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HORIZON EUROPE

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# Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area (WIDERA)



24 June, 2022  
EURAGRI seminar

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# Topics

## 1. Introduction

## 2. Horizon Europe: What's new? Hop on, Excellence Hubs and Twinning

## 3. Where to find help ?



# 1. Introduction

- **EU-13 countries have participated in FPs since 1998**
- **There are different patterns in participation, but the difference is more nuanced than EU 13 *versus* EU 15**
- **No single indicator to describe the patterns of FP participation of widening and non widening countries**
- **A combination of factors to explain the underperformance of certain countries**
- **Measures and instruments to bridge the research and innovation gap in Europe exist at national and European levels**

***Source: STOA study, 2018***

# Horizon Europe – WIDERA widening Participation and Strengthening ERA

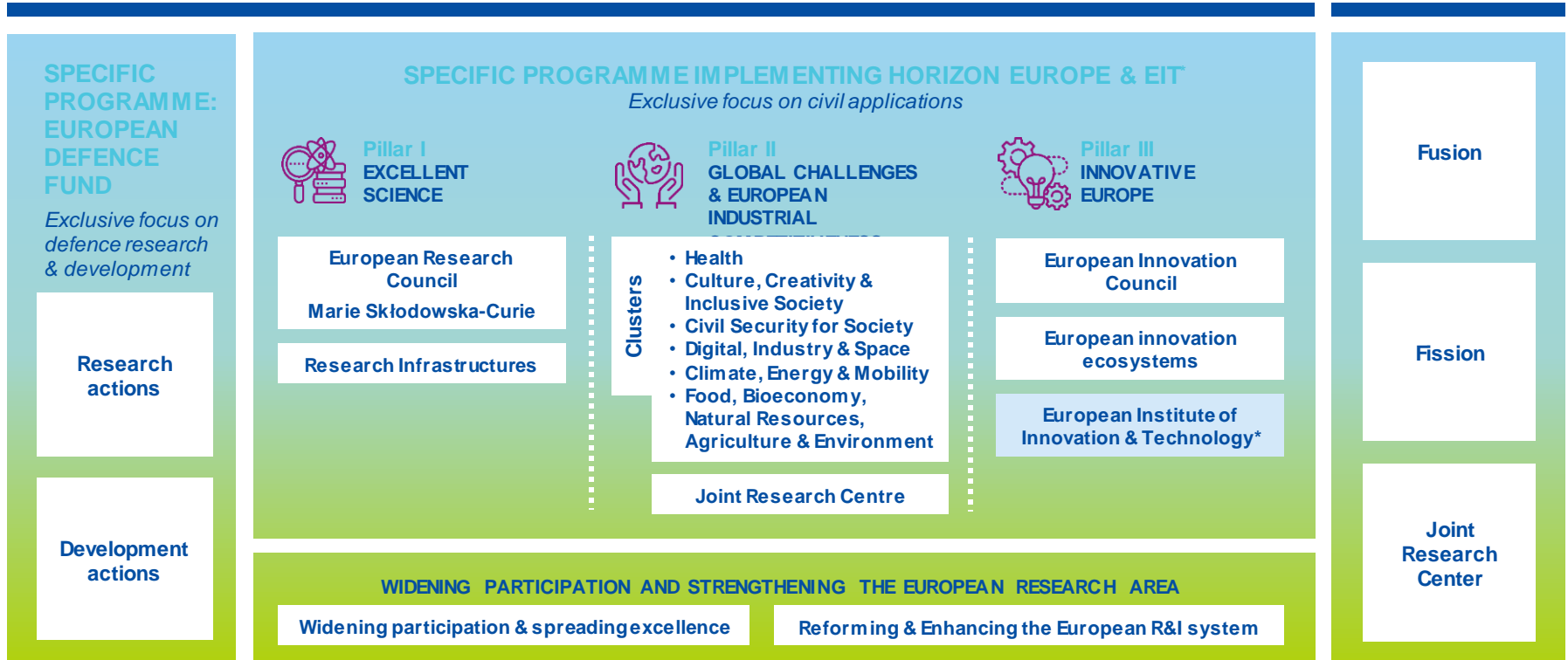
- **Objectives of WIDENING: Reduce RI gap in Europe**
  - **Support research and innovation activities**
  - **Encourage structural reforms**
  - **Build the necessary R&I capacity**
  - **Expand transnational collaboration**



# Horizon Europe – WIDERA widening Participation and Strengthening ERA

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## EURATOM



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

# Horizon Europe – WIDERA Widening Participation & Strengthening the European Research Area (ERA)

## Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence

- Teaming, Twinning, ERA Chairs,
- European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST)
- Boosting National Contact Points' (NCPs) activities, pre-proposal checks and advice
- Brain circulation
- Excellence initiatives:
- Possibility for entities from widening countries to join already selected collaborative R&I actions
- Recognition of participation
- Matchmaking services

€2.96 billion

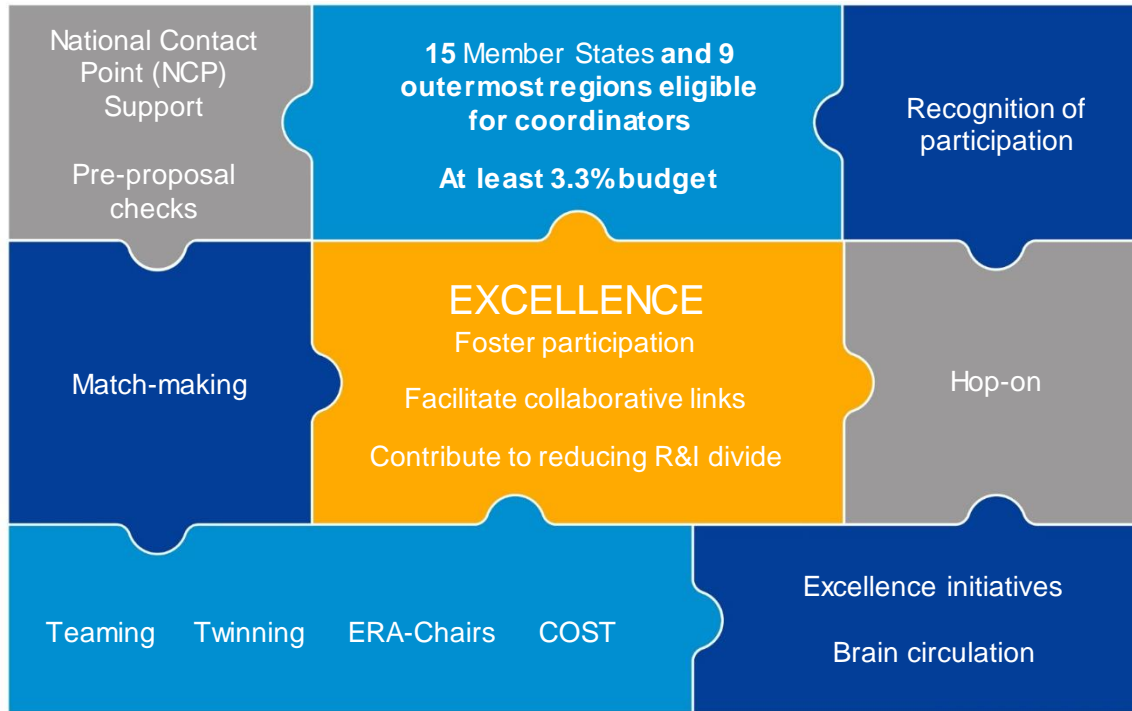
## Reforming and enhancing the EU R&I system

- Strengthening the evidence base for R&I policy
- Foresight
- Support for policy makers to the ERA development
- Support to national R&I policy reform, including Policy Support Facility
- Attractive researcher careers and links with higher education
- Open science, citizen science and science communication
- Gender equality
- Ethics and integrity
- Support to international cooperation
- Scientific input to other policies
- Support to the Programme implementation
- Support for National Contact Points
- Support to dissemination & exploitation

€0.44 billion



## Widening participation/spreading excellence



## 2. Novelties for Widening under Horizon Europe:

1. Full alignment with new ERA strategic priorities
2. Continuation of core widening instruments  
Teaming, Twinning and ERA Chairs with some improvements in response to lessons learnt
3. Research cost for CSA eligible under Teaming, Twinning and ERA Chairs
4. More emphasis on developing research management capacities
5. Full integration of COST under widening, 80% of actions must have significant widening dimension



## 2. Novelties for Widening under Horizon Europe:

**6. Fixed list of eligible Member States to host the main beneficiary (EU13 + PT + EL) + Associated Countries**

**7. EU Outermost Regions fully eligible to host the coordinator**

**8. Full implementation of “Advancing Europe” package with a number of additional support schemes to boost participation of less research performing countries**

**9. More integrated policy approach and enhanced synergies with regional policy, transnational missions, regional smart specialisation strategies etc.**



# Comparison of key characteristics widening actions with other schemes outside widening WP

Actions in WP	Consortium structure	Target group and scale of operation	Policy objectives
Teaming	Main beneficiary + 1 or 2 strategic advanced partners	Single centre of excellence to be modernised or created, relevant at national scale	Develop light houses and role models to stimulate reforms of national R&I system, increase level of excellence of national R&I system, mobilise new investments
Twinning	Main beneficiary and focused network of partnering organisations	Individual institutions and small network of advanced partnering institutions. Institutional scale with European outreach	Develop excellence in a chosen R&I domain for the main beneficiary with the help of twinning partners, increase visibility of main beneficiary and upskill its staff
ERA Chairs	Mono-beneficiary host organisation with optional single partner organisation	Excellent individuals and their teams, institutional scale	Excellent scientists and their teams to become game changers at institutional level, develop new research strands and raise level of excellence
Excellence hubs	Group of 2 or 3 placed based innovation ecosystems based on the quadruple helix approach	Research institutions, firms, local/regional government, societal actors, local regional scale with cross border dimension	Foster innovation excellence in place based (local/regional) innovation ecosystems, improve science business linkages, regional dimension of widening, <b>bottom-up approach</b>
Excellence Universities	Network of European Universities, co-ordinates by university from widening country	Universities at European Level	Support transformation of HE institutions towards excellence and international profile

# New or modified actions under Horizon Europe

- **Destination 1: Improved access to excellence**
  - Teaming
  - **Twinning**
  - **Excellence Hubs**
  - **European Excellence Initiative for Higher Education Institutions**
  - **Hop-on facility**
  - (under other actions) COST

# NCP WIDERA NET, a useful tool!

- **NCP\_WIDERA.NET Project is a 3 years Coordination and Support Action financed by the European Commission. It empowers the network of National Contact Points (NCP) for WIDERA under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme.**
- **New service under this project is the proposal pre-check. NCP will be trained to give a high quality service to check on proposals before they are submitted to any calls.**
- **<https://ncpwidenet.eu/project-wide-net/>**

### 3. WHERE TO FIND HELP? SOME HINTS

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- **The EC publishes on the internet** (participant portal with FAQs, Workprogrammes text, call deadlines etc.);
- **NCP WIDERA NET: proposals pre-check by NCP**, open to everyone;
- **The international and HR department** of your research or academic institutions;
- **Call your National Contact Point!** NCP are trained to help you identify the best call you need **AND** help you structure your proposal (to find your NCP, see <https://ncpwidenet.eu/>);
- Also, if this applies to your country, contact your Regional Authority to seek **EU regional funding for RI which can be used in synergies with EU RI funding**;
- Participation to **Info DAYS, conferences organised by countries, by the European Commission**





# Thank you!

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<http://ec.europa.eu/horizon-europe>

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