Are you a researcher based outside Europe? Are you searching for EU cooperation opportunities? This short guide will help get you started.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN HORIZON EUROPE

Horizon Europe is the EU’s 7-year flagship funding programme (2021-2027) for research and innovation.

The European Union is a world leader in research and innovation, hosting some of the best universities and most innovative companies in the world. Europe offers exceptional opportunities to researchers all over the world to collaborate with European research teams through the Horizon Europe programme.

In 2021, the European Union updated its strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation, presenting a new Global Approach based on openness to the world, shared values and principles, and focusing on global challenges, especially the green and digital transitions, health and innovation. This strategy is reflected in Horizon Europe, where the majority of calls for proposals are open to any company, researcher, university, non-governmental organisation, etc. regardless of their place of residence or establishment.

Why apply?

- Share the latest knowledge and research results
- Reach your goals faster
- Grow your network
- Work on global projects for global challenges

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In a small number of actions, e.g. those whose activities are related to the EU’s strategic autonomy or security, special eligibility rules may apply. Such rules are specified in the calls for proposals concerned. In addition, information on relevant EU sanctions can be found in the EU Sanctions Map.
HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN HORIZON EUROPE

How can you participate?

**Collaborative projects**: most EU support is allocated to collaborative research projects carried out by consortia of organisations working together on specific research areas. Organisations from anywhere in the world can participate, but consortia must include at least one organisation established in an EU Member State and at least two other organisations established in different EU Member States or countries associated to Horizon Europe.

**Individual researchers**: The European Research Council and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions offer unparalleled opportunities for researchers who want to work in Europe. If you are considering applying for these, you should contact your choice for a potential host institution in advance.

Are you eligible for funding?

Researchers and organisations established anywhere in the world can participate in Horizon Europe. In addition, some may be eligible for EU-funding including:

- Organisations established in the European Union or in a country associated to Horizon Europe, are automatically eligible for funding.

- Organisations established in some **110 low- and middle-income countries** are eligible for EU-funding.

- Organisations established in other countries can still be eligible for EU funding when this is explicitly stated in the relevant call for proposals/topic\(^2\) or when their participation is considered by the European Commission to be essential for carrying out the action\(^3\).

- Individual researchers wishing to work in the EU and Horizon Europe associated countries, could in general also be eligible for funding, through their host institutions, regardless of nationality – in European Research Council actions and, depending on the type of actions they apply to, in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (some of which require international mobility of the researcher).

Horizon Europe includes a new ‘associated partner’ status, similar but with several improvements compared to the ‘international partner’ status under Horizon 2020, to simplify the participation of research organisations in countries outside the EU which are not eligible for funding, and which bring their own financing.

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\(^2\) Some third countries may also provide financial support to their participants in Horizon Europe projects.

\(^3\) For further details see programme-guide_horizon_en.pdf (europa.eu).
SIX STEPS TO PARTICIPATE IN HORIZON EUROPE

1. FIND A SUITABLE CALL FOR PROPOSAL
   Check out the European Commission’s Funding & Tenders Portal.

2. SEARCH FOR A PROJECT PARTNER (if required)
   Review partnership and other eligibility requirements of a call. Publish your partner search request or offer, select a topic on the Search Funding and Tenders page. Get more help here. Use the Partner Search to find an organisation.

3. CREATE AN EU LOGIN ACCOUNT
   To access the Portal register and get your account. This will allow you to participate in a call for proposals or tenders with eSubmission.

4. REGISTER YOUR ORGANISATION
   Your organisation will need a 9-digit Participant Identification Code (PIC) as a unique identifier of your organisation. Your organisation may already be registered. Check here or register.

5. SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL
   Together with your consortium partners, select your topic and go to the Submission Service section of the topic page. Make sure that you select the correct type of action before you start drafting your proposal. The link to the submission system is available if the status of the call is ‘open’. A login with your EU Login account is required.

6. FOLLOW UP ON YOUR PROPOSAL
   An evaluation committee with independent experts reviews the proposals. Following the evaluation, applicants receive a letter informing them about the outcome of their proposal and an evaluation report generally no later than 6 months after the call deadline.

ASSISTANCE FROM NCPS

National Contact Points (NCPs) are your local sources of advice and guidance. They provide practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in Horizon Europe.

Did you find any interesting Horizon Europe opportunities? Are you searching for partners to assist with your proposal? Visit the NCP portal.

FIND OUT MORE

- Horizon Europe
- Funding & Tenders Portal FAQ - answers the most frequently asked questions about the submission of proposals, evaluation and grant management.
- Horizon Europe Programme Guide - provides detailed guidance on the budget, structure and political priorities of Horizon Europe.
- Online manual - your guide to the procedures from proposal submission to managing your grant.
- Euraxess - a portal providing information and support services for researchers wishing to pursue a career in Europe.