Horizon 2020 in the overall EU Picture

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What is Horizon 2020?

- Initial Commission proposal for a €70 billion research and innovation funding programme (2014-2020)

- A core part of Europe 2020, Innovation Union & European Research Area:
  - Responding to the economic crisis & to invest in future jobs and growth
  - Addressing people's concerns about their livelihoods, safety and environment
  - Strengthening the EU's global position in research, innovation and technology

- Active involvement of stakeholders
  - EU presidency
  - European Council
  - European Parliament
  - Public consultation through workshops

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What is Horizon 2020?

- Ebola outbreak in West Africa, July 2014

- Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 crashes (July 2014)

- Facebook buys what's up for 19 bn$ (October 2014)

- Volkswagen involved in a major scandal (2015)

What is Horizon 2020?

ICT-18-2016
Big data PPP: privacy-preserving big data technologies

SC5-06-2016-2017
Pathways towards the decarbonisation and resilience of the European economy in the timeframe 2030-2050 and beyond

HOA 9 – 2014
Health emergency research for responding to the Ebola virus outbreak

DRS-16-2014
Critical Infrastructure Protection: Improving the aviation security chain

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What is Horizon 2020?

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Excellent Science

Supports

- Knowledge transfer
- Ground-breaking, high-gain/ high-risk research
- Developing new world-class research infrastructures

Why it was made?

- Provide knowledge to researchers
- Provide means to implement research
- Provide funding to researchers in order to develop ground breaking research

Requirement

High Research Excellence

Industrial Leadership

Supports

Research and Development focusing in industrial problems – Market oriented

Why it was made?

EU industry remains strong in the core technologies that are at the roots of future value chains

Requirement

Industry & research organizations collaborations

Societal Challenges

Supports

Research and Development focusing in European problems

Why it was made?

Develop European solutions to problems related to health, security, transport, energy, environment, food etc.

Requirement

Interdisciplinary consortia containing partners experts in their fields

Simple procedures in H2020

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1. A single set of rules:

Adapted for the whole research and innovation cycle

Covering all research programmes and funding bodies

Aligned to the Financial Regulation, coherent with other new EU Programmes

2. One project – one funding rate

Maximum of 100% of the total eligible costs (except for innovation actions, where a 70% maximum will apply for profit making entities)

Indirect eligible costs: a flat rate of 25% of direct eligible costs

3. Simple evaluation criteria

Excellence – Impact – Implementation

4. New forms of funding aimed at innovation

- pre-commercial procurement, inducement prizes, dedicated loan and equity instruments

5. International participation

- facilitated but better protecting EU interests

6. Simpler rules for grants

- broader acceptance of participants accounting practices for direct costs, flat rate for indirect costs, no time-sheets for personnel working full time on a project, possibility of output-based grants

7. Fewer, better targeted controls and audits
- Lowest possible level of requirements for submission of audit certificates without undermining sound financial management
- Audit strategy focused on risk and fraud prevention

8. Improved rules on intellectual property
- Balance between legal security and flexibility
- Tailor-made IPR provisions for new forms of funding
- A new emphasis on open access to research publications

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Checklist before writing a proposal

- Identify call & topic

- Would you be coordinator (experience ++) or partner?

- Do you have an existing partnership that could fit the call or do you know a consortium to join?

- Contact key players in your domain

- Involve and keep in the loop proposal support offices that are in your organization's disposal

- Brainstorming for developing the main concept of your proposal

- Proposal writing

  - Distribute the writing part among the partners following strict deadlines

  - Assign someone that will be responsible for keeping in track with the deadlines and integrate all written parts

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Your proposal should provide credible, logical and accurate information regarding:
- The actual problem/bottleneck/missing blocks
- How your idea will solve that and have a major impact
- How you will do it and how much it will cost

When writing a proposal:
- Be clear
- Go straight to the point
- «Educate the reader but do not overdo it», (don't forget that the evaluators have related background to understand the main principles of the proposal)
- Do not repeat yourself
- Do not hide things or deliberately provide false statements
- Do not be over optimistic in stating quantified objectives/ Choose instead a realistic scenario
- Follow a logical flow in the proposal.

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Thank you for your attention

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