



Horizon 2020

Background

From 2014 onwards the framework of European R&D programs had some significant changes: the 7th European Framework Program for R&D and the European Competitiveness and Innovation Program, which have covered the period 2007-2013, had ended and the new Horizon 2020 program, which will cover both R&D and Technological Innovation, will start and will cover the period from 2014 to 2020.

This policy and its initiatives, which are called Flagship Initiatives, form the nucleus of Horizon 2020. It has **3 main pillars** or general priorities: **1. Excellent Science**, **2. Industrial Leadership** and **3. Societal Challenges**.

These pillars reunite the whole structure of programs or subprograms that shape Horizon 2020, for which a number of instruments or types of projects are defined, and around which exists a number of very important initiatives. The schedule for the submission of projects and related work plans must be based on the programs in each pillar.

Horizon 2020 is the EC's latest program for research and innovation, with a mission to create growth and jobs in Europe through innovation. **Unlike previous Research frameworks in Europe, H2020 is open to all countries in the world.**

Horizon 2020 will run from 2014 to 2020 with an **€70 billion** budget.

Purpose of Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 is Europe's flagship innovation funding program. It aims to:

- Respond to the economic crisis to invest in future jobs and growth
- Address people's concerns about their livelihoods, safety and environment
- Strengthen the EU's global position in research, innovation and technology

Core Structure of Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 pursues three Pillars or priorities, namely

1. Generating Excellent Science,

- (support the most talented and creative individuals and their teams to carry out frontier research of the highest quality)
- Fund collaborative research to open up new and promising fields of research and innovation through support for Future and Emerging Technologies (FET).
- Provide researchers with excellent training and career development opportunities through the **Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions**.
- Ensure Europe has world-class research infrastructures (including e-infrastructures) accessible to all researchers in Europe and beyond.

2. Creating and enhancing Industrial Leadership,

- Build leadership in enabling and industrial technologies. These Key Enabling Technologies (KETs) include:
 - Nanotechnologies
 - Advanced materials
 - Biotechnology
 - Advanced manufacturing and processing
 - Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
 - Space
- Facilitate Access to Risk Finance
- Provide wide support for innovation in SMEs

3. Tackling Societal Challenges. Will fund research focused on the following challenges:

- Health, demographic change and wellbeing
- Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research, and the bio-economy
- Secure, clean and efficient energy
- Smart, green and integrated transport
- Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials
- Europe in a changing world - Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies
- Secure societies - Protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens

Call for projects in Life Sciences fields

In order to help interested ALSN members to join this initiative, we identified the Call for Projects related to Life Sciences (see below the list with active links). We have collaboration with experts in the H2020 funding process and they are happy to support you in your approach to join this initiative.

Current Call for projects are open in the field of Biotechnology:

- [BIOTEC-2-2015: New bioinformatics approaches in service of biotechnology](#)
- [BIOTEC-6-2015: Metagenomics as innovation driver](#)

Current Call for projects are open in the field of Health:

- [IMI2-2014-01-01: Translational approaches to disease modifying therapy of Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus \(T1DM\)](#)
- [IMI2-2014-01-02: Discovery and validation of novel endpoints in dry age-related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy](#)
- [HCO-06-2015: Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases. Prevention and treatment of lung diseases](#)
- [HCO-11-2015: ERA NET Collaboration and alignment of national programmes and activities in the area of brain-related diseases and disorders of the nervous system](#)
- [HCO-12-2015: ERA NET: Antimicrobial resistance](#)
- [HCO-13-2015: ERA-NET: Cardiovascular disease](#)
- [HCO-17-2015: Towards sustainability and globalisation of the Joint Programming Initiative on Neurodegenerative Diseases](#)