

Open or Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Horizon 2020 [Link](#)

On 27 October 2017, the European Commission presented the final [Work Programme](#) for Horizon 2020, covering the budgetary years 2018, 2019 and 2020 and representing an investment of around EUR 30 billion. Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with EUR 77 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014-2020). The programme is entering its final round: 2018-2020. The 2018-2020 Work Programme builds on the success of Horizon 2020 so far and it will focus on: 1) Market creating innovation, 2) Political priorities, 3) Strengthening international R&I cooperation. The vast majority of the funding is allocated on the basis of competitive calls which are open to applications from researchers, businesses and other interested organisations located in any of the EU Member States or countries associated ([see full list](#)) to Horizon 2020. Organisations from third countries can also participate in the projects, subject to certain conditions.

European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) [Link](#)

COST is an intergovernmental framework consisting in 36 COST Member States and a Cooperating State ([see full list](#)). This allows researchers from these countries to embark upon networking opportunities by participating in science and technology networks called COST Actions. COST Actions are bottom-up science and technology networks open to researchers and stakeholders, with a four-year duration and a minimum participation of seven COST Member States. Particular emphasis is placed on the COST "inclusiveness" countries ensuring the aim of widening participation. Researchers from Near Neighbour Countries and International Partner Countries ([see full list](#)) can also participate in a COST Action on the basis of ascertained mutual benefit. The average COST Action budget depends on the number of COST Member States participating in the Action. The financial support average is EUR 130 000 per year for a four-year period. The funding is provided via a yearly grant agreement. COST is supported by the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020 and it also contributes to the realisation of the Commission's European Research Area (ERA).

European Research Council [Link](#)

The ERC actions are open to researchers of any nationality who intend to conduct their research activity in any Member State or Associated Country ([see full list](#)). ERC grants are awarded through open competition to projects headed by starting and established researchers, irrespective of their origins, who are working or moving to work in Europe. The sole criterion for selection is scientific excellence. The aim is to recognise the best ideas, and confer status and visibility on the best brains in Europe, while also attracting talent from abroad. In the long term, it looks to substantially strengthen and shape the European research system. It is supported by the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020. The total budget allocated to the ERC for the period 2014-2020 is € 13.1 billion and the total annual budget for 2017 is of around €1.8 billion.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions [Link](#)

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) provide grants for all stages of researchers' career, from PhD candidates to highly experienced researchers, which encourage transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility. The MSCA enable research-focused organisations (universities, research centres, and companies) to host talented foreign researchers and to create strategic partnerships with leading institutions worldwide. The MSCA are open to all domains of research and innovation, from fundamental research to market take-up and innovation services. Research and innovation fields are chosen freely by the applicants (individuals and/or organisations) in a fully 'bottom-up' manner. It is supported by the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020. The total budget allocated for the period 2014-2020 is € 6.6 billion.

EEA Grants and Norway Grants [Link](#)

The EEA Grants and Norway Grants represent the financial contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway agreed with the EU. The aim is to reduce economic and social disparities and to strengthen bilateral relations with 15 EU countries in Central and Southern Europe and the Baltics ([see full list](#)). Grants are available for national and local authorities, NGOs and civil society organisations, private and public enterprises, educational and research institutions, students and teaching staff and social partners. The EEA Grants and Norway Grants are set up for five-year periods. For the period 2014-2021, a total contribution of EUR 2.8 billion has been agreed. The EEA Grants (€1.5 million) are jointly financed by all three donors and available in all 15 countries. The Norway Grants (€1.3 million) are financed solely by Norway and available in the 13 countries that joined the EU after 2003.

The Interreg Baltic Sea - Programme 2014-2020 [Link](#)

The Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020 supports integrated territorial development and cooperation for a more innovative, better accessible and sustainable Baltic Sea region. Partners from countries around the Baltic Sea work together in transnational projects on common key challenges and opportunities. The Programme cooperation area covers eleven countries, eight of them EU Member States and three partner countries ([see full list](#)). The programme offers funding for four thematic fields, known as Priorities: 1) capacity for innovation, 2) Efficient management of natural resources, 3) Sustainable transport, 4) EU Strategy support. The Programme funds come from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and Norwegian national funding. Project partners co-finance activities with their own resources. Total funds available at the Programme start: ERDF 263.8 million EUR, ENI 8.8 million EUR, Norwegian national funding 6.0 million EUR. Projects have to involve at least three partners from three different countries from the Programme area. Total project budgets typically range between EUR 1.5 and 4.5 million for seven or more partners working together for two to three years.

International Visegrad Fund [Link](#)

The International Visegrad Fund is an international organisation based in Bratislava founded by the governments of the Visegrad Group (V4) countries ([see full list](#)). The purpose of the fund is to facilitate and promote the development of closer cooperation among citizens and institutions in the region as well as between the V4 region and other countries, especially in the Western Balkan and Eastern Partnership regions. The fund operates several grant programs, and also awards individual scholarships, fellowships and artist residencies. Grant support is given to original projects namely in the areas of culture, science and research, youth exchanges, cross-border cooperation and tourism promotion, as well as in other priority areas defined in calls for proposals published on the fund's website. The fund's annual budget (€8 million as of 2014) consists of equal contributions of V4 governments. The fund also utilizes (in the form of subgranting or co-financing) contributions from other governments/governmental organizations from the following countries: Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States.

PRIMA (Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area) [Link](#)

It is a joint programme launched by the Union for Mediterranean (UfM). It is set to start in 2018 and will run for 10 years. The partnership currently consists of 19 participating countries ([see full list](#)), as the initiative is evolving over time, more participants, from both EU and non-EU countries, are expected to follow. The main objective of the ten-year initiative (2018 – 2028), which is partly funded by EU's research and innovation programme Horizon 2020, is to devise new R&I approaches to improve water availability and sustainable agriculture production in a region heavily distressed by climate change, urbanisation and population growth. The partnership will be financed through a combination of funding from participating countries (currently €274 million), and a €220 million contribution from the EU through Horizon 2020, its research and innovation funding programme.

Annex I

Horizon 2020

Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Israel, Moldova, Switzerland, Faroe Islands, Ukraine, Tunisia, Georgia, Armenia.

COST

COST Members States: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Cooperating State: Israel.

Near Neighbour Countries: Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Russia, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine.

International Partner Countries: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United States of America and Uruguay.

European Research Council

Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Israel, Moldova, Switzerland, Faroe Islands, Ukraine, Tunisia, Georgia, Armenia.

EEA Grants and Norway Grants

Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia.

The Interreg Baltic Sea

EU Member States: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany (the States (Länder) of Berlin, Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Schleswig-Holstein and Niedersachsen (only NUTS II area Lüneburg region)), Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden.

Partner countries: Belarus, Norway and Russia (St. Petersburg, Arkhangelsk Oblast, Vologda Oblast, Kaliningrad Oblast, Republic of Karelia, Komi Republic, Leningrad Oblast, Murmansk Oblast, Nenetsky Autonomous Okrug, Novgorod Oblast and Pskov Oblast).

International Visegrad Fund

Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Slovak Republic.

PRIMA

Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey.

Document history

Document reference	Version 1
Prepared by	Cristina Cimelli
Reviewed by	Stef Bronzwaer
Last date modified	29/11/2017