

Innovation, Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGR

Tips & tricks to apply for Horizon[®] Europe calls

Researchers, farmers, foresters, advisors and other actors in rural areas are encouraged to get involved in Horizon Europe calls, in the area of Food, Bioeconomy, Natural resources, Agriculture and Environment, and in calls for the EU Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'.

Understand the call

- Find a call that fits your project, do not try to adapt your project to the call.
- > Understanding the topic of the call is essential. Reserve sufficient time for reading the call text and the evaluation criteria.
- > Participate in the EU info days.
- Stay up to date on EU policy debates.
- > Ask your Horizon National Contact Point (NCP) for support.

Build a consortium

"Brokerage events are a good opportunity to make contacts and discuss some concrete research questions and problems that we face and that we could solve in a future project."

> Judit Berényi Üveges (researcher - Hungary) Participant at the EIP-AGRI brokerage event 'Get involved in the EU Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe'

- > Strong coordination and leadership is needed:
 - > Start as partner rather than as leader if this is your first proposal.
 - > Management and communication skills are key (English required).
- > Make sure that the team will be managed proactively.
- > Keep the size of your consortium manageable.
- > Share tasks: allow partners to focus on specific tasks.
- > Partners:
 - > Look for professional experts. Consult research institutions and organisations.
 - > Ask previous participants in other Horizon calls to join.
 - > Meet with farmers and take them on board.
 - > Look for partners in the Horizon participant portal.
- > Invest time in:
 - > Networking
 - > Fruitful meetings and discussions

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Prepare for dissemination to boost impact

A dissemination and exploitation plan is mandatory. It will help evaluators assess the potential impact of the project:

- > Ensure that project results will be widely known and used by those interested, including policy makers.
- > Align project results with the needs of users.
- > Enhance the uptake of project results, increasing the added value of research and innovation funding.
- Start communicating about the project and disseminating its results as soon as possible, and adapt throughout the project's lifetime.
- Consider including the right skills for communication and dissemination in the project consortium.
- Think of communication tools that can support your communication and dissemination strategy beyond the partners of the project.

Understand the evaluation process

Proposals are evaluated by independent experts, who only have a limited amount of time to evaluate several proposals.

- > Read the criteria by which your proposal will be assessed.
- > During evaluation, impact is amongst to most important criteria.
- > Check the expected impacts and scope of the topic in detail. Make sure you read properly what is expected of you, and demonstrate how you will deliver, detailing partner assets and using quantified activities and targets whenever possible.
- Make sure that the chosen objectives are coherent with the planned project activities, the competences of the partners and the planned budget per activity.
- Make sure the cost/benefit ratio is sound. Keep in mind that all costs should be reasonable in the light of the planned outcomes.
- > Work as an external expert, which will give you the opportunity to connect and network with peers.

More Information

- Horizon Europe National Contact Points (NCP) Cluster 6
- Funding & Tenders Portal
- Online Manual to apply for funding
- > Online Manual to communicate your project
- Horizon 2020 Horizon Europe projects
- > Q&A Participant Portal
- > Horizon Europe info days Cluster 6
- Innovation, knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI Newsletters
- > EU CAP Network / EIP-AGRI Focus Groups
- Horizon Europe brochure calls 2024
- > EU CAP Network brokerage events, workshops and seminars

Feedback and questions:

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Find out more about the EU CAP Network

Visit the <u>EU CAP Network website</u> to discover projects, ideas and resources to catalyse innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas.

