



European Partnerships

Co-funded partnerships evaluation template

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*Research and
Innovation*

Excellence

1. Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state-of-the-art.
 - ✓ common vision and ambition of the Partnership
 - ✓ In case the proposed Partnership is a continuation of one or more partnerships funded under Horizon 2020, what will be different?
 - ✓ the general, specific and operational objectives of the proposed Partnership, based on a clear intervention logic.
 - ✓ What is the expected timeframe to achieve the specific objectives? Why are the objectives of the Partnership pertinent to the work programme topic? Are the objectives clear, realistic, measurable, achievable and verifiable?
 - ✓ links and/or collaboration opportunities identified at this stage with other Partnership candidates and Union programmes,
 - ✓ A clear and realistic exit-strategy and measures for phasing-out from the Framework Programme funding.
2. Soundness of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, inter-disciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.
 - ✓ Describe and explain the overall methodology
 - ✓ Indicate how the area addressed by the action will benefit from the coordination of national/regional research activities.
 - ✓ Describe any national or international research and innovation activities whose results will feed into the project
 - ✓ Explain how expertise and methods from different disciplines will be brought together and integrated in pursuit of your objectives.
 - ✓ For topics where the work programme indicates the need for the integration of social sciences and humanities, show the role of these disciplines in the project

- ✓ Describe how the gender dimension (i.e. sex and/or gender analysis) is taken into account in the project's research and innovation content.
 - ✓ Describe how appropriate open science practices are implemented as an integral part of the proposed methodology.
 - ✓ Research data management and management of other research outputs: Applicants generating/collecting data and/or other research outputs (except for publications) during the project must provide maximum 1 page on how the data/ research outputs will be managed in line with the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)
3. Level of ambition in the collaboration and commitment of the participants in the proposed CoFund action to pool national resources in terms of budget, number of partners and participating countries and to coordinate their national/regional research programmes

Impact

1. Credibility of the **pathways** to achieve the expected **outcomes and impacts** specified in the work programme, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project.
 - ✓ Is the contribution of the project towards the 1) expected outcomes of the topic and 2) the wider impacts, in the longer term, as specified in the respective destinations of the WP, credible?
 - ✓ Are potential barriers to the expected outcomes and impacts identified (i.e. other R&I work within and beyond Horizon Europe; regulatory environment; targeted markets; user behavior), and mitigation measures proposed? Is any potential negative environmental outcome or impact (including when expected results are brought at scale, such as at commercial level) identified? Is the management of the potential negative impacts properly described?
 - ✓ Are the scale and significance of the project's contribution to the expected outcomes and impacts estimated and quantified (including baselines, benchmarks and assumptions used for those estimates)?

- ✓ 'Scale' refers to how widespread the outcomes and impacts are likely to be. For example, in terms of the size of the target group, or the proportion of that group, that should benefit over time;
- ✓ 'Significance' refers to the importance, or value, of those benefits. For example, number of additional healthy life years; efficiency savings in energy supply.

2. Suitability and quality of the **measures to maximize expected outcomes and impacts**, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.

- ✓ Are the proposed dissemination, exploitation and communication measures suitable for the project and of good quality? All measures should be proportionate to the scale of the project, and should contain concrete actions to be implemented both during and after the end of the project.
- ✓ Are the target groups (e.g. scientific community, end users, financial actors, public at large) for these measures identified?
- ✓ Is the strategy for the management of intellectual property properly outlined and suitable to support exploitation of results?
 - ✓ If exploitation is expected primarily in non-associated third countries, is it properly justified how that exploitation is still in the Union's interest?

3. Contribution to better alignment of national activities and policies

4. Contribution to establishing and strengthening a durable cooperation between the partners and their national/regional research programmes

Quality and efficiency of the implementation

1. Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan**, assessment of risks, and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.

2. Capacity and role of each **participant**, and extent to which the **consortium** as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.
 - ✓ [Are any countries that may benefit from the provisions of the transitional arrangement on candidate Associated Countries also treated according to the provisions of this transitional arrangement, i.e. as if they were Associated already at the time of submitting the proposal?]
3. Other aspects:
 - ✓ Is there industrial/commercial involvement in the project to ensure exploitation of the results?
 - ✓ What is the international dimension and justify the EU-added value of including international partners and stakeholders?
 - ✓ Will the governance and management of the Partnership achieve the defined vision and objectives? contribute to ensuring coherence and synergies with the EU research and innovation landscape and demonstrate, as well as transparency and openness during the Partnership?
 - ✓ Will the partnership be established in a transparent way with no unjustified restriction in participation?
 - ✓ Do the strategies and plans throughout the lifetime of the Partnership to ensure easy and nondiscriminatory access to information about the initiative and dissemination of and access to results?
 - ✓ Does the consortium match the project's objectives, and bring together the necessary disciplinary and inter-disciplinary knowledge.
 - ✓ Does the consortium develop a cooperation extending well beyond transnational joint calls and R&I projects
 - ✓ Does the consortium demonstrate how the consortium will establish a meaningful collaboration with Member States /Associated Countries and their relevant national/regional authorities and their respective commitments?
 - ✓ Does the consortium build upon, strengthen and/or expand collaboration networks and initiatives that are currently existing at the EU level?
 - ✓ Are there the relevant type and composition of partners (public, private, foundations etc.) necessary for this partnership? Do the partners have access to critical infrastructure needed to carry out the project activities?
 - ✓ Are the participants complementing one another (and cover the value chain, where appropriate)
 - ✓ Will it establish a proactive recruitment policy?
 - ✓ Is the process, during the implementation phase of the SRIA/roadmap, for establishing annual work programmes open and transparent?

4. **Legal Requirements:** *Please only include the following in your IER if the requirement is not well addressed with a standard sentence: "All legal requirements are adequately addressed with the exception of xxx which is insufficiently addressed, because".*

- **Is the duration of the action sufficient to allow for all projects funded through support to third parties to be fully implemented?**

Sufficient time is needed because these actions include call preparation, launch of the call, proposal submission and evaluation, the selection decision, and full implementation of the selected transnational projects. If during implementation there are justifiable delays, the consortium may request an extension.
- **Does the project plan include distinct work packages for the activities related to the co-funded call (if applicable) and/or additional activities (if applicable)?**
- **In the case of a co-funded call(s), does the project plan include a dedicated deliverable(s), with the following elements: [PT]**
 - ✓ the ranking list(s) of the projects;
 - ✓ the observers' report on the evaluation;
 - ✓ the joint selection list of the projects to be funded, and from each consortium partner participating in the joint call, a formal and duly signed commitment on availability of funds for the selected projects.
- **Are any countries that may benefit from the provisions of the transitional arrangement on candidate Associated Countries also treated according to the provisions of this transitional arrangement, i.e. as if they were Associated already at the time of submitting the proposal? [WP Annex]**
- **JOINT CALLS**
 - ✓ Does the consortium select projects following a single joint transnational call for proposals? [MGA]
 - ✓ Do the requirements of the joint call(s) require trans-national project, i.e. at least two independent legal entities from two different Member States or Associated Countries or one legal entity from a Member State or Associated Country and one legal entity from a non-associated third country (not receiving financial support)? [MGA/AGA]
 - ✓ Does the consortium foresee to publish the joint call(s) on the Funding and Tenders portal and the beneficiaries' websites? [MGA/AGA]

- ✓ Does the consortium keep the joint call(s) open for at least 2 months? [MGA]
- ✓ Does the consortium make the selection through a two-step procedure, with
 - ✓ Step 1: eligibility check / review at national or trans-national level and
 - ✓ Step 2: single international peer review? [MGA]

A two-step procedure is necessary to ensure that only entities that are eligible for funding under the national funding rules are invited to Step 2 and that consortia can balance the requested funding and available funding per participating Member State and associated country between Steps 1 and 2.

 - ✓ In Step 2, does the consortium evaluate proposals with the assistance of at least three independent experts per proposal? [MGA]
 - ✓ In Step 2, does the consortium evaluate proposals on the basis of the Horizon Europe award criteria? [MGA]
- ✓ Will the selection procedure be followed by an independent expert observer, who must make a report? [MGA]
- ✓ Will proposals be ranked according to the evaluation results? [MGA]
- ✓ Will the selection of trans-national projects ('joint selection list') be based on the order of the ranking list (or the ranking lists, if there are different topics)? [MGA]
- ✓ Does the consortium foresee at the end of the evaluation of the co-funded call and at the end of the project deliverables with details about the co-funded projects? (template allowing for transfer to Commission IT system) [HE]
- ✓ *Will beneficiaries in the consortium apply for funding under the co-funded call for proposals? [AGA]
 - ✓ In case answer to question * is N. Does the consortium clearly stipulate "beneficiaries are not eligible to apply for funding under the co-funded call" [AGA]
 - ✓ In case answer to question * is Y. Does the consortium identify the beneficiaries which might apply for funding under the co-funded call for proposals? [AGA]
 - ✓ In case answer to question * is Y. Does the consortium explain the measures to be taken to mitigate the risk of, perception of, or de facto conflict of interest or unequal treatment of applicants? [AGA]

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- ✓ In case answer to question * is Y. Does the consortium reflect all these measures fully in their description of activities for the preparation and implementation of the co-funded call as well as in relation to the monitoring of the trans-national projects? [AGA]
- ✓ In case answer to question * is Y. Will these measures will be implemented by demonstrating that information is kept non-accessible to other members of the consortium (or the departments concerned, in case a beneficiary is both research funder and research performer) that might apply to the co-funded call? [AGA]
- ✓ In case answer to question * is Y. Will these measures include a procedure, which ensures the independent and fair treatment of complaints related to the call, in particular for complaints relating to unequal treatment of applicants? [AGA]
- ✓ Does the proposal specify the maximum amount of financial support to a third party (grant beneficiaries under national funding rules) and the criteria for determining the exact amount under national funding rules? [PT/AGA]