

## Understanding Horizon Europe and beyond | WIDERA funding opportunities



Ποιοι είμαστε

## Γραφείο Μεταφοράς Τεχνολογίας του Ιδρύματος Τεχνολογίας και Έρευνας

Υπηρεσίες προς ερευνητικούς  
οργανισμούς καλύπτοντας πλήρως το  
φάσμα της μεταφοράς τεχνολογίας στο  
τρίπτυχο:

Έρευνα – Καινοτομία – Ανάπτυξη

## Αποστολή

Ενίσχυση της ανταγωνιστικότητας των  
ελληνικών επιχειρήσεων και οργανισμών



# Ποιοι είναι οι βασικοί Πυλώνες μας

## Συντονιστής του Enterprise Europe Network Hellas -EEN

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Το Δίκτυο ΠΡΑΞΗ βοηθά τις Ελληνικές επιχειρήσεις να ενισχύσουν την ανταγωνιστικότητά τους παρέχοντας συμβουλευτικές υπηρεσίες και υποστήριξη στην εύρεση κατάλληλων συνεργατών στο εξωτερικό.

**Το Enterprise Europe Network είναι το μεγαλύτερο δίκτυο υποστήριξης επιχειρήσεων στον κόσμο**

## Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής του Ορίζοντα Ευρώπη – Horizon Europe National Contact Point

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Το Δίκτυο ΠΡΑΞΗ είναι Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής (ΕΣΕ) για τα προγράμματα πλαίσιο της Ευρωπαϊκής Επιτροπής για την έρευνα και την καινοτομία, αποτελώντας επίσημο φορέα ενημέρωσης και υποστήριξης ελληνικών οργανισμών για τη συμμετοχή τους σε αυτά.

**Εθνικό σημείο επαφής για το Horizon Europe**

## Γραφείο Μεταφοράς Τεχνολογίας - ΤΤΟ

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Ως γραφείο μεταφοράς τεχνολογίας, το Δίκτυο ΠΡΑΞΗ συμβάλλει στη σύνδεση της έρευνας με την αγορά και την αξιοποίηση των ερευνητικών αποτελεσμάτων.

**Τρίπτυχο Έρευνα – Καινοτομία – Ανάπτυξη**

# Εθνικό Σημείο Επαφής (ΕΣΕ) του Ορίζοντα Ευρώπη – Horizon Europe National Contact Point (NCP)

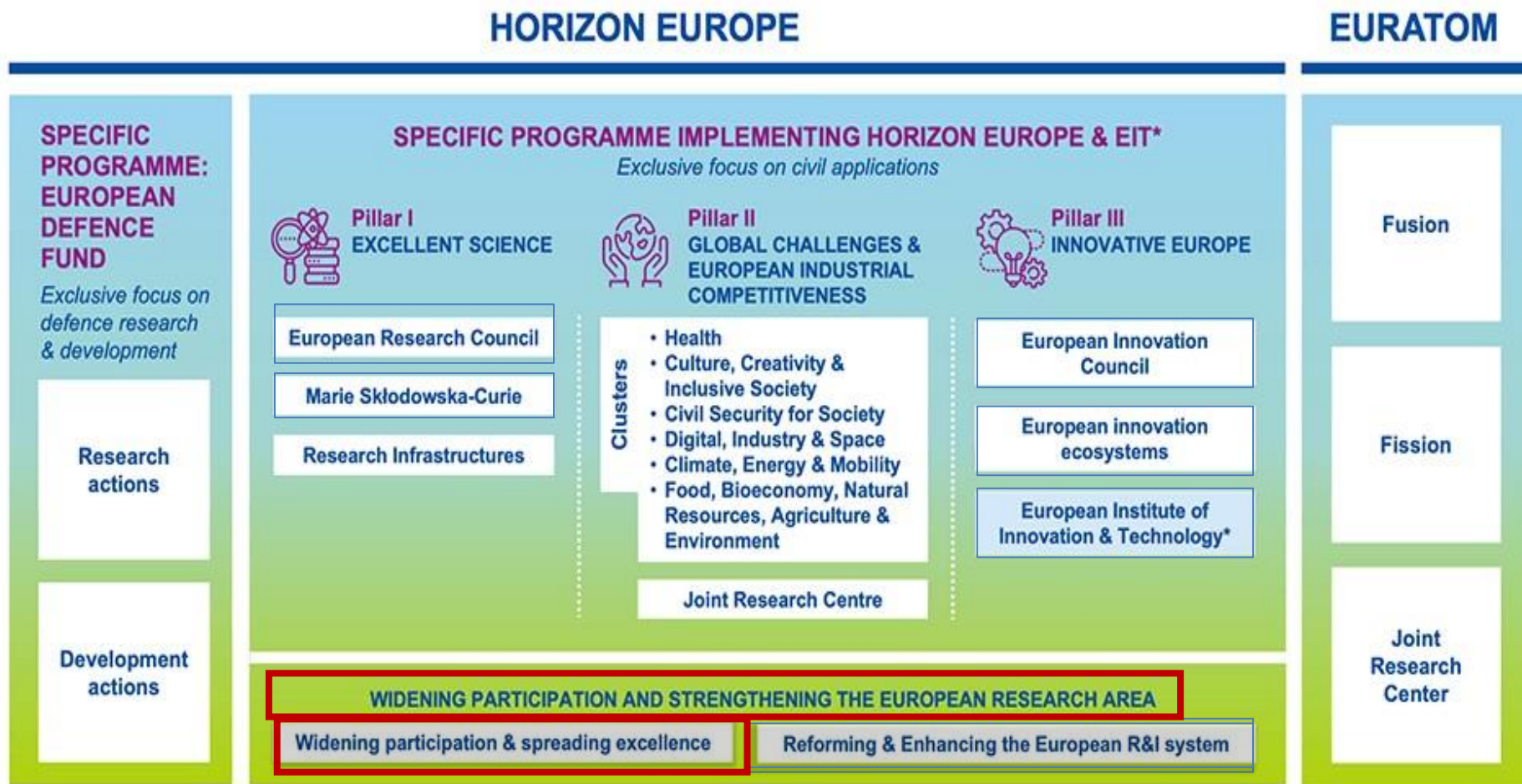
## Κύριος Ρόλος των ΕΣΕ

Υποστήριξη στο εθνικό οικοσύστημα ώστε να μεγιστοποιήσουν & βελτιστοποιήσουν την συμμετοχή των ενδιαφερομένων στον Ορίζοντα Ευρώπη, με βάση την διαφάνεια, αμεροληψία και προσβασιμότητα.

## Υπηρεσίες

- ☐ **Πληροφόρηση & Ενημέρωση:** Διοργάνωση info-days, διαμοιρασμός εγγράφων και προώθηση ευκαιριών χρηματοδότησης, brokerage events μέσω των NCP έργων.
- ☐ **Καθοδήγηση & Εκπαίδευση:** αναζήτηση συνεργασιών, καθοδήγηση στην διαδικασία της υποβολής της πρότασης, συμμόρφωση με τους κανόνες, προεπισκόπηση.
- ☐ **Συνεργασία:** σύνδεση με ενδιαφερόμενα μέρη, προώθηση Horizon Europe partnerships, επαφή με την Ευρωπαϊκή Επιτροπή και τους Εθνικούς Εκπροσώπους.

# The WIDERA Programme



\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme

# Which are the widening countries?

## **Widening Member States that qualify as coordinators:**

Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia

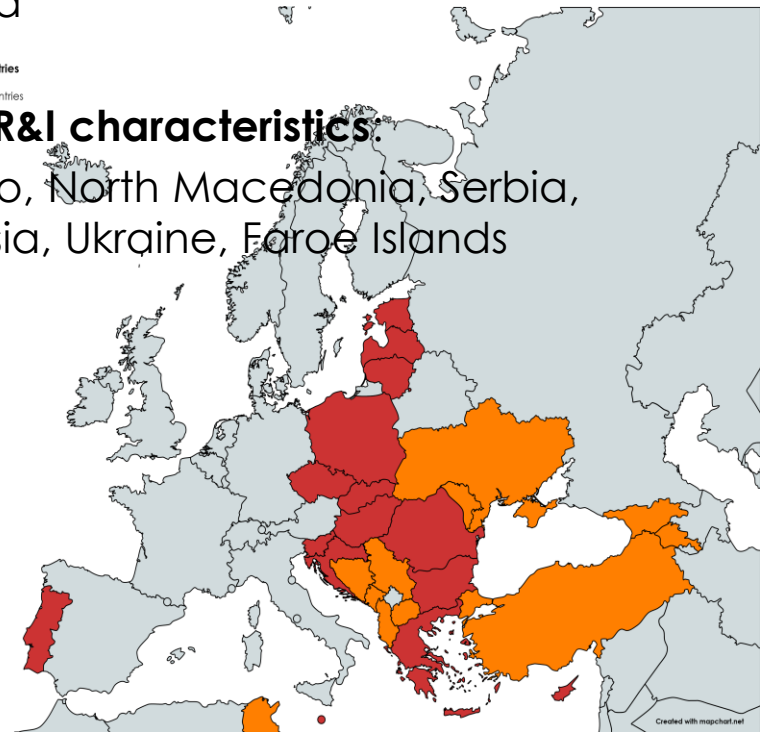
## **Associated countries to Horizon Europe with similar R&I characteristics:**

Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Morocco, Tunisia, Ukraine, Faroe Islands

## **Outermost regions of Spain, Portugal, France**

Map of Widening Countries

■ EU MS Widening Countries  
■ Associated Widening



# Initial policy foundations

## European Research Area (ERA)

is the ambition to create a single, borderless market for research, innovation and talents across the EU

## Four ERA Principles for Deeper Integration

1. Prioritising investment and reforms
2. Improving access to excellence
3. Translating R&I Results into the economy
4. Deepening the ERA

Source: [eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0628](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0628)





## How does it work?

- Geographical eligibility criteria
- Coordinator from widening countries
- Strategic collaboration with internationally leading partner is required
- Coordination and Support Actions (CSA) with a derogation for a limited research component
- Ideal to pursue strategic (developmental) objectives



# **Indicative types of Actions (for WP2025 and future orientations for 2026-2027)**

Thematic orientation: Bottom-up (almost)

Funding rate: 100% (by vast majority)

- At institutional level (Twinning, ERA Chairs, Hop-On Facility, European Excellence Initiative)
- Talent circulation (ERA Fellows)
- Technology scale up (EIC Pre-Accelerator)
- Inclusiveness (Hop-on)
- Ecosystem level (European Excellence Initiative)

# Top performing countries

Country	Participation	Net EU Contribution
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3.548</b>	<b>€ 1.626.245.215,88</b>
<b>Germany</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>€ 77.389.747,07</b>
Greece	243	€ 124.292.392,67
Portugal	220	€ 139.658.863,82
Spain	220	€ 75.690.234,50
Italy	201	€ 49.576.026,81
France	185	€ 47.138.210,09
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>€ 312.023.740,38</b>
Czechia	152	€ 91.245.602,28
Netherlands	146	€ 48.588.764,46
United Kingdom	113	€ 9.998.167,24
Türkiye	101	€ 31.100.683,90
Poland	98	€ 84.356.377,30
Croatia	98	€ 36.403.788,65
Cyprus	97	€ 48.236.030,74
Serbia	88	€ 36.601.210,99
Slovenia	85	€ 42.321.208,23

# Greece

Net EU Contribution

138,5M

Total Cost

139M

Signed Grants

164

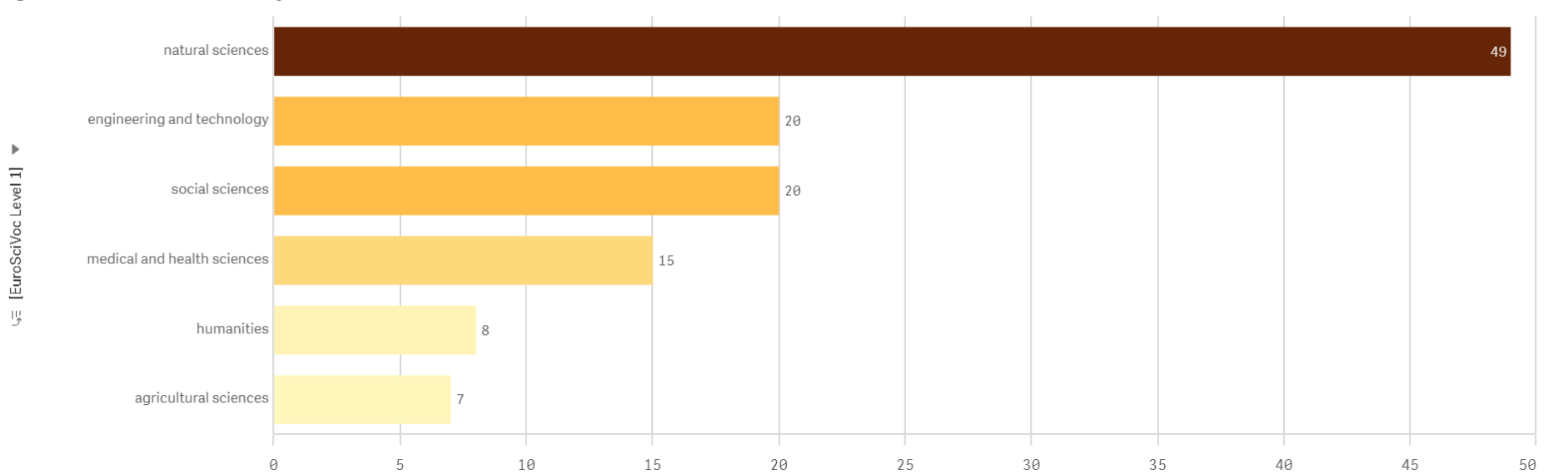
Participation

293

Unique Participants

152

Signed Grants/EU Contribution by field of science



# Agricultural University of Athens (coord)

## Top funded projects

Project Title	Project Acronym	Net EU Contribution	Participation	Topic Desc...
<b>Totals</b>		<b>€ 915.187,50</b>	<b>2</b>	
TRANSFORMING ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE WITH	TALLHEDA	€ 530.125,00	1	European Excellence Initiative
stRengthening human capital and increasing the excellencE of Widening-	REENFORCE	€ 385.062,50	1	ERA Talents

# Agricultural University of Athens (part)

EU-CONEXUS ENABLES - Promoting excellence through innovative eco-	EU-CONEXUS ENABLES	€ 649.250,00	1	European Excellence Initiative
Alternative Proteins Research and Innovation Skills Enhancement	APRISE	€ 324.343,75	1	ERA Talents
Increasing expertise in micro- and nanoplastics analysis through	InPlasTwin	€ 220.000,00	1	Twinning Bottom-Up

# European Excellence Initiative

- **European Excellence Initiative**

Addresses **disparities** in the performance of the European university sector. Raise the overall level of **excellence of research & valorisation** undertaken in higher education entities in EU **University alliances** and **beyond**. Centre of gravity in widening countries (**ERA Policy Action 13**)

**To whom?** Open to any network or alliance of higher education institutions, such as – **but not limited** to EU Universities alliances selected under Erasmus+

**Objectives: Acceleration of institutional reforms through:**

1. Consolidation of geographically inclusive alliances in **research** excellence & **valorisation**
2. improvement of research career opportunities, assessment following COARA
3. Acquisition of transferable skills (IP, entrepreneurship), mainstream open science, gender equality
4. **Science – business links**



- **European Excellence Initiative (EEI): HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-01-ACCESS-01**

**Type of action:** Coordination and Support Action (non-research)

**Deadlines: Opening: 8 May 2025 | Deadline: 20 November 2025**

**Budget per proposal:** 2-5 mio euro | **No of projects to funded:** 27

**Consortium:** Representation by limited members of any **network** or **alliance** of higher education institutions under Erasmus +. Entities outside an alliance may participate to fulfil the objectives for industrial co-operation and connection to regional innovation ecosystems.

**Budget allocation:**

- At least 51% of the budget to Widening countries
- R&I projects to consolidate the partnership among the partners, **not more than 20% of the budget**

**Duration:** up to 5 years

- **European Excellence Initiative (EEI): 4 Groups of activities**

## **1. Institutional modernization and reforms**

Improve research management and administration, modern research assessment practices (COARA), promote interdisciplinarity

## **2. Upskilling research and non-research staff (technical-management)**

Cross-sectoral staff exchange, including non-academic staff, capacity building on IPR/entrepreneurship/access to finance, open science, communication

## **3. Development of research excellence**

Develop strategic R&I agenda with the partners, share R&I capacities incl. infrastructures, develop joint seed R&I project to test the partnership or explore new research strands

## **4. Digital transformation**

Introduce data science and AI in science, feasibility studies for upgrading digital infrastructure

## **5. Outreach**

Linkages with inspiring ecosystems including industry, engage with cities, regions and citizens, development of internationalisation strategies and partnerships

- **European Excellence Initiative**

Call deadline: **20 November 2025**

Budget per proposal: **2-5** mio euro | around 27 projects to be funded

Access previous projects: [\*\*Funding & Tenders Portal\*\*](#)

#### European Excellence Initiative

HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-03-01 | Call for proposal

Opening date: **10 January 2023** | Deadline date: **12 April 2023** | Single-stage



Programme: **Horizon Europe (HORIZON)** | Type of action: **HORIZON Coordination and Support Actions**

#### [Capacity building to strengthen networks of higher education institutions and cooperation with surrounding ecosystems](#)

HORIZON-WIDERA-2021-ACCESS-05-01 | Call for proposal

Opening date: **29 June 2021** | Deadline date: **04 November 2021** | Single-stage



Programme: **Horizon Europe (HORIZON)** | Type of action: **HORIZON Coordination and Support Actions**

# TWINNING



# Twinning

**Main aim:** Enhance networking **for excellence** between the research institutions (widening + EU internationally leading) through activities of knowledge transfer and exchange of best practice

## Overarching objectives

- ✓ Stimulate **scientific excellence and innovation capacity** of coordinator
- ✓ Strengthen Research Management and Administration skills
- ✓ Strategic networking among the partners of the consortium
- ✓ Raised reputation, research profile and attractiveness of the coordinating institution

## Main activities

**Soft activities:** short-term staff exchanges, expert visits, on-site/virtual training, workshops, conference attendance, joint summer schools, outreach activities preferably with stakeholders of the quadruple helix

## Research project

# **Twinning : HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-02**



**Type of action:** Coordination and Support Action (non-research)

**Deadlines:** To be announced in WP 2026-2027

**Budget per proposal:** 0.8 – 1.5 mio euro

**Integration of a research component:** 30% of the total grant

**Number of projects funded in previous calls:** around 100 per call

Two subtopics:

**Sub-topic Twinning Bottom-Up:** 80 % of the number of projects to be funded by each call to be funded

**Sub-topic top down (Green deal or other policy priorities):** 20% of projects to be funded

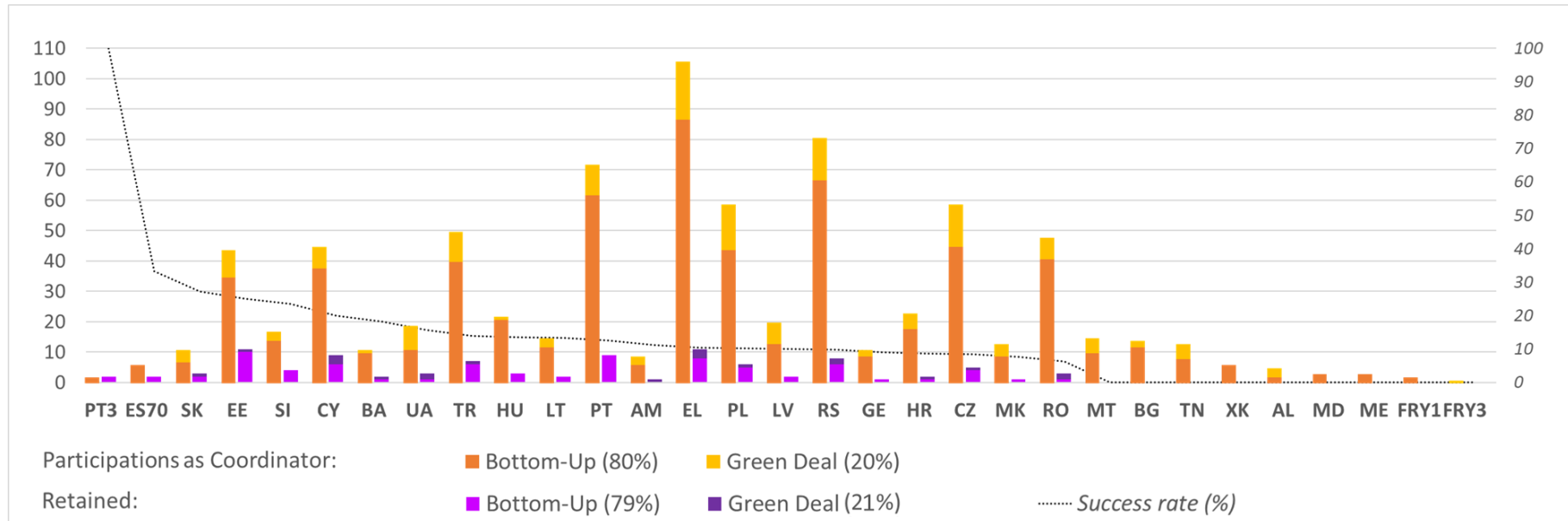
## **Eligibility criteria**

**Coordinator:** Research institutions from Widening countries

**Partners:** top-class leading counterparts at European Union level by linking it with at least two research institutions from two different Member States or Associated Countries.

# Coordinators' Success Rate

Twinning: (1) Bottom-Up and (2) Green Deal: HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-ACCESS-02



..... Average success rate: 12% (Bottom-Up 12%, Green Deal 12%)

ES70 = Canary Islands (Outermost Region)  
 FRY1 = Guadeloupe (Outermost Region)  
 FRY3 = French Guiana (Outermost Region)  
 PT3 = Madeira (Outermost Region)

Total number of eligible proposals: **805**

Total number of retained: **97**

Note: Only eligible projects are considered



HOP-ON



## **Hop-on Facility: WIDERA-2025-03-01**

**Type of action:** Research and Innovation Action

**Eligibility:** Open to legal entities from Widening countries.

**Eligible projects:** RIA ongoing actions funded under Pillar II and EIC Pathfinder which:

- do not have any widening partner as beneficiary, affiliated entity or associated partner
- are within their first 12 months of their project life at the submission date
- Are managed by the EC or an executive agency

**Budget per proposal:** 0.20 – 0.60 mio euro | **Coordinator's fee:** 10% proposal budget

**Number of projects to be funded:** 90 | **Deadline:** 4 September 2025

**Consent of the consortium implementing the action is needed. This is a voluntary scheme!**

**Extent of proposal:** 8-page proposal submitted by the coordinator at **F&T**

# Hop-on Facility: Screenshot of list of eligible projects



[Dissecting Brain Pollutant Exposure and its Contribution to Neurodegeneration and Alzheimer's disease: From Signatures to Prevention ...](#)

EXPOSIGNALZ | ID: 101156353

Start date: 01 January 2025 |



C

Topic: **HORIZON-HLTH-2024-ENVHLTH-02-06-two-stage** | Programme part: **HORIZON-HLTH-2024-ENVHLTH-02-06-two-stage**

[Receptor-Focused Interventions Against Orthoflavivirus Neuroinvasion and Entry](#)

REFINE | ID: 101191791

Start date: 01 January 2025 |



C

Topic: **HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-08-20** | Programme part: **HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-08-20**

[Identification of novel viral entry factors and development of antiviral approaches](#)

DEFENDER | ID: 101191666

Start date: 01 January 2025 |



C

Topic: **HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-08-20** | Programme part: **HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-08-20**

[PHOENIX: Precision Human Organs-on-chip for Enhanced Neuro-muscular and Cardiac Studies](#)

PHOENIX | ID: 101156638

Start date: 01 January 2025 |



C

Topic: **HORIZON-HLTH-2024-TOOL-05-06-two-stage** | Programme part: **HORIZON-HLTH-2024-TOOL-05-06-two-stage**

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon/hop-on>

# ERA CHAIRS



## ERA Chair : Aim & requirements

**Scope:** Under the outstanding leadership of an ERA Chair holder, foster brain circulation for researchers and innovators.

- Create pockets of excellence in catching up countries and regions
- Ensure excellence, visibility and integration into the EU Research Area

### REQUIREMENTS

- ERA Chair full time or part time
- a letter signed by the prospective ERA Chair holder expressing his/her commitment to the proposal and willingness to take on the underlying tasks and obligations
- a letter from the head of the coordinator institution committing to the proposal and stating that the ERA Chair holder will receive adequate support
- creation of a permanent and excellent research group
- Appointment of a Leader of the group within the first 3 years of the project on a **permanent basis**

# **ERA Chair : HORIZON-WIDERA-2023-TALENTS-01**



**Type of action:** Coordination and Support Action (non-research)

**Announced under the WP2026-2027**

**Budget per proposal:** 1.5 – 2.5 mio euro

**Integration of a research component:** 10% of the total grant (it may change)

## **Eligibility criteria**

**Coordinator:** Research-based institutions from Widening countries

**Coordinator = Host organisation**

**ERA Chair:** Of any nationality identified at proposal stage

# EIC Pre-Accelerator

**Scope:** Early-stage deep tech startups which 1) have high-impact innovation that could create new markets or disrupt existing ones and 2) have the ambition and commitments to scale up.

**Funding targeted at:** Actions addressing the investor and market readiness towards commercialisation and deployment; maturation and validation of the novel technology from TRL 4 to 6

**Eligibility:** mono-beneficiary projects with legal entities as SMEs established in the widening country.

**Proposal template:** CSA adapted to the EIC Transition evaluation criteria

**Evaluation:** single stage, EIC Transition open criteria (first step)

**Form of support:** Grant (CSA, 70% reimbursement) between 300-500 000 EUR as a lump-sum, for max 2 years

**In addition:** Free access to tailored EIC Business Acceleration Services to improve investor readiness; Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator; SoE to be awarded, accompanied by free access to BAS.



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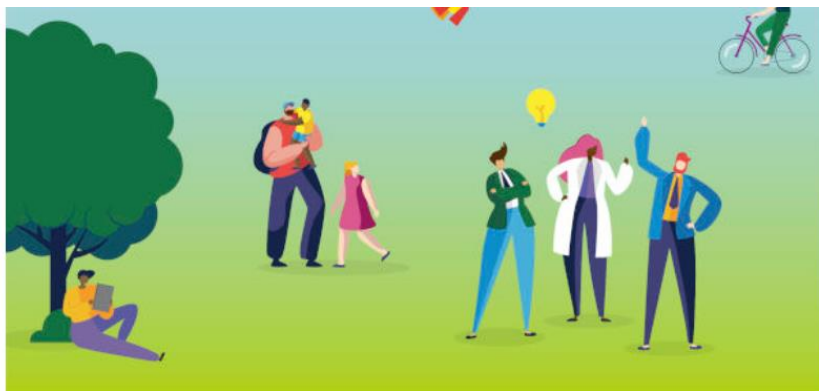
**In addition:** Free access to tailored EIC Business Acceleration Services to improve investor readiness; Fast Track to the EIC Accelerator; SoE to be awarded, accompanied by free access to BAS.

**Criteria:** Excellence (4/5) | Impact (4/5) | Quality & Efficiency of Implementation:3/5

**Call deadline:** 18 November 2025 | **40** Projects to be funded

## More information

**Work Programme 2025:** [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2025/wp-11-widening-participation-and-strengthening-the-european-research-area\\_horizon-2025\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2025/wp-11-widening-participation-and-strengthening-the-european-research-area_horizon-2025_en.pdf)



<https://horizoneurope.gr/events/horizon-europe-widera-info-day-2025/>

## Horizon Europe – WIDERA Info Day 2025

Η Ευρωπαϊκή Επιτροπή διοργανώνει διαδικτυακή ημερίδα ενημέρωσης για το πρόγραμμα WIDERA στις 20 Μαΐου 2025. Η εκδήλωση θα παρουσιάσει το Πρόγραμμα Εργασίας 2025 και τις διαθέσιμες προκηρύξεις.

Οι συμμετέχοντες θα ενημερωθούν για το νέο πρόγραμμα εργασίας WIDERA 2025 και τις διαθέσιμες προκηρύξεις, ενώ θα έχουν τη δυνατότητα να θέσουν ερωτήσεις μέσω της πλατφόρμας Slido, χρησιμοποιώντας τον κωδικό #WIDERA.

Περισσότερες πληροφορίες στην ιστοσελίδα της εκδήλωσης [εδώ](#).




NCP\_  
**WIDERA.NET**

The **Network of National Contact Points** for Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area (WIDERA) under Horizon Europe Programme






NCP\_WIDERA.NET is funded by Horizon Europe, the Union Research and Innovation Programme for R&I , Grant agreement 101055286

## Available services

 NCP\_WIDERA.NET


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  **Karolinska Institutet**

**Matchmaking Event**

HEALTH



### Health Matchmaking Event

days

hours

minutes

minutes

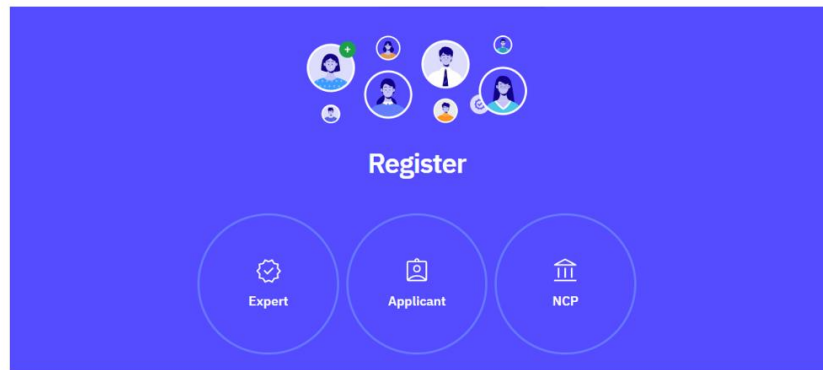
**20 : 06 : 11 : 22**

June 17-18, 2025 at 1pm CEST

# Pre-screening services



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**WIDERAEXPERTS.EU portal has been launched**

<https://www.ncpwideranet.eu/wideraexperts/>

# Publications



## Proposal pre-screening guide

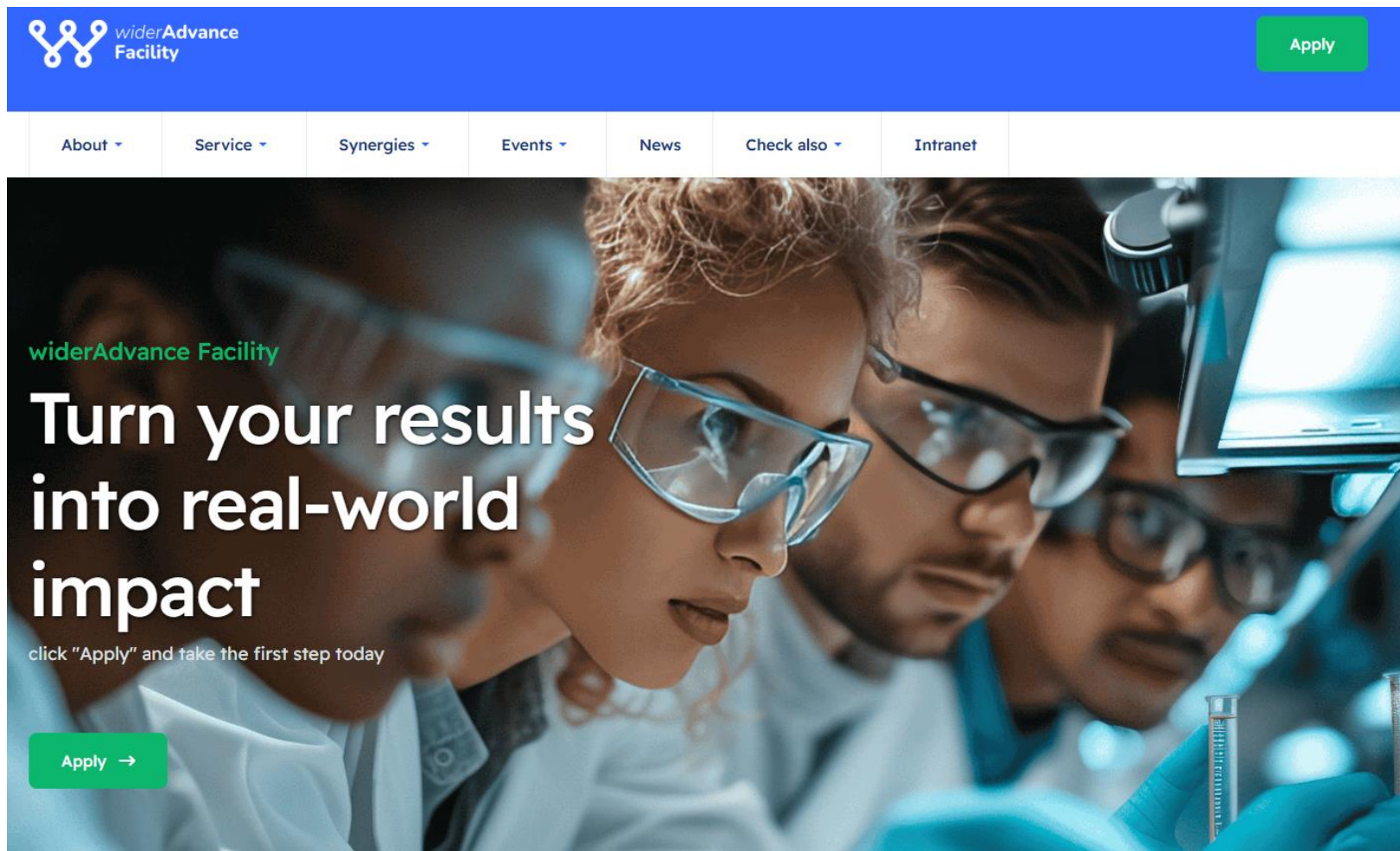
[https://www.ncpwideranet.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/ProposalPre-screeningGuide\\_july2023.pdf](https://www.ncpwideranet.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/ProposalPre-screeningGuide_july2023.pdf)



# **Support for Dissemination & Exploitation of Key Exploitable results from WIDENING Actions**



# WiderAdvance Facility



➡ Apply: <https://www.wideradvance.eu/>

23/6/2025

# WiderAdvance Facility

- ✓ Services at organisations implementing WIDERA projects

- Researchers
- Research – support staff

- ✓ **Dissemination & Exploitation Academy**

(workshop and expert coaching on tools and methodologies for D&E)

- Researchers
- Research – support staff

- ✓ **Support with intangible assets**

- IP Strategy & Commercialisation
- IP Commercialisation & negotiation
- Preparation to match with third parties
- Support with standardisation



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SCAN ME 

