



ENRF Briefing Note

Health within Horizon Europe

Building on the achievements and success of the previous programme ([Horizon 2020](#)) and keeping the EU at the forefront of global research and innovation, the European Commission proposed a new Framework Programme to be launched in January 2021. This new 7-year European Union scientific research initiative - Horizon Europe - is the most ambitious research and innovation programme ever, with a proposed budget allocation of €100 billion for 2021-2027, which includes €97.6 bn under [Horizon Europe](#) (€3.5 bn of which will be allocated under the [InvestEU Fund](#)) and €2.4 bn for the [Euratom](#) Research and Training Programme. The proposal is framed by the promise that research and innovation will strengthen the EU's scientific and technological bases; boost the European Union's innovation capacity, productivity and competitiveness; and to deliver on citizens' priorities and sustain our socio-economic model and values.



Made as part of the EU's proposal for the next EU long-term budget, the [multiannual financial framework](#) (MFF), and presented for a Union of 27 Member States, in line with the notification by the United Kingdom of its intention to withdraw from the European Union, and Euratom based on Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union received by the European Council on 29 March 2017, the European Commission intends to continue, with Horizon Europe, the focus of Horizon 2020: **Excellence, Application Orientation, Open Science**. The **Three-Pillar-Structure** of the programme will be maintained, although with some new aspects, as explained by the new DG Research & Innovation Director General Jean-Eric Paquet, which the ENRF met yesterday in Brussels.



Why a Horizon Europe?

This new programme is investing in Research and Innovation (R&I) to shape EU citizens' future. The vision is “*a Europe that protects, a Europe that empowers, a Europe that defends*”, aiming to tackle climate change (35 % budgetary target); Help to achieve Sustainable Development Goals; and to boost the Union's competitiveness and growth. Therefore, there is a need for a new level ambition and a renewed R&I agenda to be in pole position and ensure essential investment; stimulate private investment; make regulatory frameworks fit for innovation; become a front runner in market-creating innovation; reconnect R&I with citizens through EU-wide research and innovation missions; support the dissemination of innovation throughout the Union; invest in skills, and empower universities to become more entrepreneurial and interdisciplinary.

The added-value through Horizon Europe will be: Trans-national collaboration, exchange and networks; Critical mass to address global challenges; Competitive funding promoting excellence; Visibility for leading research and innovation; Transnational mobility; Creating new market opportunities; Strengthened European R&I landscape; Attracting the best talents.

What is Horizon Europe?

Horizon Europe aims to be an evolution (building on the current H2020), and not a revolution, with specific objectives: Support the creation and diffusion of high-quality knowledge; Strengthen the impact of R&I in supporting EU policies; Foster all forms of innovation and strengthen market deployment, building on **3 redesigned pillars**, to give greater coherence, both between and within pillars, in support of the programme objectives:



1. The **“open science” pillar** (€25.8 billion) focussing on excellent science and high-quality knowledge. It would support frontier research projects defined and driven by researchers themselves through the European Research Council (ERC) (€16.6 billion), fund fellowships and exchanges for researchers through Marie-Curie Actions (€6.8 billion), and invest in excellent research infrastructure;
2. The **“global challenges and industrial competitiveness” pillar** (€52.7 billion) supporting research relating to societal challenges, reinforce technological and industrial capacities **through five clusters** (health – €7.7 billion; inclusive and security society; digital and industry; climate, energy and mobility; and food and natural resources). In addition, it will set EU-wide missions, and include activities pursued by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) (€2.2 billion) supporting EU and national policy-makers with independent scientific evidence and technical support;
3. The **'open innovation' pillar** (€13.5 billion) aiming at making Europe a frontrunner in market-creating innovation via the European Innovation Council (€10 billion), and will increase cooperation with innovation ecosystems by further strengthening the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) to foster the integration of business, research, higher education and entrepreneurship (€3 billion).



What's New in Horizon Europe?

The programme will introduce the following main new features:

- European Innovation Council (EIC): a support breakthrough innovation
- Research and Innovation missions*: create more impact through mission-orientation and citizens' involvement
- Extended association possibilities: by strengthening international cooperation - Tackling together global societal challenges; access to the world's best talents, expertise and resources; enhanced supply and demand of innovative solutions. Extended openness to association would go to third countries with good capacity in science,

technology and innovation, and would take into account objective of driving economic growth in Europe through innovation

- Open science policy (across the programme): for better dissemination and exploitation of R&I results and support to active engagement of society (Mandatory Open Access to publications; Mandatory Data Management Plan for FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable) and Open Research Data for all research data with possibilities to opt-out from open access requirements.
- New approach to Partnerships: to rationalise the funding landscape, through simple architecture and toolbox, coherent life-cycle approach, and strategic orientation

*Missions are being defined as a portfolio of actions intended to achieve a bold and inspirational as well as measurable goal within a set timeframe, with impact for science and technology, society and citizens that goes beyond individual actions. Specific missions will be co-designed with Member States, stakeholders and citizens and programmed within the Global Challenges and Industrial Competitiveness pillar (Pillar 2) – through Consultations.

Furthermore, everyone has the right to timely access to quality health care at an affordable price. The health cluster establishes close links between exploratory, climatic, epidemiological, environmental and socio-economic research; Academia - industry - health services; expertise in the EU and internationally. All these challenges are very complex and interrelated. The only solution is to establish multi-disciplinary collaborations.

As such, the Health Cluster is organised around 6 major areas:

- » Health throughout the life course – erase inequalities
- » Environmental and social health determinants – understand how social, economic and physical environments have an impact on our health and minimise the risks and the threats for health.
- » Non-communicable and rare diseases – personalised medical approach
- » Infectious diseases – as AMR - Prevention
- » Health care systems – reform of healthcare systems and health politics / new models and approaches / Resilience of health systems / empower patients
- » Tools, technologies and digital solutions for health and care – raising new technologies, as AI, health apps, etc.)

Rationale for EU funded health R&I

Everyone has the right to timely access to affordable healthcare of good quality*



The challenges are complex, interlinked and global

- Newly emerging or persisting health challenges
- Sustainability of social and health care systems
- Competitiveness of EU's health and care industry

The **Health Cluster** builds linkages between:

- Discovery, clinical, epidemiological, environmental and socio-economic research
- Academia – industry – healthcare providers – patients
- Expertise within the EU and beyond

* EU Pillar of Social Rights, UN SDGs



How to implement Horizon Europe?

The implementation of the programme will be based on a large scale and transparent participatory process, based on information received through extensive consultations with stakeholders, citizen, European Parliament, and Member States, to allow to focus on the key priorities and see how the missions will be developed. Horizon Europe will build on partnerships and on a strategic planning to define multiannual work programmes and calls for proposals.

What's next?

The Council and European Parliament are now in the process of negotiating the programme, that should be adopted in Autumn 2019. Horizon Europe should be launched on 1st January 2021.

This new framework programme is a tool that will maintain competitiveness in Europe compared to the rest of the world. It is at the EU level that everything will be played out, and the Member States must contribute to the competitiveness of the EU. Thus, the ongoing discussion on this next Framework Programme is crucial. It is also important that the health cluster helps to exploit its transformation in the field of biology and health, oriented towards digitalization; Healthcare; and effectiveness of health systems. But we must not forget that technologies have evolved a lot, namely as regards imaging and genomics (digital and big data). Therefore, it is key to implement interdisciplinary research in the Horizon Europe clusters.

EFN Briefing Note – 30 January 2019

European Nursing Research Foundation (ENRF)
Registration Number: 0533.978.961
Clos du Parnasse 11B, 1050 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 2 511 34 84 - Fax: +32 2 512 35 50
Email: enrf@enrf.eu – Web: www.enrf.eu