

# NCP\_WIDERA.NET project

*Proposal Writing in Horizon Europe – Focus on Pillar II Calls*

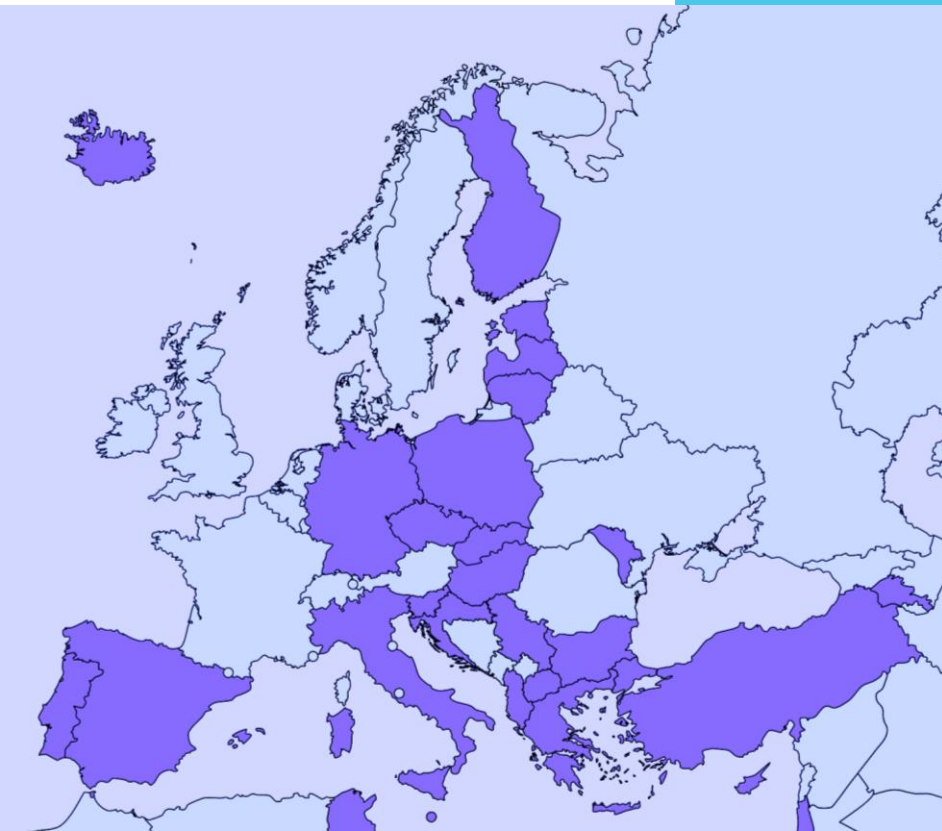
*NCP\_WIDERA.NET Training for applicants*

Warsaw, 28 May 2025

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NCP\_WIDERA.NET

# ● Project Consortium



## MEMBER STATES

Bulgaria | MON  
Croatia | AMEUP  
Cyprus | RIF  
Czechia | TC CAS  
Estonia | ETAg  
Finland | Suomen Akatemia  
Germany | DLR  
Greece | FORTH/PRAXI  
Hungary | NKFIH  
Iceland | RANNIS

Italy | APRE  
Latvia | VIAA  
Lithuania | RCL  
Malta | MCST  
Poland | NCBR  
Portugal | FCT  
Slovakia | CVTISR  
Slovenia | MIZS  
Spain | CSIC  
Spain | FECYT

## ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES

Albania | NASRI  
Armenia | SIPAC  
Faroe Islands | GRANSKING  
Israel | Innovation Authority  
North Macedonia | IZIIS  
Moldova | NARD  
Serbia | MPNTR  
Tunisia | MHESR  
Türkiye | TUBITAK

# Financial Support for Third Parties (FST)

NCP hosting organisations that are not members of the NCP\_WIDERA.NET project consortium with the aim to implement selected project activities: Advancing Europe Package (AEP):

- Ministry of Education, Science and Youth, **Georgia**
- Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, **Kosovo**
- Ministry of Science and Technological Development, **Montenegro**
- Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding, **Romania**



# Project objectives

- NCP\_WIDERA.NET **supports the capacity and effectiveness of the WIDERA National Contact Points** in low performing Member States and Associated Countries and **fills knowledge gaps to improve access to funding opportunities** under the Framework Programmes.
- The project aims to support **international networking and coordination**, and to **improve the quality of proposals** through better access to services provided by the NCPs during the application process, in particular with regard to Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area, as well as Pillar II actions.
- NCP\_WIDERA.NET identifies and **shares good practices** within the NCP community and **raises the standard of support** provided by NCPs to applicants.

# ● Activities



**Workshops** on proposal preparation, **Info Days**, and **materials** for applicants in national languages



**ERA** Knowledge Days and Brokerage Events, Fact Sheets, Policy Briefs, Success Stories, ERA Opportunities document



Meetings for **NCPs**: training, exchange visits and mutual learning workshops; informal meetings: *Friday chat over coffee*



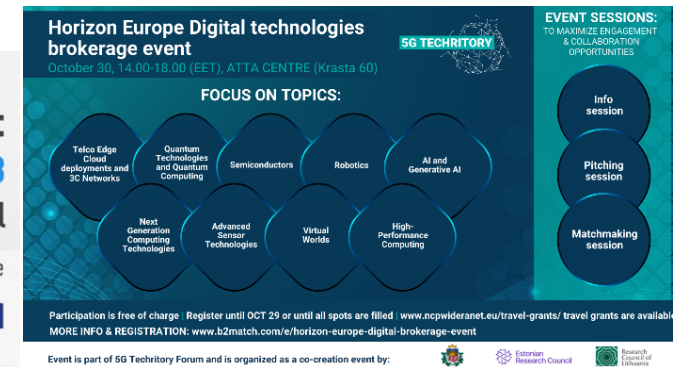
**Matchmaking: travel grants** for applicants to participate in Pillar II clusters & partnerships brokerage events, as well as **study visits** to advanced partners research institutions



**Wideraexperts.eu**: portal for NCPs and applicants from Widening countries, where external experts from around the world offer professional **pre-screening of proposals**

# Advancing Europe Package Matchmaking

→ Travel grants programmes to support participation of applicants from the Widening countries to **Pillar II clusters & Partnerships brokerage events** organised on-site launched by 21 partners: [Armenia](#), [Bulgaria](#), [Croatia](#), [Cyprus](#), [Czechia](#), [Estonia](#), [Georgia](#), [Greece](#), [Hungary](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Macedonia](#), [Moldova](#), [Montenegro](#), [Poland](#), [Romania](#), [Serbia](#), [Slovakia](#), [Spain – Canary Islands](#), [Tunisia](#) [Türkiye](#)



# Matchmaking

- Up to 1,000 EUR to reimburse the travel expenses
- Easy application process:
  - Application form
  - Confirmation of registration
  - Follow-up form
- List of upcoming brokerage events available at <https://www.ncpwideranet.eu/brokerage-events/>



## Login

E-mail

Please enter e-mail

Password

Please enter password

Remember me

Login

## Register

Expert

Applicant

NCP

# Advancing Europe Package wideraexperts.eu portal

- free-of-charge portal that facilitates the matchmaking of experts from any country with applicants from the Widening countries preparing proposals within the Widening, ERA, Pillar II clusters, Institutionalised European Partnerships, and EIC Pathfinder schemes under the Horizon Europe programme
- the goal is to improve the quality of proposals thanks to the feedback that the applicants receive from the experts.

Applicant

NCP

Expert

## Pre-screening of proposals



**Applicant**

- **Coordinator or Work Package Leader** from a Widening country with an advanced proposal (e.g. including description of work packages, consortium almost formed)



**NCP**

- National Contact Points of the relevant Horizon Europe area (from a Widening country)



**Expert**

- Experienced professionals with a high level of expertise in the field that corresponds to Pillar II, EIC Pathfinder, or Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area of the Horizon Europe programme
- From any country

<https://www.ncpwideranet.eu/wideraexperts/>

# Pre-screening of proposals

Register as Applicant and then register your proposal at <https://wideraexperts.eu/>:

- indicate the relevant area of Horizon Europe
- select the keywords – as many as you see relevant - **matchmaking** between the proposal and the expert is done based on the **keywords**
- indicate the call ID and the proposal ID (from F&T)
- provide the summary of your proposal and other relevant information

MY SUBMISSIONS

## New submission

### Pre-proposal check preferences

Select the parts of the Horizon Europe program for which you agree to perform pre-screening:

[Pillar II Cluster 6] Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Select the keywords that describe your proposal

Water resources

Nature Based Solutions x Water management x Sustainability x Cost efficiency x drought x climate adaptation x Biodiversity Strategy x

Water resources x

Select the call ID you are planning to submit your proposal

HORIZON-CL6-2024-BIODIV-01

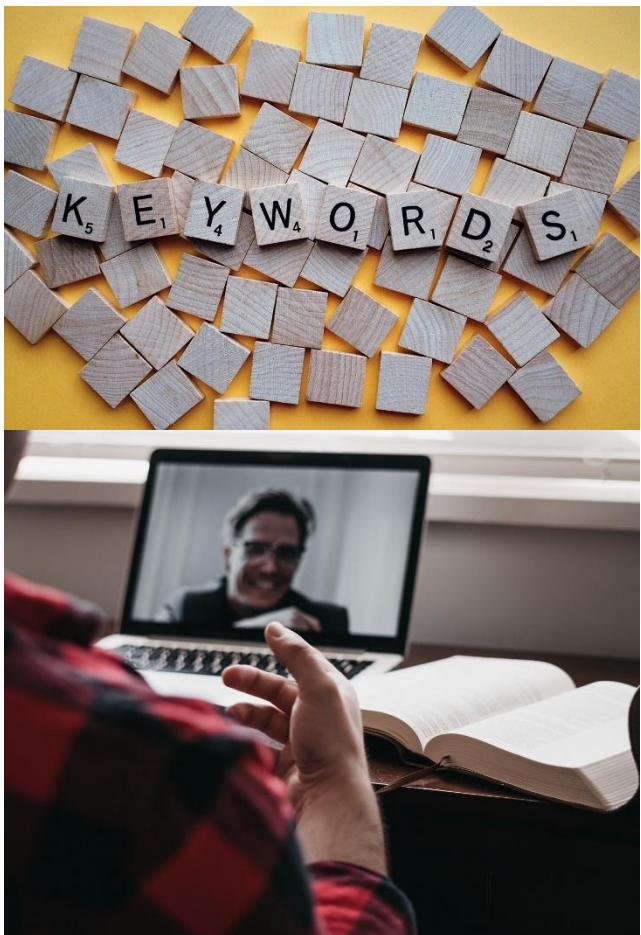
Proposal ID

Description of your proposal

Other information that can be helpful match the right expert to your proposal

Submit

## Pre-screening of proposals



- NCP organisation **signs the contract** with the expert, which includes **confidentiality clauses**
- **Pre-screening**: analysis of the proposal and online consultations
- **Written recommendations** from the expert how to improve the proposal
- **Remuneration** for the service (up to 600 EUR) paid by the NCP organization from the NCP\_WIDERA.NET project budget

# ● Feedback from the applicants

(...) We got **very helpful recommendations** regards both the research part and both the impact and other parts of the proposal. In our case we had a meeting with our NCPs as well and it was **definitely worth to have more people involved**.

The service **helped enormously** the team preparing the Twinning proposal. Since the team had no experience with preparation of a proposal in Horizon Europe, the **evaluator's comments helped a lot to understand the requirements of the call**, the sense of the information to be provided in each section of the proposal and the role of the evaluator.

The service **significantly contributes to the quality of the proposal**. It is, in my view, **one of the most effective ways how to help** coordinators from Widening countries to close the gap with regard to their experienced counterparts.

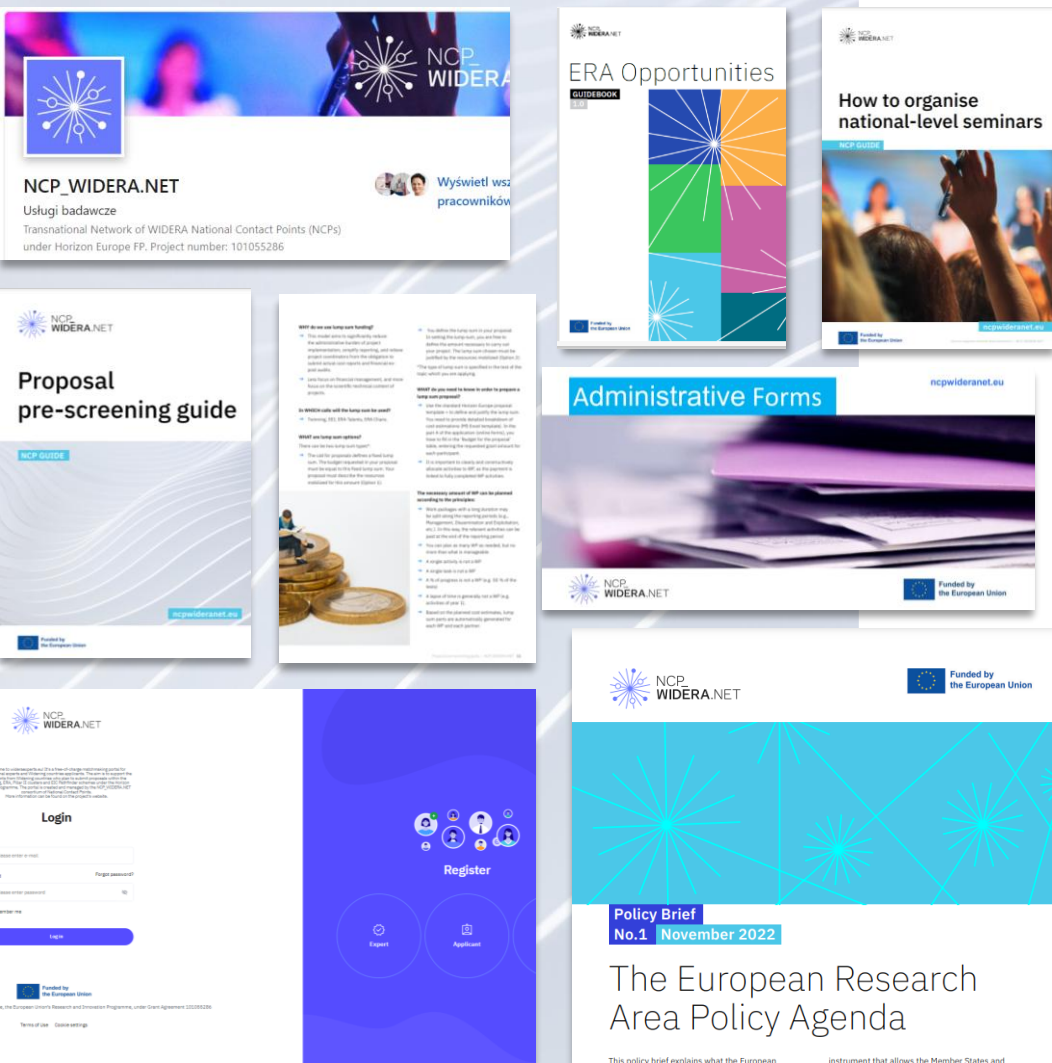
**Very useful service**, especially for those with low experience in handling EU projects.

The reviewer provided **comprehensive feedback on the Excellence and Impact Sections**, covering not only **technical aspects but also market perspectives**. Our interaction lasted over 4 hours and **greatly enhanced our proposal across all areas**.

Extremely good. Despite the short deadline, the **expert was very efficient** in providing me with the **relevant feedback**. (...) Very good initiative, it **should be made permanent service**.

The **expert assigned was very qualified**, gave very **interesting remarks and feedback**. (...) The expert has the arts & crafts & history & culture background, **very high level of knowledge**.

The **interface is client oriented**, very clear and simple. The work of the **expert was very professional** and **well structured**. The **communication of the recommendations was also very clear**, no ambiguities.



# Contact

→ **NCP\_WIDERA.NET Coordination Team**  
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→ **Websites**  
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