative Forms

- General Info
- Participating Institutions
- Budget
- Ethics Check

online

Part B1

- Cover page and summary
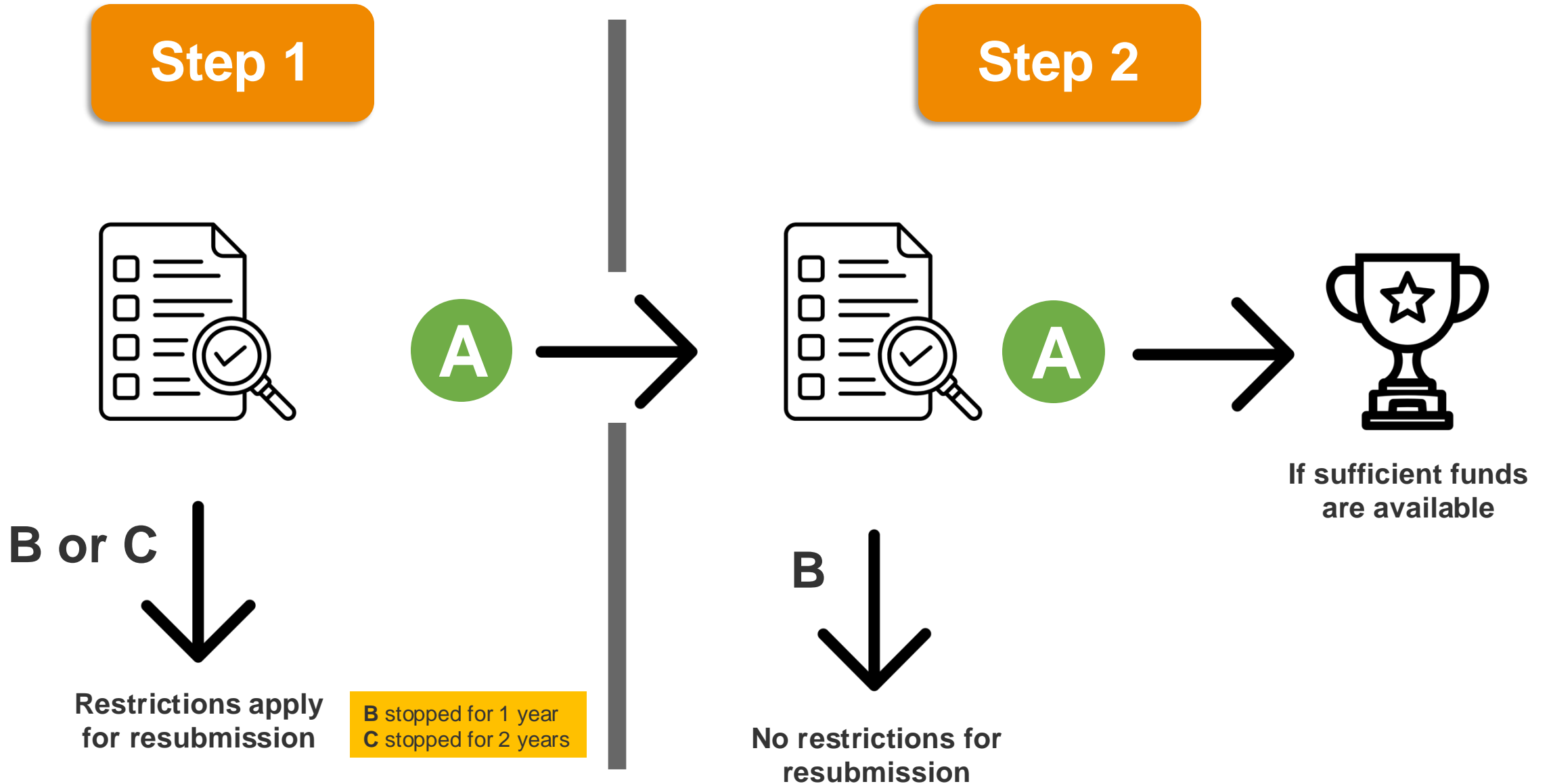- Extended Synopsis
- CV & Track Record

PDF

Part B2

- State of the art
- Methodology
- Funding ID

PDF

Annexes
Host Institution Letter, Ethics, Eligibility Documents

Evaluation Outcomes & Resubmission Restrictions

Step 1

Step 2

A

A

B or C

Restrictions apply for resubmission

B stopped for 1 year
C stopped for 2 years

B

No restrictions for resubmission

If sufficient funds are available

UK Research Office
Brussels

Research Infrastructures

RINCPUK@stfc.ac.uk
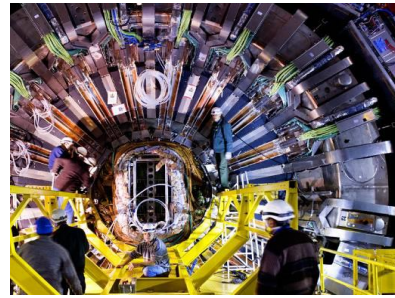
Horizon Europe: Research Infrastructures

Research Infrastructures: **facilities** providing **resources** and **services** for the research communities to conduct research and foster innovation (single site, distributed, virtual). They provide **access** to external users.

Knowledge-related facilities

Major scientific instruments or equipment

ICT infrastructures

e.g.: archives, collections, data infrastructures;

telescopes, research vessels;

computing systems, communication networks

Research Infrastructures contribute to:
1. Extending the frontiers of knowledge   2. Exchanging and transmitting knowledge
3. Training the next generation of top researchers 4. Supporting industrial innovation

The purpose of the RI Programme

Is not:

- **building** RIs. Member State and third countries come together to build RIs with Structural Funds and National Funding/in-kind contributions.

- Funding capital costs (with some exceptions)

It is aiming to:

- Develop an **advanced RI system** for the European Research Area

- Support **Trans-National & Virtual Access** to RI **"Erasmus for RIs"**

- Consolidate and enhance the EU RI landscape (via ESFRI)

- Foster **international cooperation** of facilities, links with the private sector, and support Open Science and data-driven research through **European Open Science Cloud**

- Push the limits of **frontier research**

- Develop **cutting-edge technologies** for RIs and foster innovation

- Enable and drive **green and digital transformations** through RI

Trans-national and/or virtual access

Trans-national access

Transnational Access ensures free of charge access to the best European research infrastructures. Apart from the cost of research itself being covered, travel, accommodation and subsistence costs may also be reimbursed by the projects budget.

This opportunity is open to all European researchers and to some extent to researchers from non-EU countries.

Virtual access

Virtual Access ensures free of charge access to e-infrastructure, namely to:

- Sophisticated computer services;
- Powerful computers, networks, grids, repositories, databanks;
- Safely storing large quantities of scientific data;
- Participation in virtual research communities;
- World-class operational communication and computing infrastructure to facilitate scientific research.

UK Research Office
Brussels

Thank you

@_UKRO_   UK Research Office (UKRO)

UK Research Office
Brussels

Q&A

@_UKRO_   UK Research Office (UKRO)

Closing Remarks / Cyfarfodydd anffurfiol rhwng cyfranogwyr

Followed by Networking

Department For Science, Innovation and Technology

HORIZON EUROPE WALES ROADSHOW
28 JANUARY 2025
CARDIFF

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

UKRI Innovate UK

Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology