



HORIZON EUROPE

THE EU
RESEARCH & INNOVATION
PROGRAMME

2021 – 2027

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS IN
HORIZON EUROPE

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Overview

- 1. Intro: partnership landscape and portfolio**
- 2. Institutionalised partnerships**
- 3. Co-programmed partnerships**
- 4. Co-funded partnerships**
- 5. Synergies**
- 6. Strategic Coordinating Process**
- 7. BMR**
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New approach to European Partnerships

New generation of objective-driven and more ambitious partnerships in support of agreed EU policy objectives

Key Features

- Strategic orientation
- Simple architecture and toolbox
- Common set of criteria for the life-cycle

CO-PROGRAMMED

Based on Memoranda of Understanding/contractual arrangements; implemented independently by the partners and by Horizon Europe

CO-FUNDED

Based on a joint programme agreed and implemented by partners; commitment of partners for financial and in-kind contributions

INSTITUTIONALISED

Based on long-term dimension and need for high integration; partnerships based on Art 185/187 of TFEU and the EIT legal acts for 2021-2027

Overview of 49 European Partnerships

PILLAR II - Global challenges & European industrial competitiveness

PILLAR III - Innovative Europe

CLUSTER 1: Health	CLUSTER 4: Digital, Industry & Space	CLUSTER 5: Climate, Energy & Mobility	CLUSTER 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Agriculture, ...	EIT	SUPPORT TO INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS
Innovative Health Initiative	Key Digital Technologies	Clean Hydrogen	Circular Bio-based Europe	InnoEnergy	Innovative SMEs
Global Health Partnership	Smart Networks & Services	Clean Aviation	Rescuing Biodiversity to Safeguard Life on Earth	Climate	
Transformation of health systems	High Performance Computing	Single European Sky ATM Research 3	Climate Neutral, Sustainable & Productive Blue Economy	Digital	
Chemicals risk assessment	European Metrology (Art. 185)	Europe's Rail	Water4All	Food	
ERA for Health	AI-Data-Robotics	Connected and Automated Mobility (CCAM)	Animal Health & Welfare*	Health	
Rare diseases*	Photonics	Batteries	Accelerating Farming Systems Transitions*	Raw Materials	
One-Health Anti Microbial Resistance*	Made in Europe	Zero-emission waterborne transport	Agriculture of Data*	Manufacturing	
Personalised Medicine*	Clean steel – low-carbon steelmaking	Zero-emission road transport	Safe & Sustainable Food System*	Urban Mobility	
Pandemic Preparedness* <i>Co-funded or co-programmed</i>	Processes4Planet	Built4People		Cultural and Creative Industries	
	Global competitive space systems**	Clean Energy Transition			
		Driving Urban Transitions			

CROSS-PILLARS II AND III

European Open Science Cloud

- Institutionalised Partnerships (Art 185/7)
- Institutionalised partnerships / EIT KICs
- Co-Programmed
- Co-Funded

* Calls with opening dates in 2023-24
 ** Calls with opening dates not before 2022

Institutionalised European Partnerships

- **Legal basis:** Article 185 and Article 187 of the TFEU – requires the
 - preparation and adoption of a **Commission proposal** (incl. ex-ante impact assessment)
 - a Decision of European Parliament and Council (Art 185) / Council Regulation (Art 187, EIT)
- **Implementation by dedicated** structures created for that purpose (designated by Member States or Union body, such as Joint Undertaking)
- Rules for Participation of Horizon Europe apply by default
- Specific provisions in Horizon Europe set higher requirements, e.g.
 - Implemented only *if other forms of Partnerships would not achieve the objectives, and if justified by a long-term perspective and high degree of integration*;
 - Central management of all financial contributions (except in duly justified cases);
 - Article 185 initiatives: Mandatory participation of at least 40% of MS;
 - Financial contributions from partners other than the Union is required.
- **Estimated EU contribution to institutionalized partnerships:** EUR 10.8 billion + EUR 2.8 billion for KICs

Institutionalised European partnerships

- A **Single Basic Act** (SBA) for **9 JUs** enables to reinforce synergies across partnerships
- Political agreement on the **SBA** reached during Research Working Party of 16 September 2021
- 19 November 2021: Adoption of Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 establishing the Joint Undertakings (**SBA**)
- 24 November 2021: Adoption of Decision (EU) 2021/2084 of the European Parliament and of the Council on **Metrology**

- **Legal basis: Article 185 and Article 187 of the TFEU – requires the**
 - **preparation and adoption of a Commission proposal (incl. ex-ante impact assessment)**
 - **a Decision of European Parliament and Council (Art 185) / Council Regulation (Art 187, EIT)**

Co-programmed European Partnerships

- **Legal form:** Memorandum of Understanding (signed between representatives of the partners and the Commission)

Implementation:

- Union budget is implemented through Horizon Europe Work Programme.
- Partners implement their commitments and contributions under their responsibility.

Activities and contributions have to be agreed in the Annual Work Plan (to ensure they are in the scope of the partnership)
- European Commission: call topics for the necessary range of actions (R&I, Innovation actions, CSA, prizes)
- Partners: their own activities and investments;

- **Association** provides back-office with important functionalities
- **Estimated EU contribution to the 12 co-programmed partnerships:** EUR 7.8 billion

Co-programmed partnerships

- **12 co-programmed European Partnerships** included in the **Horizon Europe Strategic Plan**
- **Commission Decision** authorising the **11 Memoranda of Understanding and their signature** was adopted on 14 June 2021
- Co-programmed partnerships **have started their work in parallel**
- First topics included in the **first Horizon Europe work programmes**
- **Additional activities plans** in full development

Legal form: Memorandum of Understanding (signed between representatives of the partners and the Commission)

Co-funded European Partnership

- **Legal form:** Grant Agreement (programme co-fund action) signed between a consortium of beneficiaries and the Commission;
- **Implementation:** Member States design a common programme to be implemented under their responsibility. It pools national funding/resources with co-funding from the Union.
- EU co-funding is at a constant rate [typically 30%, in exceptional cases 50%] per grant agreement and is generated by eligible costs
- To create eligible costs for co-funding, the financial management of co-funded European Partnerships will be in line with the rules for financial management for any Horizon Europe action.
- Calls and evaluations are organised centrally, beneficiaries in selected projects are funded at national level (on the basis of rules agreed by partners)
- All Co-funded European Partnerships must be listed in the Strategic Plan
- **Estimated EU contribution to the 16 co-funded partnerships:** EUR 2.3 billion

Co-funded partnerships

- **16 co-programmed European Partnerships** included in the **Horizon Europe Strategic Plan**
- These represent the majority of partnerships in **Cluster 1** and **Cluster 6**
- **9** have been launched with call topics in the **2021/22** Horizon Europe work programme
- **The next 7** will be launched with call topics in the **2023/24** Horizon Europe work programme

Legal form: Programme Co-fun Actions (grant agreement)

Synergies

- Horizon Europe partnerships need to take a **systemic approach** in the achievement of the objectives, and **ensure coordination with other relevant R&I initiatives at EU, national and international level, including between partnerships themselves** (*bilateral and multilateral*)
 - **Developing synergies is essential!**
- All partnerships need to have a **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda** prior to launch
 - **Allows to agree collaborations and synergies ex ante**
- Work is ongoing to translate priorities into operational implementation
 - **E.g. joint coordinated activities, joint governance (e.g. Inter-Partnership Assembly), etc.**
- Specific issue for co-funded and institutionalised partnerships: the use of **cohesion policy funds** as national contribution (Article 15.2(3))
 - **The cross-cutting theme of the first Biennial Monitoring Report for European Partnerships is synergies**

Strategic Coordination Process and Partnerships Knowledge Hub

Horizon Europe sets a new governance framework for European Partnerships – the so-called strategic coordinating process for partnerships to ensure strategic oversight of the partnership portfolio **and evidence-based policy-making**. More info on [EC website](#).

Building blocks:

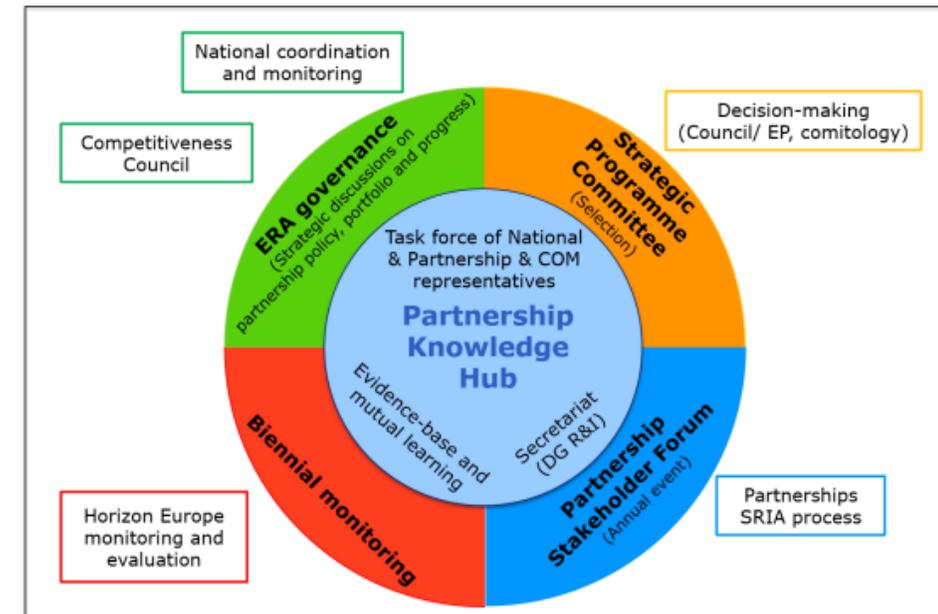
- **Programme committee**: general information on implementation + identification on new co-programmed and co-funded partnerships (2nd Strategic Plan)
- **Partnership Knowledge Hub** (*launched in October 2021 as EC expert group*): working-level interactions between the Commission, EU countries, as well as partnership representatives on issues related to monitoring, mutual learning and foresight. ← ***assumes the existence or willingness to set up national level governance/coordination mechanisms to ensure commitments throughout the life-cycle of partnerships.***
- **Partnership Stakeholder Forum**: regular event bringing together the whole community discussing policy and practical dimensions related to Partnerships.

Partnership Knowledge Hub - at the heart of SCP

Task team composed of national (*members*), Commission and Partnership (*observers*) representatives, supporting:

- Transparency and visibility of partnership portfolio and impacts
- Early involvement of MS (MS want to have a say, which is why we set up the PKH)
- **Evidence base** (Biennial Monitoring Report, BMR on partnerships)
- **Foresight activities** supporting the identification of priorities for possible R&I partnership candidates
- **Strategic discussions** to ensure strategic steering and political guidance
- **Community building** and **mutual learning** across the R&I partnership community

Figure 1: Strategic Coordinating Process for Partnerships - Schematic illustration of main elements and activities



Strategic Coordinating Process implementation

1. The **Biennial Monitoring Report (BMR)** for EU R&I partnerships – the most **visible output** of the strategic coordinating process providing evidence-base for strategic discussion
 - The BMR will contain standardised 3-page fiche per country and partnership.
 - **EC expert group on support of the strategic coordinating process** in charge for the drafting the BMR, under the framework of the **PKH**

The first interim report of the independent expert group –
<https://europa.eu/!b3TBfW>

Biennial Monitoring Report (BMR)

- **First-ever attempt for a comprehensive monitoring of all partnerships**
 - **Role of the expert group has been crucial**, not possible to do it with just internal resources (managing interactions with 29 countries and 40+ partnerships)
- **2022 edition of BMR: launched on 16 of May. Key elements:**
 - **New partnership landscape, benchmarks...**
 - Aggregated portfolio analysis (Chapter 2)
 - Partnership and country fiches (Chapters 3 and 4)
- **MS/AC opinion on the BMR** (through Partnership Knowledge Hub)
- **Great communication opportunity**
 - Social media campaign (4 infographics)
 - Commissioner address to the EU Ministers – specific interest: factsheet and country fiches (tbc)
 - First Partnership Stakeholder Forum (4Q 2022)



Mock-up of the cover page

Budget summary in € million – Part I

European Partnerships budgets split based on implementation form		Total budgets	Pillar II totals	% in Pillar II
Art 185/187	45%	10,800.00	10,800.00	54%
KICs	12%	2,854.00	-	
Co-fund	10%	2,346.00	2,096.00	10%
Co-programmed	33%	7,780.00	7,290.00	36%
	100%	23,780.00	20,186.00	100%

European Partnerships budget per cluster and pillar					
<i>Cluster 1</i>	<i>Cluster 4</i>	<i>Cluster 5</i>	<i>Cluster 6</i>	<i>Pillar I</i>	<i>Pillar III</i>
2,710.00	8,240.00	7,190.00	2,046.00	490.00	3,104.00

Pillar II	53,516.00
Partnerships cap in Pillar II	26,704.48
Total partnerships budget under pillar II	20,186.00
Remaining partnerships budget	6,518.48

Budget summary in € million – Part II

Commitments from members private partners	Total MS/AC commitments	Horizon Europe commitments	Estimated total for European Partnerships
22,831.00 €	8,542.00 €	23,780.00 €	57,684.00 €*

**The figure also includes contributions from other EU programmes*

Useful sources of information

1. [European partnerships webpage](#) on europa.eu:

- ✓ Here you will find all the published partnership proposals
- ✓ Report on coherence and synergies
- ✓ Infographics

2. www.era-learn.eu

- ✓ Contains a large variety of detailed information on the financial management of European partnerships, guidelines on SRIA development, etc.

Thank you!

HorizonEU

HorizonEUPartnerships

<http://ec.europa.eu/horizon-europe>

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe_en

<https://www.era-learn.eu/>

