

Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area

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Destination 1: Improved access to excellence



- **Expected impact:**
- Increased science and innovation capacity for all actors in the R&I system in Widening countries;
- Structural changes leading to modernised and more competitive R&I systems in eligible countries;
- Reformed R&I systems and institutions leading to increased attractiveness and retention of research talents;
- Mobilisation of national and EU resources for strategic investments;
- Higher participation success in Horizon Europe and more consortium leadership roles;
- Stronger links between academia and business and improved career permeability;
- Strengthened role of the Higher Education sector in research and innovation;
- Greater involvement of regional actors in the R&I process;
- Improved outreach to international level for all actors.

Teaming for Excellence



- **Call opening:** 10 January 2023
- **Deadline:** 12 April 2023 (1st Stage), 7 March 2024 (2nd Stage)
- **Project budget:** 8-15 million EUR
- **Funded projects:** 18
- **Type of action:** CSA
- The Teaming action is designed to support the **creation of new centres of excellence or upgrading the existing ones** in low R&I performing countries
- It is building on **partnerships** between leading scientific institutions in the European landscape and the main beneficiary institutions in low R&I performing countries that display the willingness to engage together for this purpose.
- 1st stage: R&I excellence and the conceptual approach for the centres of excellence will be evaluated
- **Complementary source of funding from a national (or regional or European or private source) is required**

Teaming for Excellence



- Increased scientific capabilities of the coordinating institution and the host country enabling the coordinator and other potential entities from that country to successfully apply for competitive funding in the European Union and globally;
- Improved the R&I culture of the country hosting the co-ordinator (indicators such as research intensity, innovation performance, values towards R&I) through centres of excellence as lighthouses and role models;
- Stimulus for institutional and systemic reforms and R&I investments at national level taking into account the enabling conditions on governance of smart specialisation introduced under cohesion policy programmes as far as applicable;
- Strengthened and mutually benefitting collaboration with partners from leading scientific institutions from abroad;
- Development and promotion of new research strands in relevant domains;
- Developed and enhanced research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies;
- Contribution to the achievement of the specific objectives of the supporting national/regional/EU programme as complementary funding;
- Enhanced innovation and integration of planned processes, services and products of the centre;
- Enhanced co-operation and synergies with other European projects.

Twinning



- Call opening: 25 April 2023
- Deadline: 28 September 2023
- Project budget: 0,8-1,5 million EUR
- Funded projects: 80 + 20
- Type of action: CSA
- Topic A: The (usual) Twinning Bottom-Up
- Topic B: The Twinning Green Deal
- A research / innovation component not exceeding 30% of the total Horizon Europe grant may include a research / innovation project. At least 50% of the budget for the research / innovation component must be allocated to the coordinator.
- The presence of a gender equality plan is an eligibility criterion
- Lump sum

European Excellence Initiative



- Call opening: 10 January 2023
- Deadline: 12 April 2023
- Project budget: 2-5 million EUR
- Funded projects: 20
- Type of action: CSA
- Applications must be submitted by a consortium including at least **three** but not limited to – **independent legal entities in three different EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries**, at least one of which established in a Widening Country
- **Expenditures for research and innovation activities** (such as seed funding for collaborative research projects, activities linked to joint doctoral and postdoctoral research, knowledge valorisation activities, etc.) cannot exceed a **maximum of 20%** of the total budget
- Raise excellence in science and in value creation through deeper and geographically inclusive **cooperation in alliances of higher education institutions**, such as – European Universities alliances selected under Erasmus+, with a particular focus on Widening countries
- **Improve global competitiveness and visibility** of Europe’s higher education institutions, creating critical mass in key areas such as the green transition and Horizon Europe mission areas

Pathways to Synergies



- Call opening: 28 March 2023
- Deadline: 28 September 2023
- Project budget: 0,5-1,2 million EUR
- Funded projects: 20
- Type of action: CSA
- **Improved and more systematic synergies between Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020, and ERDF, IPA** (instrument for pre-accession assistance), **RRF, INTERREG** or similar funding instruments through internationalisation, valorisation and technology uptake
- **Strengthened competitiveness** of R&I actors in Widening countries
- **Accelerated knowledge transfer and innovation cycle** for beneficiaries from ERDF and Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe
- **Strengthened innovation capacity and competitiveness** of less R&I performing regions

Dissemination and Exploitation Support Facility



- Call opening: 26 April 2023
- Deadline: 28 September 2023
- Project budget: 1-5 million EUR
- Funded projects: 1
- Type of action: CSA
- Strengthened Dissemination and Exploitation capacities
- Support to beneficiaries in their dissemination and exploitation of results through a market-oriented approach
- Improved skills and knowledge on D&E, knowledge transfer and IP management
- Collected and shared best practices for uptake of R&I results
- Improved sustainability of ongoing widening actions
- Identify downstream synergies with other EU programmes (ERDF, ESF, RRF)

Hop On Facility

- Call opening: 10 January 2023
- Deadlines: 28 September 2023; 26 September 2024
- Project budget: 0,1-0,6 million EUR
- Funded projects: 160
- Type of Action: RIA



Hop On Facility



- The proposal must be submitted by the co-ordinator of a consortium funded under Pillar 2 or EIC Pathfinder Actions 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 action will be part of an existing project with a valid GA. Applications must demonstrate the R&I added value of the new partner and present a visible and distinct work package for the acceding partner. Proposal should include a detailed description of the profile of the new partner and its role in the existing project. The additional partner and task should be presented in a track changes document based on the DOA of the ongoing action. 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.

Hop On Facility



- Expected outcome:
- At system level, it mobilises excellence in the Widening countries, increases visibility of the participants from the Widening countries, improves knowledge circulation, and reduces lack of participation of the Widening countries in specific thematic domains.
- At organisation level, it opens up silos of established closed consortia, improves research excellence of the Widening country's institutions in specific fields, enlarges outreach of the participants' R&I actions and provides access to new talent pools.
- At the level of the beneficiary, new competencies and skills for working in transnational projects including research management and dissemination and exploitation are acquired.

Hop On Facility



- **Who:**
 - A **consortium under Pillar 2 or the EIC Pathfinder Actions** of HE with a valid grant agreement but with no partner from a widening country
 - A **legal entity from a Widening Country** wishing to join the collaborative R&I action
- **How:**
 - The proposal must be **submitted by the coordinator of the consortium** funded under Pillar 2 of HE
 - **All consortium partners need to agree** on the accession of the new partner
 - Proposal should include a detailed description of the **profile of the new partner** and its role in the existing project and the **R&I relevance and complementary** needs demonstrated
 - The additional partner and task should be in a dedicated proposal template, **Description of the Action (DOA)** of parent project to be annexed

Hop On Facility



- **Implementation**
- Selected consortia will be invited to submit and **amendment request** for accession of a new partner, modification of the description of the action and upgrade of the budget
- **Costs**
- The budget increase must be **exclusively for the benefit of the new partner**
- An additional **coordination fee of up to 10%** of the increased budget can be allocated to the coordinator of the consortium

Excellence Hubs



- Call opening: 28 September 2023
- Deadline: 7 March 2024
- Project budget: 2-6 million EUR
- Funded projects: 12
- Type of action: CSA
- Proposals must involve **at least two Widening Country R&I ecosystems**
- Each Widening Country R&I ecosystem must comprise four different categories of actors i.e. a) **academic institutions** (universities and/or non-university research centres or labs), b) **business entities** (active established firms with relevant revenues), c) **public authorities or authorised agencies** operating at regional or local level and d) **societal actors** (civil society organisations, associations, citizens, end users, media, cultural actors etc.)

Destination 2: Attracting and mobilising the best talents



- **Expected impact:**
- Effective **institutional reforms** in research institutions in Widening countries
- Better use of existing **research infrastructures**
- **Excellent talents** attracted in institutions and research infrastructures;
- **Reverted brain drain**
- **Improved linkages** and increased mobility **between academia and business**, notably by overcoming sectoral barriers;
- **Free circulation of knowledge** and expertise in line with ERA priorities
- Improved **gender balance** and **equal opportunities**

ERA Chairs



- Call opening: 28 September 2023
- Deadline: 7 March 2024
- Project budget: 1,5-2,5 million EUR
- Funded projects: 45
- Type of action: CSA

ERA Chairs



- **Expected outcome:**
- At system level:
- **Increase in number of R&I talents** moving to host organisations in Widening countries;
- **Increase in** international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral **mobility** of researchers and innovators;
- Encouraging **institutional reforms** in research institutions and in the national R&I system in Widening countries;
- **Strengthening** of Widening countries' **human capital base** in R&I with more entrepreneurial and better trained researchers and innovators;
- **Better communication** of R&I results to society;
- **Better quality and capacity of research and innovation** contributing to Europe's competitiveness and growth;
- **Improved excellence capacity and resources** in Widening countries and close the still apparent research and innovation gap within Europe

ERA Chairs



- **Expected outcome:**
- 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

ERA Chairs



- ERA Chair holders should be excellent researchers and/or innovators in the chosen field of research. They should establish a research team fully integrated in the coordinator's institution to significantly improve its research performance in the scientific domain of choice and to be more successful in obtaining competitive funding. The ERA Chair holder should 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.
- Grants can have a duration of up to five years and 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

ERA Chairs



- **Who:**
- Coordinator in the Widening country to submit a **proposal with the prospective ERA Chair holder**
- Single applicant (mono-beneficiary)
- **How:**
- Proposals to include **CV of the future ERA Chair** and should **demonstrate how the proposed activities will upgrade** from current situation
- Proposals to include **letters of commitment** from: the prospective ERA Chair and the head of the coordinator institution
- **Creation of the ERA Chair team** with selection of personnel conducted by an **international recruitment panel** outlined in proposals and lead by the ERA Chair
- ERA Chairs expected to take on some **teaching duties when this is compatible** with the nature of the institution

ERA Chairs



- **Implementation:**
- ERA Chair holders moving to the coordinator on **permanent or temporary basis** (part-time work and multiple stays possible)
- **Flexible contractual arrangements** with secondments or other legal arrangements possible (e.g. leave without pay, sabbatical licences)
- ERA Chair **team with a minimum of 50% of external** recruitments
- Appointment of the **leader of the research team on a permanent position in the first 3 years** of the grant through open procedure (ERA Chairs can apply)
- **Eligible costs:**
- **Salaries** (ERA Chair holder and research team) plus other CSA costs
- **Research, consumables and small equipment up to 10%** of the EU contribution

Hasznos linkek



- <https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/events/212Ya9NuxRDW3TICABE5A4/overview>
- <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>
- https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/widening-participation-and-spreading-excellence_en
- <https://nkfi.gov.hu/palyazoknak/palyazati-hirek/horizont-europa/hop-on-eszkozzel-palyazhato-projektek>
- <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon/hop-on>

Thank you!

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