

3RD FORUM OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE ADRIATIC CATANIA 24-25 MAY 2018 AND IONIAN REGION

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POLICY OFFICER - DG RTD

**STRENGTHENING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
CAPACITIES AND CONNECTING ECOSYSTEMS IN
THE ADRIATIC IONIAN MACRO-REGION**



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Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

- Disparities in research and innovation performance: barrier to competitiveness, growth and jobs across Europe
- Some countries experience low participation in the EU Framework Programmes because of:
 - insufficient national R&D investments
 - lack of synergies between national research systems and the EU research landscape
 - system learning effects
 - reduced access to international networks
 - problems with information, communication and training



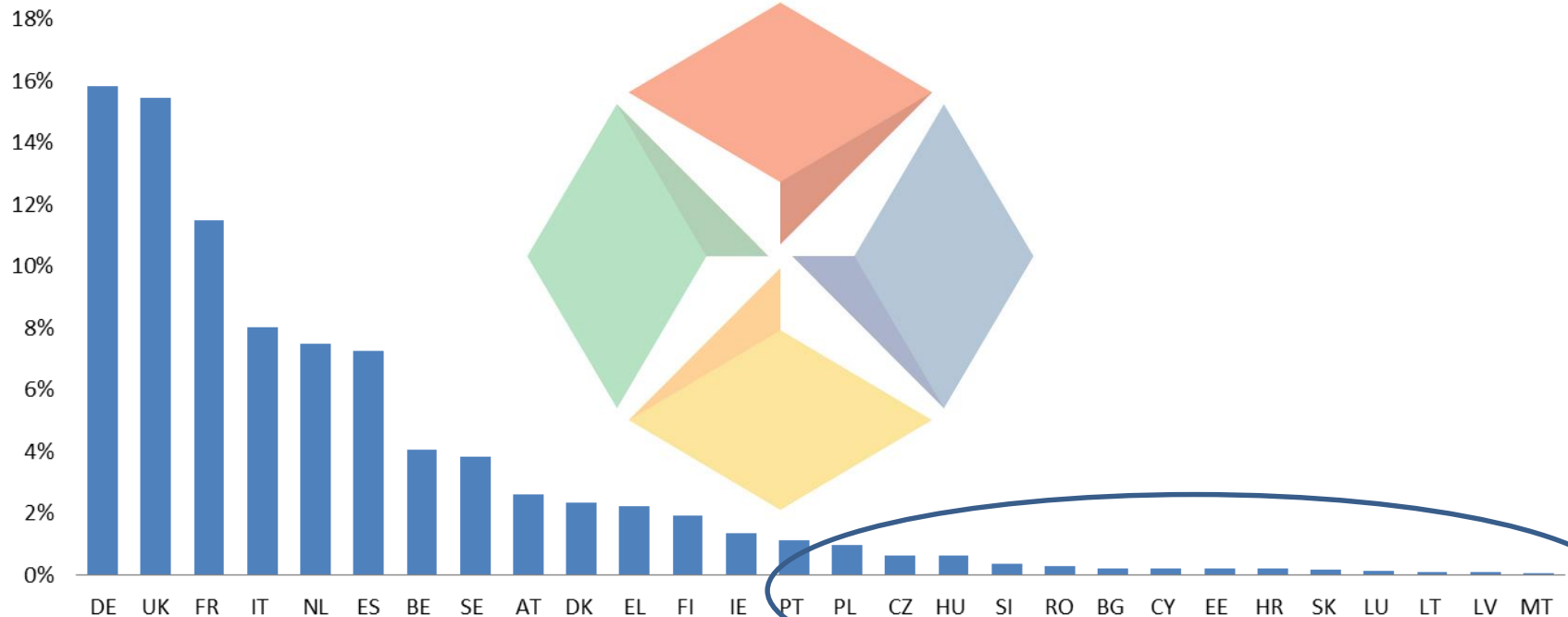
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FP7 Budget Share per country %





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Specific eligibility criteria for WIDENING

- Necessitate a targeted approach to help those participants with low performance in R&I
- H2020 legal text >> "low performing RDI Member States and regions"

"Low RDI Performing" or "Widening" Countries:

MS: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia

AC: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine

Partners from Greece and Italy could participate as 'advanced partners'



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Spreading Excellence/EUSAIR countries and strategies



Bottom-up programme: all R&I topics are covered.

Only stakeholders from the Widening countries are eligible as **project coordinators..**

Spreading Excellence/EUSAIR

Croatia and Slovenia as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia. The stakeholders from other EU countries (therefore Italy and Greece) can participate in the partnerships as advanced partners

This funding is meant to support the collaborations on similar or complementary domains **identified in the Smart Specialisation strategies.**



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Teaming

Objective:

- Creation of new (or significant upgrade of existing) Centres of Excellence (CoE) in low R&I performing or "Widening" countries

The Partnership: 2 parties in each Teaming project

- (1) the COORDINATOR from the "Widening" country
- (2) an institution with an international reputation in R&I excellence (from all EU28 or AC)

➤ **Implementation in 2 Phases**



Teaming

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Phase 1: Funding the development of a **Business Plan** for the new/upgraded Centre of Excellence facilitated by a teaming process with a leading counterpart in Europe.

Phase 2: Subject to the quality of the proposal for Phase 2, and the financial commitment for the project from other sources, the Commission may provide **substantial financial support** (max. €15 million) for the **first steps of implementation** (5-7 years) of the Centre covering administrative, personnel and operational costs as well as "minor" support for equipment and consumables.

NOTE: There are **no new Teaming calls in H2020**. For the ongoing Teaming Phase 2 (restricted) call no information can be provided. Applicants involved in that competition can contact their Project Officer in the REA for further information.



Expected impact of Teaming

The **creation of CoEs** in "Widening" Countries through Teaming is expected to:

- increase the scientific capabilities of these countries and enable them to engage in a **strategic growth path** pointing to long-term opportunities for economic development.
- through improved scientific capabilities allow these countries to improve their chances to **seek competitive funding** in EU and international fora.
- create critical mass through **complementary funding** from other sources (e.g ESIF) also committing national/regional authorities to ensure greater impact and project success.



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Twinning

Aim of the action:

Strengthen a defined field of research in a university or research organisation from a Widening country by linking it with at least two internationally-leading research institutions in other Member States or Associated Countries.

Main objectives:

- Enhance the S&T capacity of the institutions
- Focus on institutions in Widening country
- Raise the research profile of the institution and of its research staff

The Partners: (Minimum Conditions)

ONE institution located in a "Widening" MS/AC (**COORDINATOR**)
A **minimum of TWO** additional partners from **two different MS or AC** other than the country of the coordinator.



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Eligible Costs:

- Coordination and networking;
- Dissemination and outreach activities.
- Infrastructure, equipment & research costs will NOT be funded.

Twinning Call 2018:

Budget: €20 million
Call opening: 11 May 2018
Call deadline: **15 November 2018**
Project Size: **up to €1 million (eligibility condition)**
Project Duration: up to 3 years (eligibility condition)
Implementation: Coordination and Support Action

Twinning



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Expected impact of Twinning

- Research **excellence**, in particular, in the selected field of research;
- Improved capability to succeed in competitive **research funding**;
- Enhanced reputation, **attractiveness** and networking;
- The expected potential impact of the project illustrated by a number of **indicators**;
- Benefit from/to "**advanced**" **partners** to be demonstrated.



ERA Chair

Objectives of the action:

- **Bring high quality researchers and managers (the ERA Chair and his/her team) to universities and other research organisations** with the potential for research excellence.
- Institutions should implement **structural changes to achieve excellence** on a sustainable basis.

Participants

One single applicant (mono-beneficiary action) located in a **Widening country**.



Expected impacts of ERA Chair

Proposals:

- Bottom-up approach in the field of research but connected with the ERA Chair holder expertise to fully capitalise on his/her presence;
- Measures to foster structural changes for excellence including compliance with ERA priorities (open recruitment, peer review, gender balance, Charter & Code);
- Include a plan to increase Research Capacity - if infrastructures foreseen present a strategy for funding (including possible use of ESIF funding).

Expected Impact:

- Increased attractiveness of institution and region for excellent researchers;
- Research excellence in the fields covered by the ERA Chair;
- Improved capability of the institution to succeed in competitive research funding;
- Institutional changes with increased research capacity and ERA priorities compliance.



ERA hairs

ERA Chairs 2018 call:

- Call Deadline: 15 November 2018

ERA Chairs 2019 call:

- Call Deadline: 14 November 2019

