

# Implementation of Synergies between Horizon Europe (and H2020) and Structural Funds: Italian Ministry of Universities and Research

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# Horizon Europe and the role of MUR as NCP

In line with the **National Contact Points systems under Horizon Europe adopted by the EC**, MUR is acting, in the frame of the New EU partnerships, as National Contact Point for the annual call ensuring:



**Sharing - that the call's objectives and impacts are known and readily accessible** to all potential Italian applicants thanks to **an Information system** (, by an on-the-ground and online information structure to all potential applicants and beneficiaries, along the whole project life cycle

*Language of work: Italian and English*



**Documentation - confidentiality codes and prevention of any conflicts of interest**



**Information and promotional activities** – in liaison with APRE: Important to mention the two info-days we (MUR, MISE and APRE) have organized in September 2022 dedicated to the new EU co-funded partnerships and the DUT, CETP, Water4all and Biodiversa+ annual calls, informing the potential applicants on: call's objectives and scientific themes; administrative procedures and national/international eligibility rules

# Horizon Europe and the role of MUR as International Joint Call Secretariat

MUR is acting as **International Joint Call Secretariat** in some Co-funded Partnership (in Water4all 1° call, in 2024 for the THCS partnership).

The Joint Call Secretariat:

- assists in coordinating the call procedures, ensuring the overall management of the call according to the rules defined in the relevant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). **It acts as a CENTRAL permanent helpdesk for the applicants**
- is in charge of preparing, coordinating and follow-up the joint call processes - For the entire period of each call
- works in cooperation and consultation with the Call Steering Committee (CSC), composed of representatives of each funding agency, and provides the CSC with all documents needed for decisions.



# MUR's commitment in the implementation of synergies

Involvement in the **CSA ERA LEARN** supporting the P2Ps and European Partnership since 2014.

MUR led desk and field research studies on the implementation of synergies resulting in three main reports:



[Report on the potential Coordination between European Structural and Investment Funds \(ESIF\) and transnational P2P](#)

REPORT

[Synergies between European R&I partnerships and European Structural and Investment Funds \(ESIF\): Good practice catalogue of synergies adopted in Horizon 2020](#) - Last Update – May 2021

[Updated Policy Brief on Synergies between R&I partnerships & European Structural and Investment Funds \(ESIF\)](#) - Last Update – June 2021

## MUR's future commitment in Era Learn

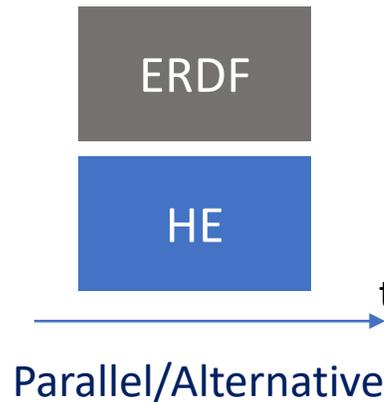


- **Improve dialogue and interaction among EP and different players involved** (Industry, National and Regional authorities) to facilitate the implementation of synergies in a broader sense in the next programming period
- **Improve knowledge and interaction about the different instruments for cooperation** (e.g: European Partnerships, Territorial Cooperation Investments and European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation, European Innovation partnerships, Joint programming initiatives) and other EU Initiatives (Erasmus+, Life+, Digital EU)
- Improve the implementation of **policy tools for cooperation at Governance level**, for example through the **dialogue with Regions for disclosing additional resources and measures synchronization**.
- Investigation on **Research infrastructures collaboration with the EU partnership** including those at national/regional level, less known but relevant at local level, such as for example circular economy, and those defining Smart specialisation strategy.

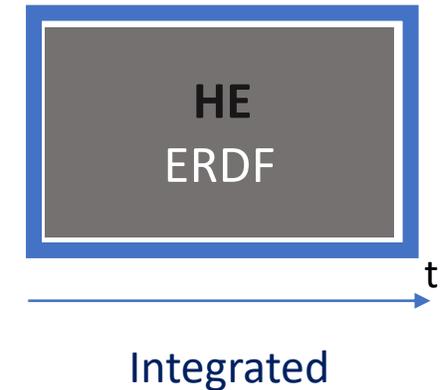
# Analysis of synergies



Creation of pre-condition and ecosystem facilitating the participation in a European Partnership or when it provides resources for follow up of funded projects through European Partnership calls



Supporting a parallel or complementary activity related to EP funded projects.  
Alternative funding such as Seal of Excellence



Cohesion policy funds are used within the work plan of a EP and counts as a partner/national contribution.

Alignment of S3 is fundamental for maximizing the Cohesion Policy funds impact

## Sequential Synergies - Italian National Programme for Research Infrastructures



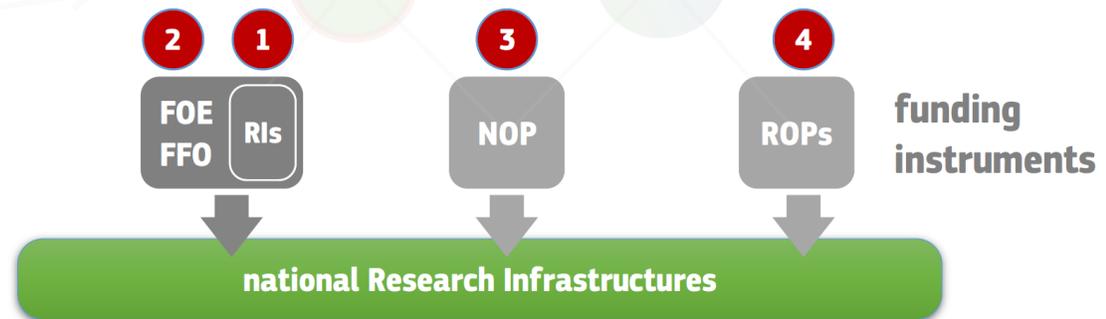
**Italian National Programme for Research Infrastructures (PNIR)** is part of the National Programme for Research (PNR)

The PNIR has a direct link to the strategies and priorities shared at European level, by adopting the ESFRI Roadmap process and results, including the ESFRI definition of research infrastructure and on the other side, the development of PNIR was done in close consultation with the Regions that indicated their own regional priorities (S3).

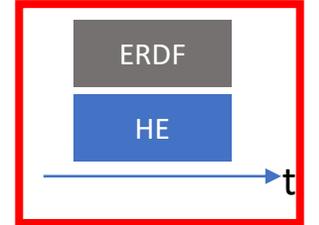
The call for Research Infrastructures of National Operative Programme is worth around 300 million euros and it funded **18 projects for upgrading priority Research Infrastructures** in Italian convergence regions

## National Programme for RIs: multi-fund strategy

- 1 Government block funding to RIs for development, construction and operation
- 2 PROs complementary funds: preliminary/design phase, personnel, ...
- 3 funding of upgrade/update projects of national priority RIs
- 4 complementary funding for upgrade/update projects of national/regional priority RIs



# Alternative synergies: ERC - MSCA - SoE



## Recovery and Resilience Plan

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In the implementation of Target M4C2-1, Public Notice No. 247 of Aug. 19, 2022, was published, which refers to Mission 4 "Education and Research" - Component 2 "From Research to Enterprise" - Investment 1.2 "Funding of projects submitted by young researchers" of the NRP

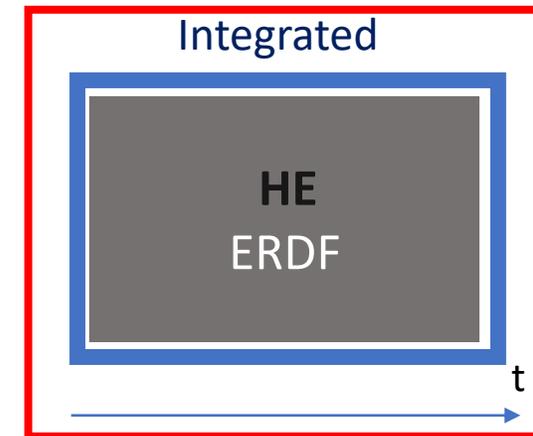
Investment 1.2 plans to provide new opportunities dedicated to young researchers who have won European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grants, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships (MSCA-IF) and "Seal of Excellence" following participation in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships, under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe Framework Programs.

# Integrated synergies: ESIF and RRF for European Partnerships

MUR in its natural role of R&I national strategies coordinator participates in all the planned European Partnerships and coordinates the participation of other Italian Ministries and Regions to these instruments.

From the year 2023 onwards, MUR will invest ESIF funds for about 200 million euro to fund the calls of most European Partnerships

Thanks to the fruitful interministerial collaboration, MUR involved the Italian Ministry of Economic Development which is contributing to many Partnerships with an envelope of 200 million euro from RRF as national contribution for funding projects in Joint Transnational Call.



## Pathway for Synergies

- Open dialogue with European Partnership consortia: Managing Authorities and National/Regional Stakeholders should identify R&D priorities in compliance with S3 priorities and planning of appropriate cohesion policy funds measures;
- Align national and regional Smart Specialization Strategies (S3) and disclose measures enabling parallel/alternative and complementary funding among different EU and national programmes;
- Collaborate with National representatives for coordinating national and regional commitments for joining European Partnerships



**Thanks for the attention**