



## ENRF Briefing Note

### The Lump Sum Pilot – a simplified H2020 funding



The [Horizon 2020](#) (H2020) research programme foresees the establishment of a Lump Sum Pilot. The Lump Sum Pilot is a different way of giving/administrating grants given to researchers under the H2020 programme. It is well-known to researchers who have been given access to these funds that their management is very complicated – requiring extensive expense justifications and detailed timesheets, all of which are prone to error.

The Lump Sum Pilot aims at simplifying this for smaller research projects. It removes all obligations on cost reporting and removes the need for timesheets and financial ex-post audits. Instead, it switches the focus to the scientific-technical content for the projects. As of now, the Lump Sum Pilot is testing two options of funding:

#### Lump Sum Pilot Option 1

The lump sum per project is fixed by the European Commission in the work programme: in this case, nursing researchers applying for funds describe the effort and resources that they commit to mobilise for the predefined lump sum amount. In their project proposal, how the lump sum will be split between all the work packages should also be specified.

#### Lump Sum Pilot Option 2

The lump sum is defined by applicants in their proposal: in this case, nursing researchers submitting a project proposal give the European Commission a detailed estimation of costs (i.e., cost related to personnel, subcontracting, travelling, equipment, etc.). Then, an evaluation of the proposal, considering expert advice, will fix a lump sum in the project's grant agreement.

For the rest, project proposals are evaluated against the usual H2020 selection and award criteria – including the extent to which the resources assigned to a lump sum realistically matches the project's objectives and deliverables.

Nursing researchers should benefit from this pilot and apply for H2020 projects that fall under it. Nursing research has the potential to drive innovation and excellence in the healthcare sector, and hence is eligible for these funds. To assist interested applicants, the European Commission has made available an [online manual](#) on how to prepare and submit proposals, as well as a website with [Frequently Asked Questions](#). There is also a [search engine for project calls](#) available.



ENRF Briefing Note - 20 09 2019

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