

# **Synergies with Cohesion Policy Funds**

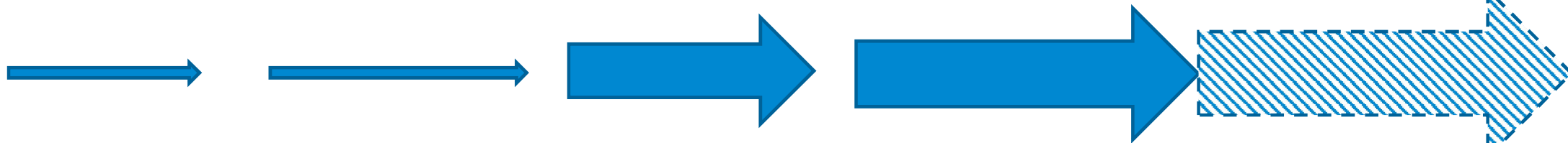
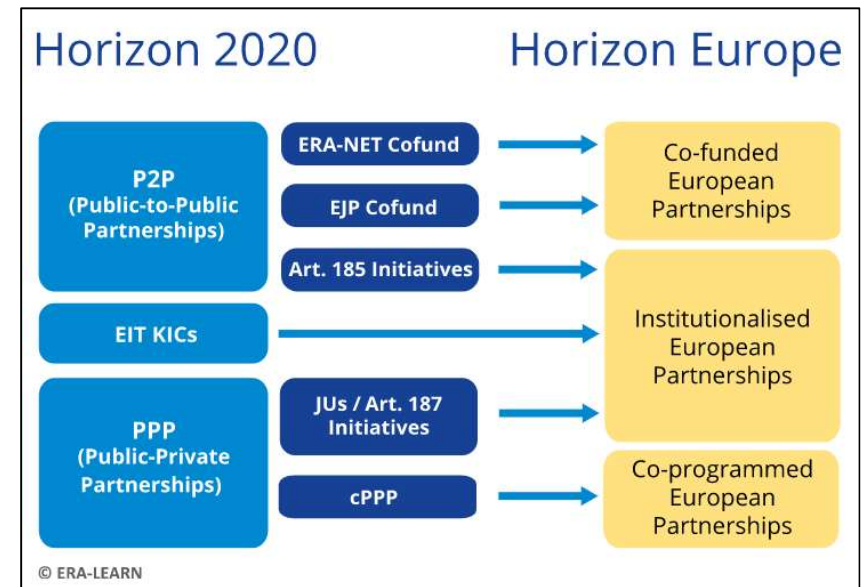
10. May 2023



# **ERA-LEARN: central information hub for European Partnerships**

# ERA-LEARN: service provider & facilitator

- consortium of funding organisations and analysts
- expanding the scope
  - ... from ERA-NET (FP7) to JPI ...
  - ... to Horizon 2020 ERA-NET Cofund and EJP ...
  - ... to European Partnerships under Horizon Europe ...
- supporting the transition of Partnerships from Horizon 2020 to Horizon Europe
- **next phase starting 1 July 2023!**



2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
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# Central information hub: the ERA-LEARN portal <https://www.era-learn.eu>



## ERA-LEARN reaches out to all stakeholders:

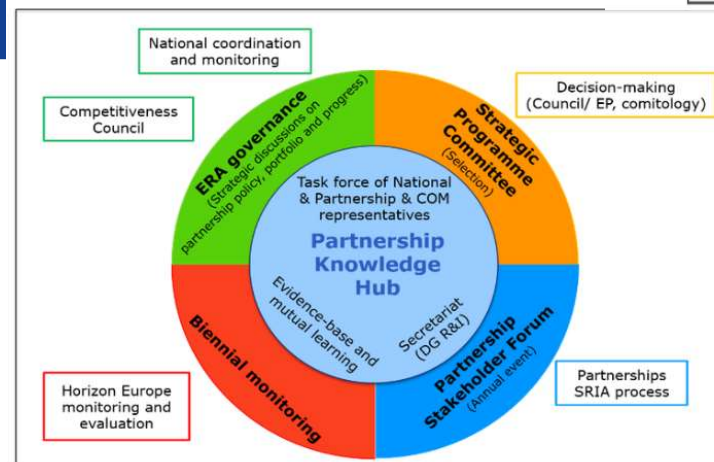
- Policy level
- Network administrators
- Researchers



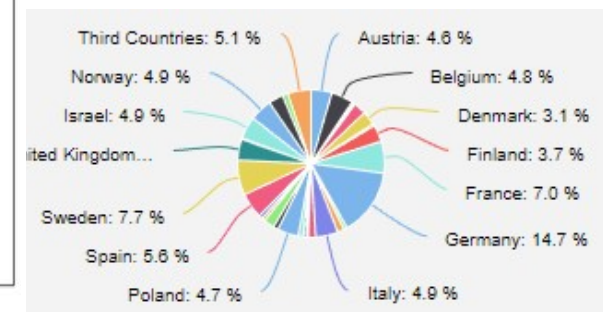
## Partnerships in a nutshell

### Background information on Partnerships:

- Strategic Coordinating Process
- Annual Reports
- Country Reports
- Facts and Figures

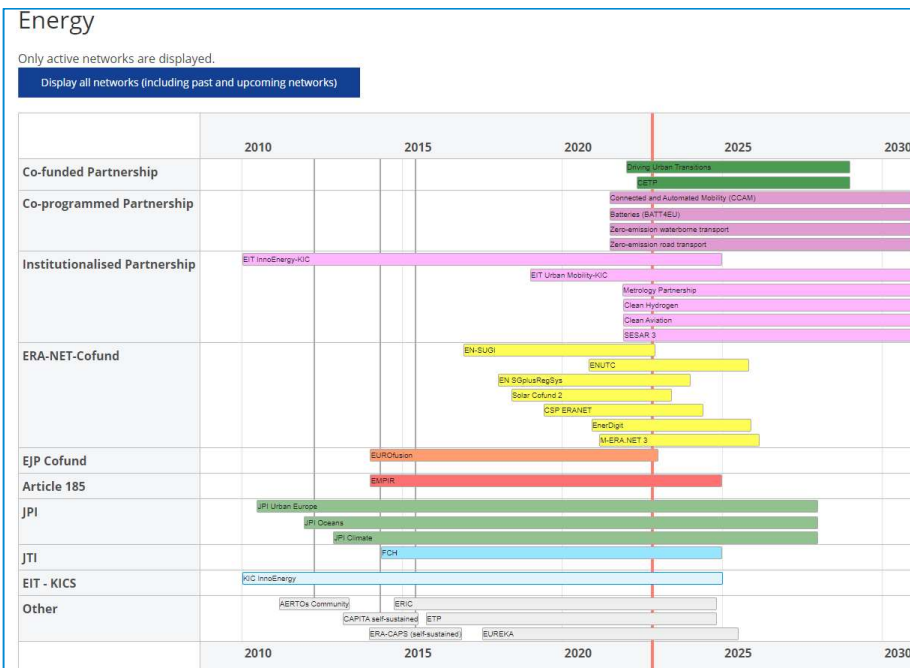


Strategic Coordinating Process (Graphic: European Commission)



# Partnership network database – overview of all former and new Partnerships

- overview on all Partnerships (format, topic...) including predecessors
- individual country's participation
- call calendar: joint calls launched by the Partnerships
- upcoming calls for Partnerships in HE work programmes



### France cooperation overview: projects

Show map | Show report

France is involved in 2041 projects.

Show cooperations in: Networks | Calls | Projects

Filter by funding framework

- CHIST-ERA III (Horizon 2020)
- CHIST-ERA IV (Horizon 2020)
- E-Rare-3 (Horizon 2020)
- ERA-HDHL (Horizon 2020)
- ERA4CS (Horizon 2020)
- FLAG-ERA II (Horizon 2020)
- FLAG-ERA III (Horizon 2020)
- FOSC (Horizon 2020)
- LEAP-AGRI (Horizon 2020)

Filter by partnership format

- AXIS (Horizon 2020)
- AquaticPollutants (Horizon 2020)
- BiodivClim (Horizon 2020)
- BiodivERSA3 (Horizon 2020)
- BiodivRestore (Horizon 2020)
- BiodivScen (Horizon 2020)
- BlueBio (Horizon 2020)
- CONCERT (Horizon 2020)

## Joint Calls Calendar

Please note: The database of joint calls and funded projects is depending on data received by the networks. Please contact us to display your calls: office(at)era-learn.eu, or submit your own call



## Horizon Europe Calls for Partnerships

Home / Explore Partnerships / Horizon Europe Calls for Partnerships / 2024: Partnership related Horizon Europe calls

### 2024: Partnership related Horizon Europe calls

Overview of planned Horizon Europe calls for Co-funded European Partnerships and planned calls to establish new collaborations. These calls will be launched in the Funding & Tender opportunities Portal of the EC.

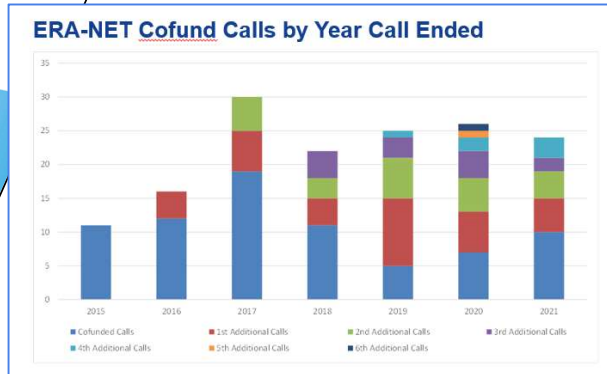
The Work Programmes are available for download.

Title / Call Identifier	Type of Action	Budget	Call closure
<b>Cluster 1: Health</b>			
<a href="#">Pandemic preparedness and response: Maintaining the European partnership for pandemic preparedness/HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-08-12</a>	Coordination and Support Actions	2ME	11 April 2024
<a href="#">European Partnership: One Health Anti-Microbial Resistance/HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-09-01</a>	Programme Cofund Actions	100 ME	11 April 2024
<b>Cluster 5: Climate, Energy and Mobility</b>			
<a href="#">Africa-EU CO-FUND action/HORIZON-CLS-2024-D3-01-09</a>	Programme Cofund	10 ME	16 Jan 2024

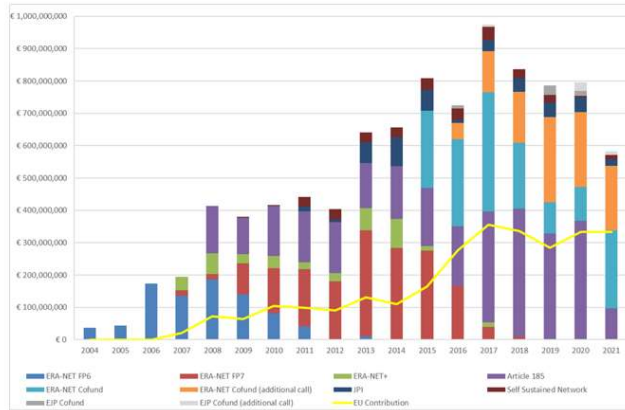


# Annual Report on Public-Public Partnerships

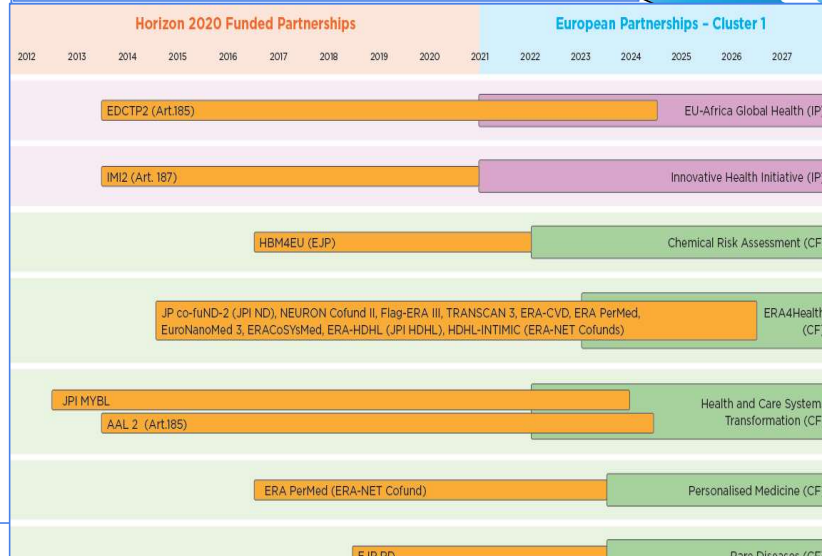
- published since 2015
- detailed analysis, overall trends, good practice examples
- **2022 report will be published May 2023**
- ... relies on data quality!



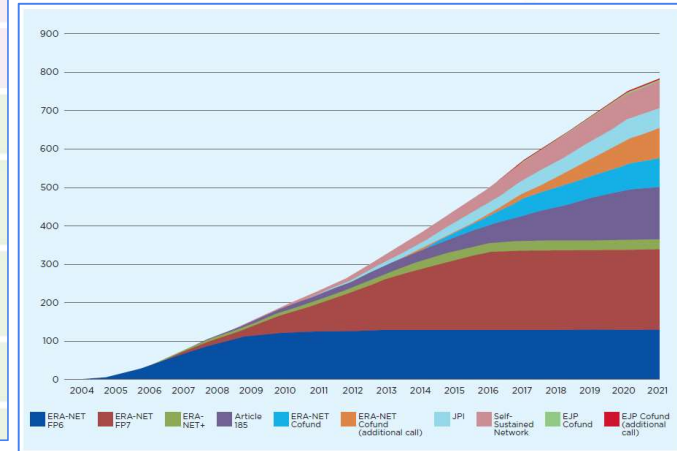
## National Joint Call Commitment (with EU Contribution for co-funding of calls overlaid) for all Calls closed 2004-2021, by Network Type



## Transition to European Partnerships



## Cumulative Number of Transnational Projects Funded



# Supporting the practical implementation of Partnerships

guiding material  
manuals and tools

examples of good practice

- on governance models and legal issues
- on the implementation of joint calls
- on additional activities carried out by the Partnerships

In this section ERA-LEARN brings implementation of European Pa governance structures of Europe where these structures are regul

We furthermore want to support what is behind the idea of respo Partnerships. Finally, monitoring in Horizon Europe. Thus, some g

- Alignment
- Coherence & Collaboration
- Foresight
- Openness & Transparency
- Societal and Market Uptake
- Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas
- Synergies with the Cohesion Policy Funds
- Other Additional Activities

# ERA-LEARN: interaction with community

<https://www.era-learn.eu/news-events/events>

## ❖ annual large events

- Annual Partnership Stakeholder Forum (Nov 2023)

## ❖ workshops on specific issues

- Implementing co-funded Partnerships (April 2023)
- Synergies with Cohesion Policy Funds (May 2023)
- Monitoring & Evaluation framework (June 2023)



## Events

[Home](#) / [News and Events](#) / [Events](#) / [European Partnership Stakeholder Forum - One-year review of European Partnership Initiatives in Horizon Europe](#)

### European Partnership Stakeholder Forum - One-year review of European Partnership Initiatives in Horizon Europe

**Date:** 15/11/2022 - 16/11/2022

On 15 and 16 November 2022 the European Commission launched together with ERA-LEARN its first European Partnership Stakeholder Forum. The Forum focused on the review of the first year of partnerships and, in particular, how they can contribute to the twin green and digital transitions, as well as increasing Europe's resilience.

#### Agenda & video recordings

Day 1 15 November, 2022



#### Related Files



#### [Summary Results of the 1st European Partnership Stakeholder Forum 2022](#)

[Edit](#)

The first Partnership Stakeholder Forum, organised by ERA-LEARN in collaboration with the European Commission brought together more than 250 on site participants, w ...

[More ...](#) +

[Download](#)



#### [Biennial Monitoring Report \(BMR\) 2022 on partnerships in Horizon Europe](#)



# ERA-LEARN: interaction with community

- register to our news alert:

<https://www.era-learn.eu/newsletter>



## Welcome to the ERA-LEARN NEW newsletter!

31/03/2023

### Implementation of co-funded partnerships: In-kind activities and in-kind contributions

In a note for the attention of the Strategic Programme Committee, DG Research & Innovation has provided guidance on in-kind contributions. The term "In-kind contribution" is described as non-financial assets that are being put at the disposal of a partnership and which can be used both in the context of external calls (e.g. a research infrastructure) or of in-kind activities (e.g. a dataset for use in a common R&I programme).

[Read more](#)

31/03/2023

### Updated version of the draft Annotated Model Grant Agreement

An updated version of the draft Annotated Model Grant Agreement has been published on the EC Funding & tender opportunities portal. On p. 313-317 (updated Annex 5 for Co-funded Partnerships ) the specific rules for Co-funded Partnerships are now explained in more detail, including information on the involvement of Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) (Information barrier/ firewall) or on the joint selection list (identical



# **ERA-LEARN and Synergies with Cohesion Policy Funds**

# Era Learn on synergies



## [Report on the potential Coordination between European Structural and Investment Funds \(ESIF\) and transnational P2P](#)

## [Updated Policy Brief on Synergies between R&I partnerships & European Structural and Investment Funds \(ESIF\)](#)

## [Synergies between European R&I partnerships and European Structural and Investment Funds \(ESIF\): Good practice catalogue of synergies adopted in Horizon 2020](#)

## [Challenges of Widening countries in the Creation and Implementation of the European Partnerships](#)



## Additional Activities & Cross Cutting Issues

Home / Support for Partnerships / Additional Activities & Cross Cutting Issues / Synergies with the Cohesion Policy Funds

### Synergies with the Cohesion Policy Funds



add to

Synergies between the Framework Programme for Research and Cohesion Policy Funds have been a key topic since the preparation of Horizon 2020 based on the need to convey European funds in a strategic way with the objective of strengthening the social and economic impact of R&I results.

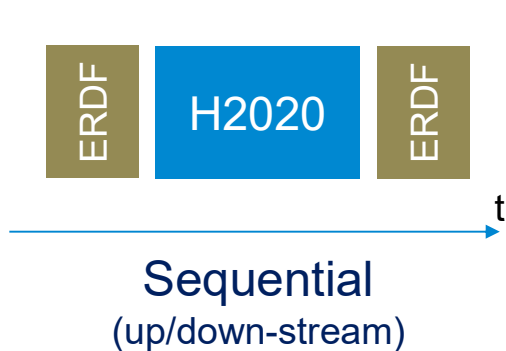
The European Court of Auditors on November 2022 published a report: "**Special report 23/2022: Synergies between Horizon 2020 and European Structural and Investment Funds - Not yet used to full potential**" assessing the degree of implementation of four types of synergies, and concluded that it varied by type. In particular, while measures to create

#### Useful Links

[WEBINAR: Synergies between Horizon and European structural and investment funds in EOSC Partnership](#)

#### Related Files

<https://www.era-learn.eu/support-for-partnerships/additional-activities/synergies>



Creation of pre-condition and ecosystem facilitating the participation in a EP or when it provides resources for follow up of funded projects through EP calls



Supporting a parallel or complementary activity related to EP funded projects.



Cohesion policy funds are used within the work plan of a EP and counts as a partner/national contribution.

Alignment between S3 and SRIA is fundamental for maximizing the Cohesion Policy funds impact

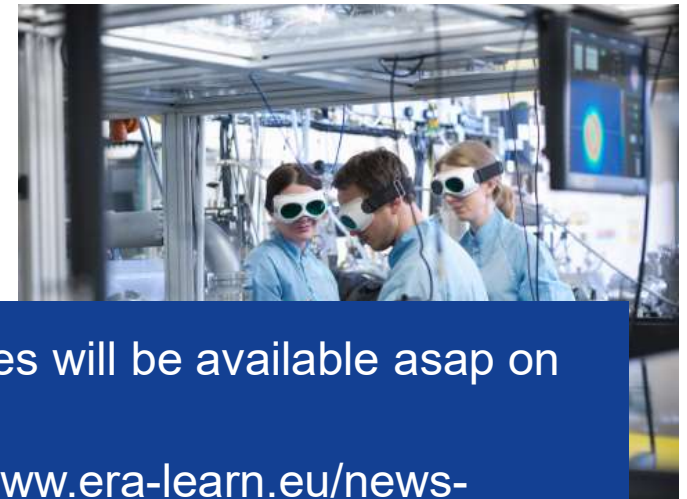
- **Open dialogue with European Partnership consortia:** Managing Authorities and National/Regional Stakeholders should identify R&D priorities in different SRIAs in compliance with S3 priorities and identify European Partnerships to join.

Joining consortia in planning/amendment phases. Two options for including regional actors:

- § Formal partner that contributes to the partnership (beneficiary in the grant agreement)
- § “associated” to certain activities (such as Funding organisation participating in the Joint Transnational Call) without being a formal partner.

- **Align** national and regional **Smart Specialization Strategies (S3)** and enable/plan funding measures supporting **parallel/alternative** and **complementary** funding among different EU and national programmes;
- **Dialogue with National representatives** for coordinating national and regional commitments to European Partnerships to join

- 1. Share experiences: MAs and EP representatives**  
inform each other on the experience related to the first wave of European Partnership implementation.
- 2. Gathering information: MAs and EP representatives**  
inform each other on how to improve the mutual communication, meet respective needs and implement synergies with mutual benefit.



The slides will be available asap on  
<https://www.era-learn.eu/news-events/events/synergies-with-cohesion-policy-funds>



# **Synergies between Horizon Europe and the European Regional Development Fund programmes Update and novelties**





# Horizon Europe and Cohesion Policy: Working for Innovation

## Pillar 1 Excellent Science

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie  
Actions

Research Infrastructures

## Pillar 2 Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

- Clusters
- Health
  - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
  - Civil Security for Society
  - Digital, Industry and Space
  - Climate, Energy and Mobility
  - Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Joint Research Centre

## Pillar 3 Innovative Europe

European Innovation Council

European innovation  
ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation  
and Technology

## Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

## Policy Objective 1

A more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity

Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies

Reaping the benefits of digitisation for citizens, companies, research organisations and public authorities

Enhancing sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, incl. by productive investments

Developing skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship

Enhancing digital connectivity





## Synergies between Horizon Europe and Cohesion Policy programmes – Preconditions

- **Alignment of strategies**
  - ✓ Horizon Europe strategic planning and Work Programmes
  - ✓ ERDF/ESF+ programmes
- **Alignment of legal provisions**
  - ✓ Horizon Europe/Annex IV
  - ✓ Common Provision Regulation ('CPR')
  - ✓ EU State aid rules – the General Block Exemption Regulation ('GBER')
- **Joint support initiatives**
  - Seal of Excellence Community of Practice (regular meetings & IT platform)
  - COMMISSION NOTICE - GUIDANCE ON SYNERGIES (OJ C 421 of 4/11/2022)
  - Upcoming joint network research & cohesion community



## Synergies – support for ‘Seal-of-Excellence’



### Seal of Excellence

Pipeline of excellent R&I projects identified for funding

Leverage of Horizon Europe mechanisms and visibility + economic impact at regional level

- ‘Seal of Excellence’ for ‘excellent’ Horizon Europe proposals – not funded due to insufficient budget. Possible alternative funding, e.g. from ERDF, ESF+ or EAFRD – up to the national/regional managing authority’s choice
- Projects may receive directly - **without a new qualitative evaluation** – ERDF/ESF+ funding under CPR rules (only check of specific eligibility criteria, contribution to programme objectives, smart specialisation priorities, scope of the fund – i.e. issues not guaranteed by the Seal)
- Managing Authorities may apply to these operations the **Horizon Europe categories, maximum amounts and methods of calculation of eligible costs**
- **‘Synergies-friendly’ State aid rules:** specific conditions facilitate the granting of aid for ‘Seal-of-Excellence’ projects of SMEs (→ Art. 25a and 25b amended General Block Exemption Regulation)



## Synergies – cumulative funding



### **Cumulative funding**

Allows pooling funding from two different instruments in one project

- An action that has received a contribution from another Union programme may also receive a contribution under the Programme, provided that the contributions do not cover the same costs. The rules of the relevant Union programme shall apply to the corresponding contribution to the action.
- Cumulative funding makes it possible to spread the financial burden of an operation and to address possible budgetary constraints (e.g. those stemming from an instrument's lower funding rates) because it can allow up to 100% of a synergy project to be funded from the EU's budget, provided relevant State aid rules are complied with.
- It also makes it possible to support national contributions, particularly in less developed Member States and regions.



## 'Synergies' – in European Partnerships



### Support to Partnerships

ERDF as MS contribution in  
Horizon Europe partnerships

major incentive for  
participation of regional  
actors + alignment towards  
common EU priorities

- ✓ 'European Partnership' – Union with private and/or public partners jointly support the development and implementation of an R&I-programme:
  - ✓ 'Co-funded European Partnership': Union provides co-funding to an R&I-programme implemented by national entities
  - ✓ 'Institutionalised European Partnership' (Art. 185/187 TFEU): Union provides co-funding to a joint programme implemented by structures created for that purpose
- ✓ ERDF may be considered as Member State contribution to European Partnerships, provided that the relevant CPR-provisions and fund-specific regulations are complied with.
- ✓ Bodies implementing the partnership must be designated as ERDF intermediate bodies (CPR)
- ✓ MAs may decide to provide support directly to operations selected under the partnership (CPR)
- ✓ **NB: !! specific administrative steps allow to comply with the requirement of avoiding DOUBLE declaration of costs - Check the 'synergy guidance' (cumulative funding)!**



## Synergies – support for Horizon ‘Teaming’ actions

- ‘Teaming’ supports Centres of Excellence in eligible countries (‘Widening’) in partnership with an “advanced” partner from another Member State.
- Beneficiaries are mostly universities and research organisations, sometimes also regional authorities and SMEs
- Two separate projects ‘integrated’ under the same chapeau. Single evaluation of both parts (HE and complementary funding) under HE
- Possibility to apply HE rules on eligible costs and funding rates, no need for another technical evaluation (similar as Seal of Excellence)
- ‘Synergies-friendly’ State aid rules: specific conditions facilitate the granting of aid to co-finance a Teaming action together with the EU, and investment aid for related infrastructure, e.g. research infrastructure  
(→ Art. 25d amended General Block Exemption Regulation)



## Synergies – transfer to Horizon Europe



### Transfer possibility

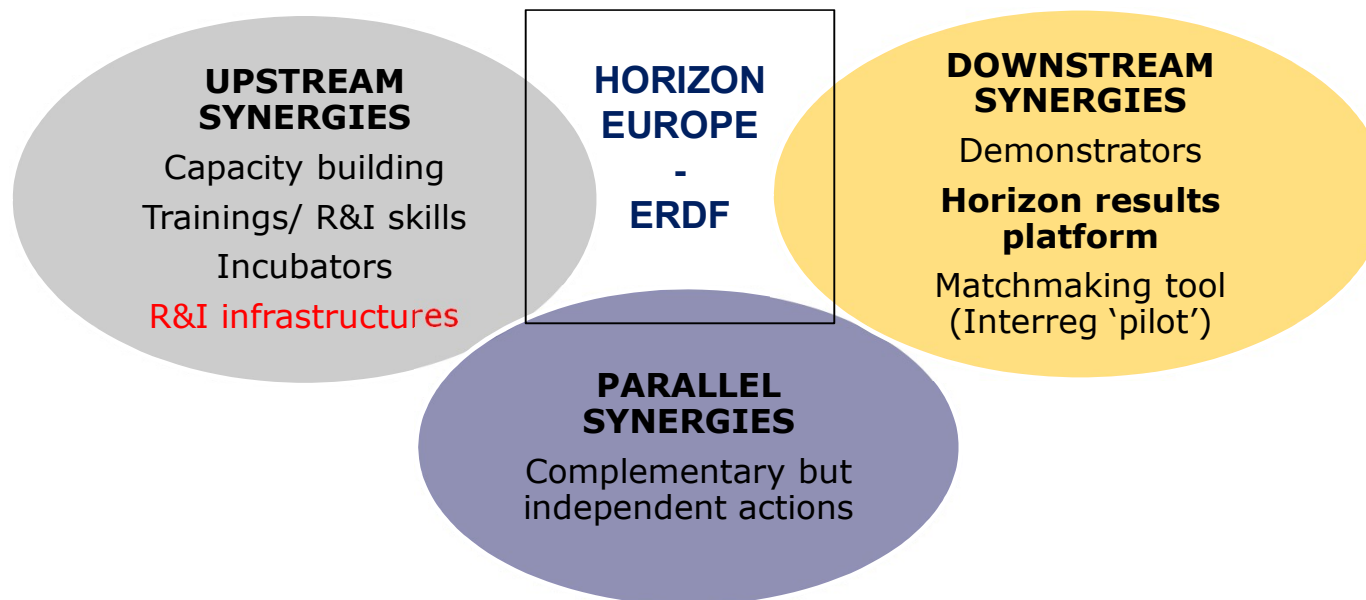
Strengthen participation in HE for low success rate MS

Preserves administrative capacity at national/regional level

- Member State may request a **voluntary** transfer of up to 5 % of their national allocation (e.g. ERDF) to Horizon Europe
- Transfer may only concern **future budgetary commitments**. ERDF programme has to be amended, incl. its financing plan
- Investments for the benefit of the transferring Member State/region.
- Commission may object to a transfer request if achievement of ERDF programme's objectives would be undermined
- **Rules of the receiving EU Fund/instrument apply** to the transferred amounts
- **Transfer-back**: Where the Commission has not entered into a legal commitment under Horizon Europe by 31 August of n+1, the corresponding uncommitted resources may be transferred back to the respective programmes covered by the CPR.



## Synergies: Wide range of opportunities





## Dissemination and Exploitation tools R&I programmes and beyond

Identifying EU funded results and boosting them onto the path to the market deployment:

[Horizon Results Platform](#) – EU funded results register!

[Horizon Results Booster](#) – support for beneficiaries!

[H2020- Interreg Synergies Mapping Tool](#) – interoperation of EU programmes and matching on potential synergies!

'Kohesio' – Online platform on cohesion policy projects data

'Widening': Dissemination and Exploitation Support Facility call (new)







# Recent developments





## Enhanced dialogues with Member States

- A bilateral, bottom-up, systematic channel of closer cooperation between Member States and the European Commission towards a joint European R&I agenda that includes the key European and national actions in the field
  - At the service of the Member States, on the topics that they choose, including ERA, the new European Innovation Agenda or synergies with structural funds;
  - A recurrent process kicked-off by a high-level political meeting and followed-up by operational meetings.
- Already 7 Member States participated since its launch in 2022 (Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia) and the **majority included a discussion on synergies** between Horizon Europe and cohesion policy funds.





## **'R&I AND COHESION MANAGING AUTHORITIES' NETWORK (RIMA)**

New ERA subgroup 'Access to excellence' (joint network of Member States research & cohesion representatives):

- Tasks: opinions/recommendations; exchange of experience and good practices; exchange on policy developments on R&I and cohesion, and on strategic reforms of R&I systems; supporting coordination in MS/regions; encouraging similar networks at national level
- Call for nominations, 2 per Member State + observers
- Co-chaired by RTD/REGIO/Member State
- First meeting: 7 June





## New framework for S3

- **Smart specialisation strategies** – key requirement for Cohesion Policy support to research and innovation and organising principle for synergies
- **185 smart strategies developed**
- Same approach in 2021-2027 period but **S3 scope enlarged** to reflect new challenges: increased focus on **core principles of S3 + new elements** (innovation diffusion, industrial transition and interregional cooperation)
- New European Innovation Agenda: **S3 as a coordination principle to strengthen innovation ecosystems across EU** and support key EU priorities

# Smart Specialisation Strategies Community of Practice (S3 CoP)

Flagship initiative of DG Regio:  
**strategic services to S3 practitioners:**

Assessing needs  
and co-design  
solutions

Analytical  
approach to  
policy dialogue

Hands-on  
support to  
regions

## **Improve cooperation between bodies involved in the management of the ESIF and the framework programmes**

- a) Set up of structural dialogue (REGIO/RTD)
- b) Work with MS level to foster cooperation(REGIO/RTD)

## **Exploit the potential of data to foster synergies**

- a) Use of databases (RTD/REGIO)
- b) Use of existing tools to improve monitoring of synergies (RTD/REGIO)

## **Foster use of downstream synergies**

a) Support MAs in designing actions to create downstream synergies with HE (REGIO/RTD)

(b) promote public procurement for innovation based on the results of research projects financed by the framework programme among national and regional authorities (managing authorities and others) (REGIO/RTD)

c) promote among Horizon Europe beneficiaries the European Regional Development Fund's potential (RTD)

## **Improve the information flow about projects that have received the Seal of Excellence (RTD)**



## USEFUL LINKS

- Synergy guidance notice: OJ C 421 of 4 November 2022 [EUR-Lex - 52022XC1104\(02\) - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)
- ECA report on H2020-ESIF synergies, <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/DocItem.aspx?did=62446>
- Cohesion policy programmes 'in your country': [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/in-your-country\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/in-your-country_en)
- 'Kohesio' database: <https://kohesio.ec.europa.eu/en/>
- European Innovation Agenda: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/support-policy-making/shaping-eu-research-and-innovation-policy/new-european-innovation-agenda\\_en#documents](https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/support-policy-making/shaping-eu-research-and-innovation-policy/new-european-innovation-agenda_en#documents)
- European Research Area: [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/our-digital-future/european-research-area\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/our-digital-future/european-research-area_en)





WATER4ALL  
PARTNERSHIP

# European Co-funded Partnership implementation: Water4All

## SRIA and Joint transnational calls

FECYT/AEI, Spain

10 May 2023

## **Objective of presentation**

**1. Introduction of Water4All Partnership**

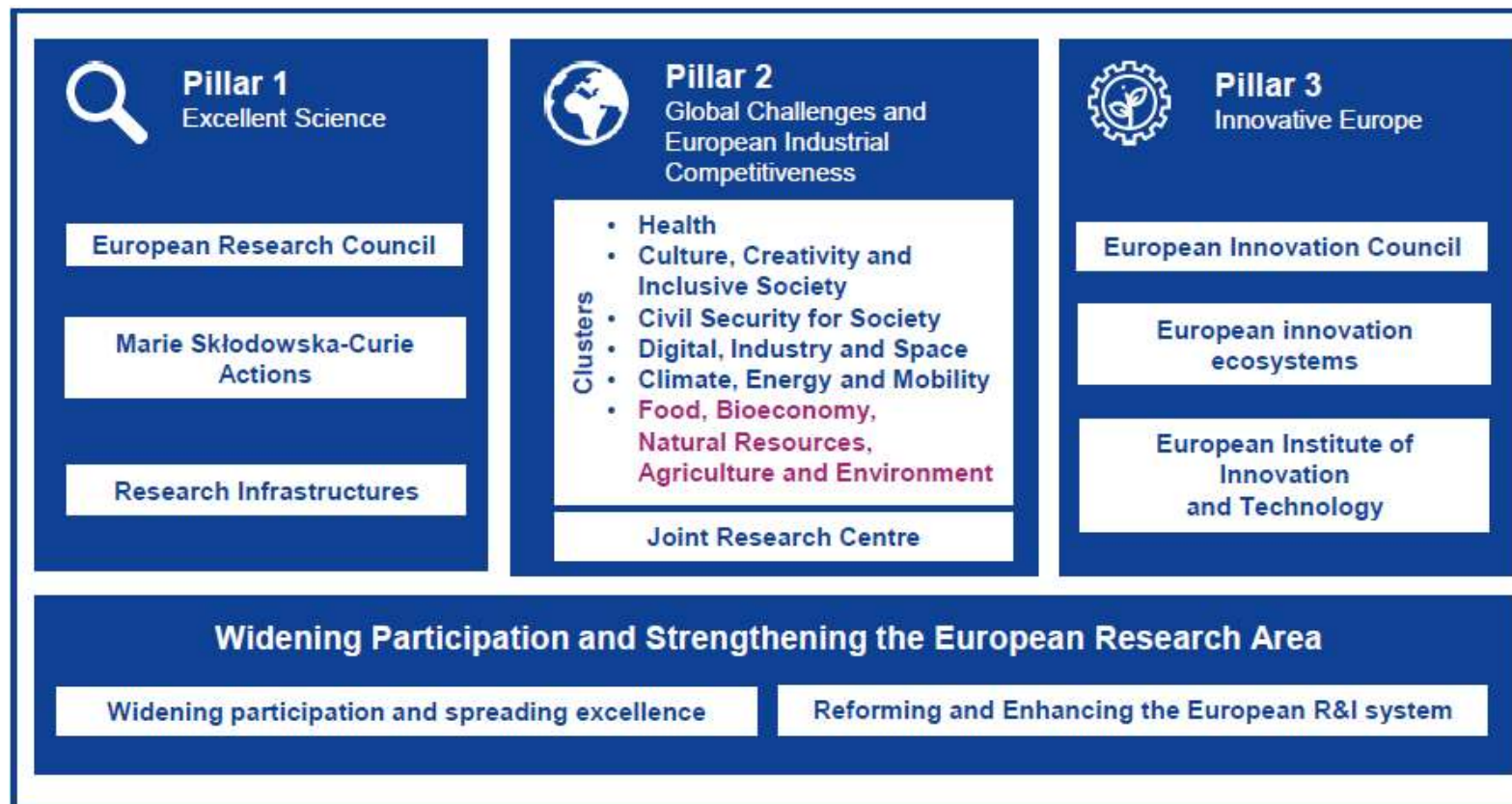
**2. Example of joint activity: SRIA and joint transnational calls**

**3. Collaboration options**

# 1. Introduction of Water4All Partnership

# Water4All: Water Security for the Planet

A co-funded partnership under Horizon Europe (Pillar 2, Cluster 6)



# Water4All: Water Security for the Planet

## Vision:

- Systemic transformations across the water research and innovation pipeline, fostering the matchmaking between problem owners and solution providers.
- Ensuring water security for all in the long term

Aiming at concentrating water R&I actors and its funding in Europe and beyond

A total budget of 420 M€

# Structured around R&I actors

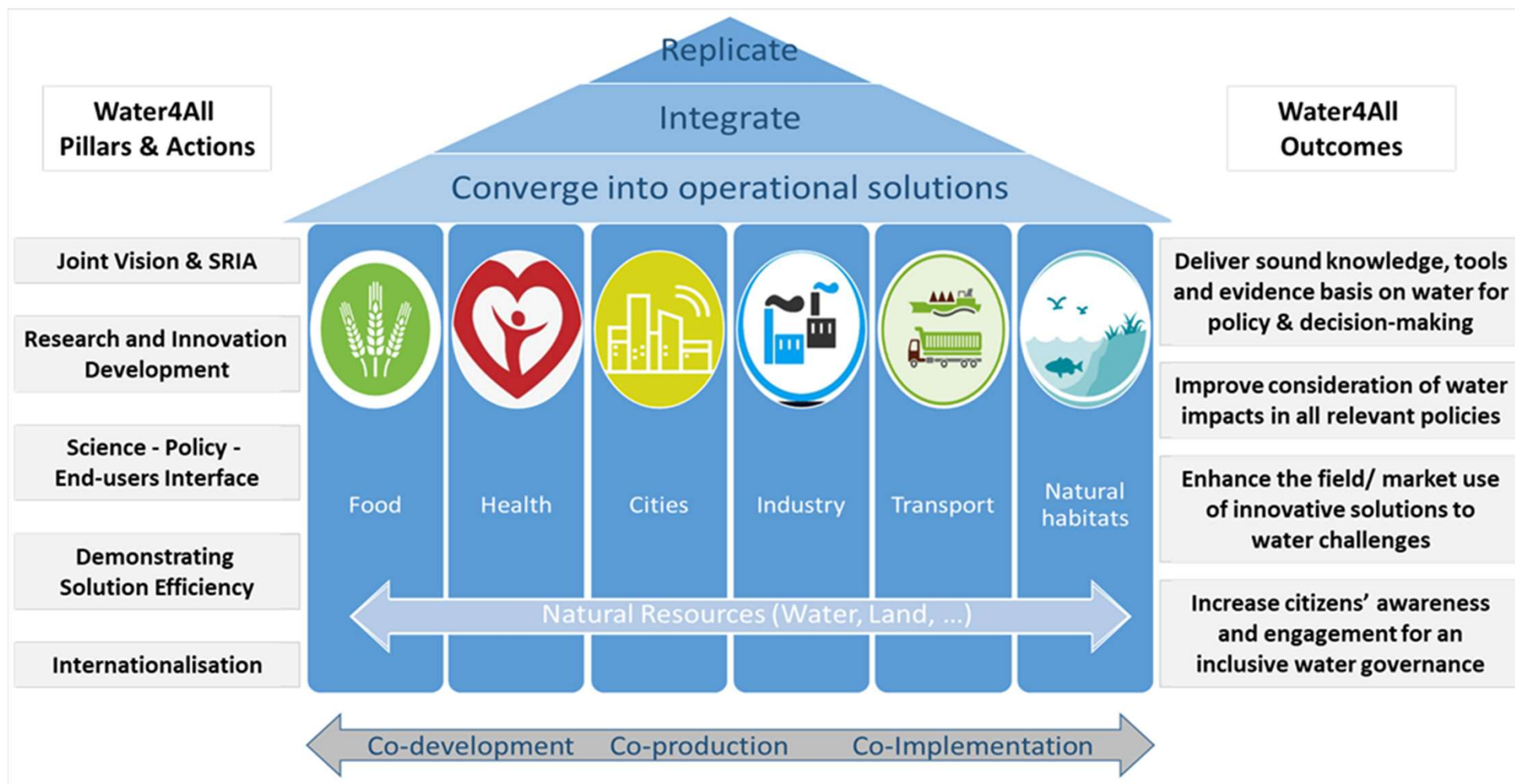
- National/regional research funders and policy makers
- In association with other research and economic actors
- 79 partners in Phase 1
  - 23 EU MS + 8 non-EU countries

Category	Number of partners
R&I ministries / agencies	34
Sectoral ministries /agencies	13
Local authorities	3
EU networks	3
National/regional networks	8
Research Performing Organisations	18

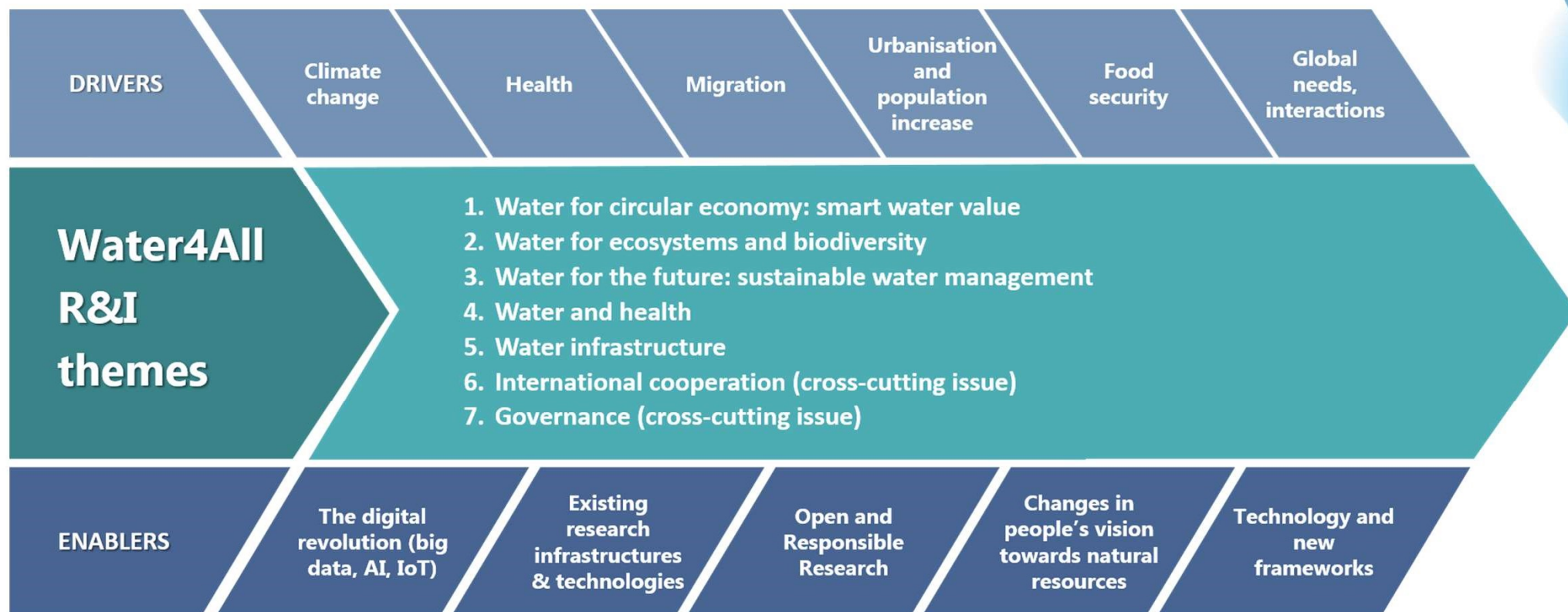


- From 2022 to 2029 (some activities until 2032)

# Using a holistic approach



## Water4All's RDI themes: Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)





# SRIA Themes addressed through a variety of actions

## E. Internationalisation

Developing international cooperation agreements  
Engaging with UN Water and other international stakeholders  
Developing innovative tools for cooperation

## B. Research and innovation Development

Joint transnational calls  
Thematic annual programming  
Young researchers calls  
Demo/transfer calls

## A. Joint vision & SRIA

SRIA Development  
Mapping of programmes and impacts  
Development of synergies  
Dissemination

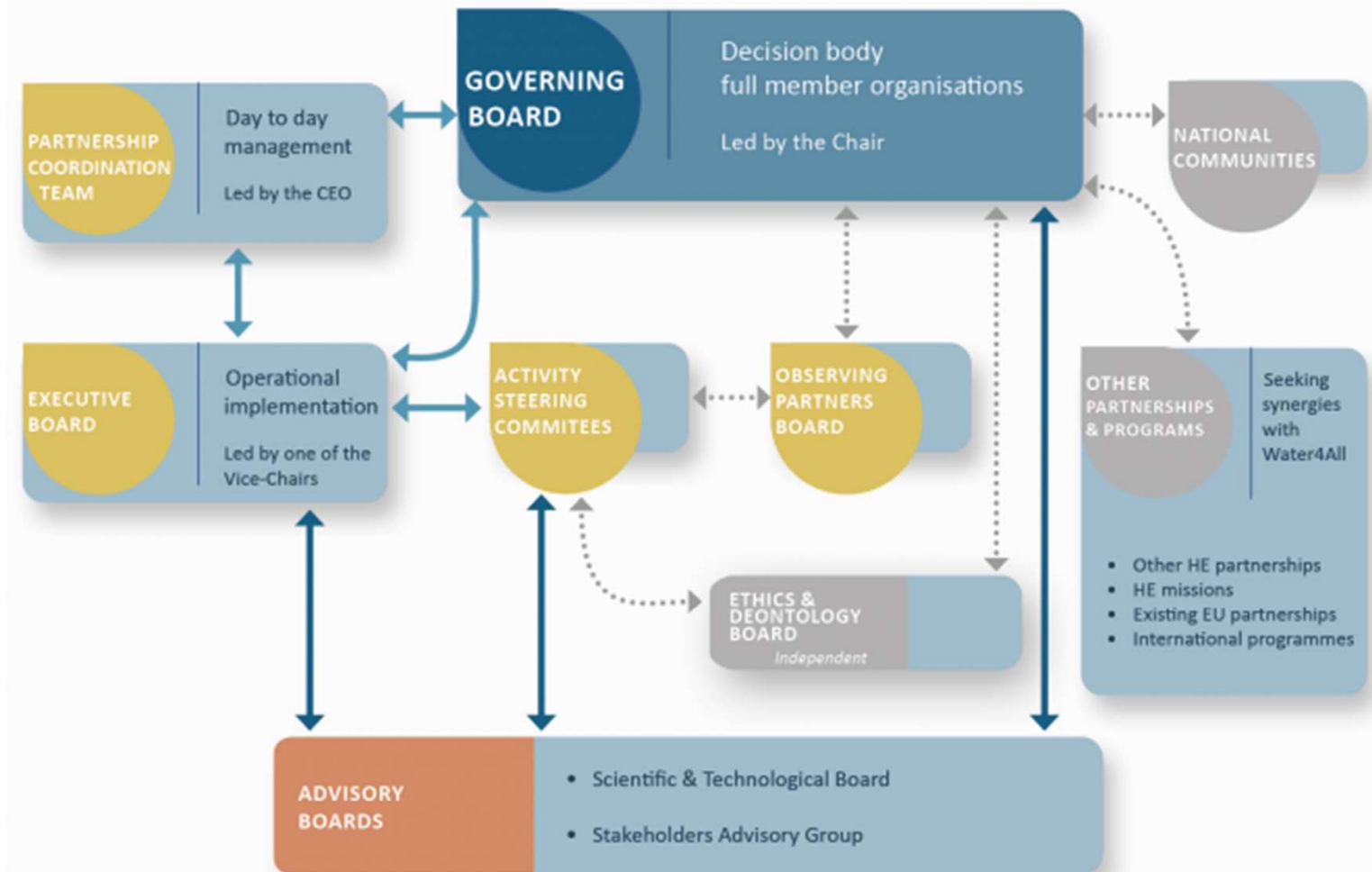
## D. Demonstrating Solution efficiency

Water Living Labs (LLs) & demos atlas  
Network of LLs/demos and roadmap for demonstration implementation  
Support to development of new LLs  
Market uptake support  
Liaising with investors

## C. Science – Policy - End-users interface

Knowledge hubs, policy WGs  
Support to start-ups creation  
PhD scheme; mobility scheme  
Vocational training  
Capacity building on systemic thinking  
Link to research infrastructures  
Toolbox for managing water data

# Water4All governance



## **2. Example of joint activity: Joint Transnational Call**

## How does a Joint Transnational Call work?

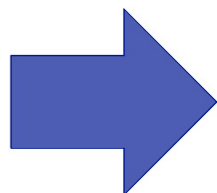
Funding Organisation #1  
Funding Organisation #2  
Funding Organisation #3

...

Funding Organisation #N



Co-funding from the  
European Commission  
(EC)



### One joint Call

With one single joint (international) evaluation

- One ranking list
- Funding of the best-ranked projects
- Each country/regions funds their research teams (national contribution + EC co-funding distributed to FPOs eligible for EC funding)



**NO NATIONAL PRE- OR POST- SELECTION**

# Call management: governance

## BODIES INVOLVED:

- **Call Secretariat (CS)** – tasked with the call management and coordination
- **Call Steering Committee (CSC)** composed of national/regional funding organisations (FPOs) – the main decision-making body
- **Appeals committee (AC)** – tasked with revision of appeals from coordinators after pre- and full-proposal
- **Independent evaluation panel (EP)** – a panel of independent experts who evaluate the proposals according to the established criteria; appointed by the CSC
- **Independent Observer (EC rule)** – independent expert who reports on the call process to the EC

## IMPORTANT:

- Compliance with principles of transparency and absence of conflict of interest (strict separation of information from the rest of the WPs)
- Agreement on funding principles
- Agreement on topics to be funded



**Memorandum of Understanding, governing each joint call**

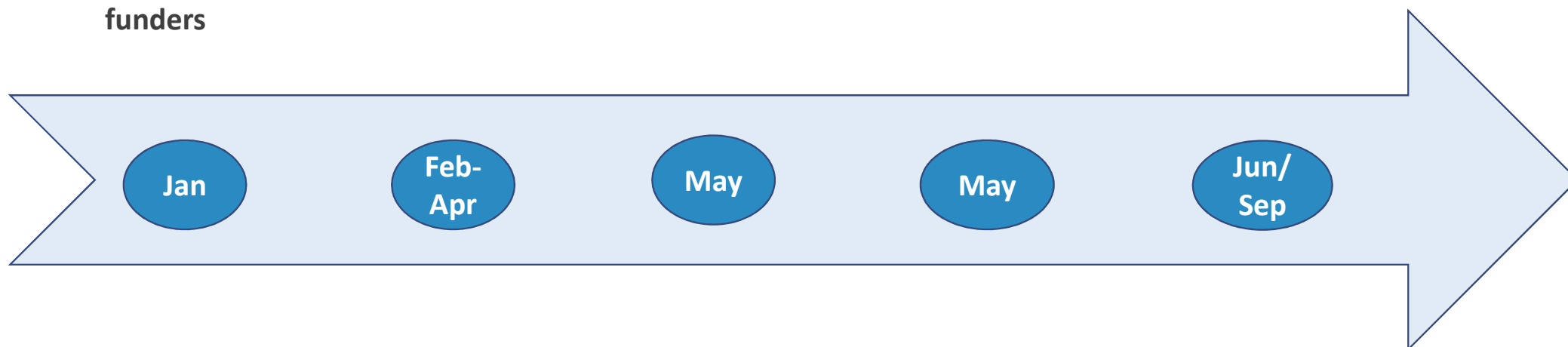
# Call management: the timeline pre-launch

## Scoping exercise:

- **Based on RDI themes in SRIA**
- Survey among funders

Draft call text sent to CSC for comments

Launch of the call:  
Pre-announcement  
Official launch

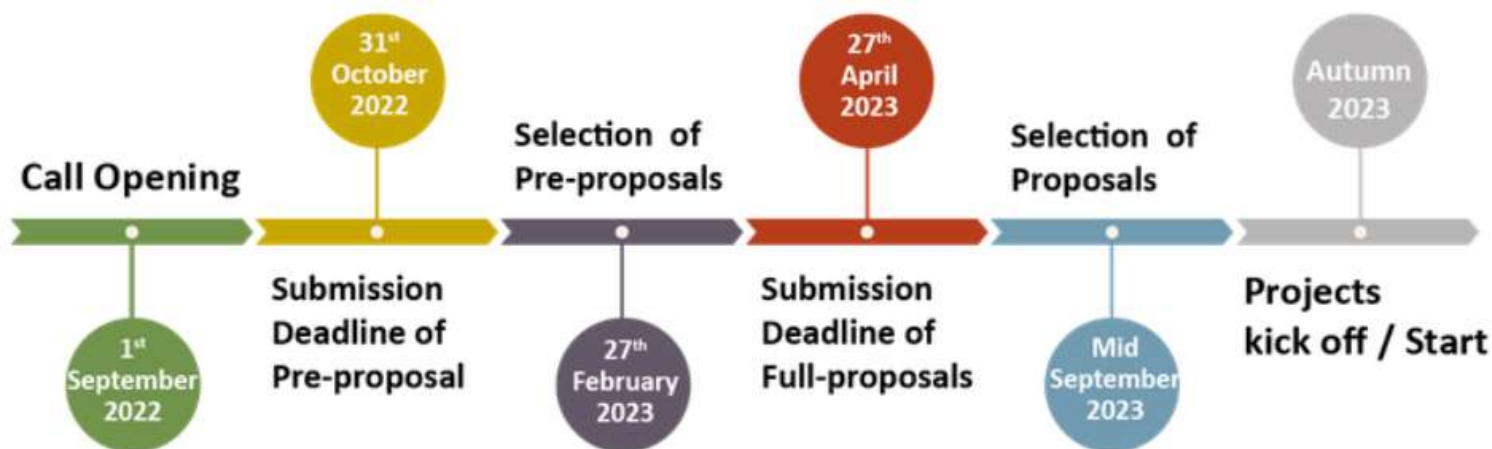


Call text drafting (WG composed of experts, AB members, FPO representatives)

CSC meeting adoption of call text

# Call management: the timeline post-launch

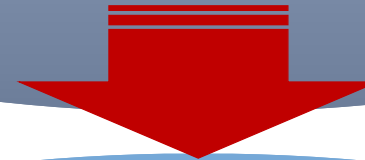
- Example: **1st Water4All Joint Transnational Call on “Management of water resources: resilience, adaptation and mitigation to hydroclimatic extreme events and management tools”**
- **Addresses SRIA** Theme III “Water for the future: sustainable water management”, the cross-cutting Theme VII “Governance” and Theme V “Water Infrastructures”.
- **2-step call process** (pre- and full- proposal) takes about 1 year to complete



# 1st Call: Participating countries

Country	Funding Organisation
Austria	FWF
Belgium	VLAIO
Belgium	FWO
Belgium	F.R.S.-FNRS
Brazil	CONFAP
Brazil	CNPq
Czechia	TA CR
Denmark	IFD
Estonia	ETAg
France	ANR
Germany	BMBF
Hungary	NKFIH
Ireland	EPA
Italy	MUR
Italy	MISE
Israel	MoE
Latvia	LZP
Lithuania	LMT
Luxembourg	FNR
Malta	MEEE
Moldova	NARD
Netherlands	NWO
Norway	RCN
Poland	NCBR
Portugal	FCT
Romania	UEFISCDI
Slovak Republic	SAS
South Africa	WRC and DSI
Spain	AEI
Spain	CDTI
Sweden	FORMAS
Switzerland	SNSF
Turkey	TUBITAK
United Kingdom	EPSRC UKRI

34 funding organisations from 29 countries



Total funding for the Call:  
over 34M€  
(+ EU Contribution)

## Rules for participation:

- General (international) rules
- Partners eligibility according to national rules



# General eligibility rules

**Project duration:** 3 years

- Each consortium must be composed of at least a minimum of **three eligible partners from three different countries**. In addition, **at least two must be from different EU Member States or Associated Countries (AC)** participating in the call
- **The upper limit of eligible project partners per consortium is 7 (including 1 self-funded partner)**. No more than one self-funded project partner per consortium is allowed
- The Consortium **Coordinator** must be eligible for funding
- Proposals must be written in **English**

# Funding organisations' financial rules and eligibility criteria

**Each National / regional Funding Organisation funds its own national / regional team**

**!! Applicants must comply with their funding organisations' eligibility criteria and rules (e.g. eligible budget items) !!**

# Call evaluation process and final decision on funding

- **STEP 1: Mandatory submission of pre-proposals** through the Online Submission Platform
  - !! Applicants cannot enter the procedure at a later stage !!
  - Eligibility check (Call Secretariat and related Funding Organisations)
  - First evaluation by independent evaluation experts according to the following criteria:
    - Excellence*
    - Impact*Minimum threshold, i.e., 3 out of 5 in each criterion.
  - **CSC meeting on invitation to Step 2**
- **STEP 2:** Applicants invited to step 2 have to **submit a full proposal via the Online Submission Platform**
  - Eligibility check (Call Secretariat)
  - Evaluation by external experts and an independent evaluation panel according to the following criteria:
    - Excellence*
    - Quality and efficiency of the implementation*
    - Impact*Threshold on the final score is 10/15
  - **CSC meeting on final funding decision (strictly following the ranking list established by the EP)**

# What kind of proposals do we fund

- Be **scientifically excellent**: The proposals can focus on the development of new knowledge through basic research and/or the implementation of solutions and tools, not duplicating past efforts and results.
- Be **multi-disciplinary**, where relevant: Consortia should also crosscut scientific disciplinary boundaries (multi- or interdisciplinarity), combining exact sciences with social sciences and humanities.
- Demonstrate a **transnational added value**: approaches should avoid focus on local cases and solutions that cannot be used or scaled-up elsewhere. Activities are not restricted to Europe, unless the national rules state otherwise.
- The results should contribute to the **implementation of evidence-based, global, EU and national water management policies and strategies**.
- **Engage stakeholders** and clearly demonstrate **knowledge transfer and impact**

# Resources available online



<https://water4all-partnership.eu/>



EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP WATER4ALL – WATER SECURITY FOR THE PLANET



Search for Partner / Project

➤ Consult the **CALL DOCUMENT** containing the following information:

- Call Announcement (call text)
- National Regulations
- National Contact Points

➤ **Online Submission Platform** containing the following information:

- Call Document
- Preproposal Submission Guidelines
- Pre-proposal application form (for information; to be accessed via Online Submission platform)
- Data policy
- **Partner Search Tool**

➤ Webinar recording, PPT and **FAQ**

## After the funding decision

- Definition of a **common monitoring and evaluation framework**
- Monitoring and follow-up of the funded projects with the help of a **follow-up group of experts** throughout their lifetime:
  - organisation of the **kick-off** meeting and the **mid-term and final evaluation** events.
- Analysis of the outputs of the funded projects to help illustrate **the impact**
- Supporting **Open Acces and Open Data** policy

## **3. Collaboration options**

# Why joining and supporting a partnership? Example of Water4All

- Pooling financial resources towards the definition and implementation of **6 Cofunded transnational and multi-disciplinary calls** for research and innovation proposals;
- **Overcoming the fragmentation** of European water-related research and innovation activities;
- Furthering **the alignment** of national research agendas, strengthening synergies between the various elements of the EU Water RDI landscape
- Supporting **EU and global policies and initiatives** in the field of water; and
- Supporting the implementation and the development of the **Water4All Vision** through a range of actions and with a variety of players



## Why joining as a funding organisation in a transnational joint call

- **Common call process** for all FPOs but **national eligibility rules** apply for applicants from individual countries / regions
- No national pre- or post- selection; **evaluation panel of independent experts** mobilized
- **One joint ranking list**
- Use of **EC cofund** (for entities eligible for EC funding)
- **Common monitoring framework** for funded projects
- **Support excellent transnational RDI Projects**

OR apply to our calls as a researcher!

# Collaboration options

1. **Full member** (Beneficiary eligible for EC funding or Associated Partner if not eligible for EC funding):
  - active participation in implementation of actions;
  - contribution to the shaping of the vision and the strategic research agenda
  
2. **Observing partner**: participation in some activities on a voluntary basis and with own funding  
E.g.:
  - Calls
  - Networking of experts
    - Consultative workshops
    - Knowledge Hubs
  - Networking of national projects
    - TAP
  - Mobility schemes
  
3. **“Come and see”**: get familiar with Water4All, discuss opportunities

## Contact

**Contact for Pillar B on the implementation of Joint Transnational Calls:  
[water4all.aei@aei.gob.es](mailto:water4all.aei@aei.gob.es)**

**Contact for Partnership:**

**[Water4All@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:Water4All@agencerecherche.fr)  
[www.water4all-partnership.eu](http://www.water4all-partnership.eu)**



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**



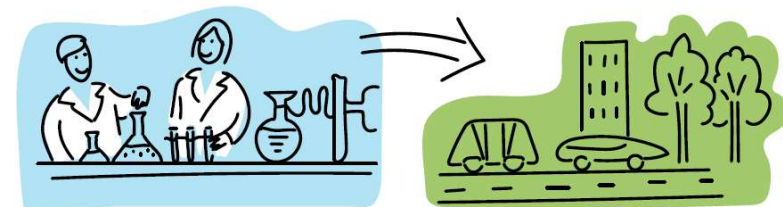
Eesti Teadusagentuur  
Estonian Research Council

## SYNERGIES' EXPERIENCES

Estonian Research Council (Brussels liaison office)

# GOALS IN HORIZON EUROPE

- *To maintain high level of funding (measured per capita)*
- *To **broaden participation** – involve (besides universities and R&D institutions) more enterprises, non-profit societies, public-sector institutions, sectoral ministries, local governmental bodies, etc.*
- *To take **leadership** and coordinating role in consortia*
- *To be succesful in applying for calls in **excellent science pillar***
- *To **contribute to solving global societal challenges***



# MOBILITAS PROGRAMME (ERDF) TO SUPPORT PARTICIPATION IN HORIZON EUROPE

## Mobilitas Plus programme 2015-2022

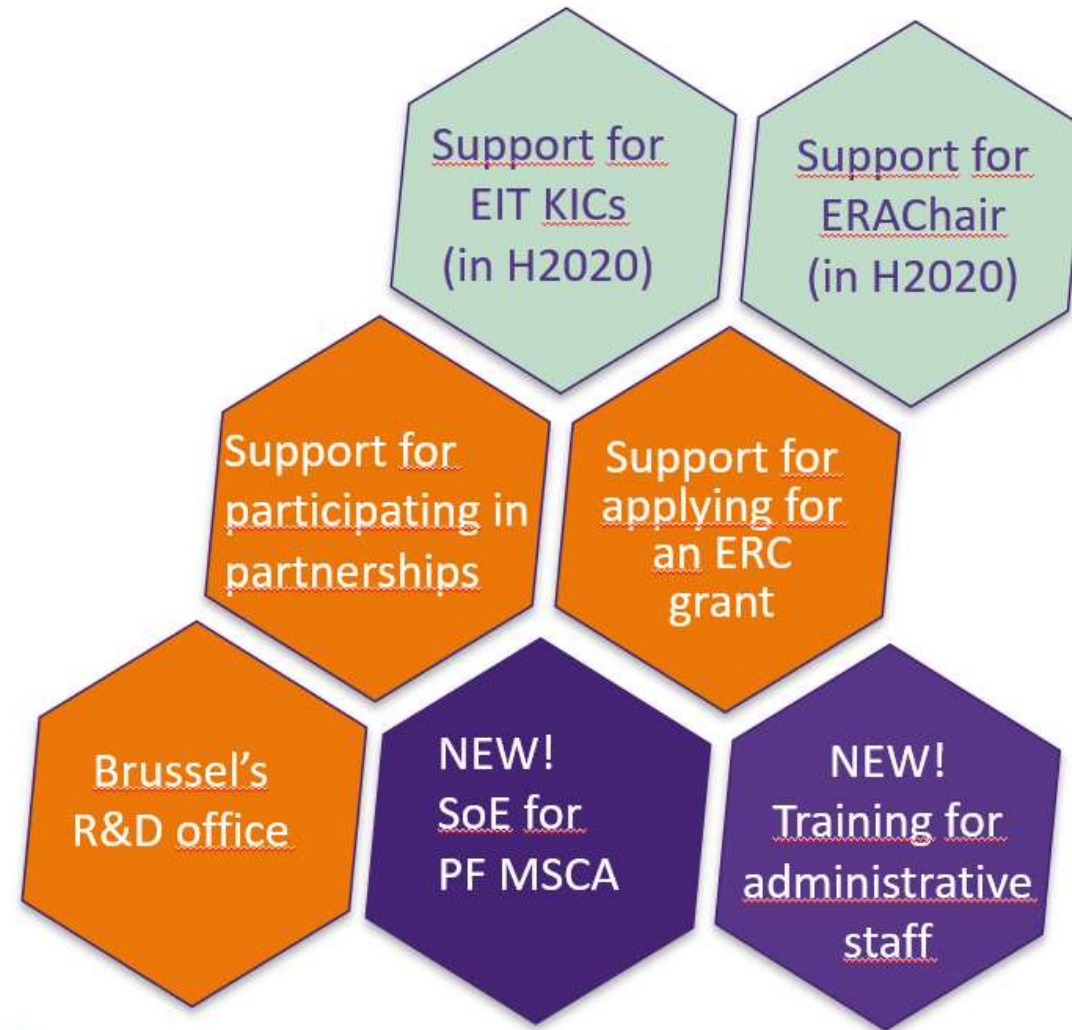
- budget 35 MEUR, 83.5% ERDF

## NEW programme 2022-2027

- budget 36 MEUR, 70% ERDF

## Mobilitas aims to:

- improve the international visibility
- strengthen the international competitiveness
- support transnational research collaboration and networking
- support intersectoral and international mobility and cooperation



# PARTICIPATING IN PARTNERSHIPS

## ***AIM: to contribute to solving global societal challenges***

- *We fund EU Partnership calls and ERA-NET calls from Mobilitas programme. Possibility to combine ERDF and EC cofunding in Horizon Europe is significant step towards synergy!*
- *26 ERA-NET projects were funded from Mobilitas programme (1/3 of all ERA-NET projects ETAG funded).*
- *In HEU 12.5 MEUR from Mobilitas to partnerships.*

## ***AIM: to take leadership and coordinating role in consortia***

- *Extra 50 000 euros for coordinator's role in partnership project*



# SUPPORT TO ERC APPLICANTS - 1

***AIM: to be succesful in applying for calls in excellent science pillar***

*Up to 1,5-year support (up to 100 000 € per year) for any researcher working for an Estonian RTD institution, who has applied for an ERC grant and reached the second stage of evaluation, but still not received funding.*

**21 projects were funded in H2020**

Aims to:

- motivate (re-)applying
- value prestigious ERC grants
- prevent brain-drain





# SUPPORT TO ERC APPLICANTS - 2

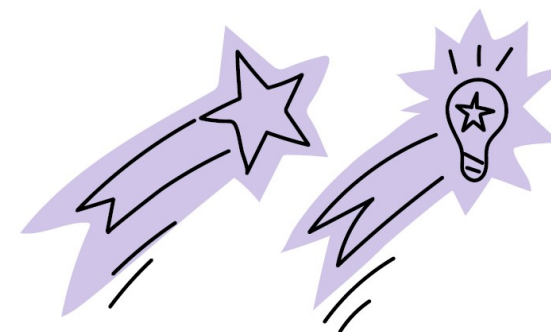
***AIM: to be succesful in applying for calls in excellent science pillar***

*With the focus on ERC, the aim was to have at least 100 researchers participating at ERC Project writing trainings, interview trainings, study visits to ERC grant holders and consultations.*

***more than 200 researchers were supported in H2020***

Aims to:

- promote applying for ERC grants
- support applicants in differents steps



# SEAL OF EXCELLENCE FOR MSCA

*AIM: to be succesful in applying for calls in excellent science pillar*

- *Seal of Excellence scheme for Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoctoral fellowship applications – planned!*

Aims to:

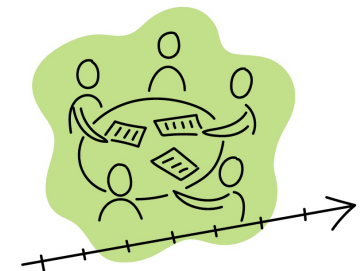
- introduce Horizon Europe to early-career researchers
- take advantage of Horizon Europe evaluation process
- increase number of MSCA applicants (and grantees)



# R&D LIASON OFFICE IN BRUSSELS

***AIM: to maintain high level of funding (measured per capita)***

- *Brussels R&D Liason office: since 2012*
- *brokering information, contacts, networking, matchmaking events, organizing infodays, seminars in collaboration with other countries/European Commission/networks, cooperation with ministries, etc.*
- *two full-time R&D Liason Officers starting from 2023*



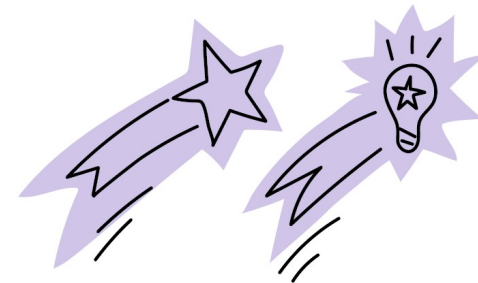
# SYNEGIES WITH OTHER ERDF PROGRAMMES

- [RITA](#) programme: Support for sectoral R&D
- **Scientific advisers** at the Ministries and the Government Office
- Support for scientific advisers positions aimed to improve the Ministries' capabilities in R&D issues.
- First activities in 2013 (pilot) > results are clearly visible. Many ministries now also support participation in EU Partnerships.
- More information [HERE](#).



# CONCLUSIONS

- We will continue with the implementation of synergies via national level programmes (direct and indirect synergies)
- We see a lot of cooperation possibilities also for regions in EU Partnerships (NB! Estonia does not have regions!)
- Synergies with other funds/programmes help to achieve the goals of Horizon Europe, alignment of activities and topics is important.
- Synergies with other ERA instruments – e.g., EU Missions? Still needs to be explored!





# Mobilitas<sup>+</sup>



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund



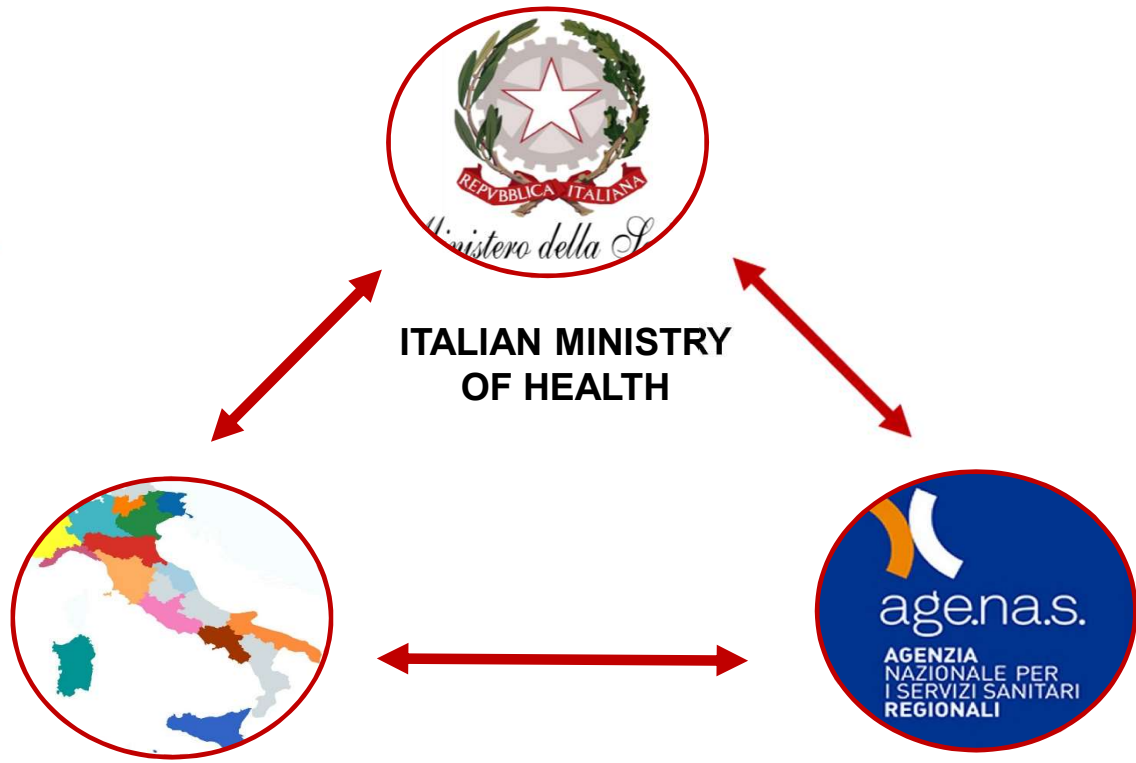
Investing  
in your future

# Synergies' Experiences: mutual learning

Promis

[promisalute@regione.veneto.it](mailto:promisalute@regione.veneto.it)

10/05/2023



**European approach to Health**  
**«Health in All Policies»**  
**mantra**



**ITALIAN REGIONS AND AUTONOMOUS PROVINCES**  
*(coordinated by Veneto Region)*

**AGENAS – ITALIAN NATIONAL AGENCY  
FOR REGIONAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES**





## VISION

- Satisfying the training needs of regions in terms of information, research, innovation and collaboration over the European Health Union
- Translating them into actions/initiatives/programmes
- Networking with a multiplier effect (quality of participation in European processes and programs...)



## MISSION

- Information / Communication
- Advocacy of regional perspectives @ National/European level
- Training (Onsite / Online / Summer & Winter Schools)
- Technical support in programming and projecting
- Support in scaling-up/replicating EU good/best practices (regional collaborations)



## OBJECTIVES

- Internationalisation strategies of the Regional Health Systems
- Supporting actions of policies initiatives @ regional level in line with EU
- National level < CONNECTION > Regional level in the EU ecosystem/approach
- Leverage the regional-national cooperation practices @EU level



## OPERATIONAL SUPPORT



### **NATIONAL HEALTH EQUITY PROGRAMME 2021-2027**

**supported by the ESF+ and ERDF funds**, aims to strengthen health and socio-medical services and make access to them more equitable, by intervening in four areas: 1) Tackling health poverty; 2) Taking care of mental health 3) Gender at the centre of care; 4) Increased coverage of cancer screening. The Programme is addressed to the 7 Italian Regions classified as "less developed" according to the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/1130: Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Molise, Apulia, Sardinia and Sicily and is managed by the Ministry of Health. In the Equity Programme it was expressly requested by the EC (DG EMPL and REGIO) to be complementary with National Recovery and Resilience Plan and EU4Health.



### **NOP INCLUSION AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION 2021-2027**

**supported by the ESF+ and ERDF funds**, aims to promote social inclusion and combat poverty as core values of our way of life by acting on 4 main priorities: 1) Supporting social inclusion and combating poverty; 2) Child Guarantee; 3) Combating material deprivation; 4) Infrastructure interventions for socio-economic inclusion. The Programme operates throughout the national territory and is managed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies



### **NOP METRO PLUS AND SOUTHERN MEDIUM-SIZED CITIES 2021-2027**

**supported by the ESF+ and ERDF funds**, is part of the framework of sustainable urban development strategies, addressing environmental issues, especially the fight against climate change and the transition to a circular economy, and to promote actions for urban regeneration and response to socio-economic hardship, including through social innovation and the revitalisation of the local business fabric. The areas of intervention are: - Digital Mobility - Energy Efficiency - Social Inclusion - Integrated urban regeneration actions"Green



**NFP4HEALTH – National Focal Point 4 Health** - Joint Action on Increasing the capacity of national focal points (NFPs) to create an innovative, sustainable and coherent network of NFPs that will increase the capacity of the Member States to design and create sustainable implementation actions that will boost the achievement of health objectives for the period 2021-2027. The JA will develop and strengthen the NFPs capacities of European Countries in order to provide quality access to the new EU4HEALTH Programme and to assure the **complementarity with other regional, national and EU policies, funds and programmes**.

**ProMIS support the Italian Ministry of Health in the creation of synergies and capacity building**

**WP5 “Support synergies with other health-related EU funds/programmes”** is aiming at promoting synergies between EU4Health NFPs and NFPs/NCPs of other health-related EU funds and programmes (HREUFPs) to support the establishment of **national networks** and enhance knowledge for health-related EU funding at national level to promote a multi-programme approach.

**ProMIS has developed a network of NCPs of other health – related programmes at the national level. (Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, LIFE, Digital Europe, European Territorial Cooperation)**

**Event “Synergies in EU Health & Digital funding programmes”** organized by **HaDEA** on the **19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> June**: aiming at bringing together the National Focal Points (NFPs) of the EU4Health programme, the National Contact Points (NCPs) of Clusters 1 and 4 of the Horizon Europe Programme, and the multiplier networks of other EU funding programmes managed by HaDEA (namely Connecting Europe Facility Digital and Digital Europe Programme), in order to **stimulate synergies, cooperation and networking**.



**ONE OF THE 9 EU PARTNERSHIPS ON HEALTH – COFUND PARTNERSHIP**



**TRANSFORMING HEALTH  
AND CARE SYSTEMS**

**DURATION: 1 JANUARY 2023 - 31 DECEMBER 2029 (84 MONTHS)**

**63 PARTNERS - 26 COUNTRIES INVOLVED: 20 EU COUNTRIES, 3 ASSOCIATED HE COUNTRIES, 3 NON-EU COUNTRIES**

**TYPE OF PARTNERS INVOLVED:**

- **MINISTRIES**
- **RESEARCH INSTITUTES**
- **UNIVERSITIES**
- **FUNDING BODIES**
- **REGIONAL AGENCIES**

**BUDGET: 305.248.586,63 € COFOUNDED AT 30% BY THE EC**

**COORDINATOR: ITALIAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

## VISION & OBJECTIVES

**High-quality, fairly accessible, sustainable, efficient, resilient and inclusive health and care systems for all.**



- Increase funding opportunities and strengthen the research and innovation community
- Fill knowledge gaps
- Increase the ability to implement innovation
- Intensify cooperation among countries and beyond healthcare
- Increase stakeholders' involvement

THCS works embracing the whole knowledge and innovation cycle from fundamental research to implementation and transfer of innovation

## ProMIS activities

### **WP1 - Governance and Annual Work Plan:**

ProMIS as part of the coordinating Team, is part of the governance bodies which ensure the smooth running of the activities of the partnership (Strategic Board, General Assembly)

### **WP 3 - Strategic Relationship and Impact**

**Maximisation activities:** ProMIS is responsible for task 3.2 - Communication and dissemination activities

### **WP 9 - Strengthening ecosystems:**

ProMIS is involved in the implementation of activities at national, regional and local level in line with the strategy developed for the strengthening of health ecosystems

### **WP 10 - Knowledge Hub to support the transferability of good practices:**

ProMIS supports the development of the Knowledge Hub (multifunctional platform for sharing good practices)

## WP 3: Strategic Relationship and Impact Maximisation activities

Leader: Italian Ministry of Health IT MOH - Co-leaders: UCSC, ProMIS, ISS

### Objectives

1. **To promote synergies and actively engage with relevant stakeholders and initiatives at EU and International level**
2. to ensure good and transparent external communication and dissemination to increase the visibility of the Partnership and the impact of the knowledge generated
3. to pave the way to a sustainable cooperation between policy makers and research funders



Main Goal is to establish “a dialogue and promoting networking and synergies with **Partnerships, programmes, infrastructures** and other activities at both **EU and international levels** in order to avoid duplications and overlaps and ensure added value between initiatives and instruments surrounding the transformation of health and care systems”

### Joint effort with other EU Initiatives

Areas for collaboration	Candidate Partnerships, Missions, EU Programmes	Synergy Areas
Design and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU4Health</li> <li>• DIGITAL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disease prevention actions</li> <li>• Reliable use/re-use of health data</li> <li>• Digital transformation solutions</li> <li>• Knowledge transfer actions</li> </ul>
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer Mission</li> <li>• Personalized Medicine</li> <li>• Rare Diseases</li> <li>• One Health/AMR</li> <li>• Innovative Health Initiative</li> <li>• Pandemic Preparedness</li> <li>• EIT Health</li> <li>• ERIA4Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uptake &amp; scale up technological innovations</li> <li>• Support &amp; apply personalized medicine solutions through EU</li> <li>• Align rare diseases research to context needs</li> <li>• Grant equity and improve quality of life to cancer patients</li> <li>• Improve AI-driven technologies towards VBHC</li> </ul>
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERDF</li> <li>• ESF+</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing infrastructures, capacity building</li> <li>• Strengthening education and training for HC professionals</li> </ul>

Region	Role	Budget	JTCs 1° year	Funds
Tuscany	Funding Agency	1.702.656,25 €	400.000	Regional Funds
Aress Puglia	Funding Agency	1.080.455,00 €	60.000	Agency's ordinary funds (budget surpluses)

## Benefits and obstacles in participating

- Opportunities for researchers in the regions to engage in joint transnational research contexts (less episodic than a spot project)
- Partnerships = frameworks for building a reasoned research scheme at EU level
- Expertise and knowledge sharing
- Networking opportunities
- More procedural support from the EC -> defining a participation iter to facilitate entry procedure
- Roles in the collaboration private – public actors better defined
- Some regions have few links with other European actors (building consortium)
- JTCs are 30% and not 100% co-financed



# Hydrogen Valleys: Accelerator for the EU Hydrogen Economy

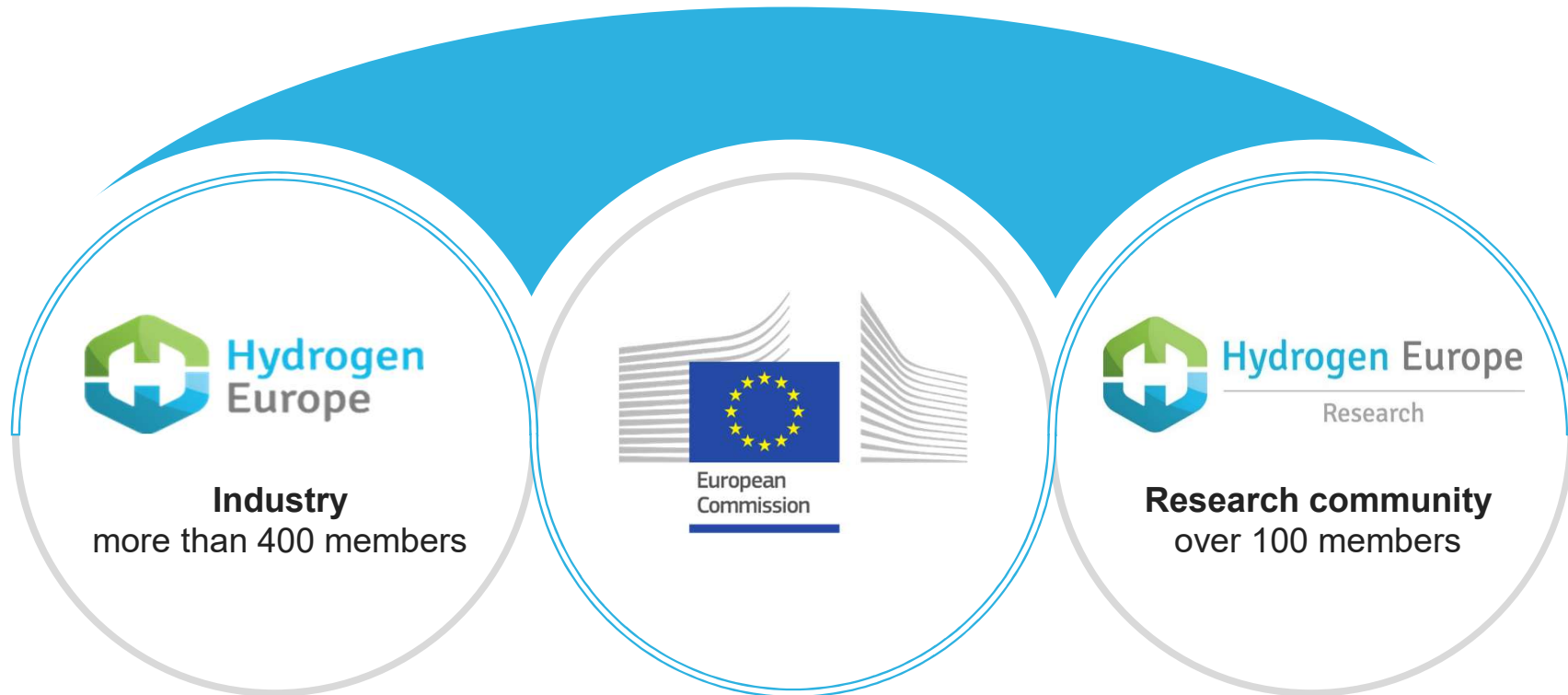
HoU Operations and Communication

10th of May 2023



# Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking

EU Institutional Public-Private Partnership (IPPP)




**1 billion EURO from Horizon Europe\*** to implement R&I activities and facilitate the transition to a greener EU society through the development of hydrogen technologies  
**\* additional 200 million EURO for Hydrogen valleys (under RePowerEU)**


# Objectives



## General


 Support the implementation of the Commission's **Hydrogen Strategy**


 Stimulate **research and innovation on clean hydrogen** production, distribution, storage and end use applications


 Strengthen the **competitiveness of the EU clean hydrogen value chain**

 Contribute to the EU ambitious **2030 and 2050 climate ambition**

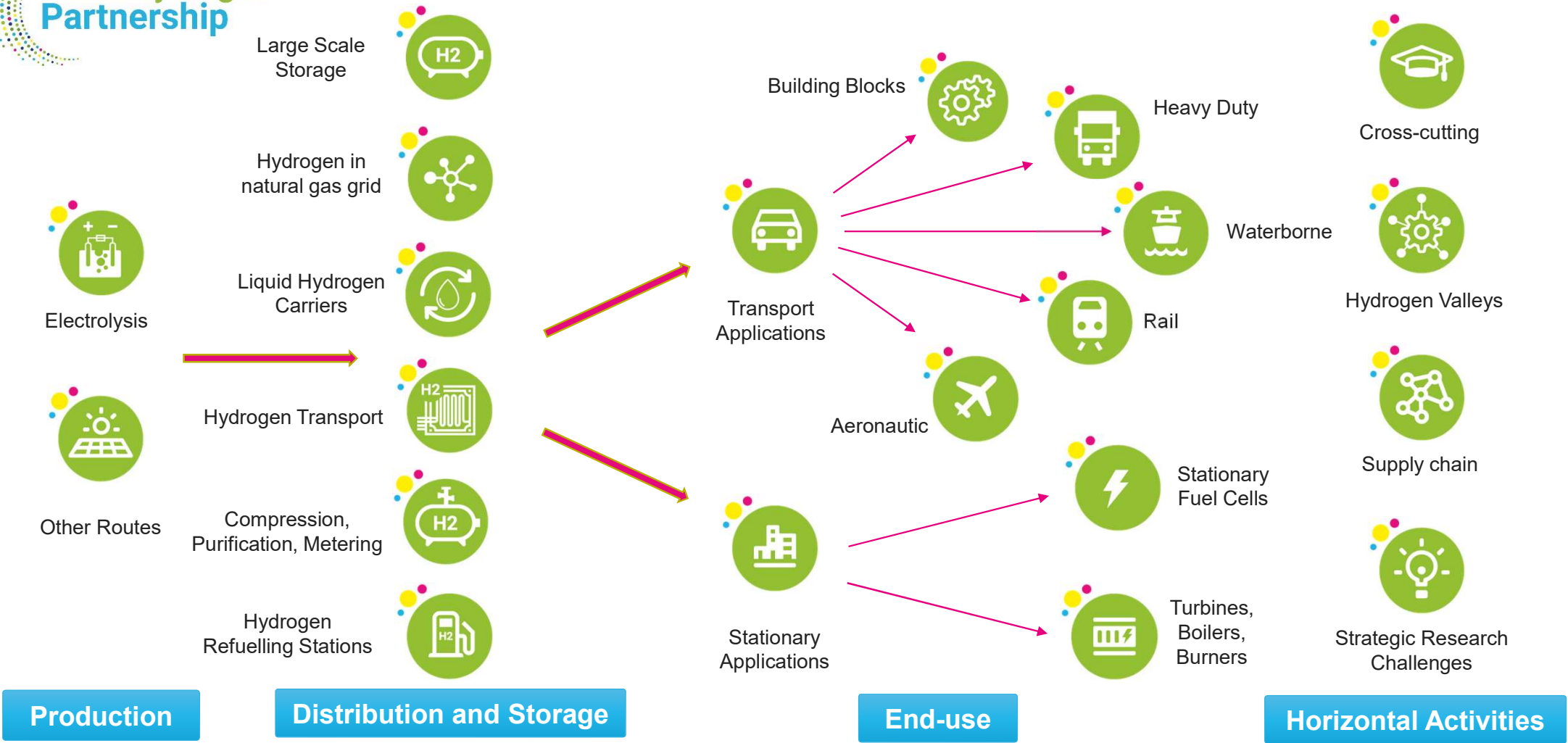
## Specific

 Improve the **cost-effectiveness, efficiency, reliability**, quantity and quality of clean hydrogen solutions across **entire value chain**

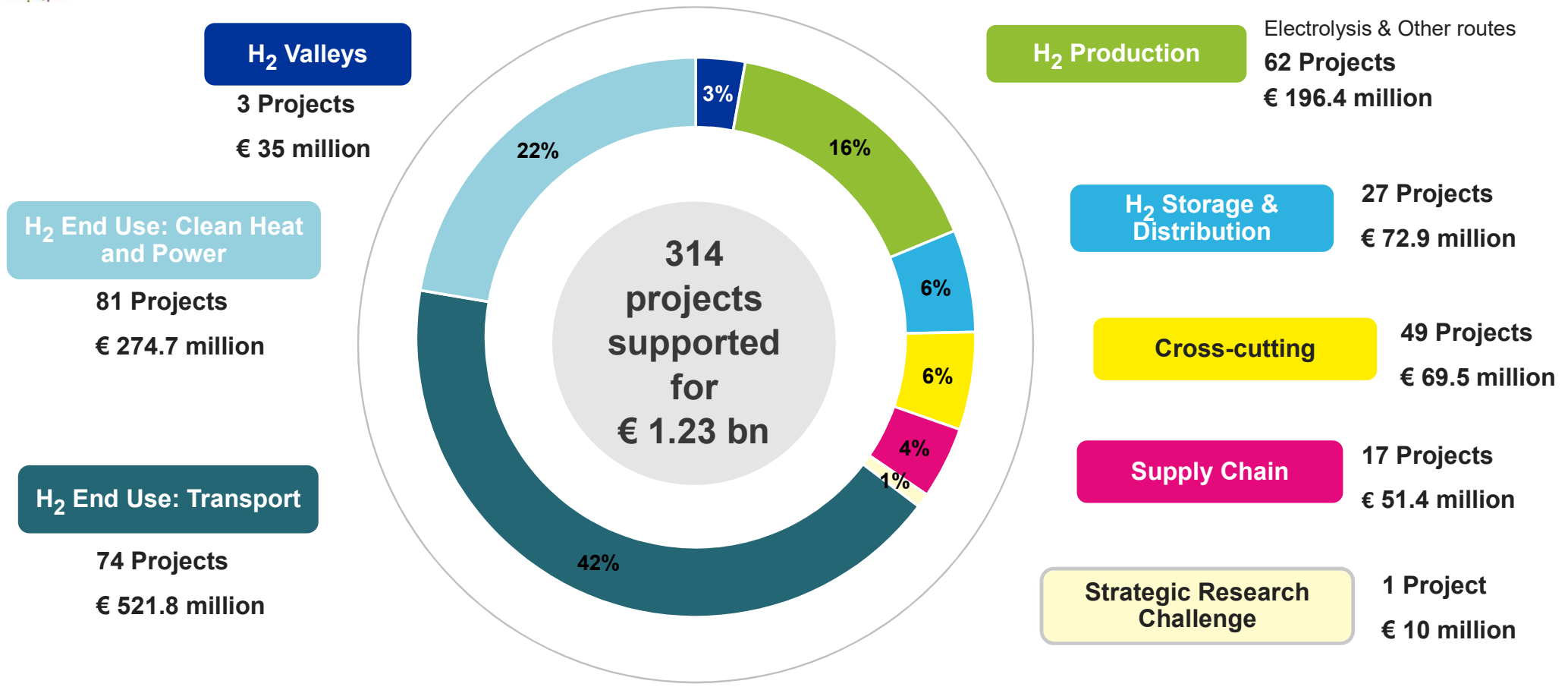
 Strengthen the **knowledge/capacity of scientific and industrial actors** along the Union's hydrogen value chain while supporting the **uptake of skills**

 Demonstrations of clean hydrogen solutions with a view to **local, regional and Union-wide deployment**, aiming to involve stakeholders in all Member States and across **entire value chain**

 Increase **public and private awareness, acceptance** and uptake of clean hydrogen solutions



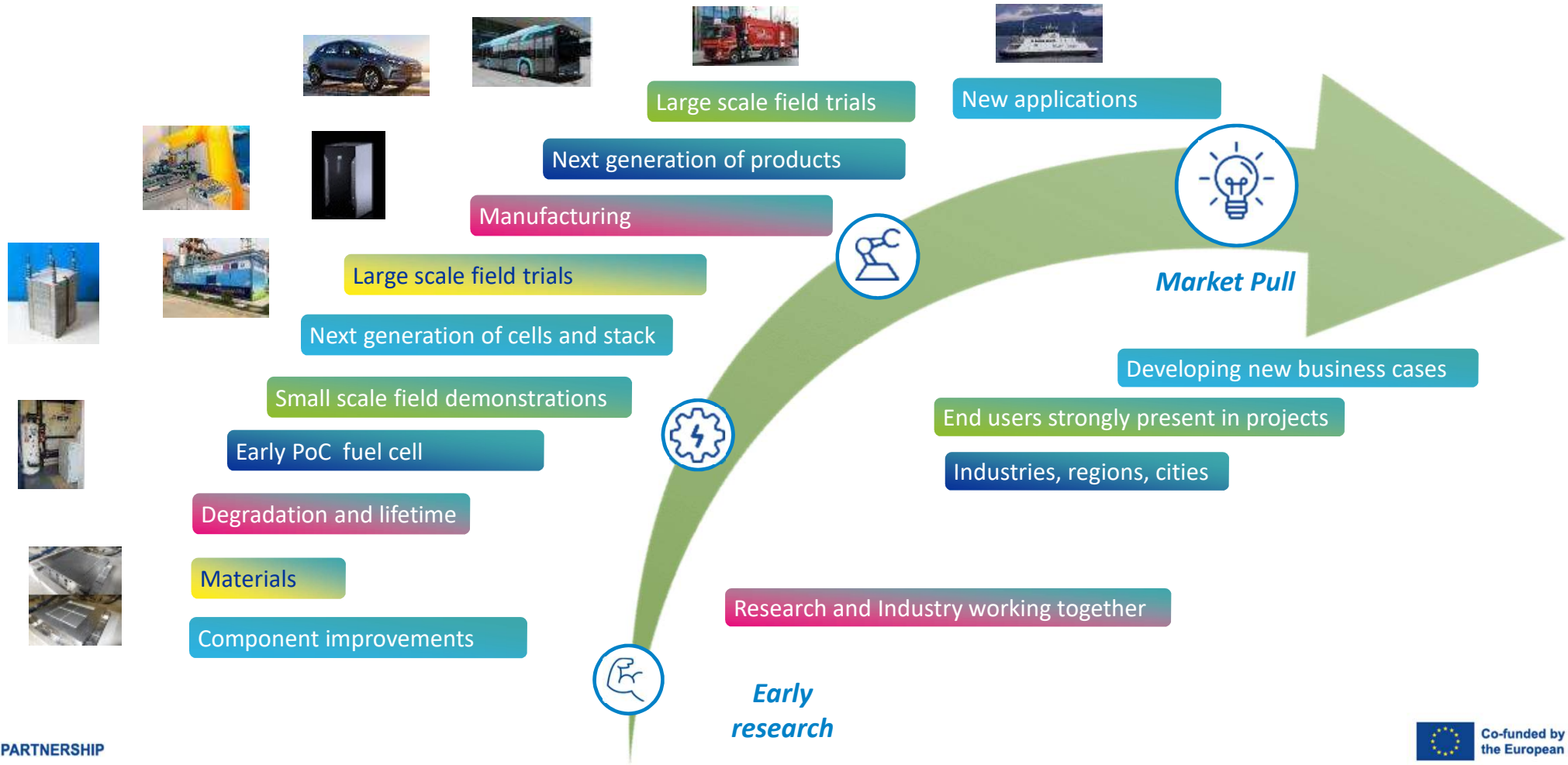
# Clean Hydrogen JU Programme *incl legacy of FCH JU*



\*It excludes the results of call 2022-2

# 15 years journey of the Joint Undertaking

From research to delivering solutions in the market



# Other Activities

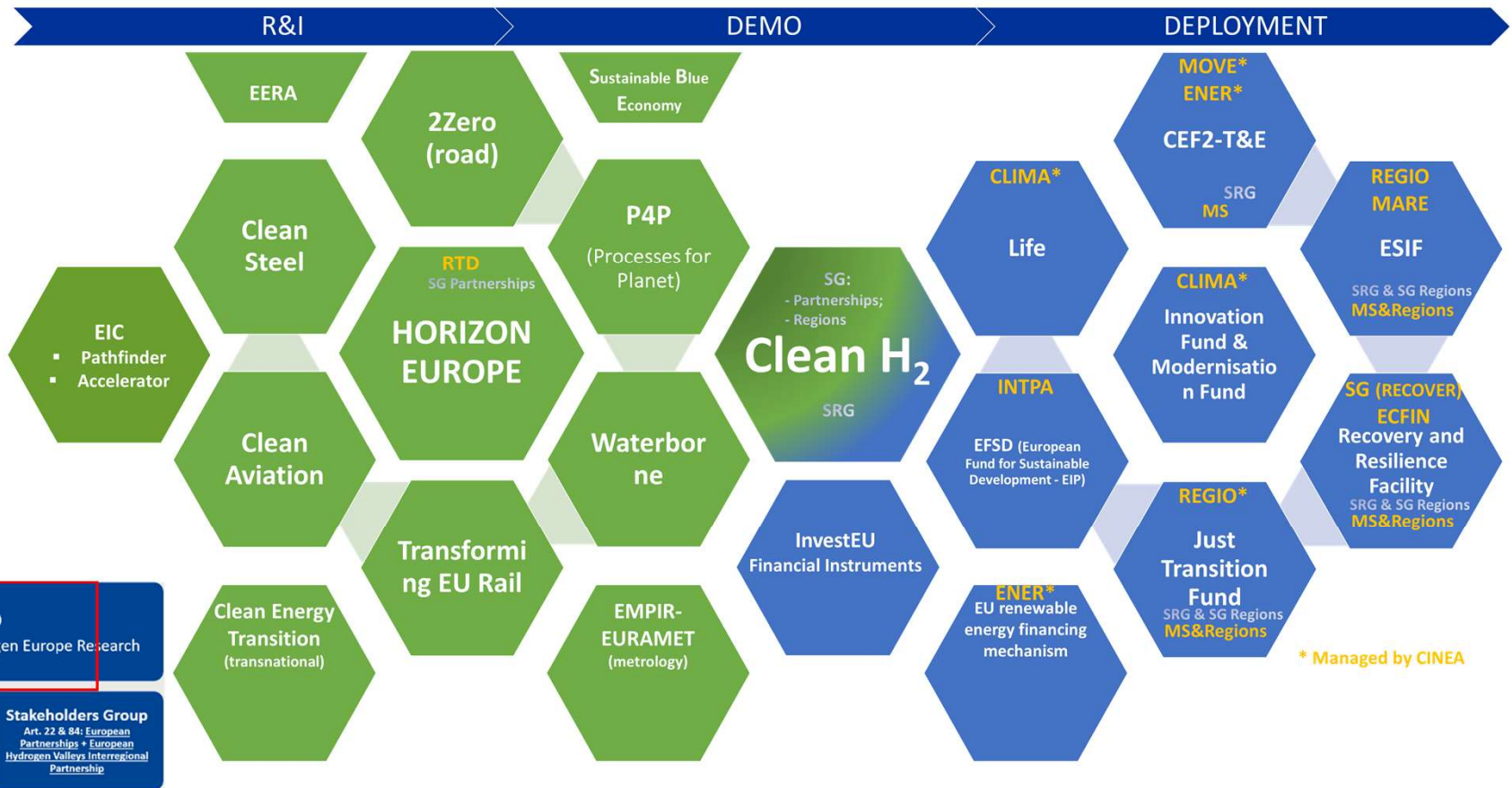
Additional activities are necessary to fulfil the Clean Hydrogen JU objectives



- **Developing synergies with other partnerships and programmes**
- Regulations, Codes and Standards
- European Hydrogen Safety
- European Hydrogen Sustainability and Circularity
- Knowledge management
- Competitiveness, SMEs
- International Cooperation
- Communication activities

# Synergies

Strong cooperation is key to deal with bigger yet fragmented EU and National/Regional Funds to meet EU Green Deal Ambition!





# Working with regions and support for Hydrogen Valleys

---

**Raising awareness, developing ideas and implementing hydrogen projects**

The rationale

The implementation

### The driver

- Regions and cities are a key driver to achieve the EU decarbonization goals;
- H2 and Fuel cells can enable local authorities to achieve their energy and climate plans;

### The Issue

- Public authorities lack access to financial, technical and legal expertise to deploy FCH technologies;

### What is it?

- The Project Development Assistance initiative aims at solving these issues and cooperate with the local authorities;

## Project Development Assistance (PDA)

Creating a pipeline of hydrogen projects

### PDA I (2020-2021)

- 11 regions were directly supported leading to concrete hydrogen plans with equivalent CAPEX of EUR 650 – 750 mill
- Additional 20+ regions benefited from know-how transfer via the Observer Network

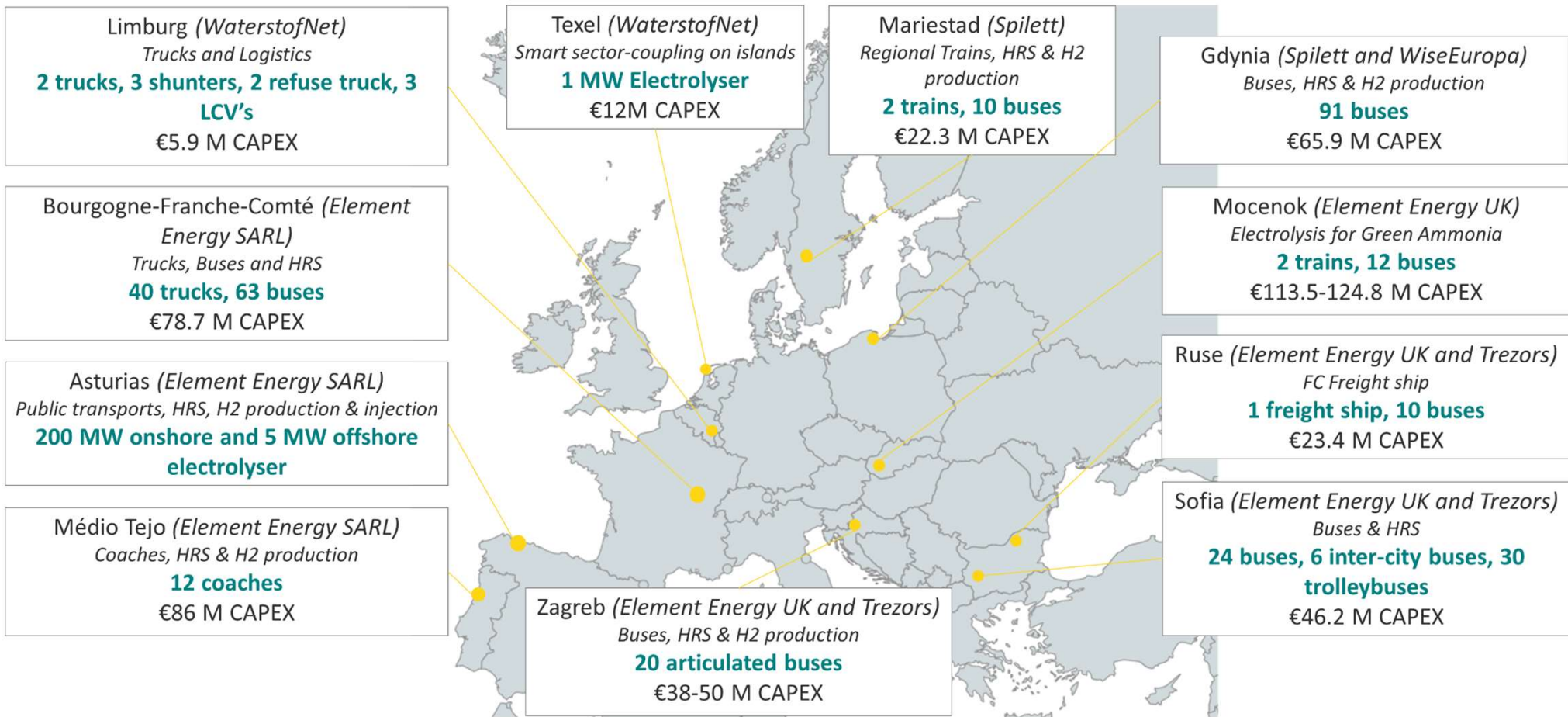
### PDA II (2023-2024)

- 15 regions selected from Cohesion Countries, Outermost Regions or Islands
- Dissemination activities planned to reach other regions (e.g. H2V Partnership)

### Overall Goal

- Help regions and cities to transform their ideas into more mature projects leading to the launching of investments

# PDA I - Supported regions and their projects 2020-2021

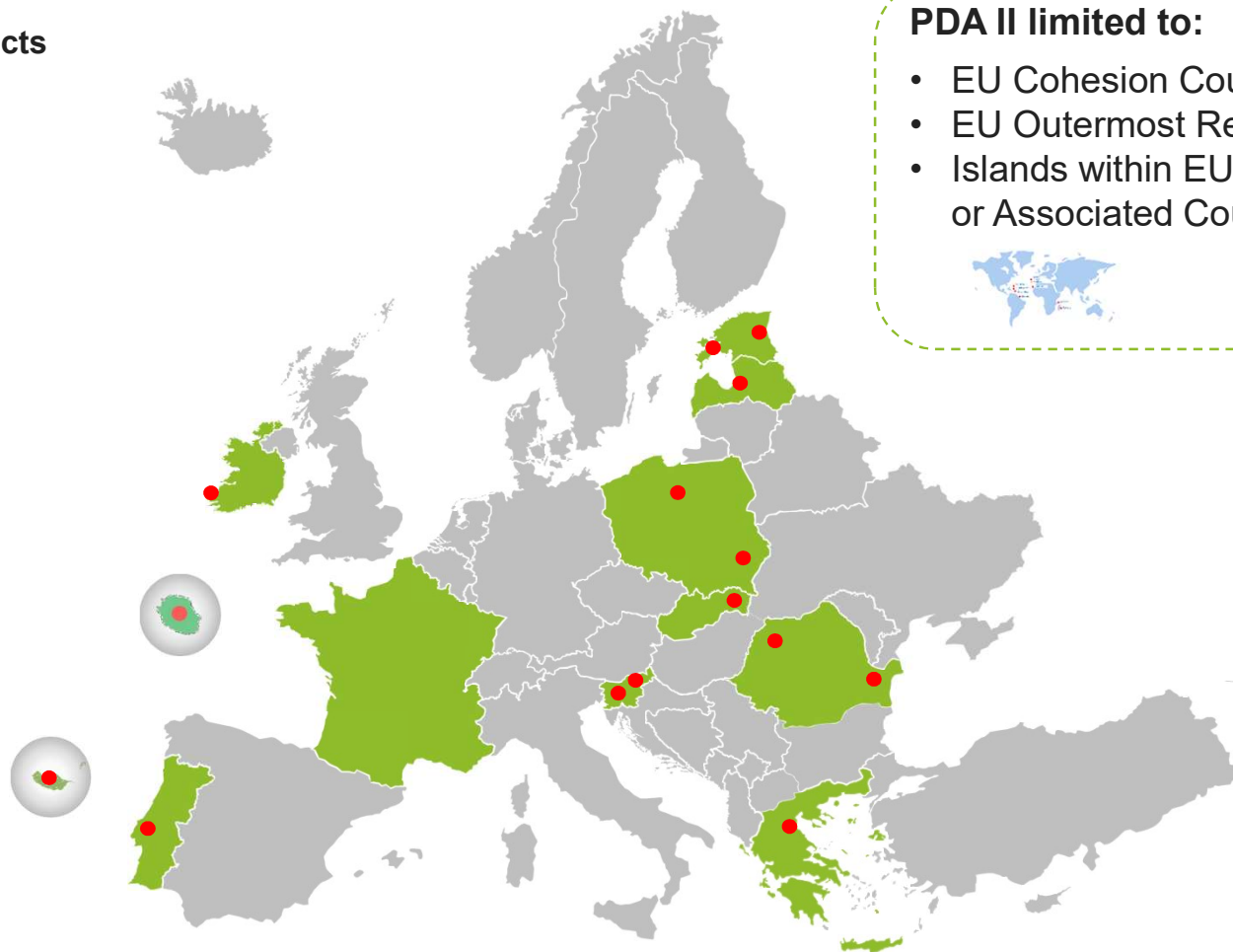


# PDA II – Geographical Coverage

## 2023-2024, Support ongoing

### Location of the 15 selected projects

-  **Estonia**
  - Estonian Islands;
  - Tartu City;
-  **France**
  - Regional Council of La Réunion;
-  **Greece**
  - Region of Peloponnese;
-  **Ireland**
  - Valentia Island;
-  **Latvia**
  - Rīga;
-  **Poland**
  - City of Plock;
  - Podkarpackie Region;
-  **Portugal**
  - Autonomous region of Madeira;
  - Municipality of Alenquer;
-  **Romania**
  - Cluj-Napoca;
  - Municipality of Galati;
-  **Slovakia**
  - Košice self Governing region;
-  **Slovenia**
  - Central Sava Region;
  - Velenje, Savinjsko-Saleška region



### PDA II limited to:

- EU Cohesion Countries
- EU Outermost Regions
- Islands within EU Member States or Associated Countries



## Hydrogen Valley: definition

Used in the call topics and the Mission Innovation Platform


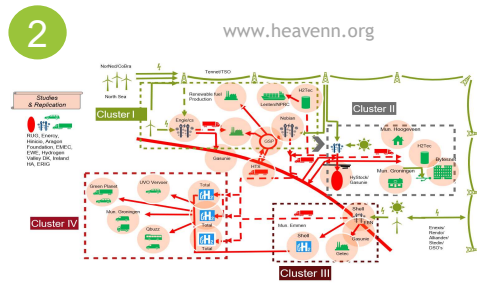
*A Hydrogen Valley is a defined geographical area where hydrogen serves more than one end sector or application in mobility, industry and energy. They typically comprise a multi-million euro investment and cover all necessary steps in the hydrogen value chain, from production (and often even dedicated renewable electricity production) to subsequent storage and its transport & distribution to various off-takers.*






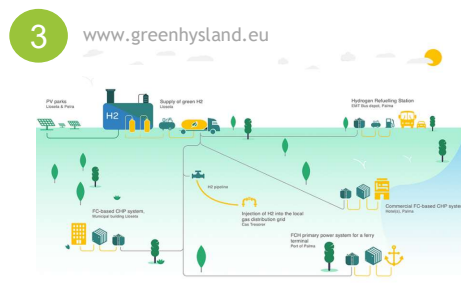
**BIG-HIT:**

- Pioneering H2 Ecosystems, set the basis for the H2 Valleys that followed
- H2 production by wind on Islands
- Storage & transportation by truck
- End uses: heat (school), power (ferries) & mobility (municipality cars)


**2019: North Netherlands**

- Large number of public + private partners
- H2 production via electrolysis
- Mobility: buses, passenger cars, inland water vessel, trucks + HRSs
- E-Kerosene for aviation, gas turbine. residential heating
- H2 pipelines + H2 injection in gas grid, tube trailers
- Underground H2 storage
- 1,500 tons H2/year

**2020: Hydrogen Island (Spain)**

- Public + Private collaboration
- H2 production from solar PV
- H2 injection in gas grid + H2 pipeline + tube trailers
- Heat and power (hotel, municipal building, port of Palma)
- Mobility (public buses, light duty vehicles + HRS)
- 300 tons H2/year




**REPowerEU plan through H2Valleys**

- 3 years of full support, to accelerate deployment of H2V in Europe (additional EUR 200 mill until 2025)
- Nine/9 H2 Valleys have been selected for Grant Preparation end-2022, total funding EUR 105.4 mill

( e.g. North Adriatic, Baltic Sea Corridor, Bulgaria, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Turkey and Luxembourg)

# Hydrogen valleys: An accelerator for a European hydrogen economy – current status of JU funding

JU Annual Work Plans	Projects	JU contribution
AWP 2015		€ 5 MEUR
AWP 2019		€ 20 MEUR
AWP 2020		€ 10 MEUR
AWP 2022	9 valleys*	€ ~ 105 MEUR*
AWP 2023	Ongoing..	Ongoing..

**REPowerEU Plan**  
€ 200 for H2 valleys

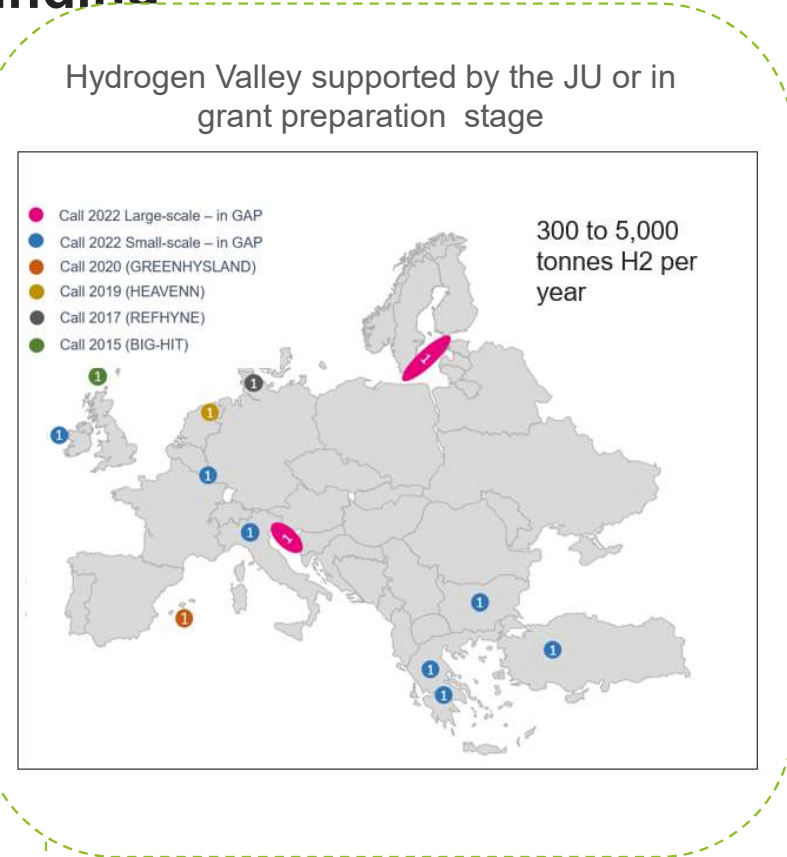
*\*Grant signature ongoing, figures may change*

## RepowerEU plan for Hydrogen Valleys

**additional EUR 200 million over 3 years to double H2V in EU by 2025**  
( approx. 60 in 2023; 60 in 2024 and 80 in 2025)

### Nine/9 H2 Valleys selected for Grant Preparation under the Call 2022

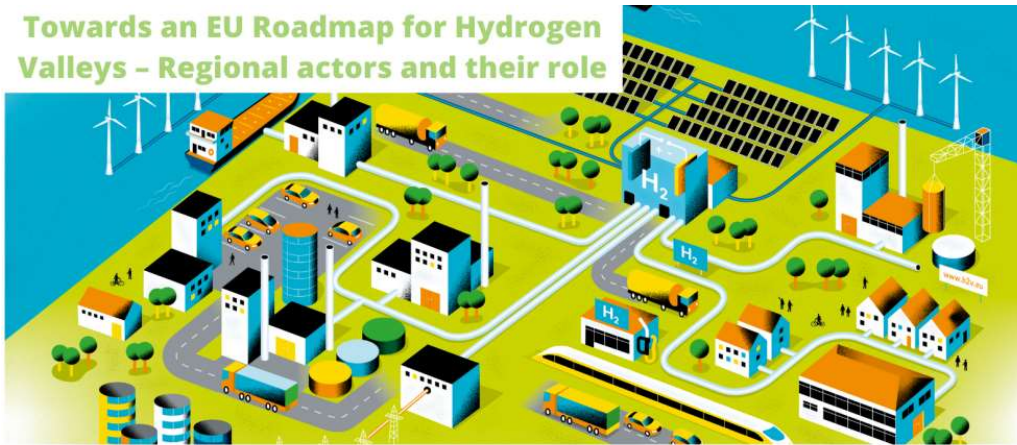
- Total funding requested EUR 105.4 mill
- North Adriatic (cross-border Slovenia/Croatia/Italy), Baltic Sea Corridor, Bulgaria (Stara Zagora), Greece (Crete and Corinthia), Ireland (Galway), Italy (Lombardy), Turkey (South Marmara) and Luxembourg.



*Note: REFHYNE was supported by the JU as a hydrogen production for industry project only, which extended and used the hydrogen produced for the mobility sector too*

## Towards an EU Roadmap for Hydrogen Valleys

Towards an EU Roadmap for Hydrogen Valleys - Regional actors and their role



Brussels, 28<sup>th</sup> Feb and March 1<sup>st</sup>

[https://www.clean-hydrogen.europa.eu/towards-eu-roadmap-hydrogen-valleys\\_en](https://www.clean-hydrogen.europa.eu/towards-eu-roadmap-hydrogen-valleys_en)

- The Clean Hydrogen Partnership, the European Hydrogen Valleys Partnership and the Northern Netherlands region organised the workshop **“Towards an EU Roadmap for Hydrogen Valleys – Regional actors and their role: double the number of valleys by 2025 and build-up skills”**, on 28 February and 1 March 2023 in Brussels.
- The purpose of this two-day workshop was for the regional and local actors to talk about **current opportunities and challenges in rolling-out and scaling-up Hydrogen Valleys in Europe**.
- **Presentations already available on the JU website!**



## Valley(s) support/funding through the JU grants

A **Hydrogen Valley** is a defined geographical area where hydrogen serves more than one end sector or application in mobility, industry and energy.

They typically **comprise a multi-million euro investment** and cover all necessary steps in the hydrogen value chain, from production (and often even dedicated renewable electricity production) to subsequent storage and its transport & distribution to various off-takers.

The JU funding represents a **fraction of the overall necessary investments**.

Proposals in the JU Calls should provide a **funding plan** to ensure implementation of the project in **synergies with other sources of funding**.

If no other sources of funding will be required, this should be stated clearly in the proposal, with a commitment from the partners to provide own funding.



## Workshop preliminary outcomes - Funding for Hydrogen Valleys

Current JU funded projects are using/looking to different funding sources:

- **EU** (e.g. CEF-T, Innovation fund)
- **National mechanisms** (e.g. EU Recovery and Resilience Facility)
- **Regional funds** (e.g. ERDF/Cohesion Funds/Just Transition Fund)
- Combination of public funding (using no-reimbursable grants) together with loans from banks or other facilities
- Own-funding

Clean Hydrogen JU  
represents a good  
source of case studies  
and lessons learnt !!!



**Challenges (and possible solutions) were identified**





## Workshop preliminary outcomes - Funding for Hydrogen Valleys Challenges

### Looking for funding from different sources:

- **Time-consuming** process (different requirements)
- Difficult to align the **timing** of the availability of the funds
- Frequent **incompatibility** on using national and EU funds to support the same equipment/infrastructure, even when non-profit → limitation can be the conditions for participation of the national support schemes or the design of the European funding programmes
- **State-aid rules** significantly slow down the speed with which designated managing authorities in member States can use their programmes to co-fund hydrogen R&I projects, including Hydrogen Valleys, already supported by EU R&I programmes such as H2020
- **Permitting and regulation** vary excessively from country to country (sometimes, within regions of the same country) → difficult to transfer lessons learnt





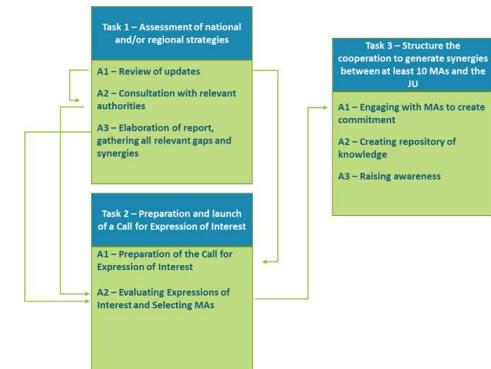
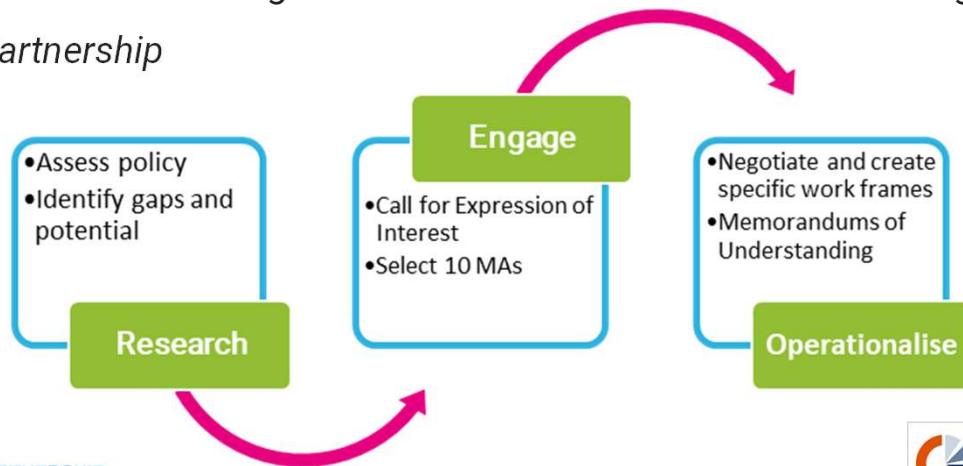
## Workshop preliminary outcomes - Funding for Hydrogen Valleys Possible Solutions

- Detailed and direct **dialogues** (informed with real cases) between those responsible for EU and national funding schemes and between different Services of the Commission (DG RTD, DG REGIO, DG COMP)
- Expand the use of instruments like the **Seal of Excellence**, using them to secure the national co-funding needed for the investment of projects already awarded with EU funding
- Support applicants with additional **guidelines** for the combination of different sources of funding (both EU and national but also for co-funding using different EU programmes such as CEF-T, Innovation Fund, Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe, etc)
- Support regions with initiatives such as the **Project Development Assistance** of the Clean Hydrogen JU, or more detail technical assistance facilities (such as the ELENA facility of the EIB) to mature projects (up to the point of launching the investments)
- EU Calls should be designed having a principle of **flexibility** in mind (whilst still preserving the added value at EU level), to assure adaptability to the specific region
- **Fit-for-purpose** regulations are needed to reflect the particularities of hydrogen projects
- Ensure that the relevant administrations have the political level push to accelerate the permitting process, e.g. through instruments such as projects of '**common interest for the region**'



# Creating Synergies with Member States and Regions

- Analyse the state of play of hydrogen development in Member States/ Regions.
  - Questionnaires have already been sent to the members of the Clean Hydrogen JU SRG (Member States Representatives Group)
- Create a cooperation mechanism between Member States’/ Regions’ Managing Authorities and the Clean Hydrogen Partnership
  - **Call for Expression of Interest** addressed to national and regional Managing Authorities – to be launched beginning of May
  - **Select at least 10 Managing Authorities** (of which half from EU13) to operationalise synergies with the JU in the form of MoU
- Foster synergies between EU, national and regional funds regarding clean hydrogen R&I
- Promote knowledge transfer between Member States/ Regions’ Managing Authorities and the Clean Hydrogen Partnership



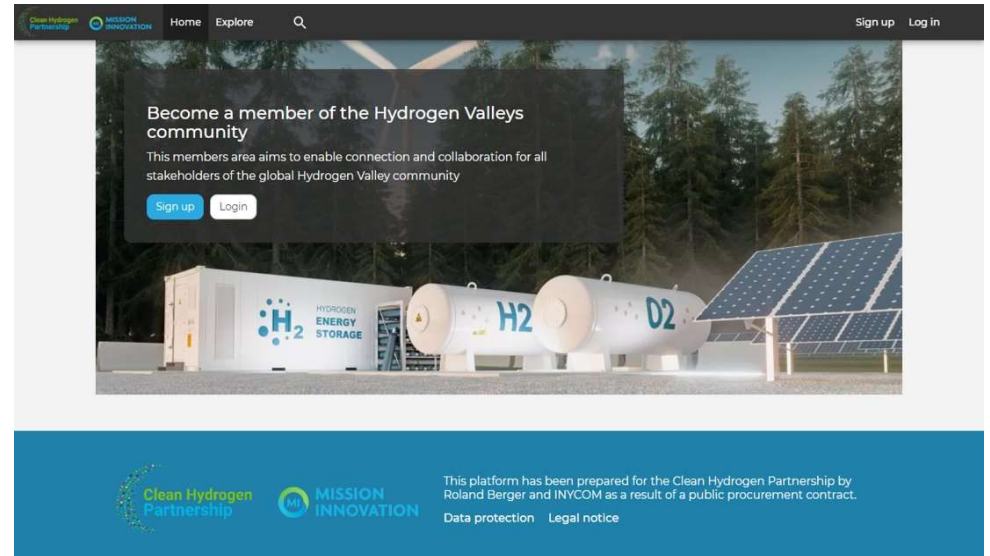
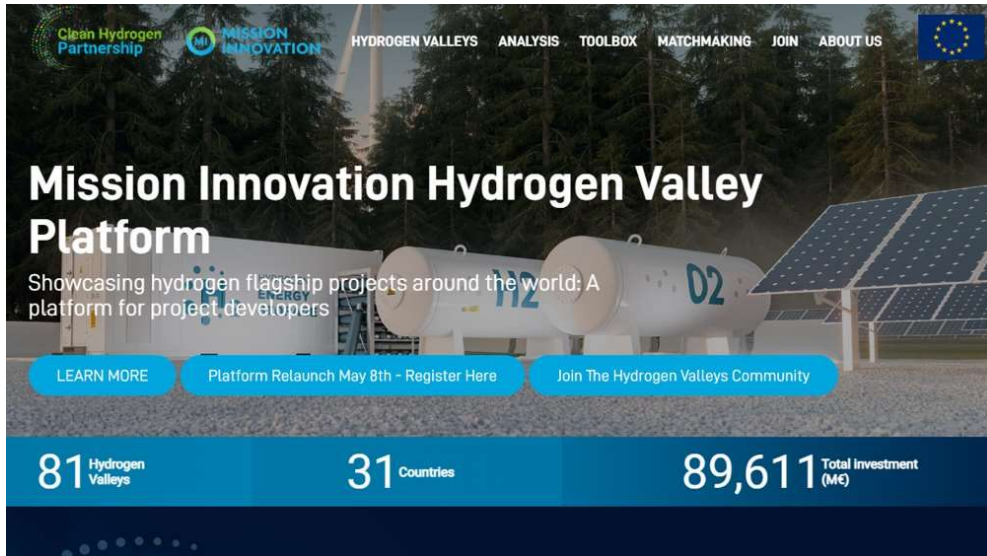


# Mission Innovation Hydrogen Valley Platform

Hydrogen Valleys have become a global theme

## 8th of May

Official relaunch of the platform



Take a look at the website here  
<https://h2v.eu>



Co-funded by the European union

This platform has been prepared for the Clean Hydrogen Partnership by Roland Berger and INYCOM as a result of a public procurement contract.

# Hydrogen Valleys are truly going global – As of today, we have identified **more than 80 Hydrogen Valleys** under development around the world

Europe

Asia-Pacific

Americas

Middle East & Africa



Note: Only considering Hydrogen Valleys participating in the Mission Innovation Hydrogen Valley Platform

# Contact



**For further information**  
[www.clean-hydrogen.europa.eu](http://www.clean-hydrogen.europa.eu)

 Clean Hydrogen Partnership



@CleanHydrogenEU







**Further information: <https://www.era-learn.eu/support-for-partnerships>**

**Synergies with the Cohesion Policy Funds: <https://www.era-learn.eu/support-for-partnerships/additional-activities/synergies>**

**Events: <https://www.era-learn.eu/news-events/events>**

**Newsletter: <https://www.era-learn.eu/newsletter>**

**Thank you!**

**[www.era-learn.eu](http://www.era-learn.eu)**