

Webinar EU Grant application

Unlocking EU Funding Opportunities: A Practical Introduction

Monday 27 January 2025

14.00h - 16.00h CET (Brussels Time)

Speakers:

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Welcome and Agenda



OVERVIEW OF
EU FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES



UNDERSTANDING
CALL TOPICS



BUILDING
CONSORTIA



DESIGNING AND
WRITING
PROPOSALS



WHERE TO GET
HELP AND Q&A



Overview of EU funding opportunities

What's the first word that comes to mind when you hear 'EU grant'?

030



Which part of grant writing seems the most intimidating?

040

(1/2)

Understanding eligibility rules.



Finding the right call.



Writing the proposal.



Time management.



Budgeting.



Consortium building.



Why EU funding matters?

Transformative Benefits

- Access to substantial resources for impactful research
- Opportunities to address Europe-wide challenges collaboratively
- Networking with top institutions and stakeholders

Broader Impacts

- Strengthening your research profile
- Creating pathways to innovation
- Contributing to European public health and beyond

The Big Picture – EU Funding Programmes

Key Research-Focused Programmes

1. Horizon Europe

- Budget: €95.5 billion (2021–2027)
- Pillars: Excellent Science, Global Challenges, Innovative Europe
- Including Missions and Partnerships (such as IHI, THCS, ERA4Health)

2. EU4Health

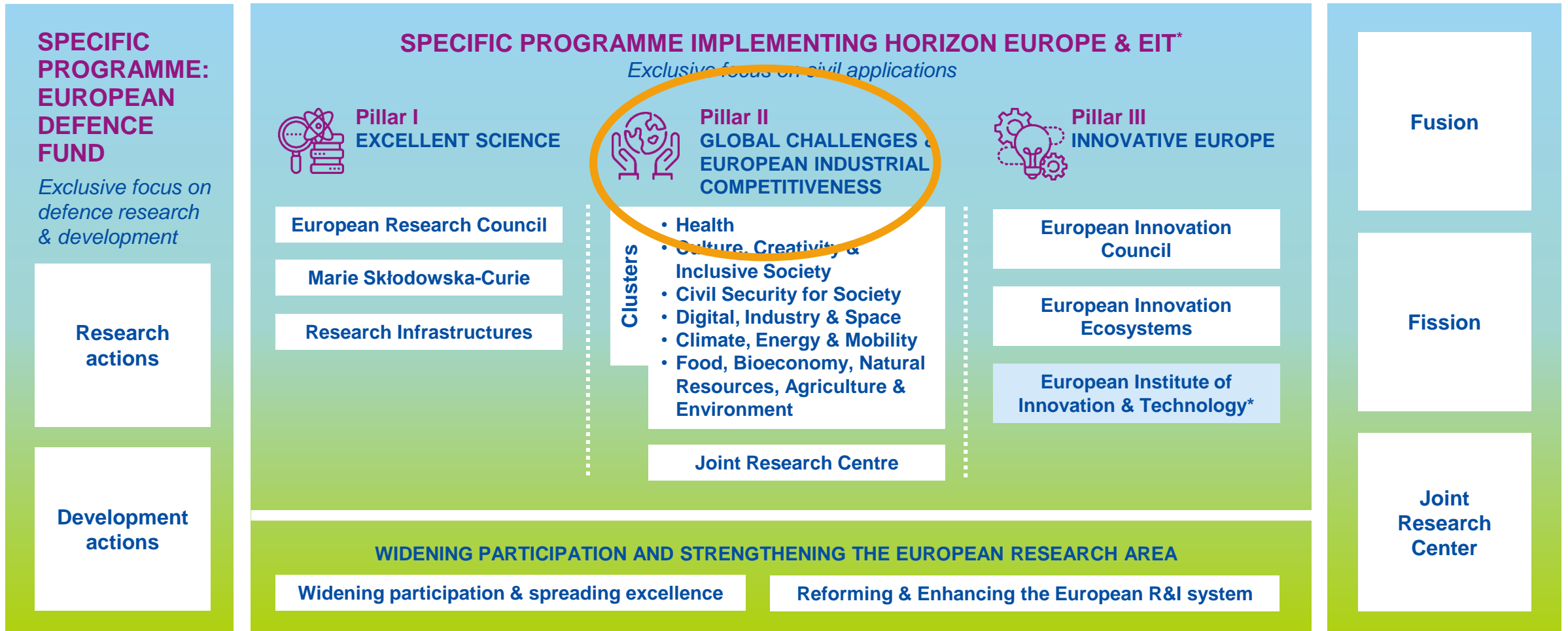
- Budget: €5.3 billion (2021–2027)
- Focus: Strengthening health systems, digital health, and pandemic preparedness

Additional Opportunities

- LIFE: Environmental and climate action
- Digital Europe: Supporting digital transformation

HORIZON EUROPE

EURATOM



* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme



European Partnerships under Horizon Europe

PILLAR II - Global challenges & European industrial competitiveness

PILLAR III - Innovative Europe

CLUSTER 1: Health	CLUSTER 2: Culture, Creativity, Inclusive Societies	CLUSTER 4: Digital, Industry & Space	CLUSTER 5: Climate, Energy & Mobility	CLUSTER 6: Food, Bio-economy, Agriculture, Env...	EUROPEAN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS
Innovative Health Initiative	Resilient Cultural Heritage*	Chips (formerly KDT)	Clean Hydrogen	Circular Bio-based Europe	Innovative SMEs
Global Health Partnership	Social Transformations and Resilience*	Smart Networks & Services	Clean Aviation	R&I in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA, Art. 185)**	
Transforming Health and Care Systems		High Performance Computing	Single European Sky ATM Research 3	Biodiversa+	EIT
Chemicals risk assessment		European Metrology (Art. 185)	Europe's Rail	Climate Neutral, Sustainable & Productive Blue Economy	InnoEnergy
ERA for Health		AI-Data-Robotics	Connected and Automated Mobility (CCAM)	Water4All	Climate
Rare diseases		Photonics	Batt4EU	Animal Health & Welfare	Digital
One-Health Anti Microbial Resistance*		Made in Europe	Zero-emission waterborne transport	Accelerating Farming Systems Transitions	Food
Personalised Medicine		Clean steel – low-carbon steelmaking	Zero-emission road transport	Agriculture of Data*	Health
Pandemic Preparedness*		Processes4Planet	Built4People	Safe & Sustainable Food System	Raw Materials
Brain Health*		Global competitive space systems	Solar Photovoltaics*	Forests and Forestry for a sustainable Future*	Manufacturing
		Innovative Materials for EU (IAM for EU)*	Clean Energy Transition		Urban Mobility
		Virtual Worlds*	Driving Urban Transitions		Cultural and Creative Industries*
		Textiles of the Future*			Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystem*
		Raw Materials for the Green and Digital Transition*			

■ Institutionalised Partnerships (Art. 185/7)

■ Institutionalised partnerships / EIT KICs

■ Co-Programmed

■ Co-Funded

□ Proposed new candidate European Partnerships under the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027

* Not yet launched

** Direct continuation of a H2020 partnership

CROSS-PILLARS I AND II

European Open Science Cloud

Dive Into Horizon Europe

(9th Framework Programme, running till 2027 and to be replaced by FP-10 in 2028)

Highlights

- Pillar I – Excellent Science:

Focus on foundational research (e.g., Marie Curie, Research Infrastructures)

- Pillar II – Global Challenges:

Clusters like Health, Climate, and Societal Resilience

- Pillar III – Innovative Europe:

Bridging research to market (e.g., EIC Accelerator)

Types of Projects

- Research and Innovation Actions (RIA): Research-driven projects
- Innovation Actions (IA): Close-to-market initiatives
- Coordination and Support Actions (CSA): Networking and policy alignment

Spotlight on EU4Health

(4th Health Programme, running till 2027 and to be replaced in 2028)

Key Priorities:

- Addressing health crises and pandemics
- Tackling non-communicable diseases (e.g., cancer)
- Promoting digital health solutions
- Enhancing cross-border health initiatives

Why EU4Health?

- Dedicated health programme aligned with research impact
- Opportunities for cross-sector collaborations

- Calls for proposals
- Participant register
- Partner search
- EU programmes
- Funding updates
- Horizon4Ukraine



Discover the funding & tenders opportunities

Find **Grants are non-profit opportunities to have activities funded by the EU**

Find **Tenders are calls from the EU to buy goods or services at a fixed price**

Find **Work as an expert**

Find **View projects and results**

Tenders are calls from the EU to buy goods or services at a fixed price

View projects and results
Browse through EU funded projects and learn about the results. Invest in opportunities and get inspired by the highlights and success stories.

Work as an expert
Proposals and projects need evaluations, monitoring and domain-specific knowledge advice from experts.

Report fraud

Highlights

Main funding instruments used by webinar participants (based on the online registration form)

Experience:

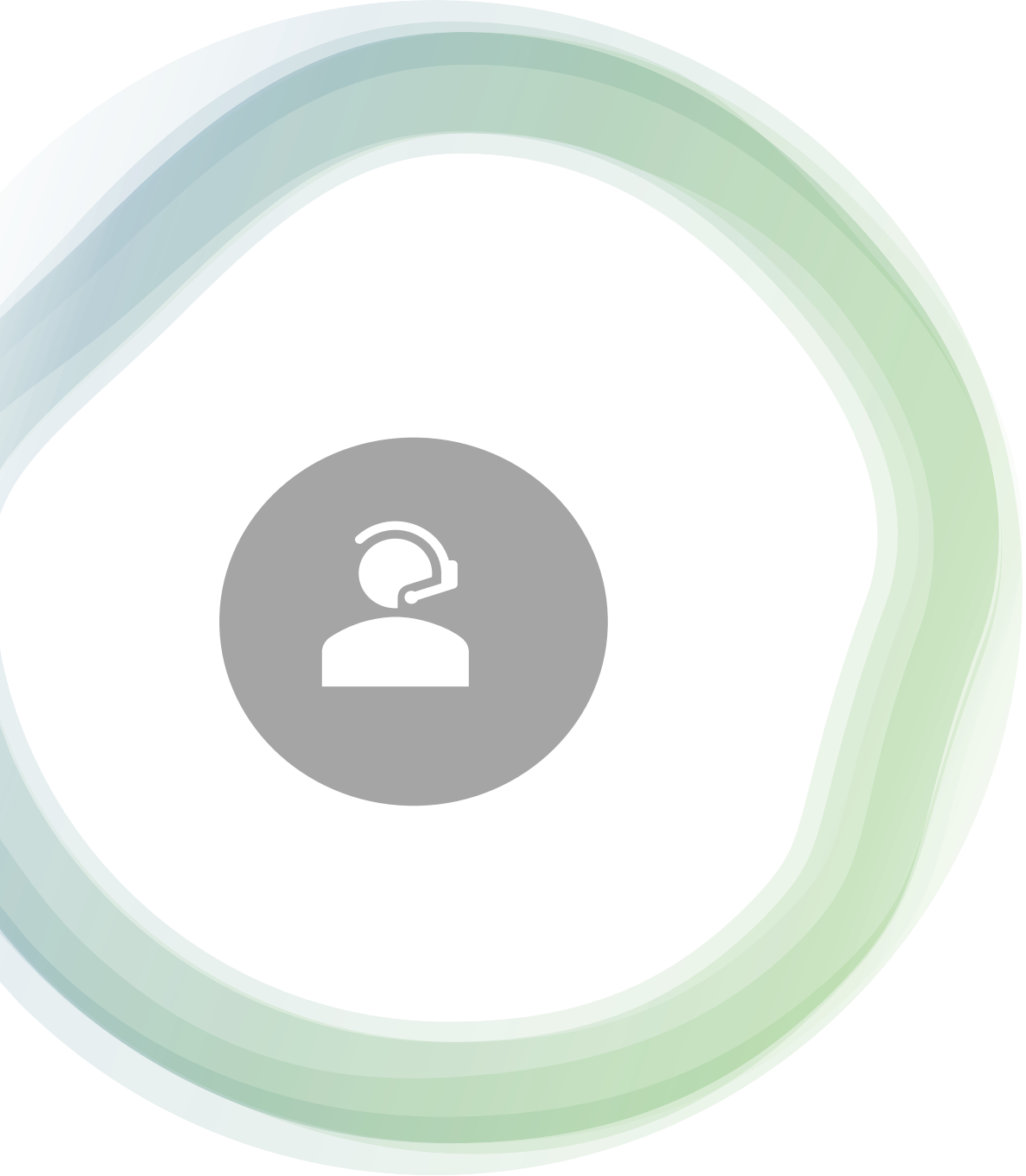
- 53% have no experience in applying for international level research funding
 - 39% have some experience
 - 6% have considerable experience
- (the remainder didn't know or left the question open)*

Funding instruments:

- 12% has applied to Horizon Europe, Horizon 2020 or FP7
- 8% has applied to EU4Health or the Third Health Programme
- 5% has applied to the Erasmus Programme
- 12% filled in 'Other'

Examples of 'Other':

- International instruments such as INTERREG, COST Actions, Marie Curie, CERV, Alliance for Health Policy and Service Research
- National instruments, such as Swiss Research Council, NIHR, Wellcome Trust, NIH, CDC, USAID



Understanding call topics

Finding the Right Call

Your First Steps

- Visit the EU Funding and Tenders Portal
- Search by topics, deadlines, and eligibility criteria

Breaking Down a Call

- Scope: What is being asked?
- Expected Impact: Outcomes and relevance to EU goals
- Type of Action: Collaborative or individual?



Building consortia

Building Consortia for Success

Why Consortia?

- Required for most Horizon Europe and EU4Health projects
- Combine complementary expertise

Considerations:

- Form a suitable consortium that will be able to deliver on the expected outcomes.
- Consider partners' track record and expertise, internationally or nationally
- Look at the composition of the consortium, especially at gender, geographical distribution and SME participation.
- Using a multidisciplinary approach involving many types of stakeholders usually scores well on excellence and impact.
- Are there organisations in the consortium that will continue the uptake of project results after it ends?

Building Consortia for Success

Steps to Build or Join

- Ideally use personal contacts
- Start with existing networks (e.g., EUPHA and its Sections, past research partners, other research departments in your own institute)
- Explore EU platforms (e.g., Participant Portal, CORDIS)
- Attend Info Days and Matchmaking Events

Key Tips

- Align with partners who share your vision.
- Clarify roles early to build trust.
- Allow for time to build a network, starting small (e.g. via joint workshops or supporting roles in EU proposals)

Boosting innovation for peopled centred integrated healthcare solutions

HORIZON-JU-IHI-2025-09-03-single-stage

Topic Call for proposal

Internal navigation

- General information
- Topic description
- Topic updates
- Mission
- Destination
- Conditions and documents
- Budget overview
- Partner search announcements**
- Start submission

General information

Programme
Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

Call
[Innovative Health Initiative JU Call 9 \(HORIZON-JU-IHI-2025-09-single-stage\)](#)

Type of action HORIZON-JU-RIA HORIZON JU Research and Innovation Actions	Type of MGA HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]	Open For Submission
Deadline model single-stage	Opening date 16 January 2025	Deadline date 29 April 2025 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

See partner search announcements





Coffee break



Designing and writing a proposal

Main evaluation criteria under Horizon Europe

- Excellence:
 - Clear objectives, ambitious activities beyond the state-of-the-art,
 - Sound methodology (incl. concepts, models, the gender dimension and engagement of citizens and stakeholders).
- Impact:
 - Credibility, scale and significance of the expected outcomes from the project.
 - Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan.
- Quality and efficiency of the implementation
 - Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, risk assessment and appropriate resources
 - Capacity and role of each participant, and the extent to which the consortium brings together the necessary expertise

See for more details the evaluation form for evaluators: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/temp-form/ef/ef_he-ria-ia_en.pdf

Design phase:

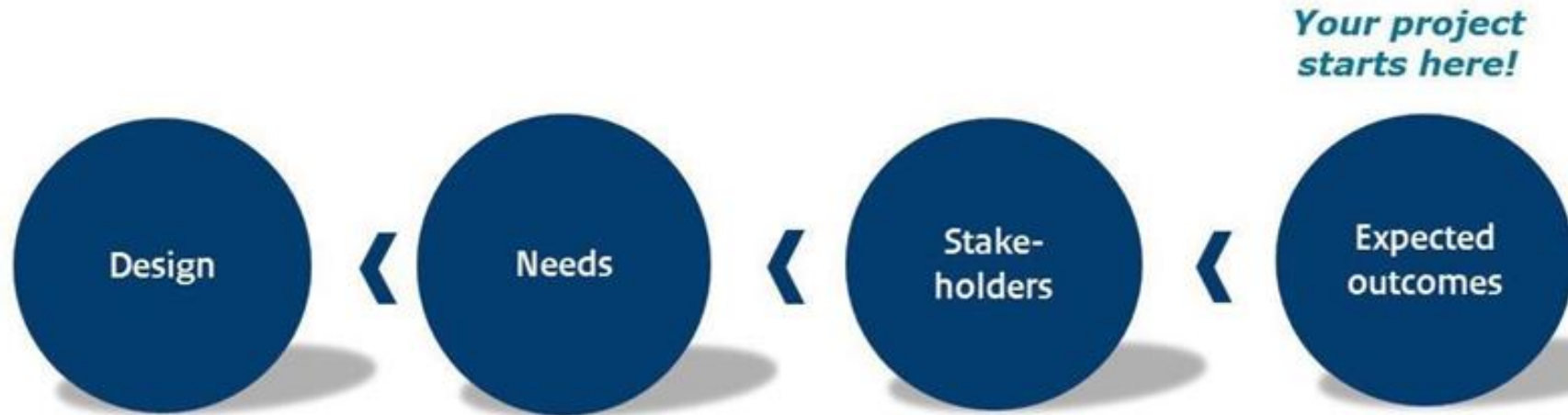
At the start:

- Study the programme manual on eligibility to be a partner
- Would you be able to meet the cofinancing requirements?
- Decide if you have the capacity and experience to lead or if it's better to join as partner

Design choices

- Develop an idea into a solid and coherent outline, also with inputs from partners to make it a collaborative effort
- important to be innovative and adding value / filling a gap
- Avoiding designing something way too ambitious or incoherent
- Study past funded projects to see why they were successful
- How many countries do you focus on and how can you add value to other countries?

Writing a Competitive Proposal –importance of impact



Usually, Impact is most difficult. So start your writing from the impact.

Then how should you **design/set up** your project (which main questions should you ask?) in order to get the 'things' your stakeholders need?

What will each stakeholder **need**? To be able to reach that effect/impact?

Which **stakeholders** have a 'stake' here, or are part of the impact, or will be influenced by the project output (positively or negatively).

Found in topic description!

Source: RVO (NCP NL)

How do you ensure that you achieve the expected outcomes?

- Which disciplines and which partners are needed for that?
- How will the results of the project be used, by when and by whom?
- How will you involve stakeholders? How will you ensure systemic change?
- What are the steps to achieve a certain outcome by when (incl. KPI's)?

Tips on the contents of a competitive proposal

- Be sure to align well with the call's expected outcomes (find the sweet spot between your and the funder's ambitions)
- Answer to all points requested in the template proposal
- Be clear and make the proposal easy to read for outsiders
- Make it as easy as possible to be convinced of the project, also by sufficient details and examples
- Be ambitious, but realistic: promises that can't be delivered erode credibility.
- Describe how your project fits into a longer series of EU funding, both retrospectively and prospectively
- Use the terms and references the call text provides, e.g. to EU policies

Tips on the format of a competitive proposal

- Be as concise as possible and stay below the page limit
- Make use of figures, images, tables, lists and (sub-) paragraphs to make the story visually attractive
- Avoid jargon and excessive use of abbreviations
- Use an active voice ('we will' rather than 'we aim')
- Avoid (too) long sentences
- Only cite crucial references: a proposal is a convincing exercise, not a scientific paper
- Avoid language and grammar errors and allow for proofreading
- Allow time for a lead editor, avoiding too many voices

Use of resources during submission and execution:

- Be clear about any internal deadlines and decision making moments
- Provide detailed yet realistic budgets
- Use cloud-based software to co-write the proposal, such as Teams
- **As partner: be sure to deliver and contribute actively**

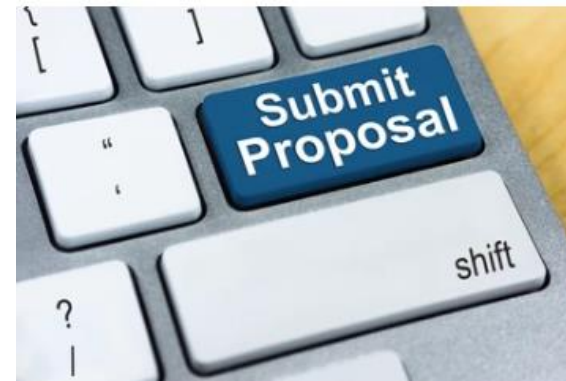
Common Pitfalls to Avoid

- Misalignment with call objectives or outcomes.
- Overloading the proposal with unnecessary detail.
- Providing too little specific information / being vague about key choices
- Ignoring the importance of dissemination and exploitation plans
- Too much repetition;
- 'sloppy mistakes' due to rushed last-minute changes
- Weak consortia or unclear team roles



Submission of your proposal

- Become acquainted with the portal well in time
- Get a back-up to support with the submission
- Block your calendar the last days of submission
- Do not wait until the final moment to submit, but aim to submit 48 hours before the deadline
- Use the option to resubmit an updated version (if allowed)
- **After submission: celebrate your success! (and evaluate for next time)**





Where to get support?



Getting support

- Look out for funding events at the EU Funding & Tenders Portal, e.g. **Horizon Europe Info Days** and the **Horizon Implementation Day on 13 March 2025 09:30 - 12:30 CET**, via https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/horizon-europe-info-days_en and <https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/other/event250313.htm>
- Ibid for EU4Health Info Sessions (including past events)
- Seeking advice from your **National Contact Point (NCP)** for Horizon Europe, see also <https://horizoneuropencportal.eu/>
- Or from your **National Focal Point for EU4Health**, see also <https://www.nfp4health.eu/>
- Use online (e.g. YouTube) tutorials
- Consider commercial EU proposal writing courses (using a concrete proposal)
- Ask a senior colleague as mentor or offer a supporting role in their own proposal



What is your key takeaway from today's webinar?

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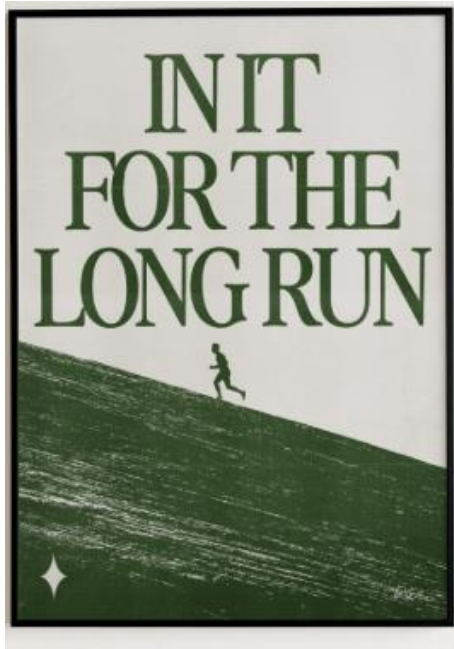
Find partners with experience
networking Quality
be active! 😊 timing clear
very helpful regarding proposal writing
role proposal being active
distribution Plan ahead
DONT get lost in Details

What topic would you like us to cover in a future session?

016

(1/2)

- AI in healthcare services research
- effective project monitoring, reporting, how to incorporate innovations such as AI, networking opportunities,
- matchmaking events
- grant related to NIH
- Consorting building
- networking for various research proposals among the EUPHA people
- To include and present 2-3 previously successful proposals as exemplary.
- Networking
- Funding Calls
- networking, how to find project partner
- consortium building/initiatives, evaluation
- MarieCurie Fellowship
- Consortium building and networking event
- Operational research
- Budgeting.
- Partnership Accountability
- research methods usually used by the EC
- consortium building
- Concrete training of proposal writing, even of this needs one whole day





How to stay connected

Join our network or subscribe:

EUPHA Section on HSR:

<https://eupha.org/health-services-research>

EUPHANxt: <https://eupha.org/euphanxt>

EUPHA: <https://eupha.org/join-our-network>

You can also send an e-mail to
office@eupha.org

Or connect via **Linked** 

LinkedIn Group:



The screenshot shows the LinkedIn group page for EUPHA Health Services Research. The header features the EUPHA logo (European Public Health Association) and the text "HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH". Below the header, the group name "European network of Health Services Research" is displayed, along with a "Listed group" badge. A post by Lorena Dini, Head of Working Group Health Policy and Systems Research and Innovation, is visible. The post content includes an invitation to connect to the German Network for Health Services (DNVF) and a meeting invitation for DKVF2021: WG International Health Services Research.

EUPHA HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH
HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH
European network of Health Services Research
Listed group

Start a post in this group

Photo Video Poll

All Recommended

Lorena Dini • 1st
Head of Working Group Health Policy and Systems Research and Innovation ...
1mo

Dear all, here an open Invitation to connect to the German Network for Health Services (DNVF): ...see more

Welcome! You are invited to join a meeting: DKVF2021: WG International Health Services Research . After registering, you will receive a confirmation email...

Join our network or subscribe:

EUPHA Section on HSR:

<https://eupha.org/health-services-research>

EUPHAnxt: <https://eupha.org/euphanxt>

EUPHA: <https://eupha.org/join-our-network>

You can also send an e-mail to office@eupha.org

Or connect via **LinkedIn**



Closing

Thank you for
joining!