

**Welcome to Brussels for the**

**Workshop**

**“Supporting the preparation of  
future European Partnerships”**

## **Moderation**

*Manuel Aleixo, DG Research and Innovation, Mission and Partnerships, Head of Unit (acting)*

## **Welcome and introduction**

*Jean-Eric Paquet, DG Research and Innovation, Director-General*

*Roland Brandenburg, FFG, Coordinator ERA-LEARN*

## **Crash Course on European Partnerships**

*Joerg Niehoff, DG Research and Innovation, Partnerships, Head of Sector*

## **Introduction to parallel sessions**

# Welcome and introduction

*Jean-Eric Paquet*

*DG Research and Innovation*

*Director-General*

# Supporting the preparation of future European Partnerships

## ERA-LEARN: Role and Services

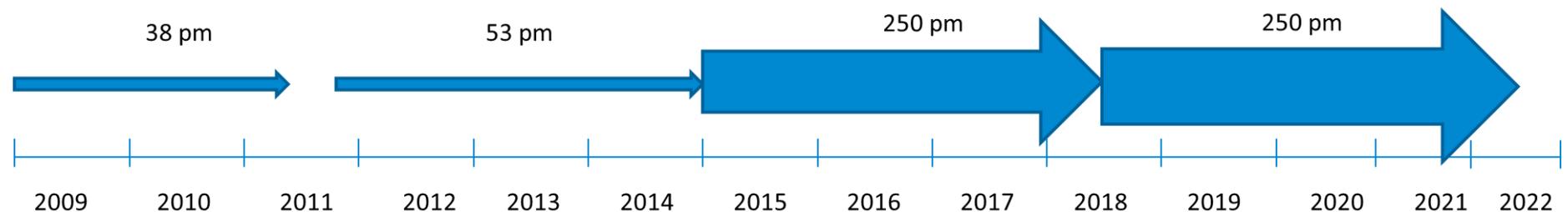
**Roland Brandenburg**

ERA-LEARN coordinator

FFG, Austria

# ERA-LEARN: 10 years of support for Partnerships

- consortium of funding organisations and analysts
- supporting the Partnerships community since 2009
- expanding ... from ERA-NET (FP7) to JPI ...  
... to Horizon 2020 ERA-NET Cofund and EJP ...  
... to Horizon Europe European partnerships ...
- expanding our efforts from a 38 pm project in 2009 to a 250 pm project in 2018





# ERA-LEARN: facilitator

## interaction with the Partnerships community:

- **events**
  - **annual large events since 2009** (*ERA-NETs on stage, Future of ERA-NETs, Annual Joint Programming conference 2011-2017*)
  - **training workshops on specific issues**
- **monthly news alert**
- **country reports**
- **annual report on partnerships**



# ERA-LEARN: main goals 2018-2022

- support the transition of Partnerships from Horizon 2020 to Horizon Europe:
  - interact closely with the Partnerships community and facilitate a dialogue among stakeholders
  - support the Partnerships community with evidence in view of Horizon Europe

## HEALTH

1. EU-Africa Global Health Partnership
2. Innovative Health Initiative
3. European partnership for chemicals risk assessment
4. Fostering an ERA for health research
5. Health and Care Systems Transformation
6. Personalised Medicine
7. Rare Diseases
8. One Health AMR

## DIGITAL, INDUSTRY AND SPACE

9. High Performance Computing
10. Key Digital Technologies
11. Smart Networks and Services
12. AI, data and robotics
13. Photonics Europe
14. Clean Steel - Low Carbon Steelmaking
15. European Metrology
16. Made in Europe
17. Carbon Neutral and Circular Industry
18. Global competitive space systems
19. Geological Service for Europe

## PILLAR III AND CROSS-PILLAR

39. Innovative SMEs
40. European Science Cloud (EOSC)
41. EIT Climate-KIC
42. EIT InnoEnergy
43. EIT Digital
44. EIT Health
45. EIT Food
46. EIT Manufacturing
47. EIT Raw materials
48. EIT Urban Mobility
49. KIC Cultural and Creative Industries

## CLIMATE, ENERGY AND MOBILITY

20. Transforming Europe's rail system
21. Integrated Air Traffic Management
22. Clean Aviation
23. Clean Hydrogen
24. Built environment and construction
25. Towards zero-emission road transport (2ZERO)
26. Mobility and Safety for Automated Road Transport
27. Zero-emission waterborne transport
28. European industrial battery value chain
29. Sustainable, Smart and Inclusive Cities and Communities
30. Clean Energy Transition

## FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

31. Accelerating farming systems transition
32. Animal health: Fighting infectious diseases
33. Environmental Observations for a sustainable EU agriculture
34. Rescuing biodiversity to safeguard life on Earth
35. A climate neutral, sustainable and productive Blue Economy
36. Safe and Sustainable Food System for People, Planet & Climate
37. Circular bio-based Europe
38. Water4All: Water security for the planet

- European Partnerships under Horizon Europe
- General Information on European Partnerships
- Transition phase & background
- Candidates for European Partnerships

- [01 EU-Africa Global Health Partnership](#)
- 02 Innovative Health Initiative
- 03 European Partnership for Chemicals Risk Assessment
- 04 Fostering an ERA for Health Research
- 05 European Partnership on Health and Care Systems Research and Innovation
- 06 European Partnership on personalised medicine
- 07 European Partnership on Rare Diseases
- 08 European Partnership on One Health AMR

**We look forward to collecting & sharing  
your information, experience and key lessons learned !  
Thank you.**

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

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

Supporting the preparation of future European Partnerships

# **Crash Course on European Partnerships**

Joerg Niehoff, DG Research and Innovation

- Support the preparation of future European Partnerships with Member States.
- Present the current state of preparation of European Partnerships;
- Identify critical issues and bottlenecks related to governance, commitments, coherence, synergies, development of Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas, management of data on calls, projects and other activities;
- Support the development of common approaches across partnerships, ensuring mutual learning and exchange of good practice to ensure the delivery of impacts.

# Outline

- *What are European Partnerships?*
- *How are they identified and prepared?*
- *What are important features you need to be aware off?*
- *Questions & Answers*



# New approach to partnerships: why?

Impact Assessment annex 8-5 – current partnership landscape

Partnership approaches	Public-public partnerships (P2P)	Public-private partnerships (PPP)	EIT-KICs*	FET Flagships**
Implementation modes	ERA-NET-Cofund, EJP Cofund, Article 185, Joint Programming Initiative (JPI)	Contractual Arrangement (cPPP) Article 187	H2020 Grant agreements for different types of actions Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA)	
Currently active R&I Partnerships (Horizon 2020)	a) ERA-NETs: ~70 b) EJP Cofund: 5 c) Article 185: 6 d) JPIs***: 10	a) JUs: 7 (+HPC) b) cPPPs: 10	a) KICs: 6 (+ 2 until 2020)	a) FET-Flagships: 2 (+Quantum)
Financial contribution from H2020, estimated)	<b>2.500 M€</b> (3,1% of H2020 budget)	<b>13.450 M€</b> (17,5% of H2020 budget)	<b>2.400 M€</b> (3,1% of H2020 budget)	<b>1.000 M€</b> (1,3% of H2020 budget)

\*EIT-KICs: Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) of the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT)

\*\*FET-Flagships: Flagships of the Future and Emerging Technologies programme (FET)

\*\*\* JPIs: Joint Programming Initiatives are no EU level instruments but included here as they receive EU support via ERA-NETs and/or CSAs

# European Partnerships - definition

*"European Partnerships are initiatives where the EU together with private and/or public partners **commit to jointly support** the development and implementation of a **programme of research and innovation activities**. The **partners** could represent industry, universities, research organisations, bodies with a public service remit at local, regional, national or international level or civil society organisations including foundations and NGOs."*



# New approach to European partnerships: overview

New generation of objective-driven and more ambitious partnerships in support of agreed EU policy objectives

## Key features

- **Simple architecture and toolbox**
- **Common set of criteria**
- **Coherent life-cycle approach**
- **Strategic orientation**

### Co-programmed

Based on Memoranda of Understanding / contractual arrangements; implemented independently by the partners and by Horizon Europe

### Co-funded

Based on a joint programme agreed by partners; commitment of partners for financial and in-kind contributions & financial contribution by Horizon Europe

### Institutionalised

Based on long-term dimension and need for high integration; partnerships based on Articles 185 / 187 of TFEU and the EIT-Regulation supported by Horizon Europe



# European partnerships: provisions

## Regulation

- Recitals 16 and 17
- Definition 3
- Article 8
  - typology
  - conditions
- Annex III: Partnerships, with criteria for
  - Selection, Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation, phasing-out and renewal
- Annex Va: areas for possible institutionalised European Partnerships (based on Article 187 and 185 TFEU)

## Horizon Europe documents:

Common understanding on the Framework Programme

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7942-2019-INIT/en/pdf>

Corrigendum on Annex III :

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7942-2019-COR-1/en/pdf>

PGA on the Specific Programme:

<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-8550-2019-INIT/en/pdf>

## Specific Programme

- Article 4a: Identification of co-funded and co-programmed partnerships in the Strategic Plan
- Strategic coordinating process for European Partnerships

## Impact assessment: annex 8-5

## In addition: Draft Criteria Framework for European Partnerships

[All provisions in a nutshell](#) and additional Information: [ERA-LEARN](#)

# Common for all European Partnerships

- **Strategic orientation:** to make a considerable contribution to achieving EU policy priorities (e.g. Green deal, Europe fit for digital age) and related strategies (e.g. Circular Economy Action Plan)
- **Common set of criteria** along their life-cycle, defined in the Horizon Europe regulation Article 8 & Annex III.
- **Key conditions for launching a partnership:**
  - Ex-ante demonstration of **directionality** (partner's common strategic vision, underpinned by Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda/Roadmap)
  - Ex-ante demonstration of **additionality** (long-term commitment from partners to mobilise and contribute resources and investments)
- **Annual Work Programme:** translation of Roadmap/SRIA into annual priorities and activities
- **Systemic approach:** portfolio of activities that goes beyond collaborative R&I projects
- ➔ **The main differences are in the legal form and implementation, with the Co-programmed being the most simple, and the Institutionalised the most complex.**

# Co-programmed European Partnerships

*"Division of labour"*

- Most relevant **current actions**: Contractual Public-Private-Partnerships (cPPP)
- **Legal form**: Contractual Arrangement / MoU (signed between representatives of the partners and the Commission)

## Implementation:

- Union budget is implemented in the Horizon Europe Work Programme.
- Partners implement their commitments and contributions under their responsibility.

**Activities and contributions have to be agreed in the Annual Work Plan**  
(to ensure they are in the scope of the partnership)

- European Commission: call topics for the necessary range of actions (R&I, Innovation actions, CSA, prizes ....)
- Partners: their own activities and investments;
- If Member States: nationally financed R&I, Innovation activities, and any other activity considered necessary, incl. transnational calls for proposals.

**Association or support via CSAs** provide back-office with important functionalities

# Co-funded European Partnership

*"Integrated programme with distributed implementation"*

- Relevant **current actions**: European Joint Programme and ERA-NET Cofund;
- **Legal form**: Grant Agreement (programme co-fund action) signed between a consortium of beneficiaries and the Commission (executive agency);
- **Implementation**: Member States would design a common programme to be implemented under their responsibility. It pools national funding/resources with co-funding from the Union.
- Funding rate 30% [in justified cases higher];
- Calls and evaluations are organised centrally, beneficiaries in selected projects are typically funded at national level (on the basis of rules agreed by partners).
- **Important to** define ex-ante:
  - Types of partners are needed to form the partnerships (consortium);
  - Stakeholders that provide input (e.g. priority setting) ← **role of ministries!**
  - Stakeholders and target groups that are addressed/ involved by the activities implemented.

# Institutionalised European Partnerships

*"Integrated programme with centralised implementation"*

- **Legal basis:** Article 185 and Article 187 of the TFEU – requires the
  - preparation and adoption of a **Commission proposal** (incl. ex-ante impact assessment)
  - a Decision of European Parliament and Council (Article 185 and EIT) / Council Regulation (Article 187)
- **Implementation by dedicated** structures created for that purpose (designated by Member States or Union body, such as Joint Undertaking)
- Rules for Participation of Horizon Europe apply by default
- Specific provisions in Horizon Europe set higher requirements, e.g.
  - Implemented only *if other forms of Partnerships would not achieve the objectives, and if justified by a long-term perspective and high degree of integration;*
  - Central management of all financial contributions (except in duly justified cases);
  - Article 185 initiatives: Mandatory participation of at least 40% of MS;
  - Financial contributions from partners other than the Union is required.

# Preparation of European Partnerships

## Completed:

- Strategic Planning: identification of priorities to be addressed by partnerships to achieve objectives (**44 initial candidates**)
- Structured consultation of Member States on the portfolio:  
Orientations towards the first Strategic Plan → **additional 5 candidates were included**

## Ongoing:

- Impact Assessment work for Article 185/7 candidates  
→ **which candidates will be implemented as Institutionalized?**
- Further elaboration of proposals for Partnerships in co-creation between partners and Commissions services → **ensure ambition and fit with Commission priorities**
- Drafting of COM proposal for Article 185/7 initiatives
- Drafting of the MoU templates (co-programmed) / Model Grant Agreements (co-funded)

## Broader elements:

- Finalisation/adoption of Horizon Europe Strategic Plan  
→ **needs to identify co-programmed/ co-funded European Partnerships**
- New Commission's priorities → **influences definition of partnership' objectives**
- Remaining negotiation of HE legal base → **synergies & associations**
- Progress on MFF negotiations → **budgetary envelope for Horizon Europe**

# Portfolio of candidates for European Partnerships (49)

## **HEALTH**

EU-Africa Global Health  
Innovative Health Initiative  
Chemicals Risk Assessment  
Fostering an ERA for Health research  
Large-scale innovation and transformation of health systems in a digital and ageing society  
Personalised Medicine  
Rare Diseases  
One Health AMR

## **DIGITAL, INDUSTRY AND SPACE**

High Performance Computing  
Key Digital Technologies  
Smart Networks and Services  
AI, data and robotics  
Photonics Europe  
Clean Steel - Low Carbon Steelmaking  
European Metrology  
Made in Europe  
Carbon Neutral and Circular Industry  
Global competitive space systems  
European Geological Service

## **PILLAR III AND CROSS-PILLAR**

EIT Climate KIC  
EIT Health  
EIT Manufacturing  
EIT Food  
EIT InnoEnergy  
EIT Manufacturing  
EIT Raw Materials  
EIT Digital  
EIT Urban Mobility  
EIT Cultural and Creative Industries  
  
Innovative SMEs  
  
European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)

## **CLIMATE, ENERGY AND MOBILITY**

Transforming Europe's rail system  
Integrated Air Traffic Management  
Clean Aviation  
Clean Hydrogen  
Built environment and construction  
Towards zero-emission road transport  
Mobility and Safety for Automated Road Transport  
Batteries  
Clean Energy Transition  
Sustainable, Smart and Inclusive Cities and Communities  
Smart and zero-emission waterborne transport

## **FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

Accelerating farming systems transition  
Animal health: Fighting infectious diseases  
Environmental Observations for a sustainable EU agriculture  
Rescuing biodiversity to safeguard life on Earth  
A climate neutral, sustainable and productive Blue Economy  
Safe and Sustainable Food System for People, Planet & Climate  
Circular bio-based Europe  
Water4All: Water security for the planet

# European Partnership candidates with planned MS participation (subject to ongoing discussions)

- EU-Africa Global Health
- Chemical Risk Assessment
- ERA for Health Research
- Innovation & transformation of health systems
- Personalized medicine
- Rare diseases
- One Health/AMR
- Key Digital Technologies
- EuroHPC
- European Metrology
- Geological services
- Clean energy transition
- Sustainable, Smart and Inclusive Cities and Communities
- Sustainable farming
- Animals & Health
- Agriculture of data
- Biodiversity
- Blue economy
- Food Systems for People
- Water 4 All
- Innovative SMEs
- European Open Science Cloud

# Next milestones

**April:** start publication of draft partnerships proposals

→ **Aim: transparency of information; better coherence & synergies; plan commitments**

**May/June:** EC letter on commitments to national governments

- Which ones you will participate?
- Contacts (lead and other Ministries involved)
- Tentative commitment (in kind and financial contribution)

**Before launch/ adoption of COM proposals:**

- Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda/roadmap
- “Ex-ante demonstration of the partners’ long term commitment”  
(HE legal base, Annex III)

**September:** Earliest possible adoption of proposals for Article 185/7 initiatives (tbc)

→ **Subject to progress on MFF negotiations**

**22 – 24 September:** R&I days in Brussels with Partnerships on stage

# Commitments and contributions

**Horizon Europe Regulation:** European Partnerships are based on commitment of the partners for financial and/or in-kind contributions.

## **Selection stage:**

- Ex-ante demonstration of the partners' long term commitment, including a minimum share of public and/or private investments.

## **Implementation:**

- Commitments, for financial and/or in-kind contributions, from each partner in accordance with national provisions throughout the lifetime of the initiative.

## **Contributions from Participating States:**

- Co-programmed: financial and/or in-kind;
- Co-funded: financial and/or in-kind;
- Institutionalised based on Article 185/7: financial and/or in-kind, BUT a share of contributions in the form of financial contributions.

# Contributions from Member States

## a) Financial contributions:

- Example: MS organise transnational (or national) calls for proposals;
- National/regional funding payed to applicants (beneficiaries) count as financial contributions.

## b) In-kind contributions

- Example: research performing organisation in the partnerships is implementing R&I activities that are financed by its institutional funding;
- Costs of implementing these activities can be counted as in-kind contributions;
- In co-funded Partnerships: costs of implementing direct activities minus Union funding can be counted as in-kind contributions.

**→ Important: Activities have to be agreed in the Annual Work Plan/activity plan to ensure that they are in the scope of the partnership.**

# Coherence and coordination between European Partnerships

## ***How to ensure coherence and coordination?***

- During the preparation phase:
  - Identify necessary links among Partnerships (including EIT-KICs)
  - Careful assessment of proposals and SRIAs to ensure that division of labour and interfaces are clear
- On an annual basis:
  - Collaboration between relevant partnerships in their definition of annual priorities / call topics
  - Steering by COM services that support the preparation and approve the Annual Work Plans

## ***Can research priorities be covered by more than one partnerships, or by Horizon Europe calls and Partnerships?***

- In principle yes, e.g. according to TRLs, specific research fields, objectives etc.
- Partnerships with MS: ensure coordination with other partnerships and avoid duplication
- Reminder: not all calls of the partnerships need to be co-funded by the Union!

# European Partnerships in the WP 2021/2

## Co-programmed European Partnerships:

- Partnerships calls (Union contribution) included in the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021/22
- Contractual arrangements to be signed before adoption of Work Programme 2021/22

## Co-funded European Partnerships:

- Call topics for programme co-fund actions for the implementation of the Co-funded European Partnerships included in the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021/2;
- Submission of proposals in 2021 (2022), launch of partnerships with signature of Grant Agreement (submission plus 8 month).

# Strategic coordinating process for European Partnerships

**1.12.2017: Council Conclusions** calls on COM and MS to jointly establish a long-term strategic coordinating process

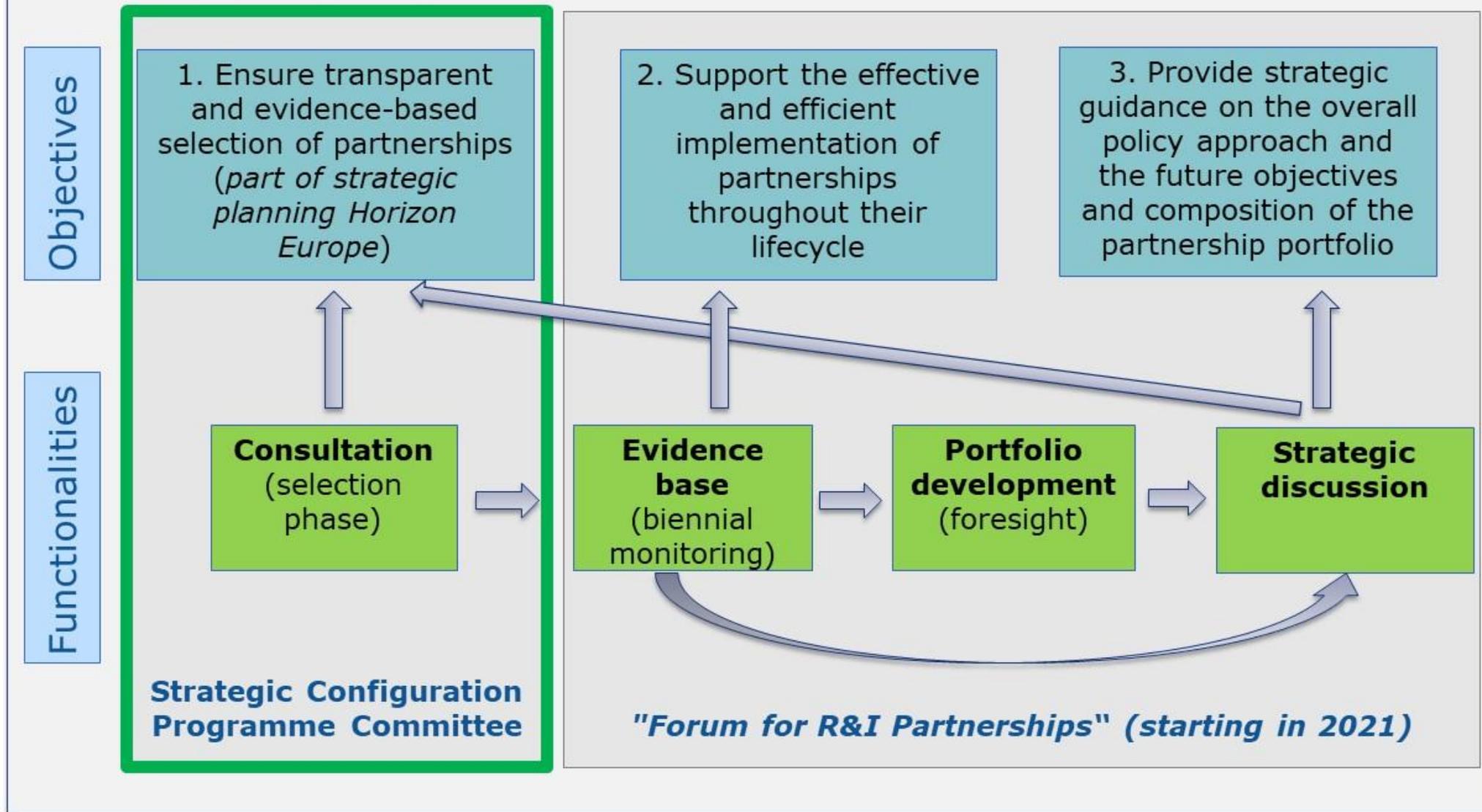
**17.05.2018: ERAC recommendations** on the requirements for the set-up of a strategic coordinating process, importantly:

*"The strategic coordinating process should function as an **entry point** for setting up new R&I partnerships. It can only be of advisory character providing qualitative input, **without duplicating and circumventing any existing decision making processes at EU and national level**, namely the Commissions' right of initiative, comitology or funding decisions at national level. "*

**Specific Programme (PGA):** Partnerships and the Strategic Plan (Article 4a):

*"The strategic planning process shall be complemented by a strategic coordinating process for European Partnerships, with participation of Member States and the Commission on equal footing. It shall function as an entry point for **foresight analysis, analysis and advice on the portfolio development, possible setup, implementation, monitoring and phasing out of R&I partnerships** and be guided by a comprehensive **criteria framework**, based on Annex III of the Horizon Europe Regulation."*

# Strategic Coordinating Process for R&I Partnerships



# Communication and information

## Existing:

- Shadow Strategic Configuration of the Horizon Europe Programme Committee (CIRCABC, [expert register webpage](#))
- ERA-LEARN [webpage](#)

## Work in progress:

- Accessibility to info and public documents via the official website of the EU for Horizon Europe
- Contacts for European Partnerships (Commission services and partners)

**Comments? Questions?**

Supporting the preparation of future European Partnerships

# **Introduction to parallel sessions**

Moderators

### Objective:

- Horizon Europe orients R&I partnerships towards the achievement of objectives and policy impacts.
- The new approach to European Partnerships calls for different governance arrangements – both for the individual partnerships as well as among them.
- Necessary to develop governance models that will support European Partnerships in delivering on these expectations.
- As an outcome of the discussion, guidance for good governance principles for European Partnerships with Member States should be developed.

### Objective:

- All future partnerships will be implemented on the basis of a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda or Roadmap, which needs to be agreed with the Commission services.
- The session aims to exchange views on existing experiences and identify key requirements and necessary means to develop SRIA.
- This should allow to create a common understanding on the strategy process necessary (based on strong stakeholder involvement, scientific evidence, policy and strategic debates, ...).

### Objective:

- Joint calls for transnational R&I projects are a key element of most European Partnerships.
- Discuss and define minimum requirements from a funder's perspective.
- Understand the minimum requirements from the European Commission perspective for calls of European partnerships.
- Learn from existing approaches, identify specific challenges and explore the possibilities for commonly agreed rules and procedures.

### Objective:

- In order to achieve their ambitious objectives and create higher impacts the future European Partnerships will need to develop activities that go beyond the traditional calls for proposals for R&I projects.
- It will be possible to design and implement a wide range of activities in a flexible way, which will create several new opportunities, but also challenges.
- The discussion will help all future partnerships with Member States to design an adequate portfolio of activities to achieve their objectives.

### Objective:

- Discuss and further develop concepts for consortia to prepare and agree on the financial management of co-funded European Partnerships.
- Understand what are provisions from the side of the European Commission, how can consortia manage contributions from partners and the Union in a flexible manner?
- Learn from experience regarding financial management in Horizon 2020 partnerships and identify do's and don'ts for future financial management.

### Objective:

- All future European Partnerships should develop synergies with relevant programmes and priorities at national level as well as at European level for maximising the impact of future partnerships at national and regional level.
- There are two important pre-conditions in order to better exploit synergies and increase overall investment on agreed priorities from different funding sources:
  - providing legal certainty and guidance on how to make this possible at operational level,
  - designing operational programmes and related priorities in a way that they anticipate linkages with future European Partnerships and are sufficiently open to contribute.
- Exchange of experiences from the current programming period to identify good practices that can be transferred to future R&I Partnerships in Horizon Europe.

## Objective:

- All European Partnerships will need to establish a monitoring system that can track progress towards objectives, impacts and key performance indicators.
- In order to simplify and standardise this at the level of the individual projects funded by the partnerships, the data on proposals, selected projects, their outcomes and results will need to be integrated in the central IT tools (eGRANTS Data Warehouse, dashboard).
- It will require that all European Partnerships under Horizon Europe develop/adjust own (central) IT tools to common data standard, ensure that IT tools are fit for purpose, and run a test programme prior to the launch of the first call.
- The workshop will allow to understand the overall approach and involve users in early stages of the process.

## 15h00 – 16h25

Studio 311	A: Governance of and coherence among European Partnerships
Studio 312	B: Developing Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas
Studio 314	C: Implementation of joint calls for transnational R&I projects
Studio 316	D: Activities and contributions beyond joint calls

## 16:35 – 18:00

Studio 311	E: Financial management of co-funded European Partnerships
Studio 312	B: Developing Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas
Studio 314	F: Creating synergies between different funding sources at regional, national and European level
Studio 316	D: Activities and contributions beyond joint calls

## Coffee break/ Networking